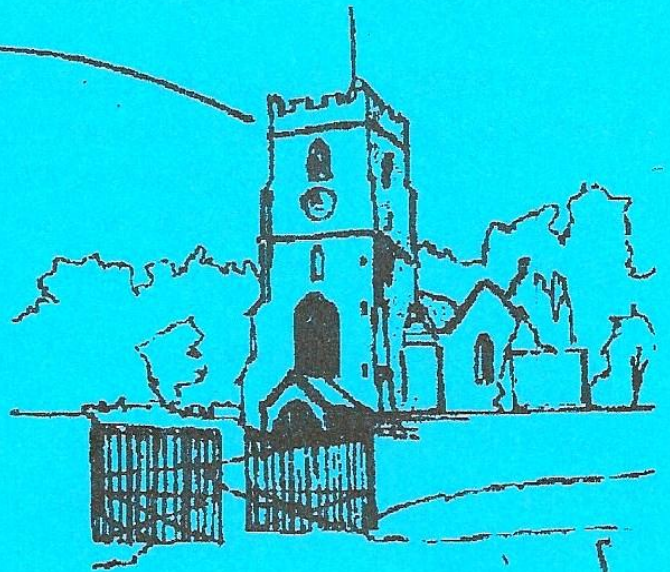
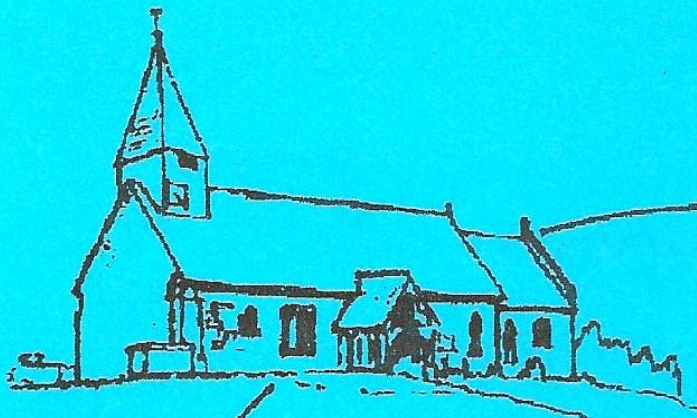
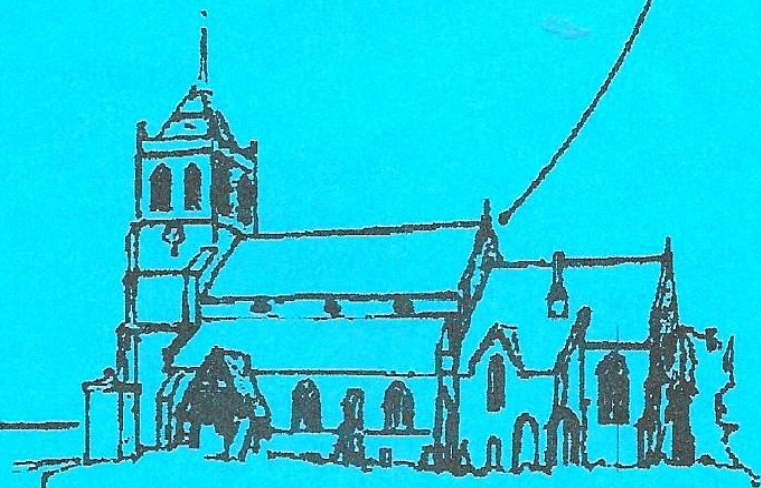
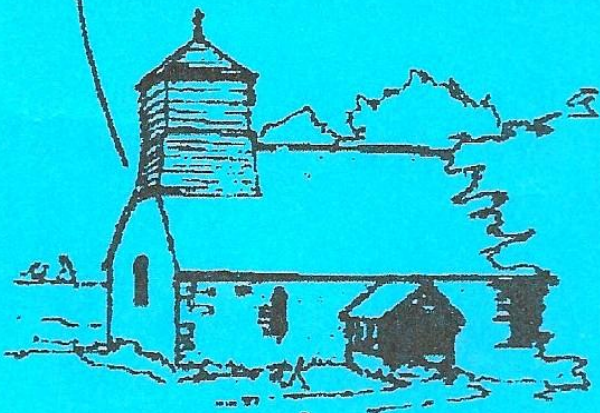


November 2020



The

Sphere.



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

THE PARISHES OF ALFRICK w LULSLEY, LEIGH & BRANSFORD, SUCKLEY

		STD code 01886
Vicar	Revd. Anne Potter	07783711665 or 832355
	The Rectory, Suckley Road, Leigh WR6 5LE	email revannepotter@gmail.com
Curate	Revd. Jen Denniston	07783432017 or 853280
		email jendenniston@gmail.com
Parish Secretary	Alison Khan	07984 748059
Parish Treasurer	Mrs Ina Steel	821777

ALFRICK w LULSLEY Church of St.Mary Magdalene

Church Wardens	Mr.A.G.Duncan	884281
	Mr Stephen Osmond	884259
Secretary	Mrs.Judith Davies	884336
Treasurer	Mr.Andrew Cooper	833903

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		

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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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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.

From Rev Anne.....

What times we are living in – Covid cases rising, daily briefings, constant changes, rule of six.....

No trick or treating – not that I am particularly upset with that restriction.

No bonfire parties or firework displays.

No big Remembrance services or Acts of Remembrance open to the general public.

Christmas – watch this space but no Barnyard Nativity or Carols at Bransford. (You may need to book a seat/pew!)

This month we start on 1 November with our annual memorial service to remember loved ones who have embarked on their heavenly journey. Sadly, due to social distancing and restricted numbers in our buildings, we can only invite those who have had a funeral in the past twelve months and, unlike other years we will only be reading the names of those from our parishes who have died in the last year.

However all loved ones are not forgotten since to live on in the hearts of those who have known you is not to die.

Next, on 8 November we have Remembrance Sunday – one of the best attended services in some of our parishes when the British Legion, uniformed organisations and many others who wish to remember the fallen, gather together.

Across the Worcestershire West Rural Team (WWRT) we are holding an Act of Remembrance in every parish to which, following guidelines, limited numbers will be able to attend.

However – poppies and crosses will be on sale in local shops, garage, pubs and if anyone wishes to place a cross at a local war memorial they are

encouraged to do so before Sunday 8 November (or Wednesday 11 November).

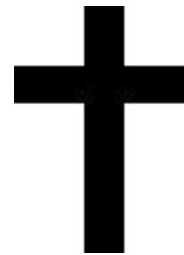
If you wish to donate to the Poppy Appeal, as the door sellers will not be around to you this year or you may be shielding, you can visit.. rbl.org.uk/poppypeal or text: to donate £2 text POPPY2 to 70545; to donate £5 text POPPY5 to 70545; or to donate £10 text POPPY10 to 70545.

The Legion is encouraging everyone to wear red on 11 November as a gesture to remember all those whose blood has been shed in the wars of our nation, giving of their today so that we may have our tomorrow.

Finally, we start our advent journey towards Christmas on 29 November when we are planning an Advent Carol Cocktail in and around Suckley Church – and as I said watch this space for Christmas services or go onto *A Church Near You* website to find out what we are doing to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Jesus, the son of God, who came to reveal such amazing love through the blood he shed on the cross and who through his resurrection fulfilled God's promise of new life. The light that came in the darkness – reflected in our poppy. The black centre being the darkness of evil, the red flower the blood that was shed and the green leaf the new life.

God be with you during remember November and blessings to you all and your loved ones.



Our Church continues to be alive and active, but due to COVID-19 our buildings must remain closed except where mentioned in the separate parish pages.

Even though they 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 David Sherwin (Team Rector) 01886 888664 davidwin56@aol.com

Rev Anne Potter (Team Vicar) 01886 832355 revannepotter@gmail.com

Rev Jennifer Whittaker 01886 833897 jenmwhittaker@icloud.com

Rev Jen Denniston 01886 853280 jendenniston@gmail.com

Rev Becky Elliott 01886 812451 revredeccaelliott@btinternet.com

If you have an administration query please contact Alison Khan on 07984

748059 or 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' you will continue to find worship through our YouTube [wrtlivestream](https://www.youtube.com/wrtlivestream)

Other information can be found on *A Church Near You (ACNY)*: www.achurchnearyou.com

Facebook pages: www.facebook.com/Worcesterwestruralteam

www.facebook.com/suckleychurch

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday November 1st

10.30 am Leigh – CW Holy Communion
3.00 pm Crown East – Memorial Service (*Invitation only*)
6.00 pm Alfrick – Evensong



Remembrance Sunday – November 8th

9.00 am Alfrick – BCP Holy Communion followed by Act of Remembrance
Leigh – Act of Remembrance in St Edburga and Memorial Hall (*invitees only*)
Rushwick – Act of Remembrance (*invitees only*)
4.00 pm Suckley – Evening worship followed by Act of Remembrance

Armistice Day 2020 – Wednesday November 11th

11.00 am – *Act of Remembrance* at Suckley War Memorial
General public not invited...representatives of the church, forces and Parish Council only attending. People are invited to place poppy crosses at the memorial before 10.30 am on November 11th.



Sunday November 15th

9.00 am Bransford BCP Holy Communion

Wednesday November 18th

10.00 am Suckley Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday November 22nd

9.00 am Alfrick – CW Holy Communion
10.30 am Crown East – BCP Holy Communion
6.00 pm Leigh – Evensong



November 29th

10.30 am Suckley – Advent Carol Cocktail

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS Leigh 11 October Jack Fredrick DAFFERN

WEDDINGS None

FUNERALS

Bransford	23 September 2020	Jennifer WILLIS; Funeral 03/09/20 and burial
Suckley	7 October 2020	Margaret (Peggy) MERRICK; Funeral at Crematorium 01/04/20 (Interment of ashes)
Suckley	10 October 2020	Paul BARTON; (Interment of ashes)
Suckley	2 November 2020	Mary Patricia MITTON; Funeral August 2020 (Interment of ashes)
Suckley	19 October 2020	Leonard Horace COOPER; Funeral 06/10/20 Bromyard and burial





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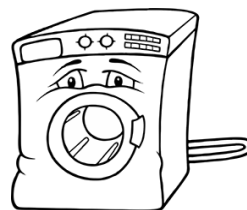
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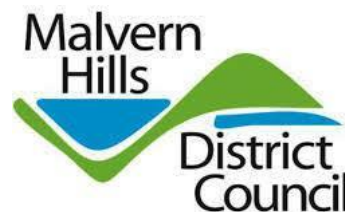
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Our District Councillors’ “View from the Hills”



This month, no mention of words beginning with “C”. Instead, let’s celebrate some of the good things happening locally that you may have missed.

Sarah and I always enjoy supporting local organisations from MHDC’s discretionary fund. We are allowed £500 each annually, so no king’s ransom, but we’ve been pleased this year to help Suckley’s Good Neighbour and BFG Schemes, 1st Leigh Guides and Leigh and Bransford Badgers. Perhaps in 2021 we’ll have some requests from Alfrick or Knightwick?

More widely in the district, £900,000 of funding has been secured for Malvern Theatre – a major tourist attraction – while the Splash renovation is proceeding well. Plans are also in preparation for a major revamp of Priory Park. MHDC has been recognised nationally as being in the top 5 of 188 district councils for financial resilience and second for enforcement of planning breaches. We believe that the council is as well positioned as any in the UK to provide for our community in 2021 and beyond.

On another cheerful note, Westminster’s draft proposal to alter planning law appears to be on hold and that to create a Worcestershire “unitary authority” seems to be being quietly shelved. Both are a good result for local democracy. Perhaps our London masters may also have received the message that, as independent councillors, we are not willing to be pushed around.

We continue to work actively on your behalf. If you need help, we can be contacted by phone, email or via our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/rousewhatley>

Peter Whatley

Sarah Rouse: 01886 833653 sarahrouse72@gmail.com

Peter Whatley: 01886 884126 peter.whatley@malvernhillsdc.net

Dyson Perrins Church of England Academy



It feels a long time since I have written an update for the local parish magazines. At the point of writing, we are fast approaching October half term and I think I speak on behalf of all our school community, by saying we are ready for a break.

On the back of the most bizarre term of my career in the summer, this first half term has been full of new routines, and I am delighted with how everyone has responded. Seven months ago schools were closed as our country went into lockdown. We had two days to prepare for delivering lessons remotely and get procedures in place to ensure everyone remained safe. Contrary to some of the coverage in the media, my experience of how school staff responded was simply amazing. Dyson Perrins remained open to children of key workers and vulnerable students throughout, including staying open during the school holidays. The number of students on-site grew during the summer months and we were able to invite Years 10 and 12 students into school on a rota from the middle of June. We provided free school meals and delivered food vouchers to families, and our pastoral team were checking the well-being of students on a daily basis.

Seeing staff develop their skills and confidence in using technology for live online teaching was a real highlight. Whilst it now seems a long time ago, I think that will stay in the memory for many years to come.

It would be remiss of me not to mention how proud we are of our Year 11 and Year 13 students who finished their time at Dysons in the summer. Their education was cut short after examinations were cancelled and they had to cope with a rollercoaster of decision making around how their grades would be issued, including changes made the evening before grades were given out in August. The final approach of Centre Assessed Grades was far from perfect, but I am confident our students received grades that were a fair reflection of their capabilities and students have been able successfully to move on.

I am delighted to share that Dysons reopened for all students in September and we have been well supported by families, with very high attendance so far. The new routines we have in place, from hand sanitising before entering every classroom, to creating separate year group zones at social times, are having a positive impact. Our staff are already having conversations about what we would like to keep post-Covid, if such a time presents itself. Our new Year 7 cohort has settled quickly and there is a calm, purposeful yet relaxed atmosphere in school. It’s great to be back.

I do hope your families are keeping well. Kind regards.

Mike Gunston Headteacher

Seven things to check if you're at risk of redundancy

1. Check if your redundancy is fair. There are rules to protect you from being discriminated against, and for being picked for redundancy due to an unfair reason. For example: you cannot be made redundant *because* you're pregnant or on maternity leave. If you are, this counts as "automatic unfair dismissal" and discrimination.

2. Check how much redundancy pay you get. You're entitled to statutory redundancy pay, which is the minimum the law says you're entitled to, if you've been an employee for two years. The amount you will get depends on your age and how long you have worked for the company. You won't get statutory redundancy pay if you've worked for the company for less than two years, are self-employed or are in certain professions. Your employer may also pay extra money on top of the statutory amount you're entitled to - this is called contractual redundancy pay. Some employees may be entitled to contractual redundancy pay even though they are not entitled to statutory redundancy pay.

3. Furloughed? Make sure you get 100% redundancy pay. If you were furloughed and then made redundant, your redundancy pay should be based on your normal wage. If you were paid 80% of your wages while on furlough, your redundancy pay should be based on your full wage.

4. Check your notice period. If you've worked for your employer for at least a month you're entitled to a paid statutory notice period. If you've worked there for more than a month, but less than two years, you have to be given a week's notice. For two years or more, it's a week for each full year you have worked, up to a maximum of 12 weeks. You may be entitled to a longer notice period as part of your employment contract.

5. Check your holiday pay. You'll be paid for any holiday you have left over when you leave. This should be at your normal rate's pay, even if you're currently furloughed on 80% of your pay. You can ask to take holiday during your notice period, but it's up to your employer to decide if you can take it then. Your employer can also tell you to use up any holiday you have left over, but they must give you the appropriate notice.

6. You might be entitled to paid time off to look for work. If you've worked for your employer for two years at the end of your notice period, you're likely to be entitled to 'reasonable' time off to apply for jobs or go on training. You can take the time off at any time in normal working hours and your employer can't ask you to rearrange your work hours to make up the time off. When taking time off to look for work, you'll be paid at your normal hourly rate, but only for up to 40% of a week's work - for instance for up to two days if you work a five-day week.

7. Check if you've got legal help via your home insurance. Often people get 'legal expenses cover' as part of their home insurance package, but many don't realise they can get free legal help to challenge their redundancy if they think it's discriminatory or unfair. It's worth checking the terms and conditions and speaking to your insurer if unsure. If you have a trade union at work, you could also contact them. Your union can help you work out if you've got a claim, and support you through the process, for example by going to meetings with you or negotiating on your behalf.

You can visit Citizens Advice's internet pages on [leaving a job](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) for further information and advice. www.citizensadvice.org.uk For further information and advice, contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau or see www.adviceguide.org.uk.

Our volunteers will be providing advice by telephone and email as follows: to speak to an adviser, please ring **01684 563611 option 1**, or email enquiries.malvern@citizensadvicesw.org.uk

Congratulations to Geoff and Sheila Wright on their
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**Please remember that unless you hear otherwise,
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on Saturdays, 10.00am to 5.00pm**



We were pleased that our APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) attracted its usual attendees, and some new ones, despite many church members being self-isolated either for their own health needs, or those of a family member. CONGRATULATIONS Rev Anne, who chaired a meeting where most attendees were in their own homes, and successfully led us through the agenda and completed all the necessary business! Grateful thanks to all who have helped us move forward with bringing this useful and valued village space in to a more generally user-friendly one. WiFi is being a very useful asset enabling us to bring together those who like to continue to meet in church with those who need to self isolate and can *Zoom* in to join in.

Gradually more folk are bravely dipping their toes in to the world of Digital Technology. Some services can be attended 'live' by 'Zoom'. Others are recorded and uploaded on to the WWRT YouTube Channel to 'watch at your leisure' on a computer or 'tablet'. For some folk, it has actually become easier to engage with church locally - because they can do it at their leisure and from their own home! Here is the service in the churchyard 'St Francis and Friends' that Suckley held in August to celebrate the *Season of Creation*: <https://youtu.be/lb0gAJK3ozs>

Here is Rev David (the Team Rector) telling his puppet friends about the story of *The loaves and the fishes* for a Harvest Family Service: <https://youtu.be/40W2mDjRnGk>

Churches, Digital Giving and QR codes

Another new technology inevitably coming our way has been to follow the general advice about minimising our handling of money and encouraging people to give by bank transfer or *Contactless/Digital Giving*. Bank transfer is generally the easiest and cheapest - we've just got to remember to do it, or ideally set up a **regular Direct Debit**.

Increasingly churches are using **card-reading devices** (Suckley Church uses a *SumUp* card reader where the on-cost is just 1.1%) - so remember to bring your bank debit card with you next time you come! If you've forgotten your card all is not lost - as long as you have your smart phone with you! Point the camera of your phone at the **QR code** (in Suckley they are on noticeboards and beside the donation box on the door) and choose how much you would like to give.

Have a play with the QR codes below!

Here is the link to the Suckley *A Church Near You* page - you will find our *Heritage Open Days* article there, which attracted 651 people to 'visit' Suckley Church (virtually) during this year's Heritage Open Days! The other codes follow and I hope you enjoy playing with them.

Anne Lewis



Suckley: A Church Near You



Donations to Suckley PCC



Donations to *Space Project*

Shoe Boxes 2020

There are not many things we can do at this present time, but you can make up a shoe box for a family or the elderly. Please see the Alfrick section of this edition for full details. **Helen Cook** 01886 821784

Suckley Village Hall News

As might be expected, there is not a lot of news. We were pleased to hear that we are still in the “medium” tier of the Government’s latest regulations, and so we are still able to continue with some activities at the Hall. We are, of course, being very careful to make sure that everyone remains safe whilst quietly pursuing these activities. We feel it is important to keep these activities going as many of the participants are older and on their own so the contact is invaluable, both mentally and physically, in the case of Keep Fit.

Take care and stay safe everyone.



Carol Boughton

Suckley Good Neighbour Scheme says, “Be alert” and “Be a Good Bush Telegraph”!

01886 840480

The evidence suggests we will all have a difficult winter ahead of us - no matter how ‘lightly’ Suckley is affected. At present, Malvern Hills as an area has significantly more cases as a percentage of population than the average for Covid-19 cases in England.

The **Good Neighbour Scheme** is here to help on **01886 840480** and suckleygns@gmail.com on Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm. We are grateful to the many Suckley folk who have joined the volunteers. Do phone **01886 840480** if you need help or if you would like to offer help.

BE ALERT! Please notice whether your neighbours seem to be coping OK. A friendly ‘just checking you’re OK’ is generally more likely to raise a smile than a frown.

BE A GOOD BUSH TELEGRAPH! Make sure that people know about the **Good Neighbour Scheme** and that there are friends and neighbours nearby who are ‘happy to help’, or find help. There’s probably someone living near you who is a GNS volunteer.

It is thanks to the Suckley volunteers that in the first wave of the pandemic several people were helped and housebound residents had their Suckley PO shopping brought to their doors regularly. Julian and Mark continue to have fresh fruit and veg as well as their usual stock-cupboard items. If a second wave affects our mobility and independence, keep your eyes and ears open to know how best to use Suckley PO for ordering your essential groceries.



Gradually more folk are bravely dipping their toes into the world of Digital Technology. We have several volunteers who have done the training necessary to support and advise these brave souls (within the limits of social distancing) - so do ask if you’d like someone to help you on your digital journey.

If you have an unwanted iPad do please consider adding it to the small ‘bank of iPads’ that the Good Neighbour Scheme has to lend out to people who want to see whether they want to commit to going digital. Small steps along the way can achieve a giant leap in being able to communicate with friends and family.

So please:

“Be alert” to spot those who might need a bit of help or benefit from a friendly telephone call and

“Be a good Bush Telegraph” - if you can sort things out yourself that’s great, if not - then please suggest they contact the **Good Neighbour Scheme**.

Remember the phone number is 01886 840480 and email is 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:

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

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.



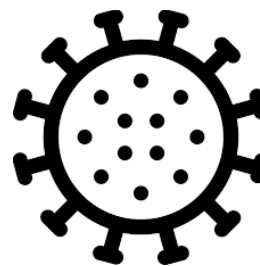
Covid Corner

Last month I discussed the importance of not catching Covid-19 if you are older because of the severity of the disease, the need for hospital admission and the chance of dying all increase dramatically with age. Also I discussed that while the young may not get a serious infection (in the younger age groups the majority may not even know they are infected) as all the evidence shows that as the rate of infection increases in the young, so the rate of infection will rise in the older age groups as well. If it were not for this fact, then one could see the argument for just letting the young lead totally normal lives.

We are facing a difficult long winter, and by the time you read this in November the temperatures will be dropping, people will be spending more time indoors, and opportunities for meeting much more safely outdoors are less. So how can we safely get through this winter?

Think of this virus like tobacco smoke (actually, not a bad analogy since tobacco smoke is an aerosol, and there is increasing evidence for aerosol spread of Covid-19). When outside smoke readily disperses, but indoors it can build up, and in a poorly ventilated room it hangs around so everyone breathes it in. The more smokers in the room, or the longer you stay in the room the more smoke you breathe in. The same with Covid-19; the longer you are in a room with an infected person the greater the risk of catching the virus, the poorer the ventilation the greater the risk. Some say that you need not worry about catching the virus if you are indoors with an infected person for less than 15 minutes. So, is 14 minutes OK then, or 13, 12 etc? No, common sense (and science) tells us that the less time you are in a room with others the safer it is going to be with no magical cut off at 15 minutes. Ventilation is also key to reducing risk. Draughts or opening a window regularly reduces risk. We all know when a room feels 'stuffy'. That tells us that there is poor ventilation with more stale air and more potential virus particles hanging around.

Another factor is the amount of virus particles an infected person produces. This relates to many things such as how infectious they are (and people can be highly infectious even before they get symptoms). Release of virus particles goes up when talking loudly, singing or shouting.



And obviously, as you have all been thinking, what about the masks? Well at last the government has begun to 'follow the science'. In all situations masks will help reduce the amount of virus being shed by an infected person, and also the amount then inhaled by someone else, and we should not need Government regulations to make us wear one when mixing with others indoors, and outdoors when we cannot avoid being close to others. (Think of the White House Rose Garden). The better the quality of the mask the greater is the degree of protection. Thin cloth masks and buffs are much less good than multiple layer masks, and making a pocket in the mask to hold a piece of HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filter makes them even more effective. How do I get a piece of HEPA filter? Cut up a HEPA vacuum cleaner bag. Mask fit is also important, so keep your distance from someone wearing a mask with big gaps which can let out air, or if they are wearing their mask below the nose or under the chin!

Is there any good news in this Covid-19 pandemic then? Well, it does appear that the risk from particles on surfaces is less than originally thought, so the idea of going indoors to wash your hands singing Happy Birthday twice without a mask, is greater than the risk of staying outside.

So, keep safe this winter, use your common sense, and if you want to meet up with friends meet in fresh air.

Richard Lewis

Suckley Parish Council

*The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Monday 9 November 2020 @ 7.15pm, by Zoom.***

There is always time at the beginning of the meeting for parishioners to make a short address to the Councillors for discussion in the meeting. Please contact the Clerk for the link.

DIANA TAYLOR, Clerk to Suckley Parish Council

9, Lambourne Avenue, Malvern WR14 1NL; Tel: 01684 569430; email: dtaylorsuckleyclerk@gmail.com

Keeping in Touch

The year rolls on in this weird year called 2020. Our theatre remains closed, as do most theatres in the region and beyond. Whilst theatres do have the ability to open as far as government is concerned, restrictions apply so it's still not a viable option for us to do so.

Cinemas are also having a tough time. *Cineworld* has closed temporarily, but with no sign of an opening date. *Odeon* cinemas are considering only opening three days a week (weekends in fact) as there are only very small audiences at the moment. *Vue* cinemas too are looking at their current opening. So with this in mind it's still not viable for us to open, nor is there much around to even offer. New films are not being released as yet, so we just have to wait and see. Our drama company is also heavily restricted in what we can, and can't do, but has been busy (within the guidelines) and there will be more information about what they are up to in due course. Next time it will be available for more of you to see than we could allow with the recent *Conquest in the Car Park* event. Performing on stage is not an option again for us at the moment, but, soon there will be something for you to come and see presented outdoors.

Have you ever noticed the stage lighting at the Conquest? For the size of the theatre there is one of the most comprehensive arrangements of any theatre this size in the nearby counties! All thanks to a dedicated number of people over the years who have helped us grow from just the basic number of individual lights to allow us that very first production, to the array of lighting we

have today. In the old "tin shed" days of the Conquest, lighting was controlled by old "slider" dimmers, which were attached to a wall in the

lighting control room. We had six of these sliders which meant at that time we could only dim or make bright six lights at any one time. These sliders were scary by today's standards as you could if not careful manage to accidentally put a finger just below the slider you were using and touch bare wires! Shocking!! Today at the existing theatre we have a sophisticated computer controlled lighting desk capable of controlling every single light we have, and they number around fifty now, enabling us to light the stage in many different ways, a lot of changes of lights are seen in pantomimes or in musical shows like the recent *Chicago*.

Also, have you ever noticed by the bar the words *Conquest Theatre* on the wall? This name is made out of people who generously gave money to have their names on the original seats in the "tin shed" theatre. John Blake cleverly selected some to make the name Conquest and we put it in the theatre to form a link from our original building to the current one. They had been well fixed to the theatre seats then, so was difficult for us to remove them. Take a look when you are there in the future and see the names of people on this board. These are fond memories of people, and the place.



BROMYARD

Arts Alive, who have performed a number of live shows here in Bromyard, is arranging a broadcast of "Victor and Albert's Virtual Village Hall Variety Show" on **Saturday 7 November at 7:45pm**.

Join identical twins Victor and Albert for a joyous evening of unique, bespoke comedy. Including original songs, quizzes, games and interactive community-outreach theatre; all broadcast directly into your front room, kitchen, bathroom, or any parlour of choice! As with all their live-shows, Victor and Albert go the extra mile, researching the villages they'll be zooming into, making the comedy personally meaningful and great fun for the communities gathered together in their virtual village hall! Given it is online - they go anywhere from Land's End to John o' Groats and back again. In fact, they can do a gig in Land's End and John o' Groats. **VICTOR AND ALBERT - A TWO-MAN VARIETY SHOW FOR THE 21ST CENTURY.**

The link to the Arts Alive website is: <https://www.artsalive.co.uk/> then click on the Victor Picture to take you to the details and where you can book tickets online.

Punographics

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough!



Upbeat at Broadwas

Broadwas Croquet Club is tucked away in the Teme Valley on the border of Worcestershire and Herefordshire. We're a lively and competitive Club with four full-sized lawns and fifty-five active members.

This year a dry spring followed a very wet winter which made lawn preparation difficult, though not half as difficult as the ensuing Covid 19 pandemic. We could have caved in; put up the shutters and stood back until things settled down, but like other Clubs, that's not the Broadwas way, so we persevered with getting the lawns ready using our own skills and the expertise of a local contractor. Having received excellent advice and guidance from the Croquet Association we found ourselves back in business by the third week in May with an exhaustive sanitisation regime, but without the use of our pavilion and toilets and with all competitions, both internal and external, cancelled.

We also introduced a new lawn booking system under the eagle eye of our Club Captain and Secretary John Guy, so as to control lawn usage and record when each member was playing. A side benefit of this system is that our members are now spreading their use of the lawns over a greater proportion of each week.

In January we had embarked on an ambitious membership development programme mainly through local newsletters and Parish magazines. This generated plenty of interest, but then the pandemic struck. Rather than disappoint prospective joiners we kept all their contact details and promised to re-connect when things improved. The moment isolation was lifted we honoured our promise, whereupon we welcomed 38 visitors from whom 28 prospective members emerged. They all attended taster sessions and in the end 18 of them actually joined as full Club members. To introduce these new members to the Club and make them feel

welcome, we appointed a New Members Secretary, Mary Dryden. Our sincere thanks to Mary for carrying out this important role in such difficult circumstances.

In parallel with all the other events of this year, our President, John Steel and our Chairman, Stuart Smith had been making formal approaches to Sport England for funding to create and kit out a new fifth lawn. Sport England provided us with a generous grant and we thank them both for the grant itself and for their support throughout what turned out to be a pretty rigorous application process. The new lawn has provided very welcome extra playing space that has helped to accommodate both new and existing members within the playing limits imposed by Covid 19 safety requirements.

In all, life in the Broadwas Croquet bubble has been very different, but we're more than managing. In fact, one of our Club Coaches, Jeff Faulkner, has instigated and run a very well organised and successful internal league Golf Croquet competition for the benefit of new and existing members that has brought out the best competitive instincts in everyone.

So what next for Broadwas Croquet Club? Well we intend to remain upbeat, but watchful for the future. If we can, we aim to play right through the autumn - elements and pandemic permitting. But, most important, we plan to keep in close touch with each other over the winter by enjoying our monthly Croquet Club Breakfasts that proved so popular last year - taking all the requisite precautions, of course.

So don't be surprised to receive another upbeat report from us here at Broadwas next spring when hopefully we'll be looking back on Covid 19 and looking forward to a new season of Croquet and to playing the game that offers so much fun and fellowship to us all.

Chris Croft

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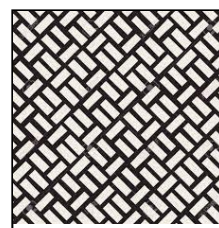
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Alfrick with Lulsley

St Mary Magdalene, Alfrick



Please remember that unless you hear otherwise, the church is only open on Wednesdays and Sundays between 10.00am and 6.00pm

Church Cleaning Rota

November	4	Mrs Mansell & Mrs Collins	December	2	Mrs Morpuss & Mrs Sirrell
	11	Mrs Jeffery		9	Mrs Fowler & Mrs Agnew
	18	Mrs Cooke		16	Mrs Hood & Mrs Skyrme
	25	Mrs Crisp & Mrs Crumpton		23	Mrs Davies & Mrs Fishwick
				30	Mrs Mansell & Mrs Collins

Community Choir

We are continuing to meet via Zoom online, each Tuesday evening, although we're trying to vary the format a bit, so as not to do the same thing each week. The sessions start at 7.30pm and to take part, do get in touch beforehand so I can send you an email with the joining link.



All welcome. No need to be able to read music.

We have some fun ideas for the autumn, and will be trying some of them out. You should find more information on our website: www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com

Lucas and I recently ran several rehearsals, socially distanced, at the URC in Worcester, and we also shared one of our sessions with musicians from some different groups, to do a sing and play through of Schubert's Mass in G, accompanied by an orchestra. **Keith Bramich** (07771 600 776)

Parish Working Parties



In this difficult time, how about getting out and about in our lovely countryside, having some exercise and fresh air, volunteering, and seeing and chatting to other people for a couple of hours? You can work as hard as you like and there's usually some wildlife to be seen and mulled over. We are hoping to add to our list of enthusiastic group of volunteers maintaining the Jubilee Spinney and the old animal pound at Alfrick Pound, the many footpaths that cross the parishes, and planting hedges around the playing field? We are mindful of the COVID-19 problem so we keep to around six people each time, socially distanced, take our own (hand) tools and drinks, and we usually supply home-made flapjacks. We meet for a couple of hours usually at weekends, every two or three weeks.

If you're interested, contact Carol or Derek Bradley 01886 884372, mobiles 07929 091814, 07896 515823, email carol.bradley372@hotmail.com, or derek.bradley372@outlook.com.

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: Hilary Simmons: 832611; Pam Lowe: 833362; Ro Morpuss: 832622

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.





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

Table Tennis in the Hall:

The club has added Wednesday evenings to the regular Mondays and Thursdays with the exception of Wednesday 11 November and Wednesday 9 December when Alfrick WI have booked.



Due to indoor team sport being limited to six by the Government guidelines, Mondays are for doubles, Wednesdays and Thursdays for singles, all starting at 6.00pm, £1.50 each per session and please bring suitable foot-wear.

The group is very enthusiastic about playing and we take the Covid precautions very seriously, e.g., only people who live together can play doubles, otherwise we only can play singles, because we endeavour to maintain social distancing. We each have our own bat and ball and sanitise the areas that are frequently touched. The doors and windows are opened during play to increase air flow. We are keen to encourage new players and would love the younger people in the village to take up the sport, perhaps at another day/time and form their own members (for minors their parents would need to be present at all times).

Sue Adams operates the booking system, so please book via her mobile 07957 616520.

Worcestershire Oval Race Club (WORC):

The club will be back in operation as soon as possible during these difficult times.



Alfrick & Lulsley Village Hall - Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 14 October 2020, Chairman's Report

2019 seems a long time ago bearing in mind all that has been happening with the COVID 19 pandemic. Even the date of this AGM had to be delayed because of restrictions. However, I am pleased to report 2019 was another successful year for us with the Hall enjoying a high level of usage.

Your committee continued to keep the Hall and its outside area up to a high standard. During 2019 the car park was resurfaced, parking bays marked and in/out signs installed. At the rear of the hall the overspill car park and track to the playing field was improved to avoid the area becoming muddy in wet weather. New floodlighting was installed to cover the front and rear of the hall.

Inside, with the help of a generous donation from the Show Committee, new hand driers were installed. Additionally the interior of the hall was redecorated. As Chairman I would like to thank your committee for all the hard work they have done to enable the hall to be operated in an efficient manner.

Richard Steele

Slowly Round the World – Again!



I am very pleased to report that I was able to send £100 to the *Charge Syndrome UK Family Support* charity following the two evenings of *Around the World*. This goes to help families to cope with the multiple needs of children suffering from this debilitating condition and the total contribution that I have been able to make from the *Round the World* talks is now more than £600.

We were a small group in the hall on those two evenings but that meant a chance to chat about the world as it appeared to me last year - a journey that seems almost impossible now and for the foreseeable future! Thank you. **Alan Soper**

Elaine Kite is the **Citizens Advice** Community Liaison Volunteer for Alfrick, contact 01886 884435 or email: 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.





Alfrick Players: 84 Charing Cross Road Postponed

We have decided not to go ahead with our production of *84 Charing Cross Road* on the November dates mentioned in last month's Sphere. It would still be possible to stage it within the current Covid rules, but the uncertainty around any future restrictions and the associated worry that people have about coming to events such as this suggest that we should postpone the show until the New Year.

So no more from *Alfrick Players* this year, sadly! If all goes well, we will have *84 Charing Cross Road* and *The Noble Spaniard* ready and waiting in the wings for putting on stage in Alfrick Village Hall in 2021. Thank you for your patience and support and we look forward to welcoming you back as soon as we can.

The Bosbury Films

With no live performances this year, we are going to show film recordings of four of *Bosbury Players'* past productions. These will be:

Wednesday 25 November: *My Fair Lady* (from 2007); **Thursday 26 November: *The Mikado*** (from 2014)

Friday 27 November: *Oklahoma!* (from 2013); **Saturday 28 November: *Fiddler on the Roof*** (from 2010)

All starting at 7.00pm in *Bosbury Parish Hall*; no tickets, just donations on the door but, with the Covid limitations on numbers in the hall, please let Jean Colley know if you would like to come (jean.colley48@gmail.com or 07850 233320).

Many local actors and singers from our villages are in these shows and in many ways they are period pieces in their own right so I do hope you will be able to come along.

Alan Soper





We have not yet been able to meet as a group, because of all restrictions, either in Suckley or in Alfrick.

In October, we had a get-together with ten members, complete with masks, and social distancing, enjoying each others' company for afternoon tea at *Holloways* in Suckley. The

County had managed to produce the *Worcestershire News Magazine* the first for a while, which we were able to have. The other big news is that *Denman House*, the WI College in Oxfordshire since 1948, which has not been able to hold any courses this year so has not been able to survive, is now up for sale.

When we will be able to meet as a group again will depend on all rules and the spread of the virus.

Anne Martin

Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop

Alfrick apple juice is in! We had a great response to the request for apples and they have returned to the shop from our local press and bottler as delicious juice, lovely with or without food. It makes a good present too! Speaking of presents, our Christmas cards and gifts will soon be in, so do pop in and have a look. You may be able to pick up a bargain with our regular promotions of local produce while you're there.

We'd like to thank you again for your continued generous support of the *Food Bank* collection, in partnership with the church. We all know that the urgency is greater than ever so please keep donations coming in if you can (they don't have to be bought in the shop - they can be purchased anywhere).

Following news of the closure of *Slade News*, we send our best wishes to Rachel in her new life. We believe that another business will be taking over her delivery round. As always, we are happy to pre-order any newspaper or magazine for customers to collect, including at weekends, so call into the shop if you would like to know more.

We do miss seeing lots of our customers for a chat in these strange days so maybe, if you wrap up warm, you could sit outside one day and we could say hello while you enjoy a warming takeaway drink (and perhaps a cake) from our kitchen. It seems even more important these days

that we keep an eye out for each other so if you can't make it to the shop maybe a neighbour can help out. We're very lucky to have such a committed group of volunteers to help Jean run the shop and I'm sure you would agree that they are greatly appreciated by all the community, since we wouldn't have the shop without them!

Don't forget to check us out on our *Facebook* page (Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop) for up to date news. Best wishes from us all at the shop.



Vicky Gatley (volunteer)

From the Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council Meeting 22 October 2020 by Zoom

Planning and Environmental Matters; -

Clay Green Farm development: no information yet on the possible re-sale of this site.

The council considered the *Government Directive on Wildlife and Biodiversity*. More discussion on the implications is to take place before a further review at the next meeting.

Committee on New Public Facilities

The Committee Chair, Cllr A. Cooper reported on the latest situation.

Key points:

- Formal statements are needed from the Village Hall and the Tennis Club stating that although they support development of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) neither wants responsibility for building or running it.
- VAT could only be reclaimed if the court is open to all, at all times.
- Work on the MUGA could start as soon as MHDC have agreed to our application for the Section 106 funding. The next MHDC S106 committee meeting for approval is January, but they can pre-check the application to make it as strong as possible.
- Children's play area. The preferred supplier is *Active Gardens* from Leominster. It is for a Toddler tractor and trailer with slide, a twin tower climbing frame with linking clatter-bridge. On its side is a rock wall, net and ladder. The whole area is on a bonded rubber surface.
Footpath around the field: the 330 metre route has been decided and MCB Landscapes are preparing a quotation.

Highways and Footpaths

Gullies on the Suckley road between Alfrick Pound and Bridges Stone identified as blocked by the Lengthsman have been cleared by WCC Highways.

Playing Field

MCB Landscapes have completed the work of clearing ditches in a very satisfactory manner.

Clerk's Report -

- *Knightwick Fencing* will be installing the new fence and gate this week.
- The Appeal against planning rejection by the owners of *Brownings Acre* has been upheld.
- Lulsley Broadband Project: the list of those asking for FTTP connections has been completed and the Government vouchers total more than is needed to meet the *Openreach* cost. This makes life easier – neither bank account nor Legal Entity is needed. The work is now with *Openreach* to complete the project.
- As an additional broadband project is underway, Cllr Messervy-Whiting contributed the following information. Suckley were already leading on the superfast broadband spur leading from the White House over Crews Hill down to Workhouse Bank. There are 20 properties from east of Baston Hall down to Garways. Of these 20 properties, 17 have signed up, of which at least 6 are eligible for the business vouchers. All these details have been with Worcester County Council's superfast broadband manager, who has been most helpful, since August. The subsequent hiatus has been between WCC and the contractor and a revised estimate is awaited.

The next meeting will be **Thursday 26 November 2020** at 19:30 hrs via *Zoom*

Alfrick & Lulsley Parish Hedge Planting Working Parties

There are plans to plant a hedge on the two "bare" sides of the playing field at Alfrick. This will provide some shelter to people using the field and help with drainage but, more importantly, will add a long-lasting wildlife corridor to the landscape and provide places of shelter for wildlife. I have obtained about 800 hedging plants from the *Woodland Trust*; they were free because this is a community project. Working parties to carry out the planting will be held on

Saturday 7 November from 2.00-4.00pm and Sunday 29 November from 10.00am to 12 noon

I do hope you can come. There will be tasks for all abilities so all are welcome.

Because of Covid-19 restrictions we will need to split into groups of no more than six people and there will be a leader for each group. It should be easy to maintain social distancing within each group.

Again, because of Covid, you will need to bring your own drinks and tools - just a spade and gloves.

Important: If you are interested in coming to either of these events please contact me on 01886 884372, 07896 515823 or derek.bradley372@outlook.com beforehand as I need to know numbers before the day. I look forward to hearing from you.

Derek Bradley, Tree Warden



FAMILY and ELDERLY SHOEBOX APPEAL

This charity has been rebuilding lives and communities through education and social care for 25 years. Our boxes will go to Romania, Moldova, Ukraine or Bulgaria. Please show a little love and start collecting items for your box to help a family or an elderly (unisex) person. Leaflets are now available in our churches. Boxes need to be back in church or given to me by **Sunday 22 November** when they will be blessed at the 9.00am service Alfrick Church. Many thanks, Helen Cook; 01886 821784

You will need either to obtain leaflets (please also see below) or download them from www.linktohope.co.uk to complete the forms, including sending the cash and/or donating to the Appeal, and if required enabling Gift Aid on your donations. Basic instructions follow:

Link to Hope Shoebox Instructions

1. Use an average-sized, strong, adult shoebox (approx. 18 x 10 x 30cm) **NOT BOOT BOXES OR OVERSIZED SHOE BOXES.**
2. Gather the **6** items listed in the **Blue Box** plus **5 or more** items from the **Red Box** for a Family Shoebox, or **5 or more** of the items from the **Purple Box** for a Unisex Elderly Shoebox. This means that there should be **at least 11 different items** in every shoebox.
3. Make sure you **tick the items on the Contents List**, as well as whether it is a Family or Unisex Elderly shoebox.
PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE ANY FOOD, MEDICINES, BOOKS, TEA/COFFEE OR OUT OF DATE ITEMS, AS STRICT CUSTOMS REGULATIONS HAVE TO BE FOLLOWED.
4. **Tape the lid to the box** to keep it secure and then **wrap the box** in colourful paper (not glittery paper as it is not easily recycled).
5. **Tape your completed Contents List** to the shoebox along the 3 sides marked in yellow.
6. Fold over the leaflet, and if **you pay tax** please complete and sign the Gift Aid Form on the back of the leaflet.
7. Finally, please tape along the 2 marked yellow top and bottom strips, and attach £3 (either 3 x £1 coins or a £2 and a £1 coin).

TAPE DOWN ON SHOEBOX HERE

CONTENTS LIST

1. We want everyone to receive a fun and useful box of **new and unused** gifts so every shoebox should contain all 6 items in this blue box.

<input type="checkbox"/> Gloves/Scarf or Hat (new or knitted)	<input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush/Toothpaste
<input type="checkbox"/> Sweets/Chocolates (BB June 2020 EU Origin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Candles & Holders
<input type="checkbox"/> Soap & Flannel	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Games (Travel Size Draughts/Dominoes/Playing Cards)

2. Then please **ADD at least 5 more items** (at least one of each item) from the **Red Box** for a **Family Shoebox** **OR** from the **Purple Box** to make a **Unisex Elderly Shoebox**.

<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Colouring Pads (A5) <input type="checkbox"/> Crayons/Pencils (with rubber and sharpener) <input type="checkbox"/> Small Toys (yo-yo, skipping rope, toy cars) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft toy/teddy (with CE label) <input type="checkbox"/> Tape Measure/DIY Tool <input type="checkbox"/> Head Scarf (lightweight) <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo (max 300ml) <input type="checkbox"/> Solar-Powered Calculator <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Razors <input type="checkbox"/> Other Gifts 	OR	<input type="checkbox"/> ELDERLY (UNISEX) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Glasses/Magnifier <input type="checkbox"/> Mug/Wooden Spoon/Cutlery <input type="checkbox"/> Sensory Item (ie Lavender Bag) <input type="checkbox"/> Hot Water Bottle <input type="checkbox"/> Work Gloves <input type="checkbox"/> Pen/Paper <input type="checkbox"/> Socks/Tights (NEW) <input type="checkbox"/> Wind-Up Radio/Torch <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo (max 300ml) <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors/Nail Clippers <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Razors <input type="checkbox"/> Other Gifts
--	----	--

PLEASE TRY TO REDUCE THE PACKAGING YOU PUT IN YOUR SHOEBOX

TAPE DOWN ON SHOEBOX HERE

The situation in Eastern Europe is worse than ours as they are without the health care and support that we have. *Link to Hope* would like to send as many shoe boxes as possible, but if you can't join in this year because you are not going shopping, for a donation *Link to Hope* could fill a shoebox for you, or send some items - Amazon has a Wish List that people can order from.

For further information go to www.linktohope.co.uk or ring Helen Cook (01886 821784) or Rev Anne (01886 832355) and we'll get a leaflet to you.

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Leigh and Bransford

ST.EDBURGA, LEIGH

The Churches were allowed to open for private prayer in June and St.Edburga is now open between 10.00am and 6.00pm on Sundays and Wednesdays.

The clergy Rev Anne Potter (Team Vicar) 01886 832355 and Rev Jen Denniston 01886 853280 are available at the end of a telephone line so please feel free to contact them.

If you have an administration query please contact Alison Khan on 07984 748059 or leighrectory@outlook.com



St. Edburga, Leigh Events

Hasn't it been the strangest few months? COVID has certainly made us think, act and do in so many different ways. But we had two lovely family occasions in St Edburga - a wedding on 26th September (only just before reduction of numbers) and on Sunday 11th October, Rev Anne's grandson, Jack, was baptised. Both memorable experiences in a world otherwise in lockdown, partial lockdown and with the Rule of Six. I felt very privileged to be part of both occasions.

So as I write this, I am about to go down to prepare for Evensong. The choir will be singing for only the second time since lockdown - and we are able to, mask free. Of course they have to be worn either side of each musical piece - except when reading or interceding.

The church looks very beautiful with autumnal coloured flowers and an altar covered in fruit and vegetables; a loaf, jug of water and grapes. The sun earlier was streaming through the Denny window, throwing onto the floor the golden colours of its stained glass. Once again the harvest produce was donated to "Caring Hands in the Vale" based at the Vale of Evesham Christian Centre. They not only distribute food parcels, but also use fresh foods to make soups, etc., for the Caring Hands Diner (established 2015).

We are delighted to see Animato return to Leigh Church on Thursday early evenings, baby Jack strapped to Mum whilst she conducts, and the young people safely within their 'bubbles'/'pods' singing away almost as if there was nothing different in the world outside

The church is open 10.00am - 6.00pm on Wednesdays and Sundays should you wish to sit quietly and/or pray. We would ask you to put a red marker on your seat when you leave. And please sanitize your hands and if you have the NHS COVID app, zap the QR code on your way in.

Let's now see what plans we are able to make for Christmas. Not a great deal I guess.

Jean Colley, Churchwarden.



Shoe Boxes 2020

There are not many things we can do at this present time, but you can make up a shoe box for a family or the elderly. Please see the Alfrick section of this edition for full details. **Helen Cook** 01886 821784

From Leigh and Bransford Football Club

In support to the Malvern Hills District Council Food Bank (MHDC), with the backing of Sarah Rouse (Chair MHDC), Leigh and Bransford Badgers and Malvern Town Football Clubs are launching their combined initiative to increase supplies of key goods for our neighbours, friends, and residents. A Collection point has been established at the HDanywhere stadium in order to make donation at training as easy as possible. Research would indicate that one in five under 15-year olds in the UK lives in a home where the parents can't afford to put food on the table; there will be boys or girls in our club in just such a perilous position.



What to donate

Every food parcel, drawn from Food Bank donations, is aimed to provide a minimum of three days' worth of nutritionally balanced, non-perishable foods, to the needy in our local community. The following items are likely needed to make up a food parcel, so will always be welcome from our donations:

Cereal, soup, pasta, rice, tinned tomatoes/pasta sauce, lentils, beans and pulses, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tea/coffee, tinned fruit, biscuits, UHT milk, fruit juice.

It's not just food

We can help with not just food items, some essential non-food items can really make a massive difference in households struggling to make ends meet, struggling to find the basics.

Non-food donations

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Toiletries: | Deodorant, toilet paper, shower gel, shaving gel, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand-wipes |
| Household items: | Laundry liquid detergent, laundry powder, washing up liquid |
| Feminine products: | Sanitary towels, tampons |
| Baby supplies: | Nappies, baby wipes, baby food |



NOVEMBER UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES OF THE LEIGH AND BRANSFORD MEMORIAL HALL

THE LATEST SITUATION

Of course the difficulty in writing any update about how Covid-19 restrictions are impacting plans for hiring the hall is that no sooner does the proverbial 'ink' dry on the virtual page, than new restrictions are introduced making any update immediately out-of-date! So, with that in mind, the easiest way to get the latest information on the restrictions that apply to all potential hires is to visit our website, which we are constantly updating. You can do that here at: <http://leighandbransfordhall.co.uk/wp/>

THE HALL WELCOMES OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

This month, however, I can report that even in the face of all the misery and enforced isolation that Covid-19 brings, the Hall is currently providing a much-needed sanctuary of activity for some of the young people in our community.

As construction of the new Scout Hut began in earnest in October 1st Leigh Scouts have now taken over the Hall on Friday evenings where scouts can meet and interact with their peers.



Additionally, in September, the Worcester branch of the Pauline Quirk Academy of Performing Arts started booking the Hall on Saturdays for the whole day. They organise the time to allow different year groups of students to attend for up to three hours rotating through hour-long sessions in Comedy and Drama, Musical Theatre, Film and Television. The photograph above shows them exercising appropriate social distancing inside the large hall during one such training session. The first photograph shows the one-way, entry-only route for staff and students into the building - they exit by a separate route to make sure that arriving students do not mix with those who are leaving. The final photo shows them working outside on the field, again with appropriate social distancing measures in place.



Brownies and Rainbows hope to return to their weekly meetings after the October half term – and of course, we look forward to welcoming them back.

Jon Gamble
Chair of Trustees

Leigh & Bransford Parish Council

Leigh & Bransford Coronavirus community response: As coronavirus cases rise across the county, we are grateful to the local volunteers who provided such a fantastic community response during the first wave and have agreed to step up again if needed. While none of us yet know how the pandemic will develop over winter or what restrictions will be put in place, the latest updates and details on how to request assistance or volunteer to help will be on the parish noticeboards and website – www.leighandbransford.org.uk or you can call the parish response co-ordinator John Sharp on 01886 833844 for further details.

Telephone Box book exchange in Leigh Sinton: A small group of volunteers is starting work to refurbish the phone box in Leigh Sinton and transform it into a community book exchange. There will be a new door, replacement windows and a fresh coat of paint, which we hope will make it an attractive and useful amenity in the village. We have already had some books kindly donated, but if you have books you would like to offer please get in touch, either with the clerk on 01684 567674 or the chairman on 01886 833844.

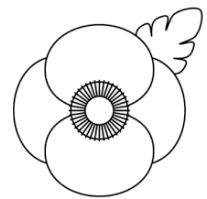
Highways: Pavement parking in Leigh Sinton and speeding throughout the parish continue to be a problem. We are following up both issues with the local police team, but in the meanwhile would please ask that drivers and pedestrians continue to take extra care, especially as the nights draw in. Could we also ask that you note any problem drains and defective road or footway surfaces and either report them directly at www.worcestershire.gov.uk or let us know so that we can request repairs before the weather worsens.

Dog Fouling signs: Thank you for the suggested locations for new dog fouling signs. We have requested signs for several spots, including by the play area at Leigh Hurst, the Jubilee Garden in Leigh Sinton, and footways at Dragon's Cross, Castle Green and the Cala Homes development. We have more available, so please let us know of any other locations that would benefit from new signage.

Parish council meetings will continue to be held virtually for the time being. Residents are always welcome to join us, so please get in touch for details of how to participate. The next virtual meeting (subject to change – please see noticeboards and website for arrangements) is scheduled **24th November at 7.00pm.**

Poppies for Remembrance

For many, the [Royal British Legion](#)'s red poppy is a symbol of peace and remembrance for those who gave their lives in times of war. Over the years the annual Poppy Appeal, first held in 1921, has raised vital money to support Britain's Armed Forces, veterans and their families in their times of need. However, this is not the only poppy appeal which exists to promote peace and to remember wartime sacrifice.



The white poppy was first designed and distributed in 1933 by the [Peace Pledge Union](#), the UK's oldest pacifist group. Many veterans of the First World War, and indeed, of wars since, opted to wear the white poppy to stress the 'never again' message and to visually represent their commitment to peace.

Black poppies are also available each year from [Black Poppy Rose](#), to especially remember those in the African, Black, Caribbean and Pacific Islands communities who contributed to or who died during various conflicts since the 16th century.

Animal victims of wartime, like horses and dogs, are also remembered through the wearing of purple poppies. Organised by the [War Horse Memorial](#), donations for purple poppies are given to animal charities including World Horse Welfare and Blue Cross.

Whatever colour you choose to wear, poppies remain an important symbol to remember all those affected by war.



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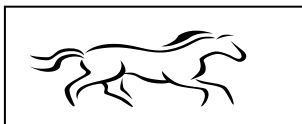
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VILLAGE INFORMATION

STD 01886

ALFRICK-w-LULSLEY

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

VILLAGE HALL Booking on line at www.alfrickandlulsley.org or for information and advice email 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 www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com	07771600776

LEIGH & BRANSFORD

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

MEMORIAL HALL - Booking & Keys:	www.leighandbransfordhall.co.uk	
HALL COMMITTEE - Memorial Hall 7.30 pm 3rd Tuesday in January then every other month.		
AGM 3rd Tuesday in May. Chair: Jon Gamble - j_e_gamble@hotmail.com		
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	www.malvernmarialarts.co.uk	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	jesshibbert@hotmail.com	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		

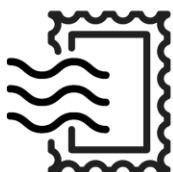
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Saturday 9.00am - 12.30pm

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Withdraw cash, deposit cash & cheques
Travel Money Card now available

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Local meat, snacks & pies
Local bread, filled rolls & ice cream
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Café

Unfortunately
closed for the
duration

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to seeing you
soon



Alfrick & Lulsley

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Facebook: Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop

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Bromyard

The Conquest Theatre is gently resting and waiting for when better times return, which they will do. We hope you keep safe and well and we look forward to welcoming you back for a diverse range of entertainment from far and wide.

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