

Dear Friends

As we approach November, our thoughts inevitably turn to Remembrance, particularly as this year, 2018, marks the centenary of the end of that terrible conflict, the First World War. Everyone then, and nearly everyone since, has been touched in some way by the events of that time. The experiences in my family, for instance, can be replicated in different ways by many, many other families.

There was a grandfather I never knew, killed at the Battle of Loos in 1915, whose body was never recovered, but his name is on the Menin Gate at Ypres in Belgium. My grandmother was widowed at 24 with a three-year-old daughter, my mother, and a three-month-old son, my uncle. My mother said her childhood memories were often sad ones, her young mother often in tears, and outings were usually to the unveiling of yet another War Memorial. War orphans were given special places to stand and made to feel 'different' from other children, with tin mugs on strings round their necks for the tea party which would follow. This was no doubt kindly meant but to my mother it highlighted the fact that the father she could just remember was no longer there. One of her most upsetting memories was the Headmistress telling the whole school on the day that the Unknown Soldier was buried in Westminster Abbey, that he might be Dorothy Reynold's (my mother's) father. Imagine what that might do to a child. She died at 86 and I think she still had a deep-down feeling of loss even then. War damages not only the serving personnel but also the families left behind.

We will soon be buying and wearing our Poppies to show we have remembered, and to honour the Fallen and support the charities that help the injured and/or their families, which is obviously a good thing. An even more fitting memorial to those who gave their lives would be to work and pray for peace wherever we can, so that there would be no more war with its traumatic aftermath. After the First World War, there were a few dozen villages throughout Britain that were called the 'Thankful Villages'. These were the villages from which every man and boy who went to war came back alive. What it would be to be a 'Thankful Country'!

Peace be with You.

Margaret Cooling

St Mary the Virgin St Briavels & St Mary Magdalene Hewelsfield

All are most welcome to join us for worship, which is welcoming, relaxed and open to all. Join us to find what God's love could mean for you.

Both Churches are open from 9.00am until 4.00pm for those who wish to look around or find a space for quiet and reflection. More can be found on our website www.stbandhchurches.org.uk which gives up to date information.

For a wedding, baptism or blessing, or to request healing or other prayer please contact me, robert.simpson02@btinternet.com or 01594 560202 or our Reader, Mandy Vaughan - 01594 530844. I usually work Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and mornings on Wednesday and am available anytime for urgent requests.

The Good News with which we begin this month is that David Rees has been accepted for Local Ordained Ministry in the Church of England. David will continue to live and work in this Benefice. He will be Ordained Deacon at Gloucester Cathedral in June.

This month we begin with All Saints, celebrating not just the lives of those past but remembering that we too can be saints. God's power and love, which was at the heart of their lives, can be at the heart of our lives too, so we can carry on their good work being lights in the darkness. During our morning worship on the 4th there will be time to remember those who have died

The 11th is a very special **Remembrance Sunday & Armistice Day** as we remember the **centenary of the end of WW1**, those who sacrificed their lives in that and subsequent conflicts, and all those who continue to suffer and die in war and conflict. This we will do in our services that morning and at 10.50am at the Playing Field Gates at St Briavels. The Month ends with a celebration and reflection on what Christ's Kingly reign means for us today.

December begins with the Hewelsfield Nativity Scene Festival on the 1st & 2nd, 10.00 – 4.00pm, with refreshments. The Sunday is Advent Sunday, when we begin to think about those who prepared for Christ's birth and how we make his presence real today and so prepare for his return. **NB:** December's Food for Thought will be on December 9th not the 2nd.

NOVEMBER SERVICES: PREACHERS AND THEMES:

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

30th Oct. Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
1st Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 4th - All Saints Day (Baptism at St Briavels) David Treharne

8.30 am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
9.30am	St Briavels	Baptism
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Family Communion

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

6th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
7th Wed	10.30am	Holy Communion
8th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 11th - Remembrance Sunday. Robert

9.30 am	St Briavels	All Age Eucharist
10.50 am	Playing Field Gates	Village Commemoration
10.50 am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Family Worship

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

13th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
15th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 18th - Christmas Festival at Speech House Field

8.30 am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
10.00 am – 4.00 pm	Speech House Field	Christmas Festival

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

20th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
21st Weds	10.30am	Holy Communion
22nd Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 25th - Christ the King Loved and set Free. Robert

9.30 am	St Briavels	All Age Eucharist
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Family Communion

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

27th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
29th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 2nd DEC. – Advent: Our Redemption is Drawing Near. David Treharne

8.30 am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
9.30am	St Briavels	All Age Eucharist
10.00 am – 4.00 pm	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Nativity Scene Festival
4.00 pm	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	All Age Worship

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

4th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
5th Weds	10.30am	Holy Communion
6th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

BROCKWEIR MORAVIAN CHURCH

Church Services for November 2018

Sun	4 Nov	6.00 pm	Rev Patsy Holdsworth (<i>Holy Communion</i>)
Sun	11 Nov	6:00 pm	Rev Patsy Holdsworth (<i>Remembrance Service</i>)
Sun	18 Nov	6.00 pm	Rev Patsy Holdsworth
Sun	25 Nov	6.00 pm	Br Phil Batelle (<i>Phil is a visiting preacher from the congregation at Ockbrook</i>)

Congregation Council Meeting

Our annual Congregation Council meeting will take place in the Sunday School Room at 2.00 p.m. on Saturday 24th November. All members, friends and supporters of the church are invited to attend and participate in discussions. However, only members may vote.

REGULAR MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Tap Dancing - 6.45-7.45 & 7.45-8.45 – Mondays in the School Room. 'Tap for Fun' classes for adults from complete beginners to intermediate levels. Please contact Deborah Stock on 07801 479269, email deborahstock@aol.com for more information.

Table Tennis - 2.15 - 4.00 pm - Tuesdays & Thursdays in the School Room. Players of all abilities always welcome - for more information contact Jean Taylor on 01291 689565.

Charity Lunch - at 12 noon in the Sunday School Room on 1st Thurs of the month. Thurs 1st November – In aid of the Over 60s' Christmas Lunch. Thurs 6th Dec – In aid of our Christmas Charity To be decided at our Congregations Council meeting.

Book Group - Please contact Heather Armstrong (01291 689326) for details.

Brockweir & Hewelsfield History Group - Normally on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Sunday School.

Food Bank Collection - Donations for the food bank may be brought to services, charity lunches etc or left in the church porch at any time. We welcome your gifts of tinned and dried food, and also toiletries.

Ecumenical Welcome



Because we are the only church offering regular public worship in the village of Brockweir, we invite all Christians in the local community to play as full a part as they are able [allowing for any continued commitments to their own denomination] in the life and fellowship of this congregation. We invite those of all Christian traditions, and those having no particular denominational affiliation, to worship and to share in Holy Communion with us, and to share in the ministry and mission of the Church in this area.

Minister: Rev Patsy Holdsworth, 35 Quarry Way, Emersons Green, Bristol, BS16 7BN, Tel: 0117 907 8994 email: Patsy.holdsworth@moravian.org.uk
Please note that Patsy's day off is normally on a Tuesday. Please try to only contact her in an emergency on that day.

Church Committee

Katie Groves-Bond	07814 431892	Jean Green	01594 530955
Heather Armstrong	01291 689326	Sue Groves	01291 689804
Carol Ostler	01291 689675	Judith Ashton	01291 689572
Philip Ashton	01291 689572		



FOREST OF DEAN QUAKER MEETING

We meet for Worship every Sunday at 10.30am in Staunton Village Hall (near Coleford.) There is a car park behind the hall. Contact me for more information.

Jen Cothier 01594 530348

ST BRIAVELS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

In a world so full of uncertainty and sorrow, we meet to share good news of hope and joy: We'd love for you to join us. We're conscious that many people in our community face all kinds of struggles; if you would like us to help you or pray for you, please get in touch.

We usually hold our Sunday Morning Service at 10am (6pm Evening Service). Our morning service is a family service when we have a "Sunday Club" for young children.

On 11th November our morning service will begin at 9:30am, allowing us to be finished in good time for the Remembrance Service at the Memorial Gates. We will hold a special service to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the end of WW1, marking the centenary by reflecting on the events of 100 years ago as well as praying for peace today. All are welcome.

We meet for Bible study and prayer every Thursday (8pm in my home) and Tuesday (10:15am in the chapel), apart from the first Tuesday of the month (6th November) when we hold our coffee morning at 10am.

We are very grateful to the St Briavels Wind Turbine Community Resilience Fund who have just awarded us £920 towards upgrading the path to the chapel outside toilet. Those attending the chapel, schoolchildren who regularly use the building, and passing dog walkers will all appreciate the improved access.

ST BRIAVELS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH continued on next page...

ST BRIAVELS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH continued

A few advance dates for your diary:

Saturday 1st December, a special invitation to families: bring the children and make Christmas decorations at the chapel. 10:30am-1:30pm. Why not pop in after you've been to the farmers market?

Tuesday 4th December, our regular Coffee Morning. It will include carols and mince pies. A particular treat - the choir of St Briavels Primary School are going to come and sing for us. Join us at 10am.

Sunday 9th December, Food for Thought, our joint service held with the parish church in the school.

If you would like to know more about us please get in touch or visit our website:
www.stbriavelscongregational.org.uk

Matt Rees, Pastor

MARGARET REYNOLDS

The Village News Editorial Committee offers its condolences to the family of Margaret Reynolds, who died in the early hours of Wednesday 10th October.

Christmas Services In St Briavels, Hewelsfield & Brockweir

Sunday 16th December

Community Carols by Candlelight. Followed by Refreshments

5pm - Hewelsfield & Brockweir. 6.30pm - St Briavels

Christmas Eve

Family Carols by Candlelight, St Briavels - 4.30 pm

'Midnight Communion', Hewelsfield & Brockweir - 10.00pm

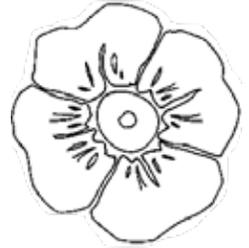
Midnight Communion, St Briavels - 11.30pm

Christmas Day - All Age Communion, St Briavels - 10.30am



Lest We Forget

An Act of Remembrance to Commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War will be held on Sunday, 11th November, 2018 at 10.45 a.m. at the War Memorial Gates, St. Briavels.



The Ceremony will include the dedication of a Memorial Bench and a Plaque to honour Vice Admiral Carpenter, a long-standing resident of St. Briavels, who was awarded the Victoria Cross.

Afterwards, come along to the Assembly Rooms for a special celebration...

- Enjoy a cup of tea, cakes and sandwiches.
- Hear the People's Choir perform special WWI songs and be entertained by local group, Beaujoladies, who will sing popular songs from that era.
- On show will be many items of memorabilia from both WWI and WWII, including a unique album of WWI photos and silhouettes, to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.
- Listen to video interviews by St. Briavels school children of our parishioners' personal war-time experiences and memories.
- Enjoy the artwork and submissions of St. Briavels school children for the Competition for the best Remembrance Poem that will be read out at the Service.

VILLAGE NEWS COMMUNITY GRANTS

Thanks to the support of our readers, Village News continues to achieve a surplus of income over costs each year. As we have capital in the bank against future needs, we will again use surplus income to fund grants to community groups for particular projects in 2019. The exact sum available will be confirmed but will be in the region of £1,500.

If you are a local group in the communities of Brockweir, Hewelsfield or St Briavels and have an idea for a project, you can apply for a grant. An independent panel will assess all applications and make recommendations for awards to the Editorial Committee.

The closing date for applications is 14 January 2019. Awards will be made by 28 February 2019. If you would like to apply, email editors@villagemag.co.uk for further details and application guidelines.

The Editorial Committee

HEWELSFIELD AND BROCKWEIR PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on Monday 8th October 2018 - Summary Minutes.

Cllr. Brundle signed his Acceptance of Office document, following his election.

P1420/18/LBC – Glen Wye, Brockweir, Chepstow NP16 7NG. Listed building consent for the removal of pebble dash render, re-pointing stone with lime mortar and breathable painted finish. Cllr. Bowen had declared a pecuniary interest in this application and took no part in the discussions. Councillors had no comment to make on this application.

Cllrs. Bowen, Fox, Harris and Merrett attended a meeting with Brian Watkins on 13th September. Cllr. Fox had discussed a temporary, tube-based traffic monitoring system with Cllr. Molyneux, and this had been agreed in principle. Battery operated traffic calming displays had been discussed and the Clerk was asked to apply for funding (£1,700.00) from the Police & Crime Commissioners.

General condition of drains and grips were also discussed at the meeting with Mr Watkins, and the standing water and drainage from Underhill to Quayside in particular. It was agreed that the origin of this water should be traced using a dye to monitor the direction of the flow. Once the problem area is identified, Brian Watkins will address it.

The map of drains and gullies used by Highways is incomplete and it was agreed that councillors would survey the parish and update the map for forwarding to Brian Watkins. Cllr. Haythornthwaite raised the question of pedestrian walkways on Mill Hill which needed clearing. The Public Rights of Way/Footpaths group would be informed.

It was also suggested that clearer signage to the Brockweir Shop was needed, particularly from the Mackenzie Hall area.

Cllr. Fox was asked to contact Patrick Molyneux to explore possible funding for the resurfacing of Brockweir Bridge. This had been requested numerous times from Highways, but it appears that funding has not been allocated in the 2018/19 budget as promised.

Cllr. Harris confirmed that ten Perspex figures had been purchased which will be used in services at each of the churches. It was agreed that the parish council would purchase two wreaths, one for each church, to bear the names of those lost from the parish in WW1.

Councillors discussed opportunities to work more closely with the committees of the Brockweir Shop, Mackenzie Hall and Brockweir CIC.

Neighbourhood Social Media Communication - Several parishioners had raised concern about leaflets received. The matter had been investigated and it appears to be a marketing ploy.

An application for the former oil yard site to be considered a Parish Asset is to be made for approval by FODDC.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 6th November 2018 at 7pm The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir.

Councillors would like to invite parishioners to join them for some festive refreshments following a very brief meeting in December, which will be held on Tuesday 4th December at 7.00pm at The Loft, Village Shop.

ST. BRIAVELS PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Meeting held on Monday, 8th October, 2018 in the Assembly Rooms, St. Briavels.

Whittington Close/Play Area: A Community Opportunity – by the time you read this, the Parish Council will have hosted a Drop-in Discussion Session on Friday, 26th October at the Pavilion. The session was publicised in last month's issue of VN and flyers/posters distributed. The purpose was to receive suggestions regarding ideas for a community project and hear any concerns about the long-term use of a strip of land at Whittington Close and the adjacent children's play area. If you were unable to attend this session and would like to comment, then please contact Ursula Deighton, the Clerk; details below. The Council will consider this further in November, bearing in mind the feedback received.

Remembrance Sunday – arrangements for the special event to commemorate the Centenary of the end of the WW1 on 11th November are detailed separately in this issue of VN. The Parish Council look forward to seeing you at the Memorial Gates and afterwards in the Assembly Rooms.

Repair of Playing Fields Wall – a specification for work required to repair this wall will be approved at the November meeting and quotations sought shortly afterwards.

Christmas Lights will be placed on the tree outside The George from 1st December with the official 'switch-on' taking place on 14th December; look out for details of this festive community event.

Bus Shelter on The Square – you may have noticed a couple of planters appearing either side of this recently painted bus shelter. The plan is to create an information point/book swap library in this bus shelter.

The Council has given permission to the Playing Fields Committee, in conjunction with the Parish Grasslands Project, to plant several fruit trees to create a **Community Orchard** in a small area at the bottom right hand corner of the playing field.

Tenders will be sought in November for the Grass Cutting Contract for 2019 – 2022; adverts will be placed in the local press.

Local Council elections take place in May, 2019. If you are thinking of becoming a Councillor, don't hesitate to get in touch with one of the existing Councillors and, of course, you are welcome to come along to any of the meetings to see what goes on. Parish Councillors will be highlighting Council achievements over the next few VN articles.

Winter Preparations – hopefully winter 2018/19 will not be a repeat of the last one, but just in case, work is taking place to map and number the Parish grit bins, of which there are around 70, and to identify bins that need moving/replacing.

Next meeting – Monday, 12th November, 2018 at 7.00 p.m. in the Assembly Rooms, with planning applications available to view from 6.30 p.m. and Councillors available for you to raise any issues you feel the PC may be able to resolve. Full minutes are available on the Parish Council website.

Ursula Deighton, Clerk, St. Briavels Parish Council
Tel: 01594 516518 E-mail: stbriavelsclerk@outlook.com

St Briavels will elect a new Parish Council in May 2019. Sadly, insufficient nominations were received for St Briavels to have a fully elected Parish Council when elections were last held in May 2015. Only six nominations were received and consequently these nominees were automatically elected as the new parish council, the remaining three vacancies being filled by co-option. I sincerely hope that when a new council is elected there will be more than nine candidates, so that the new Council will be well and truly representative of the parishioners.

What is a Parish Council?

Dating back to the Norman manorial system, parish councils were given extra powers in the great town hall upheaval of 1972.

A parish council is the most local form of local government. It is the level of local government closest to the community with the Forest of Dean District Council (FODDC) and Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) above it in the hierarchy.

St Briavels Parish Council is the Burial Authority and is also responsible for a range of things, many of which we take for granted: the provision and maintenance of some public open spaces (e.g. The Tump); the maintenance of the churchyard; the provision of litter bins, public seats and bus shelters; and the erection of signs warning of dangers (e.g. walkers, the speed campaign 20 is plenty, etc).

Probably the most frequent topics that parish councils get involved with are planning matters (they are statutory consultees), crime prevention, and roads and highways. It is true to say that on their own, parish councils have limited powers to make decisions other than those listed above, but they do have the ability to negotiate with, and the power to influence, those other organisations that do make the final decisions, such as FODDC, GCC, Health Authorities and the Police.

If the portrayal of Parish councils on TV is to be believed then they are hotbeds of intrigue, corruption and passion (The Casual Vacancy), and those who sit on them a colourful mixture of oddballs, naïve do-gooders and idiots (The Vicar of Dibley). Nothing could be further from the truth. Parish councils consist of ordinary people, giving freely of their time to improve the parish environment and the lives of those living within the parish.

If you are interested in standing for the new Council, then come along as a member of the public to find out what happens at meetings. Or, better still, speak with one of the present Councillors.

To misquote JFK: Don't ask "What can the Parish Council do for me?" Instead ask "What can I do for the Parish?"

David Rees



RESIGNATION OF KIM HILTON FROM BROCKWEIR CIC

After 3 fantastic years, I have decided that, due to other commitments, it is unfeasible for me at the current time to continue in my role as Director of Brockweir CIC and as part of the principal organising group of the Brockweir Soapbox Derby. I very much look forward to attending (and hopefully competing in) the Soapbox Event next year and wish the CIC much success into the future. I am proud to have been instrumental in creating Brockweir Community Interest Company (CIC) and in initiating the Soapbox Derby, I am also proud of the events the creation of the CIC has helped revive, such as the Village Fireworks and the Pub Quiz, and the many roles it now has in supporting other community events in the village, such as the Village Fete, BEST and the Community Christmas Lunch, the Village Cricket and BADS' productions. This is a vital role and has helped enormously in encouraging community relations and raising the possibilities of creating professional, safe and progressive events for the future.

It is also fair to mention the financial benefits to many local groups who have been involved in running activities alongside the Soapbox Derby, such as the Village Shop, the Moravian Church, and the Playground Committee, and also the charities that have gained from involvement, such as the Wildlife Trust and the many charitable causes that different competitors have raised money for as part of their entry, such as the Mackenzie Hall and local businesses, such as the Brockweir Inn and many local food and drink producers that have seen a boom to business from the event. Many may not be aware that, thanks to the CIC, there is also now a range of event infrastructure available to be borrowed for local events, such as marquees, barriers, high-vis vests and signage. There are also opportunities for local events to apply for small financial assistance and seed funding and support to help them get started. Please contact the CIC for details - HQ@brockweirsoapboxderby.co.uk.

As a final note, I would like to thank all those who put so much time, dedication and goodwill into making things happen locally, I love living in a vibrant community! And to those who have thought about getting involved in any of the local activities but not yet done it – do it, and do it now! These events should not be taken for granted, neither should it be assumed that they will just happen without your support – be the village that you want to live in!

Kim, Quay House

BADGER CULLING UPDATE

The Bovine TB Policy Team for Wales has confirmed to me that, 'There is an agreement for Natural England to consult with the Welsh Govt should an application for a badger disease control licence in England include land within 2km of the Welsh border'. This is based on the conclusion from the Randomised Badger Cull Trial that badger culling can increase the incidence (of Bovine TB) in adjacent cattle herds, and buffers should be established.

Letter continued on next page...

So: the Good News for our parishes is that it could mean that a large majority of land between the River Wye and the B4228 road will be excluded from culling.

The Not So Good News: the use of the word 'consult' may lead to the river being considered an adequate buffer (although badgers can swim). Will Wales stick to its interpretation that 2km is required?

The Bad News: much of the rest of the South Forest may have been licensed and be subject to culling. The general public are not informed of the specific areas involved.

May I ask that parishioners continue to make the observations that I suggested in October and, if they feel inclined, report them to me on 01291 689 319 or Email madgettsbadgers@gmail.com

Keith Childs

BROCKWEIR GARDENS OPEN DAY

On Sunday 9th September, three Brockweir Gardens (Cloud's Rest, The Patch and Spring Farm) opened their gates under the National Garden Scheme.

After what was probably one of the hardest gardening years, with the late snow, the wet spring and the heat wave, the three gardens did look their best and attracted over 175 visitors. Ticket sales raised £1,335 for the National Garden Scheme's charities. The plant sale and teas & cakes raised a further £500 for Great Oaks Hospice in Coleford.

We would therefore like to give a big thank you to all who helped make the day such a tremendous success: those who helped out with parking, at the gates and the plant sale; and those who provided cakes and helped serve the refreshments.

Immy Lee, on behalf of all three gardens

WHAT A MESS!

On Monday 8th October, the International Panel on Climate Change reported on the serious situation we all face by not reducing our carbon emissions urgently by 2030. Some in the media picked this up and broadcast it. Others chose to downplay its importance, challenge its assumptions, mock the science and classify it as fake news.

A week later, the IPCC report is off the agenda, having briefly made headline news for a day. Meanwhile, the majority of front pages continue to describe with glee the agony of the Brexit process. It would seem that the future of a few politicians' careers is more newsworthy than the future of humanity.

By the time the full impacts of global warming affect our lives, it'll be too late to stop it and there will be no way of avoiding it whatever our relationship with Europe. What a mess!

Chris Mc Farling chrismcfarling@phonecoop.coop

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Our huge thanks to everybody who supported this event at the St Briavels Assembly Rooms on Friday, 28 September.

We are able to report that, so far, over £2,700 has been raised, with a little more coming gradually in donations from people who missed the event.

We can't thank you enough for all the cakes, raffle prizes and donations of plants and books etc for the stalls and last, but not least, everybody who came. We loved seeing the Assembly Rooms bustling with shoppers or having coffee and cake and meeting up with old friends. It was a really lovely occasion. We also have another big thank you to the Assembly Rooms Committee for donating the hall and the kitchen facilities free of charge – and for the wonderful support we also had from our team of hard workers, who were exceptionally busy for the whole morning.

It was a great effort and we are so grateful to everybody and sure that the sum raised will help towards changing the lives of people with cancer. Many thanks to everybody concerned.

Gillie Morgan & Shiela Haeffner

APPLE DAY THANKS

The community came, apples were pressed and juice pasteurized and bottled. Another vintage is being delivered as I write. Another successful community event to mark the seasonal fruitfulness. Apples of all kinds in trugs, bags, sacks, crates, bins, boxes and a trailer were converted into juice, pulp for the pigs, and a little cider. Nothing was wasted; and those windfalls weren't left to rot.

I must thank the usual stalwarts for their efforts and experience, Piers and Matt. I will also thank everyone for their help and support, understanding that a community event is by all, for all. The apple juice I'm enjoying has had nothing taken away, nothing added other than our local apples. It's as good as an Ent draught*.

The event is getting bigger and has potential for expansion. At this time in its evolution, it would be worth reconsidering carefully its purpose, its objectives and its sustainability. If anyone has any ideas or comments on this please let me know.

Chris McFarling chrismcfarling@phonecoop.coop

* see Lord of the Rings

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING AT BROCKWEIR INN

Many thanks to all who supported the coffee morning on 28 September. Thanks to your generosity, we raised over £500.

Will & Nicky

BROCKWEIR VILLAGE BONFIRE

Saturday 3rd November will see the Village Bonfire in the field off Merricks Lane. The gates open at 6.30pm, with the bonfire being lit at 7.00pm. The Fireworks display will start at 7.45pm approx. There will be a licensed bar as well as hot refreshments. Tickets cost £3.00 and are available from the Brockweir Village Shop and the Brockweir Inn.

There will also be competition for the most original GUY - so please get those creative juices flowing and bring along your entry on the night.

For more information please see our Facebook page: Brockweir and Hewelsfield Bonfire Night.

FOREST ROUTES - LINKING YOU WITH LOCAL TRANSPORT

The Forest of Dean Community transport Partnership received funding from the Big Lottery for a five year project, 2013—2018. The partnership included the four Community Transport providers in the District, as well as the District Council, Gloucestershire County Council and Gloucestershire Rural Community Council. The purpose of the project was to reduce the social and physical isolation of older, vulnerable and young people living in the Forest of Dean. It was intended that this would be achieved through providing better information, sharing knowledge and developing relation-ships. The partnership would like to thank everyone who has contacted, worked with and contributed to the success of the project

Over 5 years the partnership has:

- Transported more than 277,000 people by voluntary car, Dial-a-Ride and Community Bus Services
- Engaged with 1243 people through community forums
- Reaching 1075 young people
- Provided training for 175 people
- Recruited 21 volunteers

An evaluation of the project was conducted this year, which can be viewed on the project website www.forestroutes.org. What has become apparent during this evaluation is that the service provided is not just 'transport'. All of the providers' drivers are closely involved in the care of the people they carry; it was described by one as an 'armchair to armchair service not a door to door service'. There have been exceptional examples of how the Community Transport Service plays such an important role in social care. For some people, voluntary car drivers are a lifeline, especially for those who live on their own, a volunteer driver may be the only person they see in their week. Community transport can mitigate the cost of loneliness and isolation through providing older people with access to health and other services, and to social opportunities.

Celia Wear

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The BEST team are looking forward to welcoming all Brockweir and Hewelsfield residents over 60 and their partners to the big **Christmas Lunch on Sat 8th December** 12.00 to 3.00 pm at the Mackenzie Hall. Members of the Youth Club will be supporting us as always, so please do join us all for festive food, wine and laughter.

Invitations will be delivered during the week commencing 5th November and the deadline for replies is Sat 24th November. As spaces are limited, please forward your response to us as soon as possible!

We have tried to build a comprehensive invitation list, but if we have missed you please do contact the BEST secretary, Alison Crawshaw. Email: brockweirsocial@gmail.com or phone 01594 531160 or leave your details in the village shop marked for her attention. Thank you.

The BEST Team

BORJGHALI GEORGIAN CHOIR AND FEAST AT THE MACKENZIE HALL

On the 10th November at the Mackenzie Hall, 7.00 for 7.30, there will be an evening of music, feasting, good company, heart stirring songs and sacred chants from the Republic of Georgia, with the 'Borjghali' Georgian choir (pronounced "borch-kha-lee").

This will be the sixth year the choir has visited Brockweir and the evening has become a bit of an annual pre-Christmas tradition. The evening will open with a short concert, followed by a meal in the style of a Georgian feast or 'Supra'.

The 'Tamada' or toastmaster, will be the choir's director Anthony Johnston who has visited the country on many occasions and who has been inspired by this ritual meal that, for the evening at least, will connect us with another time and culture and another part of the world.

Tickets will include your meal and entertainment, please bring your own wine: Adults - £22, Concessions - £18, Under 14 - £4, Under 8 - free

Doors open at 7pm and the evening gets under way at 7.30pm. To book contact Sabiah at: tickets.borjghali@gmail.com, or ring 0793 2154 690.

WHAT'S ON...**AT ST BRIAVELS PAVILION**

17th November - **CHOCOLATE BINGO**

18th November - **CRAFT FAYRE**

9th December - **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

For more details, contact Jill: 01594 530035 or Kim: 01594 531116

PLUS - A CHRISTMAS CONCERT, with COLEFORD COMMUNITY CHOIR
- date to be confirmed. Please look out for dates around the village and on the Pavilion Facebook Page

ST BRIAVELS KNITTERS



Since we last wrote we've had lots of new members, and our needles have continued to be in full click. In addition to the 46 lap blankets that we knitted for Age UK Gloucestershire, we have created a large collection of scarves, hats and fingerless gloves for Age UK Gloucestershire, 35 gowns for the Stillborn and Neonatal Death Society (SANDS) and (if we say so ourselves) a very smart blanket commissioned by Barnwood

Trust for 'Barney' their event bus. We also dedicated our September gatherings to knit 250 poppies for the Coleford WW1 Remembrance display. Our current project is for Kids Stuff. Based in Stroud, Kids Stuff provides support for the most vulnerable children in the area. As part of this, they provide a range of items for families in crisis and for a local women's refuge. Helpfully, we have been given a very open brief – "anything you can make for us would be more than welcome"! So we are knitting all sorts of things from toys to clothing to hot water bottle covers. Something for knitters of all abilities...

Do come and join us if you enjoy knitting (or would like to learn how to). Tea, cake and chatting may be an additional incentive... We're a very informal group of mixed abilities. We meet on Tuesdays (2.30 – 4.30 in the café at St Briavels Assembly Rooms). You'd be most welcome whenever you are free and for as long (or as short) as you wish. If you are not free on Tuesdays or prefer to knit at home we can provide wool, needles and patterns and can collect completed knitting.

And, as ever, if anyone has any wool they are happy to donate, please let us know. For further information, or if you would like a lift to the group, please contact me on 01594 530163 (email: claire@nissel.co.uk).

Claire Nissel

St. Briavels People's Choir WINTER CONCERT

Step into Christmas with Seasonal Words & Music, Mince pies & Mulled Wine!



Saturday 1st Dec. 7pm £6.00, the Assembly Rooms
Tickets: 01594 530421 or on the door
Proceeds to the Assembly Rooms

NEWS FROM YOUR COMMUNITY WELLBEING AGENT

After a year as part of the Community Wellbeing team in The Forest of Dean, I can say how helpful it has been to work with my Community Wellbeing colleagues. They embody a range of skills and experience, and it has been a pleasure to be part of the team. The Community Wellbeing Service can be contacted on Tel. 01594 812447 or 812399 or community.wellbeing@fdean.gcsx.gov.uk

Shared Lives - Recently I met up with Nicola Holden, Forest co-ordinator for 'Shared Lives', a service providing temporary or more permanent support for people in the homes of the Shared Lives worker.

This can be for people with Learning Difficulties, Mental Health issues or early dementia. At this stage Nicola would like to visit local groups to explain the service. Shared Lives can be contacted on Tel. 01452 426237, or shared.lives@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

Richard Skinner, Community Wellbeing Agent 07927 05132
richard.skinner@fdean.gov.uk

NATIVITY EXHIBITION 2018 - Sat 1st & Sun 2nd December, 10am – 4pm

Here in Hewelsfield we are gearing up for another Nativity Exhibition as a start to Advent. It is such a special occasion. Each year we think we cannot possibly find any new sets at an affordable price but we have been gifted a new set, and another Ebay purchase means there will be at least 2 sets you haven't seen before. There may be more by December!

We confidently expect to display in excess of 110 Nativity sets from around the world, which the flower arranging team will dress with greenery and light with candles. There will be food available all day, including soup, jacket potatoes and lots of homemade cakes. If you would like to make a start on your Christmas shopping, there will be homemade produce, from soaps, to fudge and Christmas puds and mincemeat.

Carol Stickland

HARVEST SUPPER

18 people enjoyed an excellent Fish and Chip Harvest Supper in St Briavels Church on 1st October.

To allow the food to digest, the courses were interspersed with entertainment. Fiona Pagnamenta started us off with Laudate Dominum from Mozart's Requiem. Jean Sheraton followed with a list of her Favourite Things from the Sound of Music. There was then a choice of three crumbles for dessert served with custard or cream. Mark Mitchelmore read from Dylan Thomas and Martin Pagnamenta an ode. Louise Greening played theme tunes from 12 TV programmes from the 60s and 70s. There was much racking of brains to decide which programme belonged to which tune. Meurig Greening sang a beautiful arrangement of All Through the Night, combining a Spiritual setting

with the more traditional setting. Julian Horsfield gave a pleasant piano medley of his own composition. Robert Simpson told the tale of the pub dog! (Ask him!) The evening concluded with a quiz compiled by David Rees. The best score we could attain was 11/20!! Do YOU know what a muselet is? This was followed by tea/coffee and chocolate mints. All agreed it was a successful and fun evening and it was good to share the talents of some of our congregation.

Our thanks to Robert for collecting the fish and chips, to Meurig and Louise for organising the evening, to Richard Owen for supplying his best beer and to all those who came along. A total of £113.25 was raised for GARAS.

* A muselet is the wire cage which holds a champagne cork in place.

Jean Sheraton

Brockweir & Hewelsfield Local History Group

World War 1 Remembered

The History Group will meet on November 8th when Sally Secrett will lead us in remembering those from our Parish who died during The Great War 1914- 1918.

We will also welcome Gwion Trefgarne who will talk about his father:

“A Survivor of WW1”

All are welcome, so please join us in the Moravian Schoolrooms at 7.30 pm on Thursday 8th November.

John Norman



SAT 17th NOVEMBER 10am-4pm
MACKENZIE HALL BROCKWEIR
Hand Crafted and Individually Designed Gifts
Live Music Refreshments
Get all your Christmas Gifts the easy way -
at the **Mackenzie Hall Christmas Market**

EXHIBITORS - THERE ARE A COUPLE OF TABLES STILL LEFT
but you will need to hurry. Phone Barbara 01291 689327

A SUCCESSFUL HARVEST AUCTION

St Briavels Senior Citizens club are very pleased to announce that they were able to raise the sum of £883 last month at their harvest auction. A very big thank you to all those who donated produce and money and especially to all those who spent so generously on the night. We are very grateful for the support we receive from our village community.

Many thanks, Sheila Brown

NOSH AND NATTER

Despite my forgetting to send out directions to Sue's house till the last moment (sorry about that!) a good group of us gathered for morning coffee. We were given a very warm welcome and supplied with plenty of tea, coffee and cakes! It was lovely to be joined by a guest from Canada and a new member, who I hope will join us again. To round off the morning Lois arrived and we were able to hear news about her recent wedding. Congratulations Lois and Julian! And thank you Sue for your hospitality.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday November 14th from 10.30-12.00 at Sally Secrett's house, Greystones House, Sandy Lane, Hewelsfield, GL15 6UZ. The group is open to all ladies in the area so if you are interested either come along or get in touch with me by email at siddonspauline@aol.com or phone 01594 530524

Pauline Siddons

BADS PANTOMIME 2019: INTERESTED IN TAKING PART?

With the performances of Blithe Spirit behind us, BADS is now concentrating on our annual pantomime. Our choice for next year is Peter Pan, and performances are scheduled for Friday 29th and Saturday 30th March.

The first read through of the script is scheduled for Sunday 18th November, 7 pm in the Moravian Church Hall. The purpose of this first read through is to give anyone who is interested in taking part sight of the script and the type of role they might want to play. Casting will take place after the first read through.

You might be interested in a bigger role, or you might prefer to be a pirate, red Indian, lost boy or a dog. If you are keen to take part, please contact BADS at badsbrockweir@gmail.com.

Immy Lee

PARISH GRANTS AVAILABLE

At the last meeting of St Briavels Parish Council, as lead Councillor for finance, I remarked that, of £8,500 put aside in April 2018 for grants to local organisations, we have £8,100 left in the pot. We don't have all the ideas or experiences to know what a little bit of funding could do to help put a good idea into action, but you might.

News and Activities item continued on next page...

We've tried to keep the application process easy, fair and considered, and if you need any help with it please call your local councillor. This is a great way for parish funds to be used by individuals and organisations to benefit local people and the place we live in. If you have a good idea on how we could make the parish a better place to live, visit, work and play, jot down the idea on an email and send it through to the Clerk (stbriavelsclerk@outlook.com)

We are always interested in helping both young and old and looking after our beautiful landscape. So don't let those ideas wither on the vine, but give them the support they might need to flourish.

Chris Mc Farling. chrismcfarling@phonecoop.coop

LITTLE LARDERS

There has been a substantial increase in the use of the Little Larders in the porch of both St Briavels and Hewelsfield church. We are pleased that they are being so useful, but if anyone who is able would like to add an extra tin or packet to their weekly shop, we would be grateful for help to keep the Little Larders continually stocked. We have non-perishable food such as tinned vegetables and tomatoes/mushrooms, soup, tinned fish, pasta or rice, tinned fruit, custard, tea, coffee, cooking oil, shampoo, soap or other items which you believe others could use to contribute to a good meal. Just leave any items in the Little Larder of either church.

Thank you for your generosity.

Jean Sheraton

ST BRIAVELS LUNCH CLUB - THURSDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2018.

We all meet at 11.45 for a glass of sherry and a three-course lunch at 12 o'clock in St Briavels Pavilion. We are a happy group of about 22 and are always pleased to see a new face. If you are new to the village and would like to join us please contact me (01594 530505) for more information. The three-course meal, sherry and coffee costs £5.50. There is also a raffle. We look forward to meeting you on November 22nd.

Mary Perryman

SOFT (Sharing our Faiths Together) Meeting

Does an internet meme, news item, Sunday sermon, or a general observation on life, leave you wanting to discuss the subject in more depth? If so, why not come along to a SOFT meeting, where any subject can be talked about in a friendly, mixed faith group of people seeking to explore and understand the world around us.

We will be meeting at 7.30 p.m. in The Loft above the Village Shop on

Wednesdays 7th & 21st November. We welcome anyone to our meetings and although there is no admission fee, we do request a contribution towards room rental and refreshment costs.

For more information contact: Carol Stickland - 01594 530882
or Sue Groves 01291 689804

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TRIP

This year, St Briavels Senior Citizens Club are going to Bath for their Christmas shopping. The coach leaves St Briavels at 9am from the square on Tuesday 20th November. If any club members have not yet booked their seat on the coach by 15th of November could they please do so with Sue Barnby tel.no.01594 530845. Many thanks.

Sheila

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

To bring joy, light and hope in the middle of what can be a dark month, the Anglican Churches in the Forest are organising a Christmas Festival over the weekend of the 17th & 18th from 10 am – 4.00 pm on Speech House Field, in heated Marquees. There will be a Craft Fayre, live music, prayer stations, interviews (including Bishop Rachel), sports ministry, a school choir competition, refreshments, worship, professional dance performance, Messy Church, Taizé praise, and SOOOO much more. Come begin a gentle preparation for Christmas – relax, have fun and brighten up this sombre month..

Rev Robert Simpson

**Have you got any PHOTOS OF
LOCAL SCENES or events?**

**If so, why not send them to us for next year's
Village News Covers?**

In just 4 weeks time we will be sending next years cover artwork to the printer, so we need your photos now.

Please send them to covers@villagemag.co.uk, or email for technical help. Full submission details can be found on our web site www.villagemag.co.uk

DIARY DATES - weekly/regular activities

Mondays

ZUMBA TONING WITH JO 9:15-10:15am - Mackenzie Hall Brockweir.
TABLE TENNIS: 7.30 - 9pm (except 2nd Monday of the month). Assembly Rooms. St. Briavels. No need to book, all levels welcome. Good exercise and great fun. tabletennis@st-briavels.com.
ADULT TAP FOR FUN: 6.45 - 7.45 improvers+ / Intermediates; 7.45 - 8.45 Beginners. Moravian Church Hall. Call Deborah: 07801 479269.

Tuesdays

YOGA WITH ALI ROSE: 9:30-11am. Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. 07883 678629. simplyalirose@yahoo.co.uk
COURTYARD CAFE: 1:30-4:30. Assembly Rooms - hairdresser, seamstress services, "Pop- up" shop: French bread/patisserie.
ST. BRIAVELS "WALKING for HEALTH" walk every Tuesday for approx. 1 hour. Starts 2pm, Assembly Rooms, St. Briavels. Call John for more info - 01594 530890.
KNITTERS GROUP meets every Tuesday, 2 – 4. 30 at St Briavels Assembly rooms. For info contact Claire@nissel.co.uk
OPEN MIC and NEW Wye Valley Acoustic Music Club at the Rose & Crown, Tintern, every first Tuesday of the month. For more info call Adrian on 01291 689812.
ZUMBA GOLD WITH JO at 7-8pm St Briavels School Hall
ZUMBA WITH JO at 8:15-9:15pm, Fitness, St Briavels School Hall

Wednesdays

COMMUNITY VINYASA YOGA 9-10 am, Assembly Rooms, St Briavels, Lorna Kennedy 07793 381849 lornayoga@me.com www.lornayoga.com
ECSTATIC DANCING 9.45 am -11.30 pm Mackenzie Hall
FRIENDLY ART GROUP Most Wednesdays, 10am-1pm Assembly Rooms. Call Ann Kilminster on 07980 978348.
PILATES: 2-3pm. Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. For info call: 01291 627243 / 07787 193302.
BROCKWEIR BOWLS CLUB: 2-4pm Wednesday afternoons. For more information call Bob Broughton 01594 530003.
BROCKWEIR YOUTH CLUB - the club meets during term time. For further information please ring 01291 689 327 or visit: www.brockweiryouthclub.co.uk.
SOFT MEETING. On two Weds each month. 7.30pm. The Loft above Village Shop.

Thursdays

COURTYARD CAFE: 1:30-4:30. Assembly Rooms - hairdresser, seamstress services, "Pop- up" shop: French bread/patisserie.
COMPUTER & INTERNET SKILLS: 2pm - 3.45pm Assembly Rooms
MIXED CIRCUITS CLASS: 6:30pm at Mackenzie Hall
YOGA WITH ALI ROSE: 7- 8:30pm, Assembly Rooms. 07883 678629 simplyalirose@yahoo.co.uk.
ZUMBA WITH JO, 'Zumba Strong', St Briavels School Hall, 8.15pm - 9.15pm
ST BRIAVELS WALKING GROUP - monthly walks. John Hurley 01594 530890

Fridays

TEA AND TOTS: 9:00-10.30am - term time only, Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. For more information please visit our Facebook page: St Briavels Tea and Tots.
IYENGAR YOGA - 9.30-11am at Mackenzie Hall. www.wildwoodyoga.co.uk or call/message Kishe Redwood 07805 729893
UNDER 5s PLAY CLUB - 11am – 1pm at the Pavilion.

Saturdays

YOGA WITH ALI ROSE: Once a month, last Saturday of month, 9.30-11.00am Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. 07883 678629. simplyalirose@yahoo.co.uk
ZUMBA WITH JO, 'Toning', St Briavels School Hall, 9.00 - 10am.

Sundays

ST BRIAVELS PEOPLE'S CHOIR meets at 7 pm at the Assembly Rooms every week.



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www.treesandgrounds.co.uk**

DIARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER

Walking for Health every Tuesday – meet at the Assembly Rooms, 2pm			
1 Thurs	Charity Soup Lunch	12noon	Moravian Church Schoolroom
1 Thurs	St Briavels Walking Group	1pm	Meet at St Briavels Church
1 Thurs	Halloween Banquet		St Briavels Castle
2 Fri	Brockweir Events: Instant Wit	7.30 for 8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
3 Sat	Craft Fair	10am – 3pm	St Briavels Church
3 Sat	Produce Market	10am-12.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
3 Sat	Village Bonfire	7.00pm till 8.30pm	Merricks Lane, Brockweir
6 Tues	Coffee Morning	10am -12noon	Congregational Church, St Briavels
6 Tues	Brockweir & Hewelsfield PC meeting	7pm	The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop,
7 Weds	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop
8 Thurs	Walk & Talk Group	2pm	Meet at Hewelsfield Church
8 Thurs	History Group: World War 1 Remembered	7.30pm	Moravian Schoolroom
10 Sat	Moat Society Working Party - All welcome	10am to 12noon	Castle Moat
10 Sat	Music & feasting with 'Borjghali' Georgian choir	7pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
10 Sat	WVM Concert: Ystradivarius	7.30pm	Bridges Centre, Monmouth
11 Nov	Remembrance Sunday – Armistice Day Centenary Celebration	10.45am	Playing Field Gates, St Briavels
12 Mon	St Briavels PC meeting (planning applications and councillors available from 6.30pm)	7pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
14 Weds	Nosh & Natter: Morning Coffee	10.30am-12noon	Greystones House, Hewelsfield
15 Thurs	Christmas Shopping Evening	7-9pm	Brockweir Village Shop
16 Fri	Garden Society: 10 Plants that Changed the World	7.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
17 Nov	Christmas Market	10am-4pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
17/18 Sat/Sun	Christmas Festival	10am – 4pm	Speech House Field

17 Sat	Chocolate Bingo	8pm	St Briavels Pavilion
18 Sun	Craft Fayre	12 – 4pm	St Briavels Pavilion
18 Sun	Guided Walk & Cream Tea	2.30pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
18 Sun	BADS Panto 2019: Read Through	7 - 9 pm	Moravian Church Hall
20 Tues	St Briavels Senior Citizens Christmas shopping trip to Bath	9.00am	The Square, St Briavels
21 Weds	St Briavels WI meeting: Aust Ferry and the Severn Princess	7.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
21 Weds	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop
22 Thurs	Walk & Talk Group	2pm	meet at Hewelsfield Church
22 Thurs	St Briavels Lunch Club	11.45am	St Briavels Pavilion
23 Fri	Brockweir Events: Moscow Drug Club	7.30 for 8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
24 Sat	Deadline for replies re Mac Hall Seniors' Christmas Lunch.		
24 Sat	Annual Congregation Council Meeting	2pm	Moravian Church Schoolroom
24 Sat	Pre- Christmas Concert of Carols	7.30pm	St Briavels Church
24/25 Sat/Sun	St Briavels Art & Craft Market	11am-4pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
29 Thurs	Brockweir Bistro	7pm	Brockweir Village Shop
30 Fri	Board Games Café	7 – 10pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels

ADVANCE DATES

1 Dec	Christmas Decoration Making for Families	10:30am-1:30pm	St Briavels Congregational Church
1 Dec	St. Briavels People's Choir: Winter Concert	7pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
1/2 Dec	Nativity Exhibition	10am – 4pm	Hewelsfield Church
4 Dec	Brief meeting & refreshments for parishioners	7.00pm	The Loft, Village Shop
4 Dec	Coffee Morning, carols & mince pies	10.00am	St Briavels Congregational Church
6 Dec	Charity Soup Lunch	12noon	Moravian Church Schoolroom
6 & 12 Dec	Christmas Lunches	12.30pm	Village Shop, Brockweir
8 Dec	Seniors' Christmas Lunch	12noon-3pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
9 Dec	Children's Christmas Party	3 -5pm	St Briavels Pavilion
13 Dec	Brockweir Bistro	7pm	Village Shop, Brockweir
15 Dec	A Lighter Side of Christmas	6 – 8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir

Something in the Air:

Not long ago I noted my friend Peri Urban's dismay at finding that "her" Tawny Owls had abandoned the spinney behind her house to seek a new life in the country, far from the tarmac and satellite dishes of outer St Briavels. Today, a surprising development has me pinching myself. I find that Peri's neighbours, who live on the other side of her spinney, recently installed an Owl nest box in their garden, correctly facing on to open agricultural land, which, mercifully, is still farmed in the traditional manner. This summer, it appears that two young Owls have been reared in the new box and, (Rah!) they are Barn Owls, not Tawny, much as we appreciate the latter. I make an annual pilgrimage to an isolated barn in the parish, fearing to find that its tenants have relinquished their ancient rights. I am

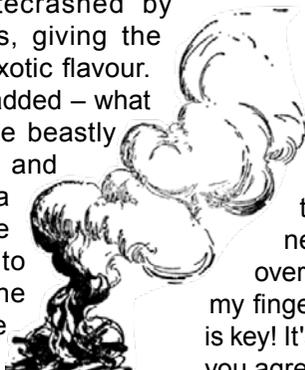
happy to report that this year all is well, but the knowledge that in future we may be able to stand on the edge of our village at dusk, viewing these ghostly and magical birds as they move to and from their favourite diner is surely "one in the eye" for the environment doom merchants who bombard us through the media.



One thought: I suspect that with bugs, birds and beasties, as with men, the key to their hearts is through their stomachs. This Green Belt question is starting to look like a straight contest between wildlife and the first time buyer. It's a conundrum, wrapped in an enigma.

Smoke gets in your eyes:

I imagine the Autumns of childhood as still, November afternoons when a thin spire of blue smoke rising from a hundred gardens seemed to distil the glories of the past Summer in a delightful fragrance. Times have changed. Nowadays, there always seems to be a stiff breeze blowing. The Beech, Oak and Hawthorn leaves have been gatecrashed by Leyland Cypress debris, giving the atmosphere a strange exotic flavour. Plastic is surreptitiously added – what else dare we do with the beastly stuff? Once, at the Bath and West Show, I passed a Burger Waggon whose proprietors had opted to burn all their polystyrene boxes on site, filling the entire showground



with a variant of nerve gas worthy of President Assad. It doesn't just get in your eyes; it gets up your nose, into your soft furnishings and on to your washing line. You have only to follow the trail upwind to discover the perpetrator. So, as with flatulence, the old schoolboy get out clause, "He who smelt it dealt it", doesn't wash.

So we will have to Box Clever in future if we are to avoid the trench warfare of retaliatory bonfires among neighbours. I love bonfires – it's a birth sign thing – but nowadays I watch the neighbour's washing line, I peer over his/her wall (are they in?), I lick my finger to test wind direction. Stealth is key! It's a bit like farting really, wouldn't you agree?

As the darker evenings are upon us, it is time to give some consideration to how easily your home could be found by an emergency vehicle. This could be a matter of life and death! Here are some suggestions that will help you be found and assist the emergency services when they arrive.

1. Make sure your house has a clear name plate at the entrance to your property. This should be large enough to be easily read from a vehicle in the road. Consider a light, or use of reflective paint to make it stand out at night. Cut back any plants, shrubs, etc that may obscure the sign. A tip suggested by a paramedic was to use reflective tape to put the house name or number on the fascia boards so that they would be picked up when a torch is shone around a building.
2. Emergency vehicles may not know the area and Sat Nav instructions are pretty useless in rural areas. Keep a clear set of directions to your home by the phone from each of the main routes. Use clearly identifiable landmarks to help guide the way as the call may be made by someone who isn't fully familiar with the area.
3. If anyone in the house is elderly or frail, also keep information by the phone that emergency services might need, such as the occupants name, date of birth, medications being taken, Dr's name and next of kin. The Lions provide a 'Message in a Bottle', which is a simple way for people to keep their personal and medical details on a standard form and in a common location – the fridge! To get yours contact your local Lions club or call them on 0845 833 9502.
4. If you use a sitter/carer for young children or the elderly, make sure that they know where this information is, also the address and phone number of the property, if they have to give this out to emergency services.
5. If your property uses a key code lock on gates make sure this code is included on your Emergency Sheet so that having found you the emergency services can get in!

If nothing else, the first suggestion will at least help delivery drivers, and hopefully you will never need to use the Emergency Sheet. However, if that occasion does arise, having good clear information to hand will save time and help avoid panic.

Sue Groves

ORGANIC FRUIT & VEG * FRENCH BREAD & PATISSERIE * ORGANIC LAMB *		
* RARE BREED PEDIGREE BEEF & PORK * FREE RANGE POULTRY & GAME * CHEESE		
CHUTNEY	ST BRIAVELS LOCAL PRODUCE MARKET	SAUSAGES
* OLIVES *	Saturday 3rd November	* PASTIES
* NUTS *	The Pavilion 10-12.30 pm	HONEY *
* CIDER *		* BUTTER
* EGGS *		UIT JUICE
* DELI *		* CAKES *
* HERBS *		RESERVES*
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SWEET & SAVOURY PIES * AUTHENTIC FRESHLY MADE CURRIES & INDIAN SNACKS		



NEWS FROM THE BROCKWEIR VILLAGE SHOP

Christmas is coming...and we're here to make sure your festive season doesn't flash by in a blur of panic-buying and missed post deadlines!

First up is our Christmas Preview evening

Join us between 7 and 9pm on Thursday 15th November for a glass of wine and a first look at our new Christmas range. And if you really want to stay ahead of the game, you can stock up on Christmas essentials like tape, string, batteries, foil - and even paracetamol for those seasonal sore heads.

Wine Tasting event

Next we've got our wine tasting event on Thursday 22nd November from 7 until 10pm. Our host is Tom Innes, from Monmouth's Fingal Rock Wine Merchants. The evening promises to be fun and informative, with Tom talking us through a range of festive tipples, from sparkling options to dessert wines. Discounts will be available but there'll be no pressure to buy. Tickets cost £10 and you can buy them in the shop or by calling us on 01291 689 995.

We've got your festive food covered too.

If you'd like a Madgett's Farm turkey to grace your Christmas table, please place your order with us by Friday 7th December. You can also order your other Christmas meats and we've got a great selection for your cheese board too. If you'd like to let someone else do all the hard work while you catch up with friends, join us for a delicious three course Christmas lunch on Thursday 6th and Wednesday 12th December. Food will be locally sourced and freshly prepared by Alison and her talented team of volunteers. Tickets are £16.50.

Christmas trees at the shop

From Saturday 1st December and then each weekend until Christmas, there will be a great selection of Christmas trees at the shop. Come and choose yours and breathe in the evocative scent of freshly felled pines! Prices from £12.50.

Postal services here in the shop

Did you know that we have a postal service here in the shop? Collections are Monday to Friday at 3.30pm and 10am on Saturdays. We handle parcels of up to 20kg and we cover special and recorded delivery, plus worldwide mailings. We stock stamps and a range of locally-designed cards. Our beautiful new 2019 Wye Valley calendar (£8.95) is the perfect gift for the post.

Christmas Post deadlines

Finally, here's a handy list of key Christmas Post deadlines (UK only). Pop them on your calendar today and come hectic December you'll be congratulating your November self for being so organised!

2nd class – 18th December. 1st class – 20th December
Royal Mail tracked – 21st December. Royal Mail special delivery – 22nd December

Until next month – happy Christmas planning!

Alex Vernon

ART IN THE CAFÉ

Jacqui Edwards 5 November – 10 December

The penultimate café exhibition of the year is that of mixed media artist, Jacqui Edwards.

Having previously shown here as part of a joint show, she is delighted to have been given the whole space for this, her first 'solo' show, and intends to make it very special! Jacqui studied Graphic Art at UWCN, graduating in 1999 with a BA (hons), continued to Pontypool College for a post graduate course and fell in love with Printmaking. The college allows her continued use of its print facilities, without which, she says, she wouldn't be able to work.

Her images combine drypoint print, Stitch, collage and watercolour. To explain 'Drypoint': this involves cutting out shaped characters from an aluminium sheet and engraving directly on to its surface with a sharp pointed

tool, creating texture and pattern. Ink is then applied to the metal, filling the scratches. Laying this face down on to pre-prepared collaged layers of paper, it is rolled through a press, depositing an ink image on to the paper. Once the print is made, Jacqui begins to handwork each piece with watercolour, coloured pencils and stitching, defining, colouring and enriching areas; it is this which makes her pieces unique.

Jacqui's inspiration for this new work comes from a favourite book by Heather O'Neil, 'Daydreams of Angels', Tall tales and twisted fairy stories. Well known themes are reimagined and illustrated as dark, magical and wicked. Perfect as the nights draw in!

Jacqui Trefgarne

GUIDED WALK & CREAM TEA

SUNDAY 18th NOVEMBER

Leave from St. Briavels Assembly Rooms GL15 6TG at 2.30pm

Earn a guilt free cream tea, including warming soup, as you enjoy a 1 hour (approx) gentle to medium ramble, through our wonderful local environment in good company!

Wear walking boots or strong shoes and if you bring the dogs,

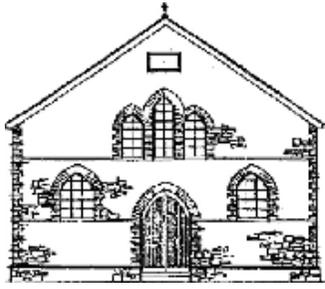
please remember the poo bags!

There will be a dog bar with treats in the courtyard after the walk. :)

£5 including cream tea. Bubbly, ice cream and other refreshments available from our licensed café.

Enquiries / Booking: John 01594 530890 / walk@st-briavels.com





WYE VALLEY ARTS CENTRE, LLANDOGO

Beginners and improvers are very welcome on all the courses as all will enjoy the individual attention which the tutors can give to small groups of students. There are 1, 2 and 4 and 6 day courses. Please ask for further details. We hope you will find an opportunity to come to The Wye Valley Arts Centre to enjoy our beautiful inspirational surroundings, the perfect creative environment.

NOVEMBER

THUR 1, 8, 15, 22 SILVER JEWELLERY (10 classes) 1.00 - 4.00pm Ann Skehel

FRI 2, 9, 16, 23 PAINTING & DRAWING (10 classes) Ann Hulme

9.30 - 12.30 and/or 1.00 - 4.00pm

Tel: 01594 530214 Email: info@wyearts.co.uk Web: www.wyearts.co.uk



**A LIGHTER SIDE of
CHRISTMAS 2018**

Mackenzie Hall

Saturday December 15th, 6 - 8pm

Tickets from the Village Shop & the Brockweir Inn
just £4 (including mulled wine and mince pie!)



PARISH GRASSLANDS PROJECT

www.parishgrasslandsproject.org.uk

Over the years, we have had a consistently good attendance at our autumn meetings and last month's gathering at the Mackenzie Hall was no exception.

The subject of the meeting was trees, in all their glory, and we set out to cover a wide range of aspects from the point of view of anyone caring for existing trees or setting out to plant new trees. The main speakers, local woodmen John Josephi and Gwion Trefgarne, were joined by tree surgeon Mark Harris, and each talk was followed by a lively question and answer session.



We were also delighted with the level of interest in the Community Orchard Project from visitors to the Apple Day at St Briavels Playing Field. We were able to show visitors our first orchard site, in a corner of the playing field, and a number of people signed up as potential volunteers. At the moment, the site is simply a patch of grass but we hope to start planting shortly. We continue to seek out further sites, large or small, where we could plant orchard trees as part of this community project, and we continue to welcome volunteers and supporters.

Mike Topp

ADVANCE WARNING OF EARLY CHRISTMAS DEADLINE

To all our contributors:

The deadline for the **January 2019** edition of the Village News will be **Tuesday 11th of December** for plain text submissions and Friday 7th December for boxed announcements and adverts.



The deadline for the December 2018 edition is midday, Tuesday 20th November.

(Friday 16th November for boxed announcements)

Send your contributions to editors@villagemag.co.uk

THIS MONTH'S RECIPE

VEGETABLE SHEPHERD'S PIE

Serves 4

- 4oz split lentils
- 2oz pot barley or pearl barley
- 8oz grated carrot
- 1 onion - chopped
- 1 x 14oz tin of chopped tomatoes
- 1½ lbs potatoes
- 6 tbsp milk
- 6oz cheddar cheese – grated.



Put lentils, barley, carrots, onions, tomatoes and their juices into a pan. Cover and simmer until barley and lentils are soft. (About 40 minutes).

Scrub the potatoes in their skins and boil. Remove when cooked and peel when they are cool. Mash the cooked potatoes and add milk and cheese.

Put the lentil mixture into a 1½ litre pie dish and put the mashed potato on top. Place in a hot oven (400°F) and cook for 30 minutes. Additional cheese may be sprinkled on top.

Serve when the pie is browned.

Mary Perryman

CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 3rd November 2018, St Briavels Church, 10am - 3pm

- A wonderful selection of locally made craft -
- Soup and refreshments -
- Raffle -

Give yourself some time out on this Saturday morning and find something for yourself or gifts for others.

Have a cuppa and some cakes and chat with those you may not have time to chat with at other times.

It's always a happy event so join us and help to make your church more comfortable at the same time. Proceeds towards the projects such as heating and completion of the pew cushions.



BROCKWEIR EVENTS AT MACKENZIE HALL



Friday 2 November - Instant Wit* www.instantwit.co.uk

Welcome to a quick-fire comedy improvisation show, packed full of sketches, gags, songs, surreal situations and general silliness. Be prepared to receive flying packets of Instant Whip! Completely improvised and directed by the audience, the show is highly addictive, interactive, engaging and fun. Participate as much or as little as you like: shout out during the show or write down suggestions in the interval to win prizes.

This well-developed and successful format has an established and loyal following. For audiences aged 12+.

"These are conspicuously skilful performers - everyone is exhilarated-on stage and off!" Guardian. *"This superlative comedy troupe continues to amaze packed houses with extraordinary skills... Instant Wit are a joy to behold, a dream topping of an evening!"* Venue Magazine Bristol.

Friday 23 November - Moscow Drug Club* www.moscowdrugclub.com

You are cordially invited to share a wry smile with us as you enter the darkly comic world of Moscow Drug Club...this way please and mind the stairs!

Moscow Drug Club is a curious place, where certain elements of 1930s Berlin Cabaret, Hot Club de France, Nuevo Tango and Gypsy Campfire meet. Have a few to drink and stagger arm in arm into

the darkness of some eastern European cobbled street on a mission to find a bar where Django Reinhardt and Tom Waits are having a jam with the local Tziganes. Combining their original material with songs by the likes of Jacques Brel, Leonard Cohen, Tom Waits and Berthold Brecht, Moscow Drug Club provide an intoxicating and intimate musical experience.

Advance tickets are £10 and will be available from the Brockweir & Hewelsfield Village Shop about 4 weeks before each event or from Adrian Birch brockweirevent@gmail.com Or 01291 689812. £12 on the door. Doors Open 7.30 Performance 8.00. Refreshments available. BYO alcohol. * Event supported by Air in G

PRE-CHRISTMAS CONCERT OF CAROLS

performed by Catherine Nardiello, Pianist

St Briavels Church

Saturday November 24th at 7.30 pm

Entrance Adults £10 Children £5

TEN PLANTS THAT CHANGED THE COURSE OF HISTORY

Bill Laws, our speaker at our November meeting is a social historian and author of many books, including 'A Curious History of Vegetables', 'Artists' Gardens' and the 'RHS History of the Garden in Fifty Tools', as well as 'Plants that Changed the Course of History', his topic for the evening. After our AGM, followed by mince pies and mulled wine, Bill will share some fascinating facts. We are dependent on plants for our food and the air we breathe, but did you know that sweet peas were involved in the birth of the science of genetics, that cotton was the driver of the slave trade, which was the first domino to fall in the American Revolution, and that cotton was also the catalyst for the Industrial Revolution? These, and many other fascinating facts, highlight the dynamic ways in which plants have influenced human history.

Friday 16 November 7.30pm at St Briavels Pavilion. All welcome. Visitors £5

PRACTICAL PROPAGATION – YES WE CAN!

Victoria Logue, the speaker at our October meeting, dispensed practical advice and wry humour, as she took us skillfully through different methods of propagation, making it all look simple and eminently do-able in our own greenhouses.

There may well have been a rush on purchases of vermiculite in the following days, after Victoria showed us a foolproof method of avoiding seedlings damping off, by sowing them directly into it. She advised sowing into very small pots and then pricking out seedlings into modules as soon as they germinate. Cuttings made simple followed and then there was some myth-busting about dividing perennials. Forget the two-fork method - just saw the root ball in half! We all over-water our young plants, she said and, also on the subject of water, she was sceptical of the common advice that rainwater should not be used on seedlings.

Victoria's clear explanations and demonstration, her obvious knowledge and experience and her undogmatic approach, made for a most informative and entertaining evening.

Christine Haines

IN MY GARDEN

For most of us, weeding the garden is like doing housework, a task best done and dusted sooner rather than later. Theoretically, if we keep putting it off, things will only get worse - and yet I've been doing just that for most of the last six years. I'm a very reluctant weeder, not because I find it tedious but because I actually rather like weeds and I know that they have a value to my garden and its wildlife which ornamental plants may not. Having evolved to be perfectly suited to our growing conditions, our wild flowers are much more at home here than the ornamentals most of us would rather have, and it is, after all, a subjective argument whether a plant should be termed a native or a weed.

Contrary to traditional gardening advice, if I don't know what a plant is, I'll leave it and see what it turns out to be. So I inspect and attempt to identify all the seedlings of granny's bonnet, teasel, self heal, valerian, viola, vetch and anything else that might

have decided to pop up. I enjoy gardening on this intimate scale, close up, down and dirty with the woodlice worms and beetles. It also means that I don't inadvertently dig out any of the self-sown hellebores, poppies, fennel and verbena, and allows me to understand my garden and its inhabitants in much finer detail. This isn't just 'weeding' and it's certainly no chore. What I'm really doing is getting to know my garden intimately and, hopefully, next year we will both be all the better for it.

Cheryl Cummings

KEEPING BEES BUZZING

The vital work of the honeybee benefits gardeners, farmers and the landscape.

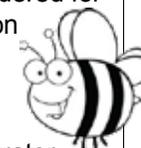


Our annual grant award scheme, which encourages new people to take up beekeeping, has been running since 2009 and awarded at least one grant each year since then. In 2018, we were able to award two grants, thanks to the very generous support of St Briavels Turbine Community Resilience Fund.

Applications will shortly be invited from applicants wishing to be considered for the 2019 grant. Successful applicants are required to attend the foundation course in beekeeping, run by our partners at Dean Forest Beekeepers.

If you would like to know more about our innovative scheme, take part or support us, find more information on our website, www.wyegarden.com

David Broadbent – scheme administrator



Links: www.facebook.com/WyeGardenBeeProject,
www.facebook.com/groups/deanforestbeekeepers,
www.facebook.com/ResilientEnergy, www.theresiliencecentre.co.uk

WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

The nights and days remain relatively warm, weeds are growing, some spring flowering shrubs are flowering (my *Choysia* is looking great) and tender perennials are going strong. Hopefully, you've been busy sorting out your borders, dividing, planting and transplanting into the still warm, and now moist, soil. However, all this work is disruptive for the soil – even digging out weeds! Mulch with well-rotted compost to help it recover. Wait until the spring to add manure, though. You don't want plants to do much growing now, with winter getting closer, but keep new plantings well watered so that their roots establish.

- Plant your tulips - about 5" deep. Avoid straight lines and give them companions. Most bulbs look best emerging through the foliage of early perennials or annuals and the borrowed foliage helps to mask the bulb leaves when they die back.
- Tidy up shrub roses and make sure roots are firm, in case we get high winds or snow. But don't embark on serious pruning - wait until next spring.
- Complete any pruning needed on summer flowering shrubs.
- Plant garlic and broad beans for a good start and good roots before spring. Prepare the soil thoroughly, incorporating well-rotted compost or manure.

Christine Haines

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

HOBO'S HEDGEHOG RESCUE



Hobo's rescues, rehabilitates and releases hedgehogs in the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley.

We have two dedicated hedgehog hogspitals (!) in this area. We also provide advice for other wildlife and work with other rescues specialising in other species. Following a busy

season for orphaned urchins/hoglets (young hedgehogs) and the usual variety of injured and sick adult hogs, our attention now turns to autumn juveniles and hibernation. A hedgehog needs to weigh a minimum of 600grams to survive hibernation. Hogs born later in the season will not make this weight and need to overwinter in rescue. Please help your visiting hogs by providing a shallow dish of fresh water and maybe consider supplementing their diet by providing a plate of hedgehog or cat biscuits. If you see a hedgehog out during the day, they need help - please ring your local rescue for advice.

The UK hedgehog population is in severe decline, but we can all help. Please consider making your garden wildlife friendly and join thousands of people UK-wide providing hedgehog highways in their gardens, by cutting a small hedgehog-sized hole in any fencing.

Hedgehogs travel between 1-2 km per night to feed, one garden is not enough. Please ensure hedgehogs can travel freely between gardens. Please do not use slug pellets in your garden, slugs form part of the hedgehog diet, so the hedgehog also dies from ingesting those pellets.

Autumn means bonfires. Hedgehogs often make their nests in bonfires so please check your bonfires before lighting. Rescues are very busy with hedgehog burns victims in autumn. Other potential hazards include strimmers, bird-netting and ponds, which cause death and injury to so many hedgehogs.

Please see The British Hedgehog Preservation Society's website for helpful tips and advice to make your garden more hedgehog and wildlife friendly.

Any questions or advice please email hoboshedgehogrescue@gmail.com or ring Rosie on 07977 171743 or Carol on 07922 176767.

Please note - we are entirely volunteer run so may not answer straight away but we will return your call. In an emergency contact your local vet or Vale Wildlife Hospital on 01386 882288. Follow us on Facebook at Hobos Hedgehog Rescue.



WYE VALLEY MUSIC (ST BRIAVELS MUSIC SOCIETY)

The Father, the Son and the Godfather

The third concert in the Society's 52nd season will be presented on Saturday 10th November at 7.30 pm in the Bridges Centre, Monmouth, when the guests will be the very well-named Welsh early music ensemble **Ystradivarius**. The ensemble was formed in 2013, giving its first concert in March of that year at St Catwg's Church, Pentyrch, near Cardiff. The group exists to perform chamber music from the 17th and 18th centuries and is one of very few such ensembles based in the South Wales area. Since 2013 they have performed in venues across the region, including at the Brecon Baroque festival in 2016.

The players are **Claire Heaney** (flute), **Rachel Wilson-Dickson** (violin), **Claudine Cassidy** (cello), **John Cheer** (harpsichord) and **Tim Cronin** (violin and viola), who is also the ensemble's director. The instruments used are all copies of instruments made and played in baroque times; for example Claire's flute, made by Martin Wenner, is a copy

of a flute originally produced by Carlos Palanca (1690-1783) of Turin. This use of period instruments of course contributes to a special and distinctive sound. Members of the ensemble always enjoy talking with audience members at their concerts and there is often a steady stream of enthusiasts of all ages coming up during the interval to take a closer look at the instruments.

The programme at Monmouth is entitled **Father, Son and Godfather**: music by **Johann Sebastian Bach**, his son Carl Philip Emmanuel and the man chosen by Johann Sebastian to be a Godfather for Carl Philip Emmanuel: the highly influential and prolific Georg Philip Telemann, widely regarded as Germany's leading composer during the first half of the 18th century.

Booking on-line at www.wvm.org.uk is recommended but admission at the door will also be available: £18 for the public, £15 for WVM members and £2 for students.

Keith Norman 01594 530419

Memberships invited: our membership year runs from 1st August to 31st July; join on-line at www.wvm.org.uk for £15 per person, giving a reduced entry price to concerts (12 in total) during the next year.

Enquiries can be made to our message line at 01291 330020 or by email to info@wvm.org.uk.



NEWS FROM THE CASTLE

Well Summer is certainly over, the weather has most definitely changed to autumnal, and our main YHA season has also ended now the second school half term week is over.

We hope that you were treated and not tricked over the past couple of weeks! However, please remember that we do remain open throughout the year, and although we are busy most weekends, you are very welcome to pop in. We are always happy for you to show your visitors the Castle and only rarely do we have to say "no" if we have a school or private hire group on site (mainly Saturdays). If our gate is open, please do pop in to see us!

Although a much quieter time of year, we have a couple of crafting events that you may find of interest over the coming winter months:

Wreath Making – on Wednesday 5th December we are hosting Jo Thompson's annual Wreath Making course.

Basket Making – on Friday 15th February we are hosting a basket making course run by Hedgerow Baskets.

If you would like any further information on either please email stbriavels@yha.org.uk or call 01594 530272 (or call in) and we will pass on your interest to the course organisers.

Festive Banquets will be available during December and we will have dates available in the next edition. However, if you are currently planning your Christmas lunch or dinner and are interested in something a little different, please do email or call and find out more about our Festive Banquets at the Castle for private groups. We are also open throughout the year for Castle tours and banquets for non-resident groups.

The winter investment programme is almost finished and we now have a new archery range installed to enhance the appearance within the Castle grounds and provide us with an all weather surface to run sessions. We will continue to work over the coming months to restore the worn patches of grass and continue to improve the access to the garden. One project still outstanding is the installation of a bin shelter to enhance the appearance of the car park. Regrettably, this is still delayed but it is still a project we hope to complete over the coming months, so please bear with us.

Linda Harrison, Manager

★★★★★	Film Night	★★★★★
Bring your own wine, drinks & snacks.	Friday 9th November	Information:
Teas, coffees & ice cream on sale.	Journey's End	Andrew Reid
★★★★★	"...powerful, passionate and superbly acted." Guardian	andrew.reid@huntermillerreid.co.uk
	"...an emotional powerhouse you will not forget." Rolling Stone	or phone
	Tintern Village Hall 7.45pm	07774 726860
	Tickets £4.00 15s & under £2.50	★★★★★

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE - Real Leather Pouffe (Foot Stool) £15. Phone Sue on 01291 689396

SNOOKER TABLE - Portable, folding, quarter size snooker table with cues and balls. Pockets need repair. Suitable for beginners and fun. FREE - but you collect from Mike and Joanna Bradley 01594 530 306, mvb1983@btinternet.com

GARAGE SALE - on November 10th there will be a garage sale at 8 Barrowell Lane, St Briavels, between 10.30 and 2.00pm. It is a chance to find some bargains or presents.

CRADLE TO GRAVE CEREMONIES - Family Ceremonies, Weddings, Funerals. Helen Roberts, Civil Celebrant (ex-Village Agent) FOIC Trained. NOCN Accredited. Insured and DBS checked. Tel: 07765 342708 Email: helen@cradle-to-grave-ceremonies.co.uk www.cradle-to-grave-ceremonies.co.uk

SAMANTHA'S HOUSEHOLD SERVICES - Locally based: Domestic cleaning, Family catering, Laundry service, Dog walking/sitting, Shopping, Assistance to and from appointments, Holiday house watch and more. Call Samantha 07885 529038 or email samanthalou822@gmail.com

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

FOR 2-4 YEARS & THEIR GROWN-UP! Yoga, Mindfulness & Sensory Play Classes - help your child grow in confidence & self-esteem. Thursdays at Mackenzie Hall, 1.45-3pm. Starting 11 September. All levels welcome. Booking essential. Enquiries: tracyderrett@gmail.com www.wigglebums.uk

NONNY BEACH - SOFT FURNISHINGS & INTERIORS - Soft Furnishings. Curtains, Roman Blinds, Cushions, Personalised Embroidered Gifts, Hand-painted Furniture, Seat & Footstool Upholstery, Memory Bears. Call: 03332 001548 or email: sales@nonnybeach.co.uk Visit our website: www.nonnybeach.co.uk

MATHS TUITION - From Primary School to Undergraduate, including GCSE and A level. Highly experienced Mathematician. Contact: Dr Mark Mitchelmore (MSc, PhD, MIMA, CMath) 07555 200143 or mark.mitchelmore@yahoo.co.uk

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

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

STEPWISE PODIATRY - Poppy Rastall, Podiatrist /Chiroprapist BSc (Hons), MSCh, SRCh, HCPC Reg. Nail cutting, Corns, Callous, Ingrown Toenail, Nail Surgery & Orthotics. Call 07708 092782 for an appointment. Welsh Street, Chepstow, NP16 5LR.

FOR A BLOOMIN' WEED FREE GARDEN or for any other gardening needs you may require give me, Daemon Young, at the Young Ones Gardening Services a call on 01594 531426 or 07702 810924 and I'll be happy to help you.

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

Advertisements continued on next page...

PHILIP COOK & COMPANY, BUILDERS - New Builds, Extensions and Alterations. Property Maintenance. Call Philip on 07511 952851 or 01600 860375. Fully Insured. Over 30 Years Experience. Free Estimates.

PAINTING, DECORATING & GARDEN SERVICES - Want to re-decorate or need general garden maintenance but don't have the time -or have a garden mole problem? Call Darren: 07713 235352 or 01594 531240. Local, reliable and friendly.

PROPERTY ENHANCEMENT – Painting, Decorating, Repairs and Maintenance, Tiling, Plumbing. Any job you feel you cannot do. Please call us. Ray James: 07789 743405 Jan Jones: 07766 756941.

BUILDING AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES - Specialising in Carpentry, Stonework, Brickwork, Rendering and Plastering, Painting and Decorating, Patios, Decking and Block paving. Hedge and Grass Cutting. Please call 01594 531408 for your free quotation.

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

YOGA @ ST BRIAVELS ASSEMBLY ROOMS with Ali Rose - 'create space in body, breath and mind'. Tuesday mornings, Thursday evenings & once a month Saturdays. www.yogawithalirose.co.uk for details / 07883678629.

YOGA - Every Friday from 9.30am - 11am at Mackenzie Hall with Kiske Redwood, CIYT 2004. Drop in or contact me first at wildwoodyoga.co.uk. Lovely end of week class for all to enjoy.

FITNESS + CLASSES - Pilates for all, Legs, Bums and Tums and Chair Aerobics. Pay as you go. Chepstow, Caldicot, Aylburton, Lydney and Bream. For more info please call 07704 628081 or email helen13fitness@gmail.com

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

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

TINTERN PIANO - piano lessons (classical) beginner to diploma. Stephanie Frankland GRNCM; over 30 years' experience in leading private schools, enhanced CRB checked, please telephone 01291 689887 or send an email to: stephanie.frankland712@hotmail.com

**Citizens Advice at
St. Briavels Assembly Rooms**

For free, impartial and confidential advice.
Drop-in sessions first Thursday each month
1.30 - 4 pm
For a fixed appointment please call 0300 330 9006



www.villagemag.co.uk

The **December** issue deadline is midday on **Tuesday 20th November 2018**.

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

Babs Bergdahl	01594 530623	David Rees	01594 530443
Carolyn Norman	01291 689418	Hilary Lee	01291 689326
Christine Haines	01594 531050	Joyce McKay	01291 689910

Layout/typing/adverts: Christine Haines & John French; Collation: Sally Secrett; Treasurer: Joyce McKay

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

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

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

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

OUR PARISH CHURCHES

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

Associate Parish Priest:	Robert Simpson	01594 560202
Priest in Charge:	David Treharne	01291 760034
Licensed Lay Reader:	Mandy Vaughan	01594 530844
Churchwardens: St Briavels	David Rees	01594 530443
	Martin Pagnamenta	01594 531151
Churchwardens: Hewelsfield	Gary Lewis	01594 833020
	Pauline Siddons	01594 530524
Hon. Secretary: St Briavels	Jean Sheraton	01594 531096
Hon. Secretary: Hewelsfield	Pearl Bradney	01594 531075
Hon. Treasurer: St Briavels	Roger Clewett	01291 680436
Hon. Treasurer: Hewelsfield	David Wedel	01594 530633
Organists:	Martin Pagnamenta	01594 531151
	Caroline Buffrey	01291 689546
	Louise Greening	01594 530421
	Jane Benson	01291 689703
Electoral Roll Officer: St Briavels	David Rees	01594 530443
Electoral Roll Officer: Hewelsfield	Marion Harrison	01594 530264

St Briavels Congregational Church, Pastor: Matt Rees, 01594 530098

Brockweir Moravian Church, Rev. Patsy Holdsworth, 0117 9078994

TO BOOK OUR VILLAGE ROOMS

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

DOCTORS' SURGERIES

WYE VALLEY PRACTICE

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

WYEDEAN PRACTICE

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

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

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

POLICE (non emergency calls)	(UK dialling only)	101
Police Community Support Officer	Mike Shuttleworth	01452 753804
Email:	mike.shuttleworth@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk	
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Field Officer (Chrissie Parkes)		01452 753784
ELECTRICITY	(Power cuts)	08006 783 105
GCC HIGHWAYS	(for potholes etc.)	08000 514 514
GRASS ROUTES BUS SERVICE		08000 858 015
MP (Forest of Dean):	Mark Harper	01594 823482
COUNTY COUNCILLORS:		
Patrick Molyneux - Hewelsfield, Brockweir & St Briavels		01594 529174

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS:

Hewelsfield and Brockweir
St Briavels and Newland

Chris.McFarling@fdean.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCILS: *St Briavels* (Chair)

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HEWELSFIELD against Quarrying

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ST BRIAVELS MOAT SOCIETY

ST BRIAVELS PEOPLE'S CHOIR

ST BRIAVELS EARLY YEARS

ST BRIAVELS SCHOOL headteacher

School bell ringing out of hours contacts:

ST BRIAVELS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

ST BRIAVELS W.I.

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Terry Hale 01594 833508

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Lyn Skuse 01291 680053

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Pam Plummer 01594 530008

Immy Lee 01291 689512

Trevor Williams 01291 689792

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Cath Baker 01291 689331

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Paul Bergdahl 01594 530623

Richard Skinner 01594 812447

07927 051328

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John Gooder 01291 689979

Bob Brown 01594 530147

Maurice Harrison 01594 530501

Rosie Bishop 01594 531439

Ayse Rugg 07766 719950

Rosalind Eaves 07854 676526

Pauline Siddons 01594 530524

Sally Secrett 01594 530539

Sarah McLellan 01291 680092

Karen Cockfield 01594 530950

Paul Lounds 01594 530573

Mary Perryman 01594 530505

Sue Davis 01594 531460

Louise Greening 01594 530421

School Office 01594 530428

Sarah Helm 01594 530428

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