

THE EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2021

ISSUE 184



Eardisland Duck Races

Sunday, 29th August 2021

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EDITORIAL

On the next page, you will find the magazine dates for next year 2022. I will put them in the main diary for the next edition.

I have heard of the deaths of two people. Elizabeth (Betty) Mary Williams, whose obituary is on page 4. Also, Roger Fenna who was a regular visitor to the Community Shop, a supporter of Eardisland in Bloom, and a visitor to Parish Council meetings. Roger was a highly respected camera supervisor who worked on many TV shows, including 'Top of the Pops'. Our condolences go to family and friends.

This month sees some important changes to the Highway Code These will affect all road-users, pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. I imagine there will be plenty of publicity, so I won't detail things here. Please keep an eye out, for these are important. Whilst mentioning roads, this month also sees the introduction of E10 petrol (this does not apply to diesel vehicles). E (ethanol) and 10 (10%) will be the new 'normal' fuel. Check your vehicle's handbook to see if your vehicle is compatible – cars after 2010 should be, with some exceptions. Most importantly, E10 is very unlikely to be suitable for garden machinery – strimmers, mowers, etc. In which case, use 'super' unleaded, which is now (mainly) E5. E10 can rot plastics and rubber seals in the supply system, so it is vital to know the correct grade if you want to keep your appliances running.

At the end of August, the village saw the return of the Duck Races, which were blessed with good weather and a large, enthusiastic, crowd. The event was a great success and raised in excess of £1400, which is a greatly needed boost for the Village Hall finances.

The other hugely successful event has been the Village Show. As the Duck Races, the weather was kind, the hall was well filled with exhibits and the recreation ground had various stalls with people enjoying the fine weather.

The organisers of both events are very grateful to all those who gave of their time to make these occasions such a pleasure.

In this magazine, and as a separate insert, there is a copy of 'Who's Who and Organisations'. I am very grateful to Patricia for getting all this together. It takes a surprising amount of time not only to collect the relevant information, but to collate it in a useful form. The information would normally be published annually, but Covid made this unrealistic in 2020. Please keep the insert for reference. I will publish any updates, but this depends on people letting me know of changes. Please email me if you know of any amendments.

Finally, I understand that Hugh Vernon received his BEM award at the beginning of September: he thoroughly deserves the award.

Chris Bivand

EARDISLAND PARISH DIARY 2021

Thursday 16 th September	Eardisland Flood Response Plan, p.4
Tuesday 12 th October	Community Shop AGM, p.10
Thursday 14 th October	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 16 th October	Eardisland Craft Fair
Thursday 11 th November	Parish Council Meeting
Friday 19th November	Magazine Copy Date
Thursday 9 th December	Parish Council Meeting (if required)

EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

DATES FOR 2022

Copy Date	Probable Distribution Date
Friday 7 th January	Friday 21 st January
Friday 4 th March	Friday 18 th March
Friday 6 th May	Friday 20 th May
Friday 1 st July	Friday 15 th July
Friday 2 nd September	Friday 16 th September
Friday 18 th November	Friday 2 nd December

Please note that the copy date is the final date I will accept copy and all copy is appreciated well in advance of the published date. I will make exceptions for special events that do not match the magazine dates. However, I must be notified in advance. It is also important to let me know how much space is required. It is essential to use the template which is sent out with reminders and available upon request to the Editor. The template is NOT the same as A5.

ELIZABETH (BETTY) MARY WILLIAMS: 1932-2021

The funeral service took place at St Mary's Church, Eardisland on Tuesday 3rd August. Betty was 88 and lived at 1 Lynch Cottages, Eardisland.

Betty's early years were spent in the Knighton/Presteigne area, and she moved to Eardisland as a teenager after the Second World War. Her father was a plumber and Betty worked first as a nanny and subsequently in a china shop in Leominster.

She married and had one daughter, Anne. Betty was widowed 22 years ago. Her lifestyle was both quiet and traditional, with interests in her dogs, West Highland terriers, along with knitting and dressmaking. She enjoyed cooking and was able to do Christmas dinner last year. Another passion was gardening, enjoying her greenhouse, growing seeds and propagating plants. Her indoor orchids were a special delight. She was also a keen reader and enjoyed novels as well as reading the newspaper daily and watching news on the television. Until a couple of years ago, Betty was able to drive.

Betty was a quiet lady, friendly, but content with her own company and interests. She is survived by her daughter, Anne.

PARISH COUNCIL (PC) UPDATE:

1. The parish council now meets in person but for the next few months, if you wish to attend a meeting please contact the Parish Clerk on parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk or 07789 322771, as we continue to work for everyone's safety and wellbeing during the ongoing Covid situation by maintaining Covid safe numbers at meetings, as defined by the Village Hall Management Committee.
2. The report from the Environment Agency (EA) is to be considered at the Parish Meeting on Thursday 16th September. It is available on the website <https://www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk/eardisland-flooding-response-plan-efrp/> as is the Eardisland Flood Response Plan.
3. **Exciting new group for anyone interested in the environment!** The Inaugural Meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Working Group is on Tuesday 5th October at 7.00pm in the village hall. All welcome – please contact the Parish Clerk if you wish to attend.
4. Speedwatch is undertaken by volunteers on behalf of the community and the parish council. It is up to drivers to drive at a legal speed limit to make the village a safer place.

5. Would you like a tree(s) to plant? The PC would like up to 75 new trees in the parish to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day and the Queen's Green Canopy project – please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like a tree or trees. They will not be available until November.
6. ***Are you new to the parish, just moved in?*** If you have not already received a 'Welcome to Eardisland' pack, please contact the Parish Clerk (parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk or 07789 322771) who will be pleased to bring you a Pack.
7. The parish council website can be accessed at www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk with the community website continuing to provide all other information at www.eardisland.org.uk. GDPR requires people to give positive consent for the parish council to hold personal data and to allow you to receive emails. Please contact the Clerk if you wish your name and data to be removed from the list for news alerts.
8. The following planning applications have been considered or noted at the July and August meetings: **P212433/F**, Oak Grove, Pembridge, HR6 9HE – Proposed steel portal framed agricultural building for general agricultural storage, machinery and sheep housing – Supported. **P212332/FH**, Earlsleaen House, HR6 9BD – Construction of a new 3 bay garage – Supported. **P212581/FH** and **P212582/L**, Staick House, HR6 9BU – Proposed conversion of adjoining garages into additional living accommodation and other works including new vehicular access and detached garage – Supported. **P212831/K**, Toad Hall, HR6 9BE – Group of five Cypress (T1) – carefully fell in sections to as near ground level as possible. Elm (T2) – to carry out light remedial pruning to prevent further encroachment towards property and lightly trim clear of electricity cables, but retaining screening – Supported. Noted **P212381/AM**, Moat Cottage, HR6 9BP – Proposed non-material amendment to planning permission 194070 (Proposed replacement dwelling and garage) - Internal amendment to ground floor plan: removal of utility room and relocation of w.c. External amendment to rear and side elevation: minor amendment to fenestration to suit internal layout changes removal of air source heat pump and replacement with mains gas boiler – Approved. Noted **P211892/PA7**, Oak Grove, Hardwick, HR6 9HE – Prior approval for proposed agricultural – Prior approval (full planning application) required. Noted **P210691/F** and **P210692/L**, Cross Inn, HR6 9BW – To extend Indian stone paving and site a

timber pergola on timber decking – Approved with conditions. Please see Parish Council minutes for any comments made.

9. The planned parish council meeting dates can be found in the diary of the magazine. Extra meetings will be held if required to meet deadlines for response to planning applications and details can be found on the notice boards and website. Meetings are open to the public and a short time is allocated on the agenda to take questions or comments from parishioners, in line with the council's standing orders.

EARDISLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

A big thank you to Mandy Vernon for hosting the WI July meeting in her beautiful garden and for providing the cream tea and cakes, which everyone enjoyed. We were extremely fortunate to have a lovely sunny day, and after tea we played Boules and Skittles, as well as chatting and catching-up with everyone.

There was no meeting in August, but in October we hope to be back to normal and have invited Simon Fanthorpe to talk about the Metropolitan Police and Forensics.

Anyone who would like to join, or just come along for a 'taster' would be very welcome. Please contact Helen Kirkham (01544 388860) or Rita Kirby (01544 388810) for more information.

Eardisland W. I. Committee.

NOTICE

The talk by Jon Stokes of the Tree Council, which was to have been at Burton Court on 27th September, has been cancelled.

If anyone would like advice or help with tree planting, please get in touch with me: telephone 01544 388840 or email dpalmer5k@hotmail.com

Di Palmer

THE CROSS INN



Towards the end of last month, I had the pleasure of meeting the new lessees of The Cross Inn. Mark, Eve and daughter Brook had moved in just ten days before, so there was an interesting exchange of information on both sides.

† Left to right: Brook, Mark and Eve

The family, who moved from Staithes in Yorkshire, had run a fish and chip business, with a restaurant. They have, therefore, a background in hospitality – an area of business that has gone through the mill in the last couple of years. All original staff have been kept, except for the chef, who decided to leave.

Mark, Eve and Brook intend to keep the essential nature of the Cross much the same, with the usual drinks and traditional pub food. They will re-introduce the Quiz Night and hope to support a darts team, and the Pool Club. The family expressed a strong desire to integrate with the community and will be grateful for all suggestions on making the Cross a really appreciated, local pub. As might be expected, Mark, Eve and Brook have various ideas about developing differing strategies in the future, but for the time being, it's a matter of settling in and getting to know the community.

Eve is a trained pastry chef, and they are currently wishing to appoint a chef for the food area of the business. It is hoped to run 'specials' (themed food evenings) but this is on the planning list at the moment.

The Cross has three rooms to let on a B & B basis, at £117 per room per night, inclusive of breakfast. This side of the business is mainly run by Brook.

This gives a brief background to the new management of The Cross Inn. I was rather touched by their comments about the warmth of the welcome that they have received in Eardisland. I enjoyed our conversation and hope that they have an enjoyable time running one of our two much-valued pubs. I wish them well.

Chris Bivand

MORTIMER MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

Covid 19 Vaccination Booster Programme. This programme will hopefully begin in mid-September depending upon availability of the vaccine being delivered and will follow the Government guidelines as for the first vaccination programme starting with the 90 plus age group and then coming down the ages. The vaccine to be offered has not yet been finalised. There will be at least a 7-day gap between the Covid vaccination and the seasonal Flu vaccine, but timings have not been finalised yet. It is hoped there will be pop up sites in local village halls, Kingsland and Orleton are already earmarked but again it remains fluid as information coming into the Practice changes daily. This year there will be 3 full day Saturday seasonal Flu sessions in October as the over 50 age group will now be invited. Everyone eligible will receive a letter. The Practice hopes people will come at the designated times they are asked to as it is done alphabetically. Last year people were turning up before their stated time causing problems with parking. Please could people registered at the Practice make sure their landline and mobile phone numbers are up to date.

NHS Digital Data Gathering has been postponed until at least September and beyond due to most GPs in England being very unhappy about the way it was going to be implemented. People are asked to read the information on the Practice website and in the media about this event. It is easy to opt out as well as opting back in if after reading all the information you feel happy about what is being proposed.

Dr Kemp is now the GP Trainer for the Practice and will be mentoring her first registrar. He is Dr Mark Woodall. He is a fully qualified doctor who now wishes to become a GP, which is good news as there is such a shortage. To enable him to do this he has to have a year in general practice being supervised by another qualified GP who has themselves undergone further training to become a trainer.


Kingsland and Orleton surgeries are going to have some long-awaited maintenance carried out. It is hoped this will be carried out over weekends to avoid disruption to the surgeries

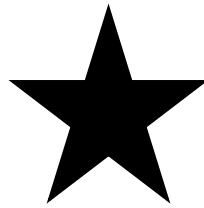
The Practice staff in all 3 surgeries are going to have new uniforms, this includes all nursing staff, receptionists and admin staff to make it easier for patients to identify staff.

At present there is only one physiotherapist working at the Practice so waiting times may be longer.

Our next PPG meeting will be November 25th. If anyone has any issues or queries they wish me to raise with the Practice please let me know.

Diane Lee

 01544 3875685



Be a star!

How you can help your parish

The PC is very grateful for the donations it has already received for the work on the village hall. Unfortunately, due to some issues with the roof design, the work has been delayed from the planned start date of 23 August. ***As a result the shortfall in funding will increase due to extra roofing costs and possibly further planning fees, so if you are able to make a donation to help cover this, please contact the Parish Clerk as soon as possible (07789 322771 or parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk). All donors will be named, both on a plaque in the hall and in the magazine (or you can remain anonymous if you wish). Many thanks.***

*Help make your community
an even better place to live!*

EARDISLAND COMMUNITY SHOP

COULD CLOSE!

No Sunday Papers!

No Franks biscuits!

No Sausages and Bacon!

No Ice Cream!

No Bread and Milk!

No Chocolate!

No Eggs!

No Hereford Times!

This could be a reality if more volunteers do not come forward and offer to help!

There is an amazing committee who work voluntarily tirelessly behind the scenes to keep the business going.

There are our brilliant volunteers, some old some new, who keep the shop open during trading hours.

But..... we need more of you to come forward and offer help, especially with the early morning opening and preparing of newspapers. Without more help, the shop will have to close permanently.

Please contact the shop without obligation on 01544 388984 and leave a message or eardislandshop@gmail.com if you feel you can offer help.

The Eardisland Community Shop AGM will be held in St Mary's Church, Eardisland on Tuesday 12th October at 7 o'clock sharp. All are welcome, but only shareholders may vote. Shares will be available on the night at £10 each.

EARDISLAND QUALITY CRAFT
AND PRODUCE FAIR

Saturday 16th October 2021

10.00am – 4.00pm

Over 45 quality stalls

St. Mary's Church & Grounds, Eardisland

Tea, coffee and cakes from 10am

Barbeque from 12 midday

Admission just £1 to include a free hot drink (subject to part of the village hall being available)

Plenty of free parking available

Proceeds to Eardisland in Bloom, Eardisland PCC and Eardisland Village Hall

Volunteers still required!



A massive thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Eardisland Village Show and Fun Day. There were 50 entrants to the show and the sun shone for the fun day- just perfect. This year the trophy winners were...

Cookery- Sarah Heron
 Bread (men)- Chris Bivand
 Bread (women)- Bryony Burn
 Drinks- Edwin Thompson
 Craft- Caroline Marsden
 Floral Art- Marie Lloyd
 Les Evans prize- Mavis Tantrum
 Megan Lloyd trophy- Mavis Tantrum
 Horticulture Div 1- Sarah Heron
 Horticulture Div 2- Sarah Heron
 Art- Kathleen Freeman
 Photography- Kathleen Freeman
 Children under 5- Hadi Hallam
 Children 5-11- Eleanor Hallam
 Children 12-15- Leah Wilde
 'Just for a laugh' winners- Jo South,
 Delia Yapp, Beau Marfell and Fleur
 Marfell.
 Overall Junior winner- Leah Wilde
 Overall Show winner- Sarah Heron
 There'll be more craft events this year
 subsidised by the Village Show, so
 please keep your eyes peeled for notices in the Parish Mag and the Facebook
 Page.



Thank you again for supporting the show!

CHURCH MATTERS

Priest-in-Charge:	Rev. Julie Read, The Rectory, Kingsland. 07826 194400, rev.julie@hotmail.com 01568 708255
Curate	Rev Katie Smith 07775 486521
Reader	Rosie Capon 07811 436412
Churchwarden and Lay Co-Chair:	Richard Kirby: 01544 388810
Deputy Churchwarden and Organist:	Annette Blyth: 01544 388241
Treasurer:	Mike Coleburn: 01544 388486
PCC Secretary:	Avis Denny: 01568 780874

Services at St Mary the Virgin, Eardisland and services at Kingsland and Aymestrey

SUNDAYS	Time and type	Which church?
19 th September	9.30am Education Sunday with Kingsland School	Eardisland
26 th September	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
3 rd October	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
10 th October	3pm HARVEST FESTIVAL & TEA	Eardisland
17 th October	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
24 th October	9.30am Morning Prayer	Eardisland
31 st October	10.30am BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION for All Saints	Aymestrey
Tuesday 2 nd November	7pm Benefice All Souls Service	Eardisland
14 th November	10.45am Remembrance Service Start at the War Memorial	Eardisland
21 st November	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
28 th November	9.30am Advent Service	Eardisland
5 th December	10.30am Benefice Service at Kingsland with Bishop Richard for the re-opening of the Church	Kingsland

FROM JULIE READ

Life in the churches has begun to settle down into the next stage of life at the moment. We are once again able to sing, and I think that is what I missed the most during this last 18 months, not being able to sing and to express not only joy and praise, but lament and prayer. We are making church so that there is a section where those who feel safer wearing masks inside can sit, and a section where those who would like to put those away (for now) can sit. We are still not sharing the common cup for communion and have reached a new normal that most people feel happy to come along to church. If you would like to come but are still feeling unsure, then please give me a bell and we can talk about that and see how we can best help.

Thanks are due to Liz Lever who has ably held the helm at Eardisland over these last years as Churchwarden. Thanks for your good common sense and ability to get on with things that need doing, for your medical gifts which have served us well as we have navigated through the pandemic and for helping us how to keep people safe in church and out in the community. Thank you for your hospitality and encouragement and we wish you well as you stand down from your church positions and prepare to move from Eardisland to pastures new (and not too far away!)

You may have heard steel pans in church and steel band practice will restart on Friday evenings in September and if you would like to come and have a go, do turn up at 4.30pm (if you are under 16) or 6pm if you are older than 16 and you can have a go! You would be most welcome.

Thank you for your support of Open Gardens in July and thank you to those who opened their gardens and hosted teas in the church. It was really lovely, and I know many people enjoyed getting out and catching up with others. There are more events coming up in the next few months – Education Sunday on 19th September at 9.30am and we will be praying for the new school term and all in education. Some staff and pupils from Kingsland School will be joining us for this service. On 10th October at 3pm we will hold the Harvest Festival in Church followed by afternoon tea, an opportunity to give thanks for the farming community, this year's harvest of the land and our gratitude to the Maker whose generosity made such a beautiful world for us to share in. On the 16th October is the Craft Fayre and I know that many hands will work to bring the artistic skills of many to the public eye and hopefully you can buy some gifts for Christmas for your friends and family. On 2nd November there is a service for All Souls at 7pm and we will be inviting all those who have been bereaved across the last year, and for whom we have conducted a service. It is open to all who would like to find a quiet space to come and remember those who are no longer with us, and to give thanks for their lives. This service is reflective and peaceful and there are opportunities for lighting candles. Those who come find it helpful.

You will always find a warm welcome in church, and I look forward to meeting those who are new to the village since the pandemic began. Hopefully you will see myself or Katie around the place after having been locked down in Kingsland for what seems forever. Do say hello - you will know us by the dog collar!!

Every blessing,
Julie

HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST : MUSIC IN QUIET PLACES



We are extremely fortunate (not to mention thrilled) that the Cellist and Conductor Orlando Jopling has agreed to perform for Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust with a concert this Autumn on October 9th, in Canon Pyon Church.

Alongside his performing and teaching career Orlando has given almost 125 solo recitals in beautiful UK churches raising funds for their upkeep as part of his Cello Pilgrimage.

He has such a huge list of achievements that it is a challenge to select just a few. He has worked with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra and the London Mozart Players. He has played as guest cellist with the great UK orchestras and conductors such as Bernard Haitink, Mark Elder, Ricardo Muti and Sir Simon Rattle and has given recitals in places as diverse as the United States, European destinations, Israel and India. He was principal conductor and advisor of the Royal Orchestral Society for 10 years and Associate Conductor of English National Ballet until 2020. He works as a guest conductor at the Royal Opera House and Royal Ballet and has co-founded two opera companies. He is also artistic director of the Roman River Festival and last year formed the Rasumovsky Quartet.

We hope very much that you will be able to join us for his programme of inspiring music. Tickets from [An evening of sublime cello music from the renowned Orlando Jopling | Line-Up \(lineupnow.com\)](#)

You and your friends are invited to a

Coffee Morning

at

The Haywain, Lyde Arundel

HR4 7SL

(by kind invitation of Lydia and Tomáš Alexovi)

Thursday 7th October 2021

From 10am 'til 12 noon

Cakes, Preserves and Produce Stall. Raffle.

*No entry fee - donations welcomed * Ample parking * Run according to Government COVID 19 guidelines and regulations * Use entrance off A4110 *

If you're unable to attend but would like to make a donation, please send cheques payable to HHCT c/o Mrs Sue Burleigh, Stansbatch House, Stansbatch, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 9LG



JOTTINGS FROM THE BURTON COURT KITCHENS

by Helen J. Simpson

- ❖ Cooked kidney beans, chickpeas, haricot beans and similar pulses freeze well. Cook large batches at a time and they are ready to use from the freezer. They are much better than tinned.
- ❖ Fresh grated Cheddar and Parmesan cheeses freeze very well and can be used from frozen, to flavour sauces or make a quick gratin topping.
- ❖ Steradent™ tablets for cleaning false teeth are ideal for cleaning drinking glasses, especially those with a fine point in the base of the bowl where red wine stains are difficult to remove.
- ❖ To prevent cherries from sinking to the bottom of a cake, place them in a sieve and rinse under very hot water. Then drain well and pat dry on absorbent kitchen paper. Cut the cherries in half or chop them, then coat in a little of the measured flour. Fold them into the cake as the last ingredient.
- ❖ If you need baking powder for a recipe and think yours may be old, try it out by adding a spoonful to some boiling water – it should fizz.



A Member of the Guild of Food Writers, Helen is a published author of seven cookery books and a food article writer for the Hereford Times.

She also writes on Herefordshire subjects of historic interest.

PEDANT'S CORNER

Listening to Radio 4 as I write, there is an interesting discussion about boys' and girls' performance in the recent examinations. Well, Mr Halfon, Robert (Chair of the Parliamentary Education Committee), said "less boys are doing well at GCSE" and "less boys are going to university". Oh, Robert! As chair of the Education Committee, it might be expected of you to know that the word 'fewer' exists. It is not that hard, just use *fewer* for things that are counted in whole numbers, students for example, and *less* for things that aren't.

However, as with many things in the English language, there are some differing opinions about usage. At one end of the spectrum, there are those who will say that this sort of thing does not matter, providing that the meaning is clear. You may recall that, some years ago, Marks and Spencer proudly proclaimed a checkout lane with the notice 'Five Items or Less' above it. This caused much consternation, given that grammatically, it should five items or fewer. I note that Morrisons should be hanged for the same transgression.

But, if you understand what it means, why worry? Well, there are those at the other end of the spectrum who hold that language needs to be precise to be understood properly, and grammar is vital to this understanding. Legal documents, for example, should say exactly what is meant. This explains why solicitors rarely use punctuation – a misplaced comma can change the meaning of a statement. If you don't believe me, have a look at a small but hugely successful book by Lynne Truss 'Eats Shoots and Leaves' (and try a comma to see what happens to the meaning).

Then we have the minefield that is the split infinitive. When I was taught English grammar at school in the 60s, a split infinitive was considered the ultimate offence. To better understand this (see what I did there), it's necessary to go back to Victorian times, when scholars tried to codify the use of English by its Latinate roots. One does not split the infinitive in Latin, does one? They had rather lost sight of the fact that English may in part be derived from Latin, but it is not in itself Latin. Thus, the rules do not really apply in this regimented sense.

I have no idea what English examiners do about all this. A young student without the benefit of having been taught grammatical analysis may well write English as it is spoken, and, of course, there are regional differences in this latter respect.

Personally, if I can count it in whole numbers it's 'fewer', and if I can't, it is 'less'. Does it matter? Probably not, if you see what I mean.

Chris Bivand

WHO'S WHO & ORGANISATIONS : EARDISLAND 2021/2022		
ORGANISATION	CONTACT	EMAIL / PHONE
Bowling Club	Doug Tantrum	dougtantrum@hotmail.com 01544 387972
CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, EARDISLAND Churchwarden Deputy Churchwarden PCC Secretary	Rev. Julie Read (Priest-in-Charge) Richard Kirby Annette Blyth Avis Denny	rev.julie@hotmail.com 07826 194400 / 01568 708255 rthkr@outlook.com / 01544 388810 01544 388241 01568 780874
Community Garden	Ben Woodcock	ben@eardisland.org.uk 01544 388976
Community Website	Ben Woodcock	ben@eardisland.org.uk 01544 388976
Dovecote Trust	Hugh Vernon	hmvernon@btinternet.com
Eardisland Community Shop Association	Margaret Milchard (Chair)	eardislandshop@gmail.com
Eardisland Craft Fair	Phil Milchard	eardislandcfair@btinternet.com
Eardisland Memorial Walks	Website: Email:	www.eardislandmemorialwalks.org.uk contact@eardislandmemorialwalks.co.uk
Eardisland Village Band	Ruth Brinton-Bivand (Administrator)	ruthbrintonbivand@gmail.com 01544 388375 / 07773 706147
E-Team Eardisland in Bloom	Phil Milchard	pmilchard@btinternet.com 01544 388097
Flower Guild	Wendy Priday	pridays@aol.com
Herefordshire Council	Cllr. Roger Phillips	rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk 07792 882144
Hereford Times Correspondent	Wendy Cross	wncr950@aol.com 01544 388725
Hospice Friends Group	Jo Watson	01544 388287
Member of Parliament North Herefordshire	Bill Wiggin MP (C)	bill.wiggin.mp@parliament.uk 01568 612565

WHO'S WHO & ORGANISATIONS : EARDISLAND 2021/2022		
ORGANISATION	CONTACT	EMAIL / PHONE
Mortimer Medical Practice PPG and Speedwatch Co-ordinator	Diane Lee	01544 387685
PARISH COUNCIL Chair	Richard Kirby	richard.kirby@eardisland-pc.gov.uk 01544 388810
Deputy Chair	Maryan Hanson	maryan.hanson@eardisland-pc.gov.uk
Clerk to Eardisland Parish Council	Alison Sutton	parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk 07789 322771
Parish Council Website	Alison Sutton	parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk 07789 322771
PARISH MAGAZINE Editor	Chris Bivand	chrisbivand@gmail.com 01544 388375
Advertising Manager	Patricia Gill	parishads@btinternet.com 01544 388757
Distribution Manager	Barry Freeman	01544 388226
Parish Council Magazine Liaison Officer	Elaine Harper	elaine.harper@eardisland-pc.gov.uk
TO REPORT A CRIME DIAL 101 EXTN. 61216	COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS Dean Wall 07773 053846 Emma Dunne 07971 051474 Felix Rawlinson 07971 051480	
Share-a-Care/Local Links	Eardisland Community Shop	eardislandshop@gmail.com 01544 388984
VILLAGE HALL Eardisland Village Hall Management Committee	Carole Millin (Chair)	carole.evhmc@yahoo.com
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Caroline Marsden	villagehall@eardisland.org.uk
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THE WAY WE WERE

By Barry Freeman

There has been a good deal of discussion lately about getting back to "normal". This prompted me to delve into my Eardisland archive files for indications of how we lived a few years ago.

For some years it was the usual practice to circulate a leaflet with the January edition of the Parish Magazine which listed as many details as possible of events arranged for the forthcoming year. (This did of course mean that the greater part of the detailed organisation had to be in place by the turn of the year.)

On these two pages is a copy of the main programme for the leaflet circulated with the Parish Magazine for January 1997 BC (Before Covid). In addition to this list of main events there was quite a selection of events in the village hall for hall funds specifically:

Apr 19 Country and Western evening; May 13 Mixed Crafts evening;
Mid-June Antiques evening; June 28 2.pm Car Boot; July 26 BBQ and Fête;
Sept 17 Whist Drive; Oct 19 Talent Show; Nov 26 Bingo; Dec 13 Christmas Party.

Just a snapshot of local history for those readers whom we have welcomed as residents since 1997, but a treasure chest of happy memories for those of us who were there.

EARDISLAND 1997 MAIN EVENTS

From Saturday 5th April onwards ...

"A Parish for All Seasons" Exhibition in the Church

(Financed by Millennium Fund through Rural Action grant: All proceeds to Church Funds).

Friday 23rd May 7.30pm in the Church

"A Welcome to Spring" Concert

Brass Farthings ensemble with St. Mary's Singers. A light-hearted programme of music, singing and reading to welcome spring. Tickets £3 including interval drink. (Financed by, and ticket proceeds to, Millennium Fund: draw proceeds to Church Funds).

Friday 23rd - Monday 26th May in Church

Special Floral Arrangements

(Provided by Eardisland Flower Guild: donations invited in visitors' box for Church Funds).

Saturday 21st - Sunday 22nd June 2-6pm Hardwick House

3-acres garden with arboretum and waterfowl pool, art market, stalls, teas, draw. Admission £2 at gate (under 14 free). (Organized by PCC: proceeds to Church Funds). This event by kind permission of Mr and Mrs D.J.Collins.

Saturday 5th July 7.pm at West End, Eardisland

Barbecue and Barn Dance.

Delicious barbecue fare; fine wines; real ale; plus a foot-tappin', knee-slappin' country folk band. Admission £3: under 14 accompanied, free. (Organized by Mrs P. Smith and PCC: all proceeds to Church Funds). This event by kind permission of Mrs P. Smith.

Saturday 26th July 6.pm on Recreation Ground

Barbecue and Fête

More delicious fare! Plus sideshows, stalls, grand draw. (Organized by Village Hall Management Committee: all proceeds to Village Hall Funds).

Saturday 9th - Sunday 10th August: 11.am-5.pm Village Hall

Village Heritage and Arts and Crafts Exhibition

Admission £1. Parish residents free.

(Financed by Millennium Fund: all proceeds to Village Hall Funds).

Sunday 17th August 2.pm on the Brouch Meadow: Village Cricket Gala

With stalls, refreshments, play area etc. Admission: adults 50p. (Organized by Oral History Group: proceeds towards a dovecote plaque). This event by kind permission of Mr. L. Evans.

Saturday 23rd August 7.pm Village Hall

Music and Spice: Songs from Stage, Screen and Cabaret

An event specially created for Eardisland 97 by performers from Tenbury Wells.

Master of Ceremonies: Ron Padwick. Bar: grand draw: sing-along.

Admission £3: Senior citizens/under-18 £1.50. (Financed by Millennium Fund; all proceeds to Village Hall Funds).

Sunday 24th August 2.pm Mill Stream and River

The traditional fun day of raft race, duck races, stalls and draw.

(Organised by and proceeds to, Village Hall Funds).

Saturday 27th September 7.pm Village Hall

Harvest Festival Evening.

Details to be announced later. (Financed by Millennium Fund: proceeds jointly to Church and Village Hall Funds).

Saturday 22nd November 7.pm Church

"Here's a Health Unto Her Majesty"

An event specially created to celebrate the Royal Golden Wedding. Risca Male Voice Choir with John Howell in his widely praised role as Dylan Thomas.

Admission £4: includes interval drink. (Financed by Millennium Fund: proceeds to Church Funds).

Sunday 23rd November 3.pm Village Hall

Parish Tea Party to celebrate the Golden Wedding.

EARDISLAND: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES

I am grateful for the input of Mike Walsh who is undertaking family history in this area and has examined many relevant press reports on which I have drawn

In 1835 the horse drawn carriages between Kington, Leominster and Worcester passed through Pembridge and Eardisland three days a week. Coaches to and from Aberystwyth and Worcester collected passengers from the Greyhound in Pembridge and from the Golden Cross in Eardisland where James Alford was publican and a village butcher. (How interesting to note that the word 'Golden' has been dropped from the name of this old pub). The Pigot's Directory of 1840 suggests how self-sufficient Eardisland was at that time; it would seem that there would not be much need for long distance travel. Thomas Bassett was the boot and shoe repairer. In 1855 he ran the White Swan Inn and was there until 1871. The School Master (and shop keeper) was Henry Bullock. Thomas Caldicott was the miller in one of the two village mills; John Carpenter was the miller (and maltster) in the other. Mr Davis was the publican of the now forgotten Bull Inn on the riverbank. William Davies was the village carpenter. John Griffiths was the village blacksmith and Thomas Huxley the tailor. John Morris and William Pugh were stone masons (the latter based in Lower Burton.) Edward Parker was the wheelwright; John Southall was a beer retailer and blacksmith. In 1858 the miller at Lower Burton was William Parry. This mill was primarily used for grinding animal food (rather than wheat). The water to drive it came from Tippetts Brook which runs through Pigmore common.

Economic changes

The village must have been largely self-sufficient at this time when people generally had a garden for crops, fowls, possibly a pig and fruit trees.

Nonetheless, day to day life in an agricultural village such as Eardisland must always have been precarious as changes in corn prices and crop production varied with weather conditions. The fall in corn prices after 1812 helped to relieve the poverty of the labourers, and consequently in the 1830s Herefordshire was less affected by the rick burning and rioting which was the response to mechanisation, known as 'the Swing Riots'. Deportation was the outcome if found guilty.

At this time, rented land in Herefordshire would fetch around £1 per annum for the best arable land, £2 for best meadow and £4 near a town. The cattle were driven from the uplands of mid-Wales and the drovers followed several routes through to the midlands and south-east where the cattle were pastured before being sold on. There were two droving routes that passed

through the county of Herefordshire. The northern route led through Pembridge, Eardisland, Leominster and Bromyard to Worcester and the southern route went from Rhydspence through Willersley, Hereford, Tarrington and Ledbury to Tewkesbury.

Even in the 1820s-40s, labour was poorly paid. The general diet was still very basic, and some bond labour still existed whereby the wife and children of a labourer were expected to work unpaid for their employer. Life must have been difficult for the average person living in Eardisland in this period. Even those working for one of the big landowners might lose their home and income if the employee died; they would be quickly replaced by another, and family members placed in the workhouse. For example, the school logbook of 1876 records a James Stephens who was regularly punished although only 5 or 6 years old for misdemeanours. He was the son of Thomas Stephens and his wife Mary. Sadly, he later appears to be living in the Weobley workhouse by 1881, with his sister Mary and his brother John. It seems that James' parents had died sometime after 1876 and left the children destitute.

Crime and punishment

Many villagers were living from hand to mouth, and some committed what might now seem minor offences to obtain food by poaching, but with serious consequences. George Davies was found guilty of stealing a quantity of wheat from Mr. J. Phillips of Lower Burton farm. He was transported for life to Australia. His accomplice Mary Willett, for receiving the same wheat, knowing it to have been stolen was sentenced to 14 years in Australia.

Another to receive a similar fate was Henry Williams, aged 20 who was charged with '*feloniously sending a threatening letter to Mr. John Monkhouse, of the Stow, in the parish of Whitney*'. It appeared that the prisoner was by trade a journeyman tailor, and an eminent preacher amongst the religious sect known as the Ranters. His abusive letter resulted in a court appearance. He was convicted and deported to Botany Bay, Australia for 14 years. The last reference I came across to a Ranter in Eardisland, was that of a man known as 'Ranter Jack'. He lived in the mill then close to the Dovecote, (not operating it), but eventually became unable to look after himself and was taken to Weobley workhouse in the 1920s. He was recalled in an interview with Jim Taylor in 1993.

Thomas Hill of Eardisland was charged with the theft of four geese the property of Mr James of Lower Burton. On the morning of their disappearance a search was made in the home of Mr Hill where there were found the heads wings and feet of two geese. A large number of wings were found in his bedroom and four bags of feathers. After the PC left the home, Mr Hill's wife was seen with a bundle under her arm and secreted it in a hedge. When it was

examined, the PC found two geese ready dressed one old the other young. The prisoner was committed for trial.

Mary Crump was charged with stealing two live fowls the property of Mr Turner of Hardwick. She was sentenced to one month's hard labour. William Jones was accused of turnip stealing from Mr James Bassett of Eardisland. There were regular reports of local publicans being fined "*for opening his house after 12 o'clock at night*" and "*suffering drunkenness and disorderly conduct*" and for selling short measures.

Mr William Williams of Eardisland was charged by Mr Blisset, a road surveyor, with allowing a donkey to stray on the highway. He was fined sixpence, costs of 13 shillings and in default 14 days in prison. There were cases, too, of men being summonsed to support their illegitimate child. For example, John Bowen of Eardisland appeared in court to show cause why he could not support an such a child. He was ordered to pay 1/6 (8p) a week until the child reached the age of 13. Margaret Dubberley of Eardisland was convicted of "*lying about in barns without any visible means of subsistence*". She was sentenced to one-month hard labour. When her financial situation was examined and all costs taken for the Court prosecution and for refunding the parish of Eardisland, she was left with 15 shillings (75p)

Village events

On a more positive note, there was a notice in the Leominster News stating that '*to the cottager who shall cultivate his garden in the best manner a premium of £1.10 shillings*'. It was won by John Bowen of Eardisland (presumably the same man ordered to pay for the support of his child). There is also a happier report of a concert in the School Room organised by the schoolteacher, Rev Bluck. "*The ladies were all astir making preparations and decorating the room, which was most tastefully and artistically executed by the Misses Perkins, Hall and Connop*".

On another occasion there is a report of what was described as a most successful entertainment in the school room consisting of '*wax works, tableaux, vivants, songs and recitations, instrumental music etc. Mr Bassett acted as showman the choir and bell ringers were ably assisted by several ladies and gentlemen living in the locality*'.

Village schools

The Eardisland village school began in 1872 following the new educational programme for the development of National Schools (Forster's Education Act 1870). It was initially for boys; the girls being educated in the Dovecote by Mrs Parry in a 'Dame School'. Compulsory attendance at the National school did

not follow until 1880 when school attendance was made compulsory between the ages of five and ten.

Whilst we may be familiar with the old village school (for some time now Eardisland Village Hall) it is interesting to recall that there was originally a Grammar School situated on the bridge, opposite the Dovecote from 1652 until 1825.



The old grammar school fell into disrepair after 1825

In 1877 the Head teacher of the National School complained to Inspectors that some children were still attending Mrs Parry's Dame School when they should be with him. The village school originally consisted of one large room from 1825, when it transferred from the building on the bridge. It expanded with the construction of a new classroom, known as 'the little room', in 1875, so the school could then cater for over 100 pupils which it did for many years.

Canon Evans (who preceded the Clowes family at Burton Court) gave the site for the new school although the land was not officially conveyed until sometime later. Eventually, a conveyance was entered into between the trustees and John Clowes, who purchased Burton Court in 1863. The old grammar school was then let at a rent of one shilling a week as a dwelling house. Col. Peter Clowes duly purchased the old grammar school building himself, for £35. He converted the upper part into a village Reading Room, (remaining as such until 1936). It was repaired and re-roofed. The original 'whipping post' (the function of which is uncertain, as to whether it was to control unruly pupils or other villagers) was retained.

The 'new' school then just consisted of one room – the small addition was not built until 1874-75. But both boys and girls had to pay three pence per month for pens and ink. It is recorded that *"Mr Bullock made the quill pens, from goose feathers, gathered from Pigmore Common"*. In 1867 Rev Joseph Barker (MA Christ's College Cambridge) arrived in Eardisland, living in the Staick House and was appointed Headmaster. On arrival, he immediately stipulated the following requirement:

"Parents who desire their children to attend the school should apply personally to the Headmaster on Monday morning at 10. o'clock. No child will be admitted to the school under 5 years of age, and it will be necessary that the child shall be able to read words of one syllable. All girls are admitted to pay one penny per week. Children are expected to come to school regularly and be cleanly in their dress."



The Staick House in about 1890

In 1875 a new classroom was added ("the little room"), at a cost of £70 and a house for the teacher was built, at a cost of £208 (raised by voluntary subscriptions). Further renovations were carried out on the school in 1893 (some rebuilding and the addition of cloakrooms at a cost of £147.19s. 9d). One of the first teachers was Mr Leigh and his wife. He established a boys' cricket team which duly merged with the Burton Court Cricket Club which lasted until 1939). His wife taught the girls. They left the school in 1872, succeeded by Mr Wall (who only stayed three years). He was followed by Mr

Haynes (from Leominster) who remained until 1888. Mr Rogers, who was then appointed was clearly a particularly well qualified teacher. He was said to *“possess mental gifts of a high order”* having certificates in *Advanced Science; in Acoustics Light & Heat; Magnetism & Electricity (Queen’s Prize); Principles of Agriculture, Geology and Mathematics; Grade 3 prize in Blackboard and 2nd in Perspective.*” The only person in recent times to recall Mr Rogers was Mrs Gwen Hall of Arrow Mill interviewed in 1993 when she was 101. She recalled being taught by him. In 1880 school attendance was made compulsory for 5- to 10-year-olds. However, it was not free, except for the poorest children until 1891 when fees were abolished. From 1899 children were required to go to school until they were 12.

The logbooks note that children were frequently absent to assist in the fields. The agricultural depression that began in the early part of the 19th century occurred again after 1870 when there were a series of wet years which left crops devastated and livestock disease widespread. As a result, there were fewer itinerant gangs of seasonal casual and skilled labourers. Fortunately, the school produced several good teachers, and one or two children went on to the grammar school in Leominster each year. Mr Rogers was in charge until the arrival of Mr Tom Wood in 1901, who was then only 21 but who subsequently spent his entire career in the school, until his retirement in 1940.



Tom Wood; Rev Worsley; Mrs Wood and baby Nancy

Information derived from the Leominster News articles indicates that by 1899 the school was described as “*an excellent country school, well managed and well taught*”. Tom Wood, who was generally highly regarded, maintained high standards and is still recalled by some of the older village residents together with Mrs Davies, who lived in Adlen House, the post office, now Rita’s Tearooms, married to the postmaster. She was the other teacher in the school from 1914-48. Sadly, with the subsequent economic changes, the reorganisation of schools and the movement away from rural places to the opportunities for work in towns and cities, the number of children in the parish fell, causing the school to close in 1979. How sad it would have been for Tommy Wood and Mrs Davies to see the decline in numbers of from over a 100 in their time in the school, to just 17 in its final days. By this time the village had undergone many major economic changes. Some community groups continued, such as the Bowling Club and WI. But the two shops had closed, as well as the garage; the blacksmith had long since gone, as had the Bull Inn, the two mills in the village centre, (one of which burnt down). The post office continued until the 1990s and new business enterprises emerged as did new community activities. No doubt the same processes will continue into the distant future.

Paul Selfe

In the opening paragraph of this fascinating piece by Paul, he references a ‘Bull Inn’ by the river. This is marked on the 1842 Tithe Map of the village and is the current Arrow Bank (not the holiday park). The photocopy I have, courtesy of Graham Simpson, makes me realise just how little the village has changed over the last 179 years.

Chris Bivand

EARDISLAND WEATHER REPORT

The weather in July saw 68mm (2.65 inches) of rain with Storm Evert passing on the 30th bringing with it 16 mm (0.625 inches) of the rain, barometer pressures ranged from 29.54 to 30.1 and temperatures from 17°C to 33°C were recorded. River levels remained stable at 10 to 13 inches.

For August only 48mm (1.87 inches) was recorded, barometer pressures ranged from 29.24 to 30.1 and temperatures from 17°C to 26°C were recorded, the river level dropped to 8 inches.

Nature wise it was a treat this year to see the fly catchers arrive and to see their chicks growing ready for leaving us soon on their long journey back to Africa.

The heron is still a regular visitor hunting for moles etc. in the lawn.

Doug Tantrum reporting from Kingfisher House

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Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) individuals must give positive consent for their personal data to be held and published. Both the parish council and the community website have a responsibility to comply with the GDPR. Therefore, by actively submitting an article for publication in the parish magazine, you are giving positive ongoing consent for your data to be held and published in the magazine in paper and online format. Please contact the magazine editor if this is not acceptable to you.

Copy date for the next edition of the Eardisland Parish Magazine:

FRIDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2021



Eardisland Community Shop apron spotted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia