

# THE EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

JANUARY 2022

ISSUE 186



*Eardisland wassailing - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022*

*Wassailing is a Twelfth Night tradition that has been practised in Britain for centuries. It has its roots in a pagan custom of visiting orchards to sing to the trees and spirits in the hope of ensuring a good harvest the following season.*

*Picture: Richard Davies*

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## **EDITORIAL**

Welcome to the first edition of the Eardisland Parish Magazine in 2022, and Happy New Year.

For obvious reasons, activities in the parish have been limited over the past year. Now that so many people are fully vaccinated, there is reason to believe that life may return to some kind of more acceptable new normal – let's hope so. Mind you, health care professionals have been through the mill with Covid consequences, and now face a huge backlog of cases unrelated to the virus – cancers, hip replacements etc. The pressure will be huge, and I am sure we all wish them well in doing their best to provide our essential health care.

On another matter, I have seen that there are quite significant measures proposed for the Highway Code that will affect ALL road users, including cyclists and pedestrians. I

gather there is to be a 'hierarchy' of users, with those that can cause the most damage bearing the most responsibility. For example, it is suggested that a pedestrian waiting to cross a road at a junction should be given right of way by a driver turning in to, or out of, that road. This is not law yet, but it may well be. I can see difficulties with this, because it poses a major change and will only work safely if every road user is aware of what the rules are. Please look out for information so that you know what is expected of you to stay safe. The point here is that it's not much good to have right of way as a pedestrian, say, if the lorry coming towards you is blissfully unaware that you do.

Let's hope 2022 is an improvement on 2021!

Chris Bivand

## **EARDISLAND PARISH DIARY 2022**

Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	PPG meeting, p.10
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Craft – wet felted brooch, p.9
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Magazine Copy Date</b>
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Parish Council Meeting
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	W.I. AGM – see below
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Craft – Lino prints, p.9
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Eardisland Twinning Association Special General Meeting, 7.00pm. Venue to be announced
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Parish Council Meeting
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Magazine Copy Date</b>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Annual Plant Sale
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Parish Council Meeting
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>Magazine Copy Date</b>
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> August	Parish Council Meeting (if required)
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>Magazine Copy Date</b>
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Eardisland Village Show, p.13
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Craft and Produce Fair
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Parish Council Meeting
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Magazine Copy Date</b>
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Parish Council Meeting (if required)

## **EARDISLAND W.I.**

The Eardisland WI committee would like to wish all past, present and future members a very happy and healthy 2022.

We ended 2021 with a wonderful Christmas meal at the New Inn in Pembridge and would like to thank Jane and her team for providing the private room and the wonderful food. It was lovely to see our members together again and enjoying company in a safe environment.

The February meeting will be entitled Ugandan Dream. Kay Pritchard will be talking about her experiences as a midwife running a charity in Uganda. The meeting will be held, works permitting in the Village Hall, at 2.30 p.m. on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February. A member of the committee will send out details before the meeting to confirm the venue and this will also be added to the Eardisland Facebook Group. The following meeting will be the AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Details to be confirmed.

Helen Kirkham

### **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](mailto: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. Given the current Covid situation, please check the website to ensure a meeting is going ahead.
2. **Are you prepared for the next flood event?** Please make sure that you have your Personal Checklist to hand, and you know what to do in a flood event. And most importantly please make sure you register with the Environment Agency for flood alerts and warnings – go to <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings> or ring 0345 9881188. The Eardisland Flood Response Plan is available on the website <https://www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk/eardisland-flooding-response-plan-efrp/> or contact the Parish Clerk on 07789 322771 for a copy of the Plan.
3. The work on the new kitchen at the village hall is nearing completion, though the current completion date is mid-February. The village hall committee has been awarded another small grant which helps with the costs, but we are still waiting to find out one more increased cost. So, there is still a £2,500 shortfall in the funding required to complete the project. ***Therefore, once again, we are appealing for donations from businesses in the parish and parishioners – your name will be added to the list of donors.*** Please contact the Parish Clerk if you can help the community.
4. Come and join the Environment and Sustainability Working Group, next meeting to be arranged – please check the website. All welcome – please contact the Parish Clerk if you wish to attend.
5. **Can you help, new Tree Warden needed!** Are you interested in finding out about trees to be able to advise other parishioners? The PC is a member of the Herefordshire Tree Warden Network which provides free information sessions – please contact the Parish Clerk if you can help.
6. Would you like a tree(s) to plant? Another 16 trees available for the tree-planting project to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day and the Queen's Green Canopy scheme – please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like a tree or trees. They will be available shortly.

7. ***Are you new to the parish, have you 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](mailto:parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk) or 07789 322771) and we will be pleased to bring you one.
8. The parish council website can be accessed at [www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk) with the community website continuing to provide all other information at [www.eardisland.org.uk](http://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.
9. The following planning applications have been considered or noted at the November and December meetings: **P213617/F, Folley Farm**, HR6 9BS – Proposed removal of condition 2 of planning permission DCNW2005/1275/F (Retrospective application for the replacement building which also includes office accommodation) – Supported. **P213978/AM, Kiln & Brick Storehouse Barns, Lynch Court**, HR6 9AR – Proposed non-material amendment to planning application DCNW2003/1432/F (Conversion of barns into one dwelling) - slight modifications to window and door openings – Commented; Approved with conditions. Noted **P212455/J, Bridle Goose**, HR6 9BU – Yew TPO405 reduction by 25% to reduce weight on canopy and continue to carry out a good practice of work for retaining a veteran tree within close proximity to the house. Multiple Beech Crown lift and reduce weight over garden side to allow more light on to garden below. Cypress - reduce by 30% to a natural line that is noticeable when viewed from garden to allow more light into garden – Consent Approved. Noted **P211339/F, Twyford**, HR6 9JY – Proposed construction of access track way, circular equine deep sand gallop and equine all-weather surface outdoor school/ menage and consequent change of use – Approved with conditions. Noted **P213575/AM, Roselynn**, HR6 9AR – Proposed non-material amendment to planning permission 210755 (Proposed two storey side and rear extensions to existing dwelling) - Replace external finish of painted brickwork on upper storey with unfinished larch cladding – Approved with conditions. Noted **P212433/F, Oak Grove**, Pembridge, HR6 9HE – Proposed steel portal framed agricultural building for general agricultural storage, machinery and sheep housing – Approved with conditions. Noted **P211917/F, Home Farm**, HR6 9DN – Proposed agricultural manure store – Approved with conditions. **P214050/K, The Manor House**,

HR6 9BN – Removal of mature Golden Cypress as the tree has outgrown its location – Commented. **P214073/F**, Land adjacent to Arrow Lea, HR6 9BU – 6 no. dwellings with garages – Objected. **P214003/L**, Staick House, HR6 9BU – Proposed removal of roof coverings, repair and re-roof – Supported. Please see Parish Council minutes for any comments made.

10. 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.

Alison Sutton  
Parish Clerk

### **HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT**

from your local County Councillor ROGER PHILLIPS;  
[rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk)

#### **Environment Agency Flooding Consultation**

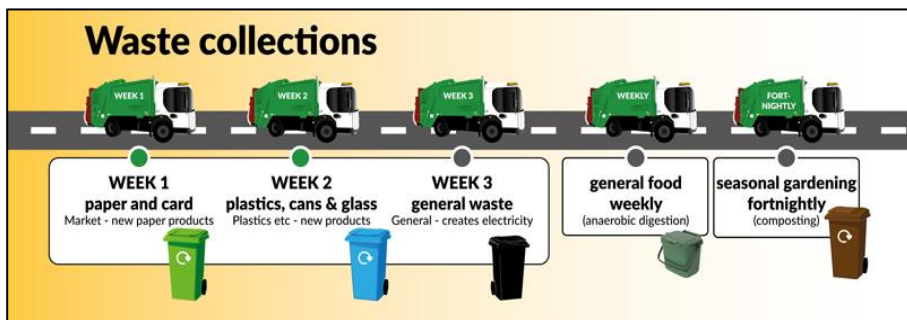
The Environment Agency has published its draft flood risk management plan for 2021-2027 and it is important to those households liable to flooding, in particular Eardisland village. The plan requires risk management authorities to develop a long-term strategic vision and delivery plan for managing the future flood risk from all sources in the Lugg catchment area. It proposes to work with communities, landowners, and businesses to determine the level of maintenance required. By 2027 a capital scheme to reduce flooding risk will be implemented. The Consultation closes on 21<sup>st</sup> January. More details can be found <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/fcrm/draft-second-cycle-flood-risk-managementplans/>

#### **County new waste collection plan from Autumn 2023**

Due to rising government targets following consultation earlier this year, the council is proposing to enhance the waste collection service from autumn 2023 in order to increase recycling. Achieving a reduction in household waste by 36 per cent to less than 330kg a year and more than double the county's reuse and recycling rates from 40 per cent to 85 per cent by 2035 helping to meet the council's target for net zero emissions by 2030.

The system will change from an alternate green/black bin collection to a three-week cycle with three bins plus a food bin and an optional garden waste bin.

- Week 1 -- New bin. Paper and cardboard will be collected separately in new 240-litre wheelie bins
- Week 2 -- Existing green bin. Metals (tins and cans), most plastics (pots, tubs, trays and bottles) and glass



- Week 3 -- Existing black bin. Anything that cannot be recycled or put into food waste
- Food waste collected every week - households provided with a new, 23-litre food caddy and liners
- Garden waste bin. Residents can opt for a seasonal garden waste fortnightly collection.

I was part of the leadership team that brought in the alternative bin collection scheme over 10 years ago and helped the county achieve impressive recycling targets of nearly 40% but the weakness of the scheme was food waste collection. There is no doubt that with new Government targets the scheme had to be adapted and address the food and garden waste issues.

We are currently part of a joint waste disposal contract with Worcestershire County Council and all our green bin waste sent to the recycling centre adjacent to their new railway station just east of M5 junction 7, and our black bin contents are sent to an incinerator at Hartlebury (between Worcester and Droitwich) where it is incinerated to create energy with the residue ash sent to landfill near Pershore.

As ever if you think I can be of help please do not hesitate to contact me. Stay safe and keep well everybody.

Roger

## **LETTER**

This is a bit of a long shot, but I wonder if your readership may be able to help?

My grandfather, John (known as Jack) Rawbone and his family, wife Alice, sons Cyril, Charles, Arthur and John (my father) lived on a farm in Hardwick the boys, I believe, went to school in Eardisland. Grandfather was a gamekeeper in Warwickshire before they moved to Herefordshire where he produced cider for Bulmers.

The 'boys' grew up and moved away; Cyril met and married Ellen Pinches and they lived in Shobdon with their three children, one of whom was deaf; Charles met and married Vera Oakley and, as a Policeman he lived in Alcock's Green with one son. Charles ultimately became a Chief Superintendent! Arthur met and married a lady called Eena and operated a private hire and taxi service in Sudbury, Middlesex. During WW2 he had the awful task of conveying bodies and body parts from bombed areas to various mortuaries and this left him with what is now known as PTSD. My father left and joined the Metropolitan Police in Middlesex. He met and married Olive Taylor in 1939, Some years later, after leaving the police service, they moved to Northamptonshire.

I wonder if any of your readers remember any of them? I believe my grandmother was 'in Service at a Hall', presumably somewhere local, and would particularly like to know their address in Hardwick - Lower or Higher, I don't know - together with any other Rawbone information.

Upon retirement, my grandparents moved to live in a small lodge near Whitbourne or Knightwick that was owned by Vera's parents.

The Compliments of the Season to you and your Team who make a very interesting magazine.

Peter Rawbone

*Peter can be contacted at [pjr@hqgreen.org](mailto:pjr@hqgreen.org) – I will do this for you if you have information but no internet. Ed.*

## **EARDISLAND VILLAGE SHOW AND FUN DAY**

(EVHMC) Registered Charity 1108366

Planning for the 2022 show is now well under way and it's looking like it'll be better than ever. As well as the ever-popular village show and fun-day, there will also be a dog show. Look out for details closer to the time.

EVHMC has secured funding from Herefordshire Council to run more craft workshops. These will be advertised in the parish magazine, on the parish noticeboard and the parish Facebook page.



**February 25<sup>th</sup>**- Jen, from the Prolific Crafter in Church Stretton, will be teaching us how to make a wet-felted brooch.

**March 25<sup>th</sup>**- Bryony Burn will be teaching us how to make lino prints.

These evening workshops (7-9pm at the Village Hall) will be a great time to start your show entries! The events will be fully funded, and all resources will be provided, but numbers are limited so please e-mail me ASAP if you'd like to attend.

[jo.evhamc@yahoo.com](mailto:jo.evhamc@yahoo.com)

### **THE HOSPICE GROUP**

The Hospice Friends of Kingsland and Eardisland have sadly decided to close the group with effect from December 2021. The group has become small in number both in Kingsland and Eardisland with the departure of Dorothy Brown; it has just left Jo Watson, Margaret Roberts and Diane Lee.

The group was started over 30 years ago with Dorothy Brown from Eardisland and Bridget Estaugh from Kingsland as founder members. Over the years the group has raised a total of £97,000 by various means including Coffee Mornings, Pancake Day Lunches and Christmas Fayres and our last Eardisland event, a Strawberry Tea which raised over £800. All proceeds have been donated to St Michael's Hospice. Jo, Margaret and Diane are hoping to carry on the yearly coffee morning which Barry and Kathleen Freeman used to host when the village Hall re-opens in 2022. The Hospice collection tins will still be in the Shop, Rita's Tearooms and the two village pubs and will be collected by Jean Barbour from Kingsland. We would like to thank all the residents of Eardisland past and present who have supported our events by volunteering to help or by just coming.

With best wishes,

Jo, Margaret and Diane

*Editor's Note: When the late Greta Pennington was in her final stages of life at the hospice, I went to see her. There, I bumped into an administrator with whom I was in contact when I published information about fund-raising events for that extraordinary institution. She expressed her appreciation for the amazing sums that had been raised by Eardisland and Kingsland, especially given our relatively small sizes. My contact left to take another post. I continue to publish information sent by St Michael's.*

**MORTIMER MEDICAL PRACTICE**  
**PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)**

Dr Rachel Voysey will be retiring from the Practice in Spring 2022. Her last booked surgeries will be in January. Dr Richard Baxter will be joining in January. The Practice is still experiencing high demand for appointments despite the extra GP with around 20 extras each day. They are hoping this will even itself out in the coming months and this is just a Winter pressure. The Practice trialled an appointment only Flu Clinic with the stock that finally arrived, and it worked better, it was more efficient, and staff did not feel overwhelmed. Future clinics will be run this way. The network of GPs which consists of the 5 surgeries in Leominster plus Tenbury Wells have delivered 113,327 Covid Vaccinations in the last year (since December 2020), a very good effort. Covid vaccinations are still being offered at weekends at present. The 2022 Flu vaccines have already been ordered! For those people who have not visited the Practice for some time, it has had some overdue maintenance work done - the most noticeable is a new coat of external paint.

The Practice is trying to reduce its use of plastic, one measure implemented is that medicines are now dispensed using 100% recyclable and compostable paper bags. The Practice is aware that at certain times of the day the telephone lines are constantly engaged or just keep ringing. They are looking into a new phone system that will place people in a queue and inform them what number they are in it.

Our next meeting is Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022 if anyone has any concerns or issues they would like me to raise please contact me.

Diane Lee  
01544387685

**CHRISTMAS TREE THANKS**

Thank you to my band of helpers decorating the Church Christmas tree which, by the way, looked wonderful with the new cascading lights and the care with which you chose the decorations for the tree. Well done!

My thanks to Kristie, Emily and Oliver, Louise and Lexi, Peter and James. Also, to Joe who came along to do the top branches. It was nice to see the mums who came to help, Helen, Jane, Avis and Jo. Thanks too to Richard and David who fought bravely to put the tree in situ.

See you next year same place same time!

Love and thanks,  
Dian.

Happy new year to the village.



# **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

## **EARDISLAND TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 7.00pm**  
**(Venue to be confirmed)**

### **AGENDA:**

### **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

### **EVERYONE WELCOME**

**Eardisland parishioners and interested  
residents of neighbouring towns and  
villages are welcome to attend all  
Association meetings/organised events  
– there is no membership fee**

**EARDISLAND VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
**CHARITY 1108366**

I was hoping that by this issue of the Parish Magazine we would be celebrating the new kitchen at the village hall and inviting everyone to the open day.  
Not yet!

First there was a delay in the start date, then there was a hiatus over the roof tiles and then building stopped for several weeks due to the discovery of a problem where the new kitchen roof meets the main building roof. Everyone on the village hall side (parish council, volunteer advisors, EVHMC) did their very best to keep the project going but anyone who has had building work done will know how it goes.

The new kitchen will be wonderful, it will!

The building belongs to the Parish Council, and they have raised most of the funds to do the re-build. EVHMC have gone cross-eyed putting in for grants and funding. It has paid off; the kitchen units, all electrical equipment, flooring, the hatch, essential repairs to the outer walls and an electrical uplift have all been paid for by EVHMC via grants and from EVHMC reserve funds. The fitting out of the kitchen has not cost the village one penny. Grant providers will be formally acknowledged at the end of the project.

It rather looks as if the completion date for all work will now be the middle of March 2022 (All being well). By then I will probably be a gibbering wreck so make allowances.

I am quite sure many people will have asked the question “Why on earth have they built the new kitchen with wooden cladding not in stone like the rest of the building?”

Here is the answer: fff!

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The parishioners decided by vote the amount of money they wanted the parish council to borrow as a public works loan, and that controlled the budget. A stone- built kitchen would have been much more expensive and that cost would have fallen on the parish.

The village hall has been blessed over the years with wonderful people who converted the building from the old school, ran the hall for many years, saw through significant improvements, baked tons of cake and so much more. I hope this latest phase in the development of our village hall is a fitting tribute to all those who went before us and made it possible.

Carole Millin  
For EVHMC



The Recreation Ground  
**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021**  
2.00 – 4.30 pm

Prizes will be awarded at 4.00 pm

*£1 admission charge for adults*  
*Children free*

**Eardisland Village Hall Management Committee (EVHMC)**  
**Registered Charity 1108366**

**Section A****COOKERY**

- 1 A fruitcake (see recipe on entry form)
- 2 A jar of homemade jam
- 3 A jar of homemade marmalade
- 4 A jar of homemade chutney
- 5 6 biscuits (same type - please specify)
- 6 3 jam tarts (any type - please specify)
- 7 A loaf of bread (any type - please specify) men
- 8 A loaf of bread (any type - please specify) women

**Section B****DRINKS**

- 9 A flavoured gin
- 10 A flavoured spirit
- 11 A non-alcoholic drink

**Section C****FLORAL ART**

No artificial fruit or flowers.

- 12 A star wreath
- 13 Commonwealth Games
- 14 5 flower heads floating in water

**Section D****CRAFT**

- 15 A landscape scene (any size, any material)
- 16 A piece of jewellery (any material)
- 17 Commonwealth Games (1 piece of craft, any medium)

**Section E****HORTICULTURE - Division 1**

- 18 A single yellow rose (Megan Lloyd Trophy)
- 19 Roses (3 stems, any variety)
- 20 Garden flowers (3 stems, any variety)
- 21 Sweet peas (5 stems, any colour)
- 22 Free choice (a single flower head)

**HORTICULTURE- Division 2**

- 23 3 cooking apples (Leslie Evans prize)
- 24 3 tomatoes
- 25 A display of garden fruits (any size)
- 26 A display of garden produce (any size)
- 27 A hand-tied bunch of fresh herbs (may be displayed in a jug)
- 28 Free choice (1 item of produce)

**Section F****PHOTOGRAPHY**

- 29 An Eardisland scene
- 30 A black and white photograph
- 31 Commonwealth Games

**Section G****ART**

Pictures may be mounted but not glazed. Stretched canvases are acceptable

- 32 A painted pebble
- 33 A lino print
- 34 Commonwealth Games (1 piece of art, any medium)

**Section H JUST FOR A LAUGH... (entries free and open to all ages)**

- 35 Limerick beginning, "In Eardisland you can always find a ..."
- 36 A vegetable animal
- 37 Heaviest pumpkin

**Section I****CHILDREN**

Children of 16 and over are encouraged to enter the adult categories. Please put your age on the Entry Form so that it may be taken into consideration by the judges.

**Children under 5**

- 38 A greetings card
- 39 A painted pebble
- 40 A sewing creation
- 41 A pizza
- 42 A lego model

**Children 5-10**

- 43 A greetings card
- 44 A painted pebble
- 45 A sewing creation
- 46 A pizza
- 47 A lego model

**Children 11-15**

- 48 A greetings card
- 49 A painted pebble
- 50 A sewing creation
- 51 A pizza
- 52 A lego model

See Entry Form for details of how to enter.

Entry Forms available from the Village Shop, Parish Magazine or Parish Website from July.

Entries cost 40p per item for adults. Children may enter free of charge in the Children's Sections but fee payable in adult section.



## **CHURCH MATTERS**

Priest-in-Charge:	Rev. Julie Read, The Rectory, Kingsland. 07826 194400, <a href="mailto:rev.julie@hotmail.com">rev.julie@hotmail.com</a>	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**

Date	Time and type	Which church?
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	9.30am Morning Prayer	Eardisland
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> January Candlemas	10.30am Benefice Holy Communion	<b>Kingsland</b>
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	9.30am Morning Prayer	Eardisland
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Ash Wednesday	<b>tba</b>
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> March Lent 1	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> March Lent 2	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland

If you would like to volunteer to read a lesson, lead prayers, become a sidesperson, sing, play, look after the church in any way or choose a hymn for a special occasion, please let us know. Everybody is welcome to services and will find a friendly community.

## **FROM JULIE READ**

A big thank you to all who decorated the Church for Christmas, laid the crib, dressed the Christmas Tree, prepared the Christmas Music and worship and in the midst of yet another Covid Christmas celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ with joyful spirit. I hope you managed to celebrate at home or with friends and family and like me are now looking to the new year in the hope of a more settled time and opportunities to get together safely and rebuild a pattern of life that is helpful to us all.

It looks like it is going to be the year of the Wedding in Eardisland as already I have three weddings booked in, and this time they are Eardisland Weddings and not Kingsland ones transferred when their church was closed. They are a sign of new life starting to flourish again, and we look forward to wedding bells in the summer months.

Every year we do an event together as a group of parishes and this year we are holding a concert given by the Hay Madrigal Group. It was to have been in January but with Covid etc rehearsals have been delayed, and it is now rescheduled for Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March. They will be singing Vivaldi Gloria and one or two other pieces, and it looks like being a bright and joyful evening of music. The concert will be Aymestrey Church, which if you haven't been in it is well worth the visit in itself. More details to follow.

The bishop came to Kingsland on 5<sup>th</sup> December and all the churchwardens were in the processions with their staves – Richard Kirby representing Eardisland. He was very positive and happy to help us build up the churches in our parishes. He has recently sent round a letter asking if anyone would like to be confirmed? I said I would ask. Confirmation is for those who were baptised when young and set on their way by their parents on the journey of faith. Confirmation is saying – ‘Yes, I would like to make my own promises before God to continue on the journey started when I was young, the journey as a Christian’. The bishop then confirms the promise of the Holy Spirit with you to strength and to guide you through all your days. Please drop me a line ([rev.julie@hotmail.com](mailto:rev.julie@hotmail.com)) if you would like to explore this for yourself. There is no set age for this – 9, 19 or 90!

Jesus said, “I have come that they might have abundant life”. (John 10.10) that is what Christianity is all about, and with dealing with the reality of life as it presents itself to us. You are all most welcome in Church always.

With every blessing

Julie

## **VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE**

A big thank you to Willie Lowe for once again very generously sponsoring the village Christmas tree outside the shop. Willie has carried out this very kind gesture for several years now and I'm sure it is very much appreciated by residents and visitors alike.

Phil Milchard

## **TREES, HEDGES, PONDS AND MEADOWLAND**

I am stepping down as Tree Warden and hence there is a need for a new Tree Warden for the parish. You do not need to have any prior knowledge just an interest in trees and you can do as much or as little as you want in whichever areas interest you. There are occasional training talks and outdoor events and plenty of Tree Wardens from neighbouring parishes willing to give advice if needed. If you would like more information, please feel free to ring or email me.

February and March are ideal for tree and hedge planting, and even into April if it is a late Spring. I will be going to Bucknell Nursery 3 or 4 times in this period to collect whips for our planting and am happy to add some extra whips and protection to our order if anyone would like me to collect some for them - from just 1 or 2 to up to 100. Two-foot whips are the ideal size to plant as they get away quickly and often overtake larger whips. Most 2' whips cost 60p. If they need protection from rabbits, then a cane (12p) and spiral (30p) are needed, and if from deer then a Tubex (£1.80) and stake (£1.50). I will put a few copies of Bucknell's catalogue in the village shop.

Please help yourself to any of the following booklets from the village shop. They are ideal for passing on to children and grandchildren.

Twigged – a Woodland Trust guide to some native trees

Grow a secret garden for butterflies

Get creative for hedgehogs

Big or small, ponds for all

Go Wild for Worms.

If anyone would like advice on tree and hedge planting, pond digging or creating a wildflower meadow please get in touch. I am not an expert but am happy to pass on what I've learnt and to help with planting. Also, please contact me if you would like to come and see our wildlife area at Lower Hardwick. Spring is a good time to visit for blossom and then during late spring and summer the wildflower meadow will be at its best. There are 10 ponds, new hedges, big old hedges, and a wildflower meadow as well as areas of tree planting including most native broadleaf species.

To get inspired, or just to look at beautiful pictures and artwork, there is a wonderful website/blog “We bought a field” by artist Sarah Jameson of South Shropshire who has done something very similar to what we have done but has also written beautifully about it and taken photos as they progressed.

<https://sarahnewinvention.wixsite.com/we-bought-a-field> From the website you can then sign up for notifications of updates which come every few months.

Finally, my usual plea for hedges to be allowed to grow taller. Walking round the lanes between Dilwyn and Weobley there are some luxuriant hedges full of berries, including a lot of beautiful spindle berries. Also, at intervals, young trees have been allowed to grow up. Contrast this with the very short, gappy hedges which are far more common and produce no blossom for insects and hence no berries for birds. Our dwindling wildlife needs all the help it can get.

Di Palmer

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### **EARDISLAND MEMORIAL WALKS**

Pte Ernest Morris served with the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn Kings Shropshire Light Infantry; a so-called Service Battalion, meaning those founded by Lord Kitchener (called the New Army) soon after the outbreak of war. Ernest would have signed up ‘for the duration’.

Ernest was born in Kings Pyon. At the outbreak of war his family lived in Staunton on Arrow. He was a coal miner and it’s safe to assume he worked in the South Wales coalfields while Staunton remained the family home. His name is inscribed on Pembridge’s War Memorial as well as ours.

Given that little is known about Ernest, it was gratifying to receive an email from Michael, his great nephew. Michael found our website and got in touch just this week, providing some relevant background information -

Michael’s grandmother died in 1984 leaving behind a picture of her older brother, Ernest, of whom she and her family were so proud. Also, Ernest’s mother and father are buried together in our churchyard, while another family member lived for a time in Streamford until 1939.

This firm family link to Eardisland could explain Ernest’s inscription on our War Memorial.

Ernest’s commemorative walk, (Walk 12) is about 10 miles in distance, the circular route taking in options to wander the outskirts of Pembridge and Staunton close by the River Arrow. Take a break and climb the motte by Staunton Church, just beyond the Pte Ernest Morris memorial gate, and enjoy a splendid view. Of course, you can drop your car off in either village and enjoy shorter circular walks.

Michael's information about The Memorial Walks' fortune now leaves just 2 pictures of our 13 lads outstanding: Pte William Jones of Bearwood and Pte William Webb of Streamford. Anyone know anyone who knows?... please help if you can.

The project is again well-funded and the aim this year is to create better passage, especially for less abled walkers. If readers come across obstacles such as awkward or shaky stiles or over/undergrowth with high trip risks, please get in touch. The project will seek respective landowner's permission to rectify such defects when necessary and provide materials and manpower to fix the problem.

The aim is to make places better, appreciating and respecting legal access to the countryside, getting closer to nature and understanding wider climate issues - while all the time enhancing health and well-being.

The project is now in its fifth year. Thanks to all those who remember our 13 Fallen by supporting Eardisland Memorial Walks in so many ways, and please continue to do so.



**Pte Ernest Morris fought in some of the hardest battles on the Western Front until he was seriously wounded by a gunshot to the thigh. He died later from his wounds in the Army hospital at Etaples, near Boulogne. He was 23 years old.**

**Hugh Vernon**

## **ROGER FENNA: AN APPRECIATION**

Following the tributes to Roger Fenna which have already appeared in this magazine (Edition 185) I would like to add one more account of his important role in village life. This relates to the ways in which he was able to assist the Oral History Group (OHG) in making films about the parish. As has been mentioned in the earlier comments about his career he had been the leading BBC television cameraman and before retirement had been very involved in a range of memorable and outstanding programmes.

In 1999 a project was devised by the OHG to make three films about village life. One concerned re-enacting some of the lost customs of Eardisland; another to show children how to undertake research into the history of the parish with regard to the people, landmarks and archaeological finds; and yet another about the social history of the parish as seen through the eyes of local people who had witnessed the changes in their lifetimes. For the purposes of our oral history research memories were captured on audio tape, often in meetings in the White Swan. There was an open invitation for people to attend these and be interviewed. As a result, we realised that there was great potential for interesting films to be made based on the theme of continuity and change and we were able to obtain funding from the Lottery Heritage Fund.

Three films were duly made between 1999—2006. Among those who came to our discussion groups, where ideas were debated and scripts written, was Roger Fenna. Whilst at that stage he and Karen were fairly new to the village, it soon became apparent that we had amongst us someone who had great knowledge and experience in film making. Initially, I am not sure that we quite realised how eminent he was in this field, but fortunately we were able to persuade him to become involved in our project. We managed to obtain a small professional film company to make the films for whom we had to provide working scripts and assure them that we had sufficient help from villagers to complete them.

Roger came regularly to our meetings where in conversations we learned something of his background as cameraman in television. We therefore took advantage of his skills by asking him to give us advice about how to work in front of a camera, how to improve our scripts and how to maintain high standards in production. Roger was able to give us much practical practice in rehearsal sessions with helpful suggestions and guidance. At the start of a session he would say, "Before filming begins, just remember to look happy and confident." The technical advice that followed ensured that when the professional film making team arrived, we enjoyed the experience and were more relaxed in performing to camera. It was only later that we learned of his work with so many of the top shows on the BBC, from Victoria Wood to Top of the Pops, when we spotted his name on the credits and realised how fortunate we were in having his input into our history project.

Our films were duly made and played to audiences in the village hall and many copies sold. There is no doubt that the success we achieved reflected the enthusiasm of our history group – and from a technical point of view the skilful work that Roger provided in advising and guiding us. We all enjoyed his company greatly and are pleased to be able to record the role he played in our work at that time.

Paul Selfe

### **WHO WAS THE FIRST UPSIDE DOWN FLYER IN ENGLAND WITH AN EARDISLAND CONNECTION?**

In the last edition of this Parish Magazine (No. 185) I described the fact that we once had, in Eardisland, two squadron leaders living within a few hundred metres of each other. One had lived in Staick House and the other in a property now demolished on which the Glebe Cottages now stand. In the article I raised the question as to whether or not one of them, Sqd Ldr. Arthur B. W. Greenhough MC (of Staick House) had been the first pilot to fly upside down in England. The possibility, that if it was not him it may have been another family member, was mentioned by someone who had known his son Francis and who had enjoyed discussing such issues with him.

I wondered if Sqd Ldr. Gwynne Price (also once of Eardisland who as a young man of 19, flew many missions in Lancaster bombers) had any relevant information. He kindly looked into the matter examining several sources and records. He concluded, from his research, that there was no evidence to show that Arthur Greenough had been the first to have achieved the feat. Gwynne provided the names of several other pilots who had been recorded as having flown upside down in the early days of aviation between 1913-14. I was grateful, therefore, to receive new information from a reader of the Parish Magazine, Alistair Wood. He wrote to clear up the mystery of the 'upside down flyer' who had a connection with the Greenhough family. Several members had lived in Staick House from 1909 when Arthur and his brother Edward bought the property, until 2019, when Arthur's only son Francis, died. Alistair writes with regard to the mystery flyer, *"This was not actually Arthur B. W. Greenhough MC, who so far as I know, remained with the Shropshire Light Infantry throughout the war"*. He went on to provide information as to who it actually was. Alistair noted that it was whilst in this regiment that he won the MC for outstanding bravery. Arthur's citation on his award of the MC published in the Times said, *"Lieut. Arthur Basil Wickham Greenhough, 6th Bn King's (Shropshire L.I.) for conspicuous gallantry. As battalion signalling officer he crawled out during the hottest part of a bombardment by the enemy and repaired the telephone wires, which were*

*repeatedly broken. He was four and a half hours under fire, but successfully maintained communications. He was also awarded an MBE in 1919.*

Another family member, Robert Banks suggested that towards the end of WW1 Arthur had transferred over to the Royal Naval Air Service which merged with Royal Flying Corps (to become RAF in 1918). This may have been due to his being gassed or injured. After the war he set up as an architect (designing the War memorial in Eardisland and at least one property in the village); though Robert believes that somewhere along the line he also developed a factory producing magnetos for aircraft. Margaret Milchard also helpfully undertook research and noted that his military record is held at the National Archives under the reference AIR 76/194/141.

Gwynne Price examined these records which suggested that Arthur had certainly also been in the RFC/RAF. In 1917 he had special qualifications in aeroplane repairs; he was skilled in electrical systems and undertook courses in aerial gunnery and in pilot training. During, or prior to WW2, it seems that he was recalled by the RAF to serve in a civilian capacity and was promoted to Pilot Officer and Squadron Leader.

### **The mystery solved**

However, for all his great talents, Alistair reveals that in fact, *'The 'upside-down flyer' was not Arthur, but the uncle of Francis Greenhough, George Lee Temple (1892-1914), who predeceased the birth of Francis (b 1929).'*"



**George Lee Temple**



Alistair explained that it was George who was officially the first person to fly upside down in England (which records show was on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1913). His attempt to repeat the feat in January 1914 resulted in his death; (he was also probably the youngest person to fly from Paris to London). He was 21. He was dubbed 'The Baby Airman', with hundreds attending his funeral. Such was his fame that his portrait is in the National Portrait Gallery in London. Alistair recalls that his grandfather (J.A.Wood), with Arthur Greenhough, managed to spirit away the wooden propellor of one of the planes he flew, from Shobdon airfield at the end of the first World War. Whereas it once hung on the walls of the billiard room in Staick House, it is now to be found on the wall of Alistair's home.



### **The story of George Lee Temple**

George Lee Temple's life story is a fascinating one and adds more details to the history of the Greenough family who lived in Staick House. Francis Greenhough (1929-2019) was the last member to live there. His mother, Mary Temple, had sadly died soon after his birth. She had been well-known, as an elegant beauty and fashion model in the 1920s. She was the aunt of George Lee Temple. He was described as a daredevil in the early days of aviation and his dangerous shows attracted big crowds. He was born in Acton on August 11, 1892. He was the youngest son of Lieutenant George Theodore Temple RN, Knight of the Order of St Olaf, FRGS. The King of Sweden and Norway had

decorated Lieutenant Temple in 1900, for his services in surveying the Norwegian Coast. Temple's mother was Phillipa, daughter of Herr Schwensen, of Hasvig, Norway. He was a nephew of the Right Honourable Sir Richard Temple MP.

It is apparent that George Lee Temple was a young man of his time, initially attracted by the newly developing motor industry (as a keen racing motor cyclist from an early age). He left school to train as an engineer in the Midlands but became attracted to the developing opportunities in aviation. He first learnt to fly a Caudron bi-plane and in 1913 he received his Aero Club certificate and helped to establish a flying club in Hendon in north London. Between 1908 and 1968 this was an important centre for aviation.



**A Caudron bi-plane of the type in which  
George Lee Temple learnt to fly**

Hendon's connection with aviation began in 1909; in that year Everett & Edgcombe, built an aeroplane. By October 1910 a large area had been cleared and other organisations were using the airfield, including a school founded by Louis Bleriot, the first person to fly an aeroplane across the English Channel. George Lee Temple's successful attempt to fly upside down was made at Hendon using the Bleriot XI-2 in November 1913.



Bleriot XI-2.

However, it is reported that George was involved in two crashes in 1913. On one occasion he had taken a Bleriot monoplane from the aerodrome at Hendon and suffered a malfunction causing the plane to fall 40 feet to the ground. Although it was badly damaged, he was not and when people rushed to the site, they found him calmly smoking a cigarette among the wreckage. He was flying again in a few days' time. On another occasion he had a forced landing and whilst he was uninjured, the plane became wedged between trees which took many hours to recover. Nonetheless, on November 25<sup>th</sup> 1913, Temple became the first aviator to successfully fly upside down in England. (Bentfield Charles Hucks is recognised as the first Englishman to do so, in France 10 days before on November 15<sup>th</sup>). Huge crowds (as many as 6000) came to watch Temple's acrobatic exhibition flights paying sixpence each to enter the landing ground.

A report describes his record-breaking flight and how fortunate he was to survive it. *"After take-off, Temple attempted the loop by going into a steep dive from a turn. Unfortunately, the tail of the Bleriot continued to swing over after the machine had passed beyond the vertical. This caused an inverted sideslip from which Temple did not know how to recover. Luckily the nose swung downwards of its own accord and the machine resumed a normal vertical dive, from which Temple was able to pull out with a few feet to spare".*

The author of the article in Flight (29.11.1913) said, *"He set out to do it or die. I quite realise what his feelings must have been at that moment, when he said to himself, 'It is five to three now, when it is five past, I will do it,' 'Now or never'. Had it been me, it would have been never; but Temple pushed the nose of the machine down, and in thirty seconds he had won through - he had flown upside-down and was safely landed. It was a splendid feat for one with only*

*such small experience as he, and he had not any very definite knowledge as to whether he had really been upside-down or not, and none at all as to how he got back again, as he admits himself; but there were some on the ground with experience sufficient to judge, who will agree with me that he is very lucky to be alive, and wish with me that he will now be satisfied and leave it alone - at any rate, for a time..... He is clever, he has pluck and nerve, and will make a first-rate pilot - if he will only try not to go too fast."*

Another journalist in The Times (January 1914) said, *"The performance was an extremely plucky one, considering that he had carried out the necessary alterations to the machine himself with the aid of a mechanic, but he was generally considered to have been lucky to escape with his life on that occasion. He was a clever pilot, with unlimited nerve, but used to say jokingly that he was sure that he would kill himself someday."*

### **Upside Down Flight at Hendon**

A press report described Lee Temple's feat:

*"The English Airman Mr Lee Temple succeeded in flying upside down at the Hendon Aerodrome. The day was beautifully clear, and in calm weather he ascended between 4,000 ft and 5,000 ft, before attempting the manoeuvre. Then he dived vertically, and, turning the machine beyond the vertical, flew upside down for several seconds. He plunged some 900 ft before righting the monoplane, after which he descended to the ground. Only about 20 or 30 people saw yesterday's performance, which constitutes the first flight of its kind by an Englishman in England. Mr Temple, on recovery from a motor-cycle accident early this year, went to Hendon and obtained his flying certificate on February 18<sup>th</sup>. He then carried on a flying school, which he gave up in order to go in for exhibition flying. His best flight was Paris to London with three stops last month. The Bleriot machine was used yesterday practically as it had been turned out by the maker for ordinary flight, except that additional wires had been fitted to bear the extra strain on the wings when inverted and a larger elevator to make 'flattening out' easier. Mr Temple will try to 'loop the loop'" (The Times, 25.11.1913)*

Although he had successfully become the first Englishman to fly upside-down in Britain, the loop still eluded him. According to a note in *Flight*, Temple *"Wisely listened to the advice of older pilots that his machine was not quite suited to the strain put upon it and had decided to give up all thought of looping the loop till he could get a machine from Bleriot specially designed for the purpose."* However, this did not mean that George Lee Temple refrained from 'aerobatics'. He continued to take risks.

On Sunday January 25, 1914, he insisted on going down to the aerodrome at Hendon to make an exhibition flight. The weather was cold and gusty. He was still recovering from flu which had kept him bedridden for two weeks. His father advised him against it, but he told him, '*Father, you can trust me*'.

### **The final flight of George Lee Temple**

There was a crowd of over 100 people watching. He took off in his 50 hp Gnome powered Bleriot. It was to be his final flight which ended in a crash on Hendon airfield.

*A witness said, "I was standing at the door of my office watching Mr Lee Temple making one of his customary daring descents. The flying was, practically over for the day, and the public was leaving the ground. For ten minutes he flew round the enclosures at 500 feet ascending and descending at very steep angles and then came down to 150 feet. At this height he flew level for about 200 yards, and then his engine suddenly stopped. The Bleriot went into a steep dive, passed beyond the vertical and executed a complete loop. I noticed that Mr Lee Temple had descended to about 100 yards from the ground in an almost perpendicular position, and just as he was about to make a turn for landing a gust of wind caught the tail part of the 50 hp Bleriot monoplane in which he had been flying and turned it completely over. Unable to bring the plane to a horizontal in order to land, his machine fell to the ground. He landed upside down in the middle of the aerodrome. It was most unfortunate that he was not higher in the air when the mishap occurred, for it is almost certain that had he been he could have righted himself. In fact, the machine would probably have righted itself without any assistance from the pilot, for the manner in which the 50 hp Bleriot monoplanes are constructed would practically assure it..."*

Lee Temple died from his injuries, (which included a broken neck) at the age of 21. The report submitted by the Public Safety and Accidents Investigation Committee of the Royal Aero Club concluded that the medical evidence established beyond reasonable doubt that Temple had lost consciousness in the air. Dr Leakey stated, in his opinion, he had incurred the gravest risk by flying in his poor state of health and concluded that he was in no doubt that Temple had fainted from the cold and fell forward on to the control column. Though almost certainly unconscious at the time, it is ironic to note that he appears to have been successful in looping the loop as his plane descended although almost certainly unconscious. It was the first fatal accident that had occurred on this airfield. Flight magazine remembered Temple as, "*A very promising pilot who was coming on tremendously in his flying.*" The report by the Public Safety and Accidents Investigation Committee of the Royal Aero Club was published in the issue of February 7<sup>th</sup>, 1914.

It was reported that the funeral in Acton a few days later was very well attended. He was buried in a family plot, being joined there by his mother in 1924 and his father in 1935. It has been noted that George Lee Temple's memorial is the most ornate of the three; one of the floral tributes to him was in the shape of a monoplane adorned with an angel and the words:

**'Now gallant boy pursue thy happy flight with swifter motion  
haste to purer light.'**

It would be interesting to know if George Lee Temple ever flew to Shobdon and visited his relatives in Staick House, an event which would add another dimension to the fascinating story of the Greenhough family.

Paul Selfe

**Note:** *In writing this article I am grateful to Sqd.Ldr. Gwynne Price for his detailed researches; Alistair Wood and Robert Banks for the information they provided from family records and memories; also to aviation historian Nick Forder for references and sources and Margaret Milchard for her initial researches which provided much helpful introductory data.*

### **EARDISLAND WEATHER REPORT**

The weather for Eardisland in November saw the first frost of the month on the 2nd day. The weather remained fairly dry apart from a brief visit by storm Arwen on the 27th which brought with it 12mm (0.47inches) of rain adding to a grand total of 27mm (1.06 inches) for the month. Barometer pressures ranged from 29.14 to 30.02 and temperatures of 4 to 15 degrees °C were recorded. The river levels varied from 12 to 28 inches.

December's rainfall was increased to 73mm (2.87 inches). This was mainly due to storm Barra on the 7th bringing with it 38mm (2.87 inches) of rain. Barometer pressures ranged from 29.00 to 30.34 and temperatures from 5 to 15°C. The river rose from 12 to 44 inches during the month.

The equivalent rainfall for 2020 was: November, 55mm (2.16inches) and December 145mm (5.71inches). The total rainfall for 2021 was 756.84 mm (29.81inches) and for interest the total rainfall for 2020 was 1047mm (41.25inches).

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 4<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022**



Substantial trees were found to have been hollowed out and in danger of falling behind Toad Hall (formerly Ruscote). Western Power judged the situation to be dangerous and power was cut to houses in that area of the village to enable tree surgeons to remove the danger on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January. There are plans to replant trees as appropriate.

***Photo: Patricia Gill***

