

EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2022

ISSUE 190



EARDISLAND DUCK RACES

SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST 2022

Duck Masters Reg Curtis and David Millin with Duck Starters Penny Baldwin and Sandy Ross.

This popular event takes place annually on the Sunday of August Bank Holiday.

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EDITORIAL

It is with great sadness that I have to report the death of Alan Newcombe. I have agreed with the family that the obituary is more appropriately printed in the Eardisland Parish Magazine after the funeral. You should be able to read it in the November edition. As a community, our condolences go to Alan's family and friends.

The two big events at the end of the summer, the Duck Races and Village Show, were each a great success. There is commentary elsewhere in the magazine but suffice to say that a great deal of planning and organisation go into these events. So, well done to all involved.

Please note the entry on page 8 about the proposed closure of Church Road. This is for a relatively short time but will cause considerable inconvenience to residents on, or leading to, this road. It would be wise to plan carefully.

I understand that there is a new exhibition in the Dovecote's display area upstairs. This Heritage Centre has been re-vamped and is worth a visit. Thanks to Paul Selfe for the information.

Finally, after a long, hot and very dry summer it looks as though rain is on the way (at the time of writing). Looking at the news from around the world, it seems that floods and heatwaves are increasingly common. The climate IS changing, and changing fast. I hope our new Prime Minister, Ms Truss, will take this seriously and continue with the commitments that have been made. It is too serious a matter for petty nationalism. We shall see.

Chris Bivand

EARDISLAND PARISH DIARY 2022

Saturday 1 st October	Craft and Produce Fair, p.18
Saturday 1 st October	Grey Wolf Gig, p.11
11 th – 13 th October	Church Road Closure, p. 8
Thursday 13 th October	Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 10 th November	Parish Council Meeting
Friday 18th November	Magazine Copy Date
Thursday 8 th December	Parish Council Meeting (if required)

I have submitted dates for 2023 to Eardisland Parish Council for approval. I have printed the dates below. Please note that these dates are not final until they are approved. I have printed them to give a guide only. The finalised dates will be in the November edition.

EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

PROPOSED DATES FOR 2023

Copy Date	Probable Distribution Date
Friday 6 th January	Friday 20 th January
Friday 3 rd March	Friday 17 th March
Friday 5 th May	Friday 19 th May
Friday 30 th June	Friday 14 th July
Friday 1 st September	Friday 15 th September
Friday 17 th November	Friday 1 st December

If you are planning an event in the village, please bear in mind that the distribution dates for the magazine are dependent upon a number of factors. If, for example, there is a technical breakdown at the printer, then the distribution will be delayed. It is always better to advertise events well in advance in case there is a problem with the distribution of the hard copy.

However, the magazine is published on the Eardisland website – just go to the website and look under ‘Community’. The magazine is identical to the printed version, other than the centre pages show colour, whilst the printed copy is in monochrome.

As always, copy before the copy date is much appreciated.

Chris Bivand

PARISH COUNCIL (PC) UPDATE:

1. This is my first Parish Council update since I took over from Alison on 1 July (it seems like only yesterday!).

The parish clerk email address stays the same, parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk. Please note the new postal address and phone number - Westgate, Eardisland, Herefordshire, HR6 9AR, 07799 826779. The details are also on the website.

2. Sadly, a number of benches have been removed as they were in a dangerous condition and are unreparable. Plaques from these benches have been retained and it is hoped to install them on a new bench. Several parishioners have kindly offered to donate a replacement bench in memory of a loved one or just to improve the parish. **Would you like to donate a replacement bench?** If so, please contact the Parish Clerk.
3. **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 07799 826779 for a copy of the Plan.
4. **Sandbags.** For financial reasons, the PC will not be providing sandbags in future. Herefordshire Council website states “We do not provide sandbags for individual domestic use. We may provide sandbags for strategic deployment during flooding - for the protection of essential services such as electricity or water supplies. When used correctly sandbags can provide some protection from flood waters. Note that sandbags are only effective for water up to about 20cm/8" deep.”
There are a number of local builders’ merchants in Leominster and Hereford that supply sandbags and several online suppliers offer free delivery.
5. River swimming can be fun, but it can also be dangerous. If you see someone in trouble, the life buoy on Arrow Lawn can be accessed by anyone in an emergency.
6. **Fence in playground.** Some time ago the fence that surrounded the play equipment in the playground had to be removed as it had become unsafe. The PC is unable to replace this for financial reasons. If you would be

- interested in contributing to the cost of a replacement fence, please contact the Parish Clerk.
7. Would you like a Safety Check on your house? Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service provide FREE fire safety advice to everyone. A Safe and Well Check can be carried out for the more vulnerable such as elderly, people living alone and those with reduced mobility. Ring 0800 032 1155 to arrange a visit.
 8. Come and join the Environment and Sustainability Working Group. All welcome – please contact the Parish Clerk if you wish to attend.
 9. ***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 and we will be pleased to bring you one.
 10. 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.
 11. The following planning applications have been considered or noted at the July meeting: **P222143/K**, Orchard Cottage, HR6 9BJ – Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Large Conifer tree with a compromised trunk needing removal. Several Conifer trees to be lowered and topped again to gain safety and light. Support and request removed tree is replaced with a native species. **P214073/F**, Land adjacent to Arrow Lea, HR6 9BU – 6 no. dwellings with garages – Re-consultation on amended and additional documents. Clerk instructed to submit additional response combining previous PC responses with additional comments. Noted - **P221480/K** Staick House Eardisland Leominster Herefordshire HR6 9BU - T1 - Group of Mixed Species Ash, Hawthorn and Yew bordering on Lyme Lane. To be Crown Raised to approx. 6.5 Metres from Ground Level. T2 - Multi-Stemmed Sycamore (opposite side of the road to Staick House) To Reduce/coppice to Wall Height. T3- Cherry Laurel by Entrance to Fell. T4 - Yew in the Front Garden of Staick House, to be Reduced all Round by 20% – Trees in Cons Area - Works Can Proceed.
 12. 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.

Debbie Cottam

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT

from your local County Councillor ROGER PHILLIPS

rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

Many thanks to all of you who responded to the recent planning consultation and the proposals to remove house building status from the village due to environmental reasons. I anticipate further proposals later this year. In the meantime, the existing Core Strategy remains the substantive planning decision document.

2021 CENSUS POPULATION RESULTS FOR HEREFORDSHIRE

Apart from 1941, a 10-year census has taken place in this country since 1811 and the preliminary results of the 2021 census and estimates were published a few weeks ago. The population of Herefordshire has risen to 187,100 a rise of 3,600 people which is an increase of 2% on 2011. However, that is a slower rate than England and Wales which saw on average an increase of 6.6%.

With approximately 86 people per square kilometre, Herefordshire has the fourth lowest population density out of all the counties in England. (equivalent to two football pitches per person).

The number of children under 15 has decreased by 4.3% over the last ten years compared to a national increase of 5%.

The number of people aged between 15 to 64 has declined by 4.1% compared to 13.6% increase nationally

The number of over 65-year-olds and over on the other hand has increased by 24.1% in the last ten years compared to 20.1% nationally.

There are 4,500 more households in the county than in 2011 – up by 5.7% compared to a national increase of 6.1%.

Herefordshire has a higher proportion of residents in their early fifties and above and lower proportions of young people. There are more females and males reflecting the national pattern with 97 men to every 100 women (96 in England & Wales).

This information clearly paints a picture of the future pressures on our public services – particularly local health and care, and some of the challenges ahead for our local economy, housing market and education system.

Many concerns are continually expressed about speeding traffic and the risks to pedestrians and other drivers. While we discuss potential reduction measures and enforcement the most important element is to continue to educate and re-educate drivers on the risks and responsibilities they have. Next month all rising 16-year-olds in the county will have been invited via their schools to Hereford & Worcester Fire Services' annual "Dying to Drive "event in Leominster - sadly not all our high schools co-operate. This event graphically recreates a road accident with the use of very realistic make up. It pulls no punches and together with sessions afterwards on speeding, cycling, and general safety awareness is one of the best education experiences that potential drivers can have. It is something that needs to be repeated to us all.

I have contacted both our local MPs to urge them to lobby the Government in the forthcoming Transport Bill to require better use of Satnavs. Drivers of HGVs and heavy vehicles should be required to use specialist Satnav devices which include bridge heights, narrow roads and roads unsuitable for heavy vehicles. They allow the driver to input lorry's dimensions – height, width, weight and load- so they are guided along suitable roads.

Please don't wait for winter if you can see poor highway surfacing and potholes now is the time to get them dealt with. Please report potholes on Herefordshire Council website and download the pothole app to help report potholes:

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/potholes>

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/e3b2b34e/ttjzBlvlfEewR-39NN73dA?u=https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole>

Footpaths issues –

- PROW - PROW@herefordshire.gov.uk
- PROW No – 01432 383 550

Report fly-tipping

It will be dealt with in a much quicker time frame, by either calling the Contact Centre on 01432 261800 or by logging the fly-tipping via the council website on the links below:

https://link.edgepilot.com/s/f452e836/Hy5YWk_SgEGkleekL2ROFQ?u=https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200226/report_a_problem/98/fly_tipping

Roger

CLOSURE OF CHURCH ROAD

The Parish Council have been advised that Welsh Water will be replacing an existing Stop Tap in Church Road which will require the road to be temporarily closed. The anticipated start date is 11 October, ending on 13 October 2022.

Debbie Cottam

MORTIMER MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

A great many people are asking why music is being played at the doctors' surgery. This is the explanation from Fiona Harper, the Practice Manager, which hopefully clarifies the situation. Following a serious incident and possible confidentiality breach it has been necessary to mitigate any future risk. Kingsland and Orleton Surgeries are older in design and did not consider this when built. Leintwardine Surgery has the waiting area behind reception and away from clinical rooms so there is less risk of conversations being heard..

A tried and tested method throughout the country is playing music in communal areas. We purchased the necessary licences and have introduced this to the two surgeries mentioned. We do understand that not all the music genres are to individual taste - we cannot suit everyone. We try and opt where a signal is possible to play a local station as others including Radio 2 and Classic FM have attracted a lot of negative feedback.

Flu and Covid updates:

The surgery is embarking on delivering its own Flu and Covid booster vaccinations this Autumn. The clinics will be set up during the first 3 Saturdays in October for the over 65s and clinically at-risk patients, this will be dependent on delivery of stock.

Patients will receive a letter inviting them to book an appointment if they fall into this cohort. At the time of booking patients will be asked if they require the Covid booster, so the Practice can ensure they have enough stock.

The Government has added the over 50s to this year's round of vaccinations, and that delivery should be later in October. Those eligible will be sent out invitations to book an appointment. Fiona wishes to emphasise that this year the Practice is not operating a walk-in clinic. It is appointment only and appointment times need to be adhered to. This is to aid waiting times for patients and congestion on local roads and carparks.

If anyone has any concerns or issues they wish me to discuss at the PPG meetings please contact me. All discussions are anonymous.

Diane Lee
01544387685

EARDISLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



We're up and running, Eardisland has a registered Neighbourhood Watch scheme again. Thank you to those who have already signed up, and to those who haven't done so, please consider it. For those who don't know much about it, nationally, Neighbourhood Watch is the largest voluntary crime prevention movement with upwards of 2.3 million household members. The charity brings neighbours together to create strong, friendly and active communities in which crime can be tackled. Neighbourhood Watch Network is the umbrella organization supported by the Home Office to support Neighbourhood Watch groups and individuals across England and Wales. It's not just about working together to prevent crime, it's also about working together to build a stronger community

Neighbourhood Watch groups work in partnership with the police, corporate companies with aligned values, voluntary organisations and individuals who want to improve their communities. Neighbourhood Watch aims to help people protect themselves and their properties and to reduce the fear of crime by means of improved home security, greater vigilance, accurate reporting of suspicious incidents and fostering a community spirit as well as tackling new forms of crime such as cybercrime.

If you are interested in joining this scheme, you will need to become a member and then join the Eardisland scheme using the following link <https://members.ourwatchmember.org.uk/join> to register by providing your personal details. Once you have done that and you are in your account, select the 'Manage Schemes' option in the 'dropdown' under 'Neighbourhood Watch Tools' in the top banner on the page, then click on the yellow 'JOIN OR APPLY TO CREATE A NEW SCHEME' bar and follow the process, selecting Eardisland to join this scheme and gain access to regular security hints as well as discounted security equipment and home insurance.

If you do not have a computer do not worry, drop me a line or give me a call with your name, address and contact details so I can arrange your membership; once I have your details, I will arrange for hardcopy updates to be delivered. Please contact me if you are interested in joining our scheme and have any questions.

Joe Logan

Westgate, Eardisland HR6 9AR, Phone: 01544 388878
Email: eardisland_neighbourhood_watch@hotmail.com (please note the 2 underscores)

CPR / DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

There will be a CPR & Defibrillator training session held at the Village Hall on Thursday 6th October at 6.30pm. The session will be conducted by West Midlands Ambulance Service and is free and **OPEN TO ALL** – but please let the Parish Clerk know if you wish to attend so that we have an indication of numbers.

Have you considered being a community responder for the defibrillator located in the old phone box? Information will be provided at the end of the training session for those interested.

Debbie Cottam

EARDISLAND VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - CHARITY 1108366

Those of you who are regular readers of this estimable publication will know that my sleep and sanity is often troubled by thoughts of the electricity and gas bills for our village hall. The current rise in utility prices is not helping! However, the fabulous Eardisland Duck Race on August Bank Holiday Sunday has certainly helped.

2021 was a stellar year for the Duck Race as we made more money than ever before. Well, in 2022 we have topped that amount, not by much it is true but nevertheless Where would we be without our fabulous volunteers and their families? They are all stars and we thank them heartily.

It was a lovely occasion, the sun shone, the ducks behaved themselves, the cakes and strawberries were delicious, the tombola sold out and the children loved the Big Duck and the Lucky Dip. It was really great to see so many families there.

We are, as ever in debt to those people who brought the Duck Race back to life and ran it for so many years. The bench by the leet pays tribute to them.

As I type the Village Show is in preparation and, a new venture, the Village Dog Show will take place at the same time. EVHMC are always on the lookout for new events to raise funds it is true, but, more importantly, to give the village a chance to come together. Let us know if you have any ideas and, if we can get the volunteers to help, we will have a go.

The new kitchen at the hall is a huge success. It makes catering for events so much easier and safer. We are still waiting for the last phase of the work, some remedial work to the cladding and replacement of the windows to meet the original specification. Fingers crossed we will not have to wait too long.

Just something else to worry about

Carole Millin
For EVHMC

EARDISLAND W.I.

Our last meeting before the August summer break was in the garden at The Old Barn. It was one of the hottest days of the summer, so rather than playing the usual game of Boules or Croquet we were content to sit under the shade of the trees, enjoying a cup of tea and cake, whilst just chatting and relaxing. However, beforehand we all raised a glass of wine to toast Helen, as it was her birthday.

But now, after an exceptionally hot, dry summer we are looking forward to getting together again for our autumn programme starting on 12th September with a very topical talk about Bees, 'Creating a Buzz' given by Meriet Duncan. In October, the Discover History group from Worcester will be with us to give an interactive talk on the 'Tudor Apothecary, Medicine and Surgery' whilst in November we will welcome Christine and Gloria who have recently moved to Eardisland, and they will demonstrate how to cook a traditional Jamaican meal. So, hopefully an interesting and varied programme prior to the Christmas festivities.

We meet in the Village Hall on the second Monday in the month at 2.30pm and if anyone would like to join, or just coming along for a taster session, then please contact either Helen, Diane, Wendy or Rita.

Rita Kirby
On behalf of the Eardisland WI

GREY WOLF GIG AT CEDAR HALL, DILWYN

On Saturday 1st October, we are delighted to welcome Grey Wolf, a four-piece band with their own brand of American Old Time Music.

All four members join in with vocals and harmonies accompanied by their own multi-instrumental playing on banjo, guitar, fiddle, double bass, mandolin and dulcimer.

They are well known on the local scene and have appeared on radio, in folk clubs and festivals.

We hope that you will come along and support this event.

Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Cabaret seating. Bring your own bottle!

Tickets £10 in advance please or on the door (subject to availability)

**Ruth Davies on 07791907912
email: ruthdavies2010@gmail.com**

MEASURING WATER QUALITY IN THE RIVER ARROW AT EARDISLAND



A Sonde water quality monitoring device has been placed by the Environment Agency in the River Arrow in Eardisland.

Sondes are remote water quality measuring units, which are comprised of a probe placed in a waterbody and a unit that collects and transmits data in real time. Data is cleaned prior to analysis by omitting erroneous measurements caused by probe fouling or sensor malfunctions.

Information from the Sonde on the River Arrow at Eardisland will provide data for future reports on the River Wye catchment water quality. Below is a link to the website that gives access to data on all the Sondes placed in the R. Wye catchment are:

[www.https://telemetry-data.com/open?profile=riverwye](https://telemetry-data.com/open?profile=riverwye)

Having accessed the website, read the terms and conditions. Once you have read them, select “accept terms” then select “continue”. You will then see a page appear with an introduction to what is being measured by the sondes. Keep scrolling down to find the sonde you are interested in: “ARROW EARDISLAND”. Click on the name of the sonde to make that the active graph and the ribbon along the top should turn blue. Then click on the little arrow in the far right of the blue ribbon.

This should open up a drop-down box. Here you can access the data in table form or show the location of the sonde on a map. If you click on the square this opens up the graph on a page by itself and so easier to view the data.

Debbie Cottam



A massive thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Eardisland Village Show and Fun Day. Below are the winners of the much-coveted trophies....

Cookery- Margaret Walker
Bread (men)- Chris Bivand
Bread (women)- Elaine Harper
Drinks- Emma Wilde
Craft- Emily Thorp
Floral Art- Marie Lloyd

Les Evans prize- Mavis Tantrum
Megan Lloyd trophy- Anna Lewis
Horticulture Div 1- Mavis Tantrum
Horticulture Div 2- Ruth Brinton-Bivand
Art- Caroline Marsden
Photography- Kathleen Freeman
Children under 5- No entries this year
Children 5-11- Ben Lloyd and James South
Children 12-15- Emily Thorp
Overall Junior winner- Emily Thorp
Overall Show winner- Marie Lloyd

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!

Jo South and the Village Show Team

FUN DOG SHOW

A recent event held alongside the Eardisland Village Show was a 'Fun Dog Show'. Included in the classes were 'The Dog with the Waggiest Tail' and 'The Dog Looking Most Like Its Owner'!

The 'Best in Show' was won by a Scottish Terrier. A grand total of 33 Dogs entered the competition which was kindly sponsored by the Leominster Pet Shop and judged by Sam from Positive Dog Training. Adding to the excitement was a speed trial known as the 'Scurry' which was won by Roy, a beautiful Border Collie from the village, who jumped the straw bales in a fantastic 3.2 seconds!

The photograph below shows the 'Best Young Handlers' 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners. We hope everyone enjoyed their day out and we look forward to running this event again next year.



Susie Curtis
Kay Eames

CHURCH MATTERS

All are most welcome to services and will find a friendly and caring community. Come along and find out more; contact us too, if you are interested.

If you would like to volunteer to read a lesson, lead prayers, become a welcomer, sing, play, look after the church in any way or choose a hymn for a special occasion, please let us know.

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 in the Benefice

Date	Time and type	Which church?
Sun 4 th September	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sun 11 th September	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sun 18 th September	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sun 25 th September	9.30am Morning Prayer	Eardisland
Thurs 29 th Sept	6.30pm St Michael and All Angels Patronal Festival	Kingsland
Sun 2 nd October	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sun 9 th October	9.30am I sing Pop	Eardisland
Sun 16th October	9.30am Harvest Festival followed by Lunch at 12	Eardisland
Sun 23 rd October	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sun 30 th October	10.30am Benefice Service ALL SAINTS DAY	Kingsland
Sun 6 th November	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland

FROM JULIE READ

I hope that you have been able to have a holiday, or some time of restoration over the Summer as the weather has been conducive to this, although the land is parched, and the effects of climate change are really beginning to take effect now across the world. September always marks the beginning of a new academic year and with it our children and grandchildren start a new class, or school, or college or university, or go out into the world of work. Prayers are said in church for the beginning of the new year, and Education Sunday on the 18th September will this year be at Kingsland Church at 11am with the children from Kingsland Primary School. There are 3 governors from Eardisland who serve Kingsland School: Wendy Priday, Shelley Connop and Anna Lewis, as Eardisland is part of the foundation of Kingsland School after Eardisland School closed.

There was a meeting at Aymestrey in the Summer for our group of parishes about Ukraine, and Emma Kenchington, who has 3 guests from the Ukraine, gave an interesting insight into the experience, and the reality of the situation after the first 6 months of refugees from Ukraine locally. The situation is no longer headline news every day, but now it is not just the men that are staying behind to fight, but women also are fighting and those fleeing Ukraine are no longer just women and children, but older folk and some men. There are English lessons going on in Leominster and Ludlow, and Emma praised Hereford Council for their help and information surrounding practicalities. There is a need for conversational practice for the adults, the children are very adept at picking up

English very quickly and the schools seem to have embraced those coming into the schools well. Each of our communities have links with the situation in Ukraine and if you have any information to share in how we can help others, please do send me an email: rev.julie@hotmail.com

Our theme for the coming year in Church is that of Pilgrimage – the journeys of faith that many of us are on in whatever guise. We all come this September with our own journeys up to this point, and I love to hear others tell their stories of how they ended up where they are now. But none of us stand still, and I wonder what you think important as you journey on through this year? I have found that many have walked pilgrimage paths, and found new insights on the way. The pilgrim path to Santiago de Compostela is one that many have travelled, whether in sections or taken time out to walk the whole journey. Maybe a definition of pilgrimage might be a journey away from the normalities of life, to be open to what is beyond. This is often a shared journey, and the company of others feeds us too.

We are starting a couple of NEW initiatives in the church this coming academic year: the first is a Book Club – taking a book of the Bible a month and reading it, and then gathering to share the insights we have found. This will be on the 2nd Tuesday evening of each month and will be in Eardisland or you can join by zoom. SEPTEMBER is the book of JONAH. If you would be interested in being in at the start of this new group, please send me an email or speak to Richard, Annette, or Rosie.

Secondly after the great success of I Sing Pop with the children of Kingsland School in July, we are starting an I Sing Pop service in Eardisland on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 9.30am starting on October 9th. Actually, due to Remembrance, there will be just this service and one in December this term. This will be something VERY different, and be led by the families, so do come along and share in this new exciting adventure.

Or if you want something a bit more traditional come along to the Harvest Festival on Sunday 16th October at 9.30am. There will be a lunch in church on the same day at 12noon, so do come along to both or either and give thanks to God for the harvest this year. We will be collecting for the FOOD BANK as part of our Church Harvest, and we have received the latest update from Leominster concerning the great need for the food bank at this time, and a specific list of things to give this coming harvest time. You can put your donations at the back of the church by the font and they will be taken to Leominster. Or do use the collection points in Leominster if that is easier for you.

Leominster Food Bank needs:

(In tins) meat, fish, potatoes, carrots, peas, sweetcorn, baked beans, tomatoes, soup, rice pudding, fruit, small bags sugar, jam, squash, tea bags (40s in foil),

long life milk (green or blue pack), ketchup, stock cubes, pasta sauce, coffee, cereal.

Household and personal items:

shampoo, deodorant, sanitary pads, toilet rolls, washing up liquid, bin bags, cleaning spray.

NO PASTA or RICE needed.

I look forward to catching up with some of you at the Craft Fair at the beginning of October. Do come and introduce yourself to me (I will be the one in the dog collar) as the Covid lockdowns over the past couple of years has meant that I have been less visible at the heart of Eardisland, and I would like to catch up on that.

HOT off the PRESS our curate Rev Katie Smith has passed her level 2 sign language course and is embarking on the next level. She is deaf chaplain for the diocese and involved in helping the deaf to access the things of the Christian Faith. If you know anyone who needs this ministry do email her.

CONGRATULATIONS KATIE!

With every blessing on your journeys of life

Julie



Coffee Morning

The Haywain, Lyde Arundel,

Nr. Hereford HR4 7SL

by kind invitation of Lydia and Tomáš Alexovi

Thursday 13th October 2022

From 10am 'til 12 noon

Cakes, Preserves and Produce Stall. Raffle.

No entry fee - donations welcomed

Ample parking - please 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 - tel.01544 267368*

Eardisland Craft **& Produce Fair**

Kindly sponsored by Lee Anderson Property

Saturday 1st October

10am – 4.00pm

50 quality stalls

St. Mary's Church & Village Hall

Tea, coffee and cakes from 10am

Barbeque from 12pm

Bounce House on the recreation ground for all ages!

Admission just £1 to include **a free hot drink**

Plenty of free parking available

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

EARDISLAND IN BLOOM

It was with deep sadness we learnt of the passing of Alan Newcombe. Alan had lived in the village for around 10 years together with his wife Pat. Being a keen gardener Alan soon joined the E Team and quickly became a popular figure amongst us, passing on his encyclopedic knowledge of plants, a suggestion here and there, always with a permanent smile on his face. Alan was a person you instantly warmed to, a friend to everyone he met. Poor health restricted his involvement with us over the last two or three years, but he was always in our thoughts and will remain there for ever.

The very dry summer has been a challenge for us and sadly for a number of our plants the heat was just too much, despite our best efforts to keep them watered without the use of a hosepipe. Surprisingly the planters appear to have survived better than the borders and have put on a decent show.

Several members of our team have donned their waders and kept the chocking weed from taking over the millstream, which allowed the plastic ducks to put in some super-fast swims at the annual duck races.

One or two of you will have noticed the Welcome to Eardisland board has been removed from display. The feature was we assumed affected by the direct sunlight and was almost black. At the request of the Parish Council it has been replaced by another board, formerly on the wall at the village hall.

Craft & Produce Fair

This annual event will be with us in a little over two weeks, on Saturday 1st October, from 10am until 4pm.

The show's format will be similar to last year, although we will have slightly more gazebos than previously. One big change will see the village hall fully open for refreshments, another will be the introduction of a Bounce Hall on the recreation ground, close to the play area. This is intended for both children and adults, so whilst mum is spending money at the show dad can bounce around with the kids!

With covid still around and to avoid congestion, both the church and village hall will operate a separate entry and exit.

As ever this show requires an awful lot of volunteer hours, with 21 personnel every hour the show is open. Several have already come forward, but we need many, many more, so if you can help please let me know by either emailing eardislandcfair@btinternet.com or leaving me a note in the shop. All shifts are two hours long and the time really goes fast. Roles include helping with refreshments, car parking, selling door and raffle tickets.

Below you will find full details as to when you can help;

Wednesday 28th September @ 10am, to erect the marquee in the church grounds.

Friday 30th September between 1400 – 1800, assist stall holders with unloading. Even one hour's help will be appreciated and enable a quick turnaround of vehicles.

Saturday 1st October from 0730 or a little later if you prefer. To once again assist with unloading vehicles, which are then directed to the recreation ground to park.

Saturday 1st October @ 1600

To help load stall holder vehicles, tie back the side curtains on the marquee, remove tables and chairs from the marquee and set up the church for Sunday service.

Monday 3rd October @ 1400. To help dismantle the marquee

Phil Milchard

The Craft and Produce Fair, October 2018



SOME PERSONALITIES OF OLD EARDISLAND

In the last edition of this magazine, I wrote about the lost workhouse of old Eardisland, and concluded that this must have closed about the time a new workhouse was built and opened in Weobley, in 1837, which had accommodation for about 80 people. I was reminded by Barry Freeman that sometime after 1947 the building became the offices of the newly formed Weobley District Council. This was also the offices of the Registrar for births marriages and deaths, who was Mrs Morley. Barry recalled that he and Kathleen were married there by her in 1971. He added that they could therefore claim the somewhat unusual record of having been married in a workhouse!

The mystery of the origin of the village name

Barry raised the interesting question of the origin of the name Eardisland and produced a short rhyming explanation based on some details which appeared in the Year Book publication of the Oral History Group in 1995. A more complicated comment came when the vicar of the parish (Joseph Barker 1867-1901) who studied in Christ Church Cambridge contacted one of his lecturers (a professor of Anglo-Saxon) to ask for his opinion. He concluded that it may have derived from the words "Eard Wulfe's Land – the home of Eard Wulf." There are many different spellings of the name Eardisland which have added confusion in trying to derive a satisfactory explanation. A reference in publications of 1706 and 1867 includes the spelling, Erdestland. Other spellings which have been encountered include Yurzland, Yarzland and Urzland (all described by some as 'rustic'). Another view is that it derives from Arwe Land ("land on the banks of the Arrow"), which gives a spelling in some early directories of Aresland. However, later historians more confidently suggest the name Eardisland may derive from "Earl's Leen" (the leen being low lying often wet land in this area). This definition would suggest we are in an area in which land was owned by an Earl. In adjoining low-lying parishes, there was land owned by the King (Kingsland) and by the monks of a Normandy Abbey (Monkland). The historian Norman Reeves (in 'The Leon Valley') points out that at some point the Earl Morcar acquired Eardisland, the 'Earls Leen'. Morcar was Earl of Northumbria until 1066 when he was replaced by William the Conqueror's champion, William Fitz Osbern, first Earl of Hereford. This derivation of the name Eardisland was the favoured explanation of our own Eardisland historian, the late George Alderson. But if in doubt, master Barry's ingenious rhyme.

The Norman lord Fitz Osbern may well have visited our village to inspect his holdings. He certainly built a formidable force of fighting men with Hereford as his focal point. He established castles at Monmouth, Clifford and Wigmore, with

his greatest work at Chepstow. Incidentally, it is from the time of Fitz Osbern that the tithes gathered in Eardisland were sent to the Norman Abbey of La Vieille Lyre, until 1425. It was this discovery which led to the decision in 2007 to twin Eardisland with this lovely village following several visits and meetings.

The life & times of a Hussar from Eardisland

It was interesting to read the biographical notes provided by Barry Freeman in the last edition of this magazine, regarding another locally eminent soldier, Colonel Clowes. He was clearly a very successful military man prior to returning to Burton Court in 1902 having fought in Afghanistan, India and in South Africa. One of his compatriots later wrote about his life he and that of other Hussars with whom he served, and how they passed some of the dull moments of their time. He writes:

SANDWICH. VESEY. THOWTS. DUFF. PALEY. CLOWES. GREATHEAD. LANGDALE. PAGE (Q.M.). MAHON (ADJT.). BIRD. BUCHANAN.



DEARE. WOOD. DAVIDSON. ST QUINTIN HENDERSON. ANDERSON. TOMBLINGS.
LAWLESS. (C. O.). MUSSENDEN. (R.M.).

8TH KING'S ROYAL IRISH HUSSARS, NORWICH, 1892.

Col Clowes with his regiment 8th Kings Royal Irish Hussars in Norwich in 1891

“The two regiments which I served in India, the 10th & 8th Hussars were very fortunate during their time there. The 10th carried off the Kadir Cup and for the 8th Clowes and his colleagues won the Mahon and Hog Hunter’s Cup. I am glad to see the sporting element is still strong in the regiments fostered by their present C.O. Col Vaughan. He journeyed to Bengal with some of his officers making a party of 8 spears with 32 horses. They were fortunate in finding a

country that had not been hunted for some years and was overrun with pigs within a small radius. In the 22 days in which they were out they killed 180 boars. How pleased the villagers must have been.” However, it was clearly a hazardous competitive activity. The author continues, “Of the 8 men involved, one was hors de combat four days; another 3 days and afterwards could only use his spear in his left hand and two others were indisposed for 7 days each. Of the 32 horses two were killed, five severely injured and 7 slightly cut by the pigs...”

Col Clowes duly returned to Burton Court at the end of the Boer War and remained involved in the life of the village, despite losing his only son, Warren Peter, in action in 1918, until his own death in 1925.

The Clowes family came to Burton Court in 1863. Someone the Colonel may have come across in his younger days whilst visiting his parents in Burton Court was another interesting personality who is recorded as living in Grove farm between 1858-1877. His name was Herbert Connop. Whilst undertaking oral history research in the 1990s, a well-used music sheet was produced by Leslie Evans, the internationally known bell ringer of Eardisland. It had been published by Weekes and Co. of Regent Street, in London.

‘Connop’s Goodbye’



It is described as a serio-comic song, with an underlying melancholy about having to leave his beloved Eardisland as economic conditions undermined his life. The first and second verses are:

*“I’m going across the ocean but oh I’d rather stay
Yet I hope you’ll sometimes think of me when I am far away.
Oh how my heart still clings to thee, dear Eardisland Ma Belle
I fain would live and die in thee but now alas farewell
I’m going across the ocean but oh I’d rather stay
Yet I hope you’ll sometimes think of me when I am far away..*

*Dame fortune’s been unkind to me, her frowns have brought me low
My cash is gone like magic, like magic I must go
Oh how my debts distress me, I feel I cannot pay
Yet my creditors will think of me when I am far away..”*

It is apparent from references in the Parish Magazine of 1872* that Mr Connop was in great demand at the concerts and entertainments that were held in that year in the school room (now village hall). He is described as *“performing most entertaining songs with the choir..”* and in May he delights his audience with *“a most comic song”*. Perhaps it was his rendition of Connop’s Goodbye. It would be interesting to know if anyone has any further information or examples of this song-writing farmer’s output.

Some centenarians of the parish

We have had a number of long-lived Eardislanders in recent times, several having celebrated their 100th birthdays. They include Mrs Gwyn Hall, who lived in her youth in Arrow Mill and was 102 when interviewed in 1995; most recently Harry Davies (b 1920) who had worked in Burton Court in the time of the Clowes family and opened the batting for the village cricket team before the war. There was also Florrie Jenkins who won a silver medal for 5 years unbroken attendance in the village school between 1907-1912 which was presented to her by local former Conservative MP, Sir James Rankin.

*I checked this with Paul Selfe, thinking there was a mistake. No, there wasn’t. There was an Eardisland Parish Magazine of that date. I asked Paul if he could find out more of what was happening 150 years ago. I’ll report back.

Ed.



The medal won by Florrie Jenkins for five years unbroken attendance 1907-1912

On leaving she obtained posts as a lady's maid and later caring for the children in the families for whom she worked. The longest life recorded of a resident of Eardisland comes from an earlier time and is that of Elizabeth Perry. An item in the Hereford Journal for 9th June 1819 noted that "*Elizabeth Perry, born at Shirlheath but who had resided at Streamford had died aged 109*". The report stated that to the period of her decease, "*Her sight was a little impaired, but she could eat and drink and take snuff of which she was very fond. To the last she could walk in and about the house with the assistance of her daughter who is upwards of 80 and looks quite as old as her mother.*" The old woman had weekly relief from the adjoining parish of Kingsland, which used to be received by her daughter but she complained that it being very dirty walking, she returned one day, sat down in the house and began to cry; when the old woman inquired the cause, she replied "*indeed, mother, if you want any more pay you must go yourself or get somebody to fetch it for I am now getting so old that I am unable to walk as far as Kingsland and back at my age.*"

The article continued: "The writer of this report conversed with the daughter and mother a few weeks before and the old woman, Mrs Perry, expressed herself pleased with his snuff, and so he emptied his box for her. It seems that she had enjoyed uninterrupted good health and her death was the result of age as she had taken to her bed only on the day previously and retained her faculties to the last. She attributed her protracted life to hard work and hard living. Her eldest daughter was at this date found to be 84. The reporter noted that she remembered 'Muncorn', a mixture of wheat and rye, selling at 6pence (3p) a bushel and butter at 2pence (less than 1p) a pound".

The author of the article mentions that he tried to verify the details of the age of Mrs Perry and did discover details of a marriage between William Perry and Elizabeth Lewis in Eardisland in 1731, which would suggest she married aged about 21, but he was unable to find any reference to children of the marriage through baptismal records. Whilst he concludes that he could not fully

verify the exact age of this long-lived lady, he says that long life may not have been quite so uncommon as one may think, although miscalculation of age must also have occurred. He adds that he has come across burial entries in church registers where the vicar was sufficiently impressed by the agedness of the deceased to make special mention of this in his records.

One strange coincidence has resulted from my looking back at some of the information gathered by the oral history group. When war broke out and children became evacuees some were sent to Eardisland. We received many interesting letters from people who learned that we were trying to build a picture of the life and times of these young children. One respondent in 1996 was Margaret Collier; she was one of many evacuees from Bootle which was heavily bombed in 1940. She describes how the children set off on a train one morning not knowing where they were bound. She was 13 when she arrived in the village and taken to the White Swan (then run by Mrs Bishop). This is where the children gathered for distribution to various families. The surprising coincidence is that Margaret was then taken with her friend Iris to stay with Mrs Norris in the house named Streamford! In her recollections Margaret paints a wonderful picture of what she recalls as idyllic days in the Herefordshire countryside looked after by the kindly Mrs Norris, hop picking in Dilwyn and making new friends, among them, Bob Evans, Gill & Bill Bengry, Dilys and Ken Watkins and Laurence Mainwaring: perhaps more of him in a future edition. Margaret married in 1948 and returned to Eardisland to spend her honeymoon in the White Swan. But no doubt she would have been quite unaware of the fact that 130 years before, the oldest known person from the parish, Elizabeth Perry, had spent her life in Streamford, the house to which Margaret had been sent to live out the rest of the war, which she did with great happiness.

Paul Selfe

EARDISLAND WEATHER REPORT

I could not believe, as I was totting up the rainfall for July, which must be the lowest I have ever recorded, that this was 20mm (0.78 inches). Barometer pressures measured 29.64 to 30.2 and temperatures rose from 17 C to 36C. I think the hottest that I have recorded. River levels were down to 8 inches.

August brought with it slightly more rain but still low at 45mm (1.73 inches). Barometer pressures measured 29.5 to 30.1 and temperatures again rose from 17C to 35C. River levels remained at 8 inches. The equivalent rainfall for 2021 was July 68mm (2.65inches), August 48mm (1.87 inches).

Nature-wise our big disappointment was to see our pair of swans desert the nest after weeks of building and sitting, the eggs are still there, and I have only seen the swans return once since.

Doug Tantrum reporting from Kingfisher House

YOUR SAFETY

One of the most unfortunate consequences of these financially worrying times is the rise of various forms of scam. Please don't assume that you are immune to such criminality, let me say that it is not true to say that the obviously vulnerable are the victims. They are not. Fraudsters are capable of scamming even the most savvy of people.

I was reading the other day of a computer engineer, who lost £36,000 to a computer scam (not Ben, I don't want to start a rumour).

The main banks have mostly signed up to a voluntary code which requires that they refund money if the account holder has acted in good faith. You will not be surprised to learn that 'good faith' is interpreted rather harshly by some banks, and not all are signed up anyway.

Many scams have fairly simple roots, but vary enormously in their implementation. Therefore, there are some basic rules to follow, but individual cases have to be assessed on the circumstances.

This is not only about the internet – telephone scams are rife as well. Typically, you might receive a call purporting to be from your bank from a very convincing 'fraud department'. This happened to me recently, apparently £769.50 had been demanded from my account, but had been blocked by the helpful bank. Rather than engage - it's natural to feel engaged, I put the phone down and checked my account. All was well. It was an attempted scam.

There is a big 'but'. If there has actually been a fraud attempt, you need to know about it. So, if you cannot use the internet because you don't have an internet account, you have to phone. If you are lucky to have your call answered quickly, you are lucky. The last time I did this it was a 50 minute wait.

Internet scams are many and varied. Always check the email address carefully. Paypal, supposedly, emailed me recently to say that \$700 (that is was American dollars was a good clue) was to be taken from my account. Upon checking, the email address looked very similar to Paypal's, but was wasn't exact – it was yet another scam attempt.

All these attempts have two things in common. The fraudsters want your bank details and/or for you to transfer money to their account. Think about this: why would your bank ask for your details when they already have them? No bank will do this. If a bank suspects fraud, they will block your account. Why would they ask you to open a different one? If you do, then the fraudsters simply empty it immediately. Will the bank return your money? Probably not, because you authorised the transaction against all the available advice.

Don't be frightened, be careful. There is no harm in taking time to think.

Chris Bivand

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EARDISLAND VILLAGE SHOW

SEPTEMBER 2022