

# EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2025

ISSUE 208



*Eardisland Duck Races is now a well-established village tradition. Many people were involved in making the event such a success, including the Duck Masters – Reg, Gavin, Phil and Sandy.*

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## **EDITORIAL**

I reported the sad death of Tony Tindale earlier in the year, and his obituary appears on page 4 of this edition. Our condolences go to friends and family.

With this magazine you should find a letter from Mortimer Medical Practice (MMP), referring to new arrangements for contacting the surgery and making appointments. Whilst the precise details relate to this practice, the general principles are rolling out nationwide. You will need to consult your own surgery, if you are not registered with MMP. Whilst the new arrangements make use, in part, of the internet, there are provisions for those without internet access.

It has been quite a year for activities in the community, including all sorts associated with the Village Hall. It is worth noting that the hall is a community resource, available for hire to any individual or group that wishes to use the space. Details are in the EVHMC report on page 15. An example of such an activity is the New Year's Eve celebrations (see page 13). Please note that tickets for this are discounted for early purchase.

Finally, you may have heard that I have decided to stand down as Editor of this magazine, with my last edition in March 2026. I have published my letter of resignation on page 6. Alongside, Patricia has decided also to leave as Advertising Manager at the same time. Patricia has served for fifteen years, and I have been Editor for 25 years. Both Patricia and I reached our conclusions independently. The Parish Council is keen to fill both of these vacant posts and details are given on page 9. Since its inception in 1990 the Eardisland Parish Magazine (with a slight name change) has gone from strength to strength. I do hope that suitable volunteers will come forward and continue this community resource into the future.

Chris Bivand

### **EARDISLAND PARISH DIARY**

Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Parish Council meeting
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Auction of Promises, p.28
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Craft and Produce Fair, p.25
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Quiz Night, p.18
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Parish Council meeting
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Magazine copy date</b>
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Lampshades Workshop, p.19
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Parish Council meeting
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Film Night, p.20
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Eardisland Christmas Lights, p.21
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> December	New Year's Eve Party, p.13
<b>2026</b>	
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	<b>Magazine copy date</b>
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026</b>	<b>Magazine copy Date</b>

The magazine circulation date is usually about ten days after the copy date, but this can vary. If you are advertising an event, please work on the basis that the distribution date is two weeks after the copy date. This, of course, depends on there being no technical problems.

Please note that there may be other dates in the magazine that refer to individual organisations, such as the Women's Institute and Eardisland Church services.

### **FINISHED COPY**

**Please check your copy carefully before sending it to me for publication. In every edition there are dozens of mistakes. Most, if not all, are identified by Ruth Brinton-Bivand, who does the proof-reading, and subsequently corrected. The checking and correction process takes many hours which is tedious and should be unnecessary.**

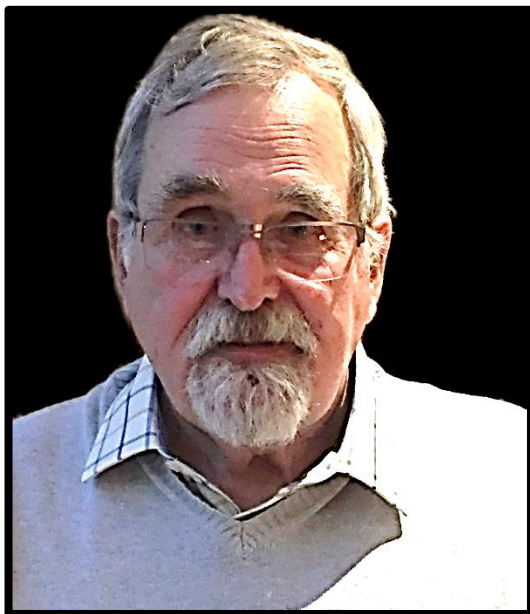
Ed.

### **EARDISLAND VIDEO**

In the early 2000s a number of the then members of the Oral History Group commissioned a film about Eardisland. Sadly, most of the participants are now no longer around. It's an interesting 50 minutes or so, and can be found on YouTube by searching 'Eardisland – Portrait of a Parish'.

Chris Bivand

## **OBITUARY: TONY TINDALE**



Tony, eldest son of Bryan and Maureen Tindale, was born at the Simpson Memorial Hospital in Edinburgh on 20th April 1944. He was joined shortly by a brother, Michael.

Subsequently, the family moved from Scotland back to Sunderland where both parents were originally from. At the end of the war, his father went to work for the Bahraini oil company in Bahrain, surveying the island and designing roads and such like. When Tony was around five years old, the boys and their mother joined their father out in Bahrain.

Tony attended Shrewsbury school from the age of eleven, until he was 18. He immediately joined the Royal Air Force in 1963 as a Cadet Officer at RAF Feltwell. Unusually, although selected to fly, he asked to follow his logistic heart and encouraged by 'for the want of a nail - a shoe was lost . . .' he became a Supply Officer on passing out from his Officer training.

Tony followed a career in the RAF encompassing various tours: in Aden, as a 19-year-old under fire; in Coastal Command, looking after boats for the RAF; two tours in Germany and around the UK. One memorable tour was in Lincolnshire, at RAF Waddington as his first tour as Squadron Leader, and where he met his wife to be, Julie, early in 1981. She was a Nursing Officer in the Princess Mary's RAF Nursing Service, stationed down the road in the RAF hospital Nocton Hall, working as a midwife. Tony had been married previously, and had one son, Guy. Tony divorced at about the time he was posted to RAF Waddington.

Tony and Julie were married on 29<sup>th</sup> August 1981. The following year in the spring, the Falklands War 'exploded'. Julie didn't see much of Tony for about three months in the early months of 1982, as he disappeared into the ops-planning bunker and was highly involved in getting the Vulcans air-to-air refuelling and able to fly down to the south Atlantic to bomb the runway at Port Stanley.

Shortly after the surrender of the Argentinians, their first child was born - a girl Hannah. In early 1983, Tony was posted to RAF HQ in Whitehall as the RAF fuel expert, really making a name and reputation for himself. Their second child was a boy born in 1984. More various postings followed.

Tony's career ended in 1994, with his retirement after 31 years' service, here in Herefordshire at RAF Credenhill, now home of the SAS. After leaving the RAF, Tony went to work, in 1994, in Riyadh Saudi Arabia as a Tutor in Logistics for the Royal Saudi Airforce Academy, leaving in 2001.

Tony retired when he came back to the UK, but got bored after two weeks and began training as a magistrate! He served for twelve years, but this had to come to an end when he was 70 - something he grumbled about – it was a role that had suited him to a T!

In November 2020, during the Covid pandemic, Tony and Julie moved from where they lived in Solihull to the idyllic village here in Eardisland. When Tony could, he volunteered in the Community Shop, which is where most of you will have met him. He managed two years being 'Santa Claus' in the village Christmas Grotto.

In August 2024 Tony was given the shattering diagnosis of untreatable cancer. Tony lost a valiant final battle at home - as he wished, with just Julie nursing him. He passed away on Thursday 10 April 2025 - 10 days short of his 81<sup>st</sup> birthday.

Following his wishes, there will be a memorial party for old friends and new and old comrades from across the years to gather, share stories and remember him.

*I am very grateful to Julie for sending this to me. Tony was very much a 'larger-than-life' character and I was sad to hear of his death. I remember the bombing raid on the Falklands' airstrip, because it was very difficult logistically. The range of the Vulcan bomber, one of the 'flying wing' bombers was some 7400 km for the Mk 2, whilst the Falkland Islands are around 12,800 km away, say 26,000 km round trip. So, Operation Black Buck, as it was called, the longest in RAF history, required detailed analysis of how effectively to use refuelling aircraft to refuel both the Vulcan and the refuelling aircraft themselves.*

*Ed.*

## **EDITOR'S RESIGNATION LETTER TO EARDISLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

Mr J Blyth O.B.E.  
Chair, Eardisland Parish Council

Dear Jerry

After lengthy consideration, I have decided to stand down as Editor of the Eardisland Parish Magazine. Please accept my resignation.

I have discussed this with the Advertising Manager, Patricia Gill, and the Delivery Manager, Barry Freeman.

I am aware that advertising contracts have been taken out for some months in the future, the last expiring in March 2026. Therefore, I propose to edit the September, November, January and March (2026) editions. This should allow time for Eardisland Parish Council to decide the future of the magazine and appoint the necessary people, as appropriate.

I will, of course, assist any appointees as best I can. I will continue to maintain all the archives and electronic records until decisions are made.

I hope that the community has found value in the magazine over the last 25 years under my editorship, and I would very much like it to continue. However, after 25 years of service to Eardisland, and many hundreds of hours of work, a fresh approach should be of benefit.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Bivand  
Editor, Eardisland Parish Magazine

## **EARDISLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

As I sit and write this latest bulletin the rain is falling and it appears that the wonderful summer weather that we have had has come to an abrupt and grinding halt. We have though been able to enjoy some wonderful weather over the summer, which has enabled us all to get out and enjoy our beautiful village. It never ceases to amaze me how lucky we are to have so many volunteers within our community who give up so much of their time to make our village the beautiful and welcoming place that it is. I do not know the numbers but it certainly seems that the village has seen an increasing number of visitors.

By the time you read this article two of the village's major annual events will have taken place, namely the Duck Race and the Village Show. My thanks to

all who have helped in organising and bringing together these events which really do bring out the best in our community. I hope you all enjoyed the events. The summer is traditionally a quiet time for the Council with no meeting held during August. That does not mean that everything stops.

Further to the formal site visit as part of a Section 19 Flood Investigation, commissioned by Herefordshire Council in June we had a further high-level meeting with senior and high-level representatives from the Asset Performance Team at the Environment Agency.

The visit to Eardisland brought together representatives from several key bodies, including:

- The Environment Agency
- Concerned and Interested Parishioners
- Herefordshire Council officers
- Our local Ward Member
- Members of Eardisland Parish Council & Parish Clerk.

The group spent around three hours walking through the village examining what they refer to as “Assets”, to you and I water courses, weirs, culverts, bridges etc. It was interesting to hear the views of the EA Seniors and particularly their views as to the responsibilities of Riparian Rights owners. It was a constructive and detailed visit, and it was encouraging to have the opportunity to show the reality of the challenges we face first-hand, interestingly they did not shy away from answering challenging questions. We are most grateful to Hugh Lowe for his detailed knowledge and the insight offered up which it is hoped the EA took onboard.

As pointed out in the last article, it is important to note that these visits and reports do not guarantee that any specific works will follow, but the process does mark a step forward in recognising the local impact of flooding here in Eardisland.

That said, and subsequent to the visit in June, we have had confirmation from the Floodrisk Team at Herefordshire Council that Balfour Beatty will be conducting works in the village this month.

***“BBLP have confirmed that works at Eardisland are scheduled for 10 September. They’ll be working on the flood arch to the right of the main river bridge, next to the village shop. The plan is to remove a patch of Himalayan Balsam growing in a silt buildup downstream of the right arch, followed by desilting of that arch.”***

It is hoped that the desilting work in this area will aid with the drainage from the main road through the village. Many of you may well have noticed the directional white arrows around many of the drains which have been identified by Balfour following the meeting in June. These indicate that some of them drain into the Millstream and as we were at pains to point out to them in June were restricted in the ability to drain because of the silting up in the Millstream.

We will also see a team from the EA conduct work during September. I quote from James Roberts, Asset Performance Manager at the EA ***“I’ve arranged for the field team to carry out some channel maintenance, this will hopefully be middle of September. When the field team give a date, I will share and try to be on-site myself”.***

The visit will now have happened by the time this is published as it will be conducted on the 8th of September. There will be an update in next Magazine. These two activities are encouraging signs that our efforts to secure help are producing results. As always, the Parish Council will continue to follow developments closely and update residents as things progress.

Many of you will by now have heard that Chris Bivand and Patricia Gill have both resigned as Editor and Advertising Manager of the Parish Magazine. It is only right that on behalf of the Parish Council, and indeed the village, that I publicly thank them both for all that they have done and achieved during the 25 years serving our community. I am acutely aware that the Magazine is seen by many as an informative means of letting us all know what is going on within our community and indeed what has happened historically. I will write more in my next article. But in the meantime, if any of you do think that you could potentially fill the huge hole, please do look at the vacancy advert. Thank you, Chris and Patricia, for all that you have done. We really do appreciate it.

It is also with regret that I advise of another resignation from an important role on behalf of the Council. Many of you will have seen the Speedwatch Group in action at either end of the village. Diane Lee has withdrawn from her role as Co-ordinator of the Eardisland Speedwatch Volunteer Group, effective from March 2026. Diane has served our community in her role since the group’s inception in 2018 and has made a significant contribution to road safety within our community. Thank you, Diane, we appreciate the significant contribution you have made. As with the magazine vacancies, if anyone thinks this may be a role that would interest them, please do take a look at the vacancy notice.



Remediation work on the village hall extension has started. The replacement windows are in and work to the cladding is scheduled to begin on the 15<sup>th</sup> September. When completed it will look significantly better. Our thanks to Dave Carr who has undertaken the supervision of this project on behalf of the Parish Council.

Finally for this update, many of you will now have had your PFR measures installed in good time before the “flooding season.” I am however aware that some properties are still waiting for the promised measures to be installed. We continue to engage actively with the PFR team at the Environment Agency and hope that the outstanding properties have the measures installed before the season really kicks in. I will keep you all advised.

If you’d like to stay informed about Parish Council matters, including upcoming meeting dates, agendas and minutes, please visit the Parish Council website at [www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk).

If you would like to raise any issues of concerns then please do either contact the Parish Clerk, [parish.clerk@eardisland\\_pc.gov.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@eardisland_pc.gov.uk), myself, [jerry.Blyth@eardisland\\_pc.gov.uk](mailto:jerry.Blyth@eardisland_pc.gov.uk) or any of my fellow Councillors.

Jerry Blyth O.B.E.  
Chair, Eardisland Parish Council

### **Resignation of Parish Council Editor and Advertising Manager:**

#### **Call for Volunteers**

The Parish Council would like to announce the resignation of Chris Bivand as Editor and Patricia Gill as Advertising Manager of the Parish Magazine. After 25 years Chris has served Eardisland dutifully in his honorary capacity as Editor and believes that it is now time to hand over to somebody else.

Chris has been instrumental in leading the Magazine Team on behalf of the Parish Council, which has played a vital role and service within, and to, our community.

During their tenure, they have seen increased circulation and advertising revenue, effectively raising awareness and bringing to the attention of all interested residents and visitors alike, the activities and events within the community. Both Chris and Patricia have now decided to step down and we thank them both for their dedication, hard work, and their significant contribution to the life of our community.

Considering this resignation, the Parish Council is now seeking volunteers to take over the roles of Editor and Advertising Manager for the Parish Magazine. These positions are crucial for continuing our efforts in highlighting the wonderful village and community in which we live. They are important roles in our efforts to inform our community, and visitors alike, of all the activities and events being undertaken. Our new editorial team will be solely responsible for editing, for content and for organizing all facets of the magazine production and revenue, liaising with all local groups and charities, and engaging with community members to promote our wonderful village, businesses, and activities.

If you are passionate about making a difference, in serving our community, and have a few hours to spare each month, we encourage you to consider these rewarding opportunities. Previous experience is not required, as training and support will be provided to ensure a smooth transition.

Interested individuals can express their interest by contacting the Parish Council at [Parish.Clerk@Eardisland-PC.gov.uk](mailto:Parish.Clerk@Eardisland-PC.gov.uk) . We look forward to welcoming a new Editorial Team and continuing our important work in promoting our village life and activities wide and far.

Thank you for your attention and support in this initiative. Together, we can help make our community a better place for everyone.

Jerry Blyth

**FROM EARDISLAND PARISH COUNCIL CLERK**

### **Resignation of Parish Council Speed Watch Group Coordinator: Call for Volunteers**

The Parish Council would like to announce the resignation of Diane Lee, who has served as the coordinator of the Speed Watch Group for the past 7 years. Diane has been instrumental in leading the group, which has played a vital role in promoting road safety within our community.

During her tenure, she has coordinated numerous speed watch sessions, effectively raising awareness about speeding issues and contributing to safer roads for all residents. Diane has now decided to step down and we thank her for the dedication and hard work brought to the group.

In light of this resignation, the Parish Council is seeking a volunteer to take over the role of Speed Watch Group Coordinator. This position is crucial for continuing our efforts to monitor vehicle speeds and foster a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists alike. The new coordinator will be responsible for organizing speed watch sessions, liaising with local authorities, and engaging with community members to promote road safety initiatives.

If you are passionate about making a difference in our community and have a few hours to spare each month, we encourage you to consider this rewarding opportunity. Previous experience is not required, as training and support will be provided to ensure a smooth transition.

Interested individuals can express their interest by contacting the Parish Council at [Parish.Clerk@Eardisland-PC.gov.uk](mailto:Parish.Clerk@Eardisland-PC.gov.uk) . We look forward to welcoming a new coordinator to the Speed Watch Group and continuing our important work in promoting road safety.

Please get in touch. Together, we can help make our roads safer for everyone.

Neil Barrington, Parish Clerk/RFO

Road safety analysis of A44 from Leominster to Pembridge.

Following requests from Eardisland and Monkland Parish councils for a 50mph speed limit along all the A44 from Leominster to Pembridge a study was done earlier this year. The results over a week showed that at a site near The Grove Farm -with the large agricultural sheds just before the turn right at Golden Cross junction towards Pembridge, there were on average 4,866 vehicles per day travelling using the A44 and A4112 to Brecon averaging over a 24 hr period 47.5 mph.

At a site on the A44 between Burton and the Stitches lanes there were 2,525 vehicles per day travelling at average 47.2 mph. The third site which is between the junctions off the A44 to Eardisland and Upper Hardwick there were 3,729 vehicles (reflecting vehicles coming through Eardisland village) travelling at 42.8 mph.

There were 14 personal injury accidents along the full section of highway over the last 5 years which is below the national average and reflects the nine sites where Herefordshire Council, have since 2004, had investment in improved signed, marking and enhanced surfacing. This includes the Golden Cross junction where the highway turns right from Leominster off the then Brecon highway. This junction was previously the most dangerous in my ward with a record of several fatalities and serious injuries.

Based on this comprehensive assessment analysing vehicle data, road geometry, roadside environment and collision data, there is minimal justification for engineering treatment or speed limit reductions at this time. However, continued monitoring of collision trends and road conditions will remain a priority for Herefordshire Council to ensure ongoing road safety along this section of the A44. If anyone would like the full report please contact me.

## Drainage

Following the extended dry period we have enjoyed, it is inevitable that we will see higher rainfall periods, and I am pleased to see that our local engagement seems to have resulted in work by the Environment Agency field team, Balfour Beatty contractors and the Lugg Drainage Board. There is also further funding for the parish council to use for the parish lengthsman from Herefordshire Council. While we are all aware of the risk of flooding in the village, routine maintenance is important.

## Highways

You will all be aware of the extra 10 million pounds funding that the council has put into highway surfacing this summer on our main roads, including a section of the A44 which runs through the parish. I thank residents for their tolerance of the diverted traffic during the closure times and reassure you I keep pushing for our minor road surfacing issues. It is important to report potholes as we go into the autumn period and get our highways repaired as best we can before winter.

PLEASE report potholes and concerns

Report problems on the road –

[www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/report-problems-road](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/report-problems-road)

Report a serious pothole, flooded road or highway obstruction - Balfour Beatty Living Places: 01432 261800

Footpaths issues –

- PROW - [PROW@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto: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 onto the fly tipping site via the council website on the links below as:

[www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/fly\\_tipping](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/fly_tipping)

(note underscore between fly and tipping)

ROGER

## **YOR COMPUTER**

Windows 10 is losing official support on October 14, 2025, meaning Microsoft will stop providing free security updates, bug fixes, and technical support after that date. Your computer will still work, but it will become more vulnerable to security risks and viruses without these critical updates. To stay secure, you should upgrade to Windows 11, if your PC meets the requirements, or consider the paid Extended Security Updates (ESU) program for continued security patches until October 2026.

Chris Bivand



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

This year, like many before, the Eardisland Village Duck Race was more than just a race; it was a celebration of community and charity. It brought together people of all ages, local and from afar, fostering a sense of togetherness and local pride. Thanks to the huge support of many helpers and local sponsors, we provided an afternoon of joy to both participants and spectators alike. This event truly highlights the spirit of giving and collective effort that defines our village community.

The Duck Race serves as our main fundraiser for the Village Hall Committee, and this year we raised a record amount of £2100 much needed for the Community Health Hub Project we are working on and hope to see come into fruition in 2026.



Ed. Popular as ever, the annual Duck Races have been going since 1977, or so I'm told. I was also told that the original races used real ducks! Believe that if you will. The real 'duck' above is Leah Wilde.

We continue to host a programme of events for all to enjoy with the following events to be noted for your calendar: -

**October**

Friday 24th – Quiz Night 7pm Village Hall - Fundraiser

**November**

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> – Funded craft event - lampshade making workshop, 10am-2pm

Friday 21st – Flicks in the Sticks 7pm – Village Hall

**December**

Sunday 7th – Santa & Christmas Lights Event, 4 pm

We would love suggestions for our Film Nights with “Flicks in the Sticks,” please forward any preferences to [Susie.evmmc@yahoo.com](mailto:Susie.evmmc@yahoo.com)

We will be hosting a Christmas Wreath Making Workshop in the Village Hall with “Petals & Bouquets,” on the 5<sup>th</sup> December. Watch out for the poster!

Eardisland Air Rifle Club term starts the 9<sup>th</sup> of September in the village hall and will be running every Tuesday evening from 7pm. Contact Andy Wood 07540 687573 for details and to express interest.

Eardisland Stitchers continue to meet twice a month and welcome any new members, whether a crafter, stitcher, knitter, crochet or quilting lover we are all like-minded and enjoy a shared array of projects. £6/3 hour session, pay as you participate, no membership required. Contact Susie for dates. Tel 07799486210.

We are planning to host our quiz nights bi-monthly instead of quarterly due to requests for greater frequency. We look forward to seeing both regulars and new faces at our next Quiz on 24<sup>th</sup> October and look out for a bumper Christmas Quiz.

We offer classes in Pilates and Tai Chi each week for all of those that want to keep their bodies in shape, with Mandy also now offering a class in stretch on Tuesday afternoons, see the village hall noticeboards for class details.

The Village Hall is a great venue for hire for private parties, christenings, celebrations, hosting a talk or a fundraising event for your cause or charity. It offers large kitchen facilities, tables and chairs as well as WIFI, music equipment, projector, screen and a DVD player at your disposal.

The Costs to hire the Hall are:

Entire Premises:	just £69 / day	£44 for 4 hours	and	£15 for a single hour.
Main Hall Only:	just £63 / day	£38 for 4 hours	and	£13 for a single hour.
Meeting Room Only:	just £38 / day	£19 for 4 hours	and	£7 for a single hour.

Our fundraising events are held solely to support the running of the village hall and when possible, to make improvements to the hall and supply new equipment to improve the facilities on offer to the parish.

We would like to welcome any new members to the committee who feel they would like to be involved in any way big or small! We also have a Volunteers and Helpers list which if you feel you are unable to commit but would like to be involved in the fundraising events, please do not hesitate to contact us.

A huge thanks to all supporters of our events. Please look out for our Village Hall Activity Posters for what is coming up in the next few months.

Susie Curtis and team – EVHMC

### **Eardisland Village Show**

A massive thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's fantastic Eardisland Village Show, there was a wonderful display of village talent and an amazing array of produce, flowers, craft, art, photography and baking on display. For such a small village, we really do have a big heart, and it showed in the wonderful turnout. Thank you to everyone that attended, participated and supported the event.

I must thank specially –

Our judges – Sophie Davies, Tim Simpson, Sue Hamer, Debbie Johnson, Robbie Williams, Rob Scamp and Elaine Brown.

Our stewards – Ruth Brinton-Bivand, Mandy Howard, Caroline Marsden, Rebecca Rhys-Evans and Sandra Wiggins

Our essential helpers and EVHMC TEAM – Carole Perry and Annie Barber

Below are the winners of the much-coveted trophies:

Cookery - Jo Knight

Bread (women) - Jo Knight

Floral Art - Susie Curtis

Leslie Evans prize - Mavis Tantrum

Horticulture Div 1 - Diane Palmer

Art - Caroline Marsden

Children under 5 - Otilie Yapp

Children 12-15 - Beau Marfell

Heaviest Pumpkin - Community Garden

Best Vegetable animal - Leah Wilde

Bread (men) - Peter South

Drinks - Julie Tindale

Craft - Sandra Wiggins

Megan Lloyd trophy - Di Palmer

Horticulture Div 2- Susie Curtis

Photography - Susie Curtis

Children 5-11 - Fleur Marfell

16-20 age group - Leah Wilde

Best Limerick – Jo Knight

Overall Junior winner - James South

**Overall Show winner- Susie Curtis**

We hope everyone enjoyed their day and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

Thank you again for supporting the show!

EVHMC and the Village Show Team



I went early to get a photo of the whole scene, so it appears that not many people turned up! In fact, the Village Show was well-attended.

There were 60 entry categories, and the general support, both for attendance and produce was extremely good.

There is real talent in the community and the show is a shining example.

Ed.

# Eardisland Village Hall Quiz Night



Maximum team of 6  
Bar | Refreshments provided



Friday  
24<sup>th</sup> October 2025



7.00pm



Eardisland  
Village Hall

£2 ADMISSION, BOOKING RECOMMENDED

Email [susie.evhmc@yahoo.com](mailto:susie.evhmc@yahoo.com) or  
scan the QR code to book

Eardisland  
Village Hall



Registered Charity No 1108366

# Lampshade

## Making Workshop

**Funded by**  
**EVHMC**



Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 10am - 2pm



Eardisland Village Hall

All materials supplied. If you have a fabric of your own you wish to use, please bring it along.

**Limited spaces available.**

**Please email Susie at**  
**[susie.evhmc@yahoo.com](mailto:susie.evhmc@yahoo.com) or call**  
**07799486210 to**  
**book your place.**



Eardisland  
Village Hall



Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 7pm for a 7.30pm start

Tickets: Adults £4 | Children £3

Bar and snacks available

To prebook tickets, email [susie.evhmc@yahoo.com](mailto:susie.evhmc@yahoo.com)

## FEATURED FILM



TBC



Registered Charity No 1108366



# Eardisland Christmas Lights

**Sunday 7th December**

Santa's Grotto from 4.00pm | Lights on 5pm

**FREE EVENT - ALL WELCOME**

Mulled Wine | Mince Pies | Carols

to thank you for your  
support this year



Brought to the community by Eardisland Village Hall,  
Eardisland Community Shop, Eardisland Parish Council,  
Eardisland Church and the E-Team.

## **EARDISLAND PARISH COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY GROUP**

The E&SG is a working group of Eardisland Parish Council, anyone interested in making Eardisland a more sustainable parish is welcome to join.

### **HIMALAYAN BALSAM**

We met up at the old ford at 10am on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May to remove this invasive species. It was heartening to see that our work the previous year had been a success, with much less Himalayan Balsam growing this season.

Himalayan Balsam is a problem because:

- It crowds out native plant species.
- It dies back in the winter leaving banks vulnerable to erosion.
- Pollinators can get distracted by it and miss our native plants.

### **KEW GARDENS GRANT**

Ella Curry has been working hard on documenting and painting ‘flowers of the Arrow’. Please see elsewhere in the magazine for details of her forthcoming exhibition. All welcome!

Ella also plans to use her newly refreshed botanical identification skills to run a series of identification workshops and/or talks for the local community to further share her knowledge and passion for native plants and the natural world. She will circulate details of these sessions in due course.

Ella warmly invites everyone to attend her exhibition and hopes to see many friendly faces on the 26th October – even if they are primarily there for the free cake!

*Ben Woodcock*

[b3nwoodcock@gmail.com](mailto:b3nwoodcock@gmail.com) 01544 388976

## **EARDISLAND COMMUNITY GARDEN**

Thanks to those who helped water the garden over the very dry summer. We had a good crop of courgettes, and I hope some of you enjoyed them. We grow pumpkins every year so that children from the parish can come and pick one around Halloween, there should be a few available so please help yourself. We'll arrange a tidying up session in November – keep an eye out on the notice board and Facebook.

*Ben Woodcock*

[b3nwoodcock@gmail.com](mailto:b3nwoodcock@gmail.com) 01544 388976

## **FLOWERS OF THE ARROW EXHIBITION**

Save the date – upcoming free painting exhibition, and free cake! From 15.00-18.00 on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October in the Eardisland Village Hall. Ella Curry will be exhibiting her botanical paintings, created for her Kew Gardens Grow Wild Youth Grant. The exhibition and refreshments are free, with donations welcome to fundraise for the Eardisland Environment and Sustainability Group to support the invaluable work they do around the village.

This exhibition will be the culmination of Ella's project 'Flowers of the Arrow', for which she was awarded a £500 grant earlier this year to identify, survey, record, and paint native river plants along the River Arrow. Ella, who is an ornithologist and entomologist as well as an artist and botanist, will be present at the exhibition to enthusiastically answer any questions related to her project and/or any of her areas of interest and expertise, so please feel free to say hi! As detailed in the last Parish Magazine edition, Ella carried out botanical surveys throughout Eardisland earlier this year, accompanied by Ben Woodcock (who is helping to support Ella throughout her project). She is continuing to produce detailed botanical paintings of the key species in preparation for October's exhibition, with some progress shots in the poster.

Ella is also compiling a pamphlet containing reproductions of her paintings alongside information about the species' importance and identification. Copies of this pamphlet will be available at the exhibition, and will subsequently be stocked in the Eardisland Community Shop for all to enjoy.

*flowers of the arrow*  
**FREE ART EXHIBITION**  
**SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER 15.00-18.00**



**KEW GARDENS PROJECT BY  
ELLA CURRY - LOCAL ARTIST,  
BOTANIST, ORNITHOLOGIST,  
AND ENTOMOLOGIST**

**FUNDRAISE  
FOR THE  
EARDISLAND  
ENVIRONMENT  
AND  
SUSTAINABILITY  
GROUP**

**FREE CAKE!**



<b>FREE ENTRY</b>	<b>EARDISLAND VILLAGE HALL</b>	<b>BOTANICAL PAINTINGS BY KEW GARDENS GRANT WINNER</b>
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## **EARDISLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

The WI usually takes a break in the summer but this year we decided to continue through, enjoying the fabulous weather. In July we met in the village hall for an informal meeting, tasting and identifying cheese, crisps and cordials and a little quizzing. Our extra August meeting was at The Oaks for our annual garden party, tea and cakes on the lawn.

We get back to our normal routine of talks and visits in September with a visit to The Cart Shed and then our open meeting with the Severn Freewheelers Blood Bikes on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October, everyone is welcome. (Guest fee £5.00)

Date for your diary, the WI will hold another Coffee Morning on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

**Eardisland WI**

**2.00.p.m. Village Hall**

**Severn Freewheelers Blood Bikes**

**Open Meeting – All Welcome**

**£5.00 on the Door**

## **WINTER APPROACHES**

Now we are heading towards winter, please ensure that you are prepared. If we get a cold winter, although not so common these days, there is a danger that pipes can freeze.

You need to know where the main water stopcock is – often under the kitchen sink or thereabouts. It's a good idea to run the sink cold tap, and turn off the stopcock (turn the top clockwise) – the water should stop running. Turn back on (anti-clockwise). When you reach the full on position, turn it back half-a-turn.

If you can't move the stopcock, you will need to get help from someone who knows a bit about plumbing. Likewise, these stopcocks can sometimes leak around the spindle. Again, if you don't know what to do, get someone who can make a repair.

This is important, because a frozen pipe may well leak when it thaws and you need to cut the water off to minimise the damage.

Chris Bivand

# **Eardisland Craft** **& Produce Fair**

**Kindly sponsored by Lee Anderson Property**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10am**  
**– 4.00pm**

**50+ quality stalls**

**St. Mary's Church & Village Hall**

**Tea, coffee and cakes from 10am**

**Barbeque from 9am**

Admission just £2 to include **a free hot drink.**

Plenty of free parking available.

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

## **EARDISLAND CRAFT & PRODUCE FAIR**

The Eardisland Craft & Produce Fair will take place on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October** between 10am and 4pm.

The show will follow the same format as previous years with stalls in the church, the marquee and a good number in private gazebos in the church grounds. As ever Wendy Cross will be found in the village hall, together with her delicious range of cakes, bakes and jars, where you'll also be able to refresh yourself with a hot drink and a slice of cake.

The barbecue will be lit from around 9am and be serving throughout the day.

Can I please appeal for help on the following dates and times;

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October @ 10am**, to help erect the marquee in the church grounds.

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at any time between 2 – 6pm** to assist stallholders with unloading and carrying goods to their tables.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October**, help required throughout the day in the village hall, serving, clearing tables and washing up, on the recreation ground to assist with car parking and at the church to sell admission and raffle tickets.

All shifts are normally two hours, however if you can only manage one hour then that too will be great.

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October @ 2pm** to dismantle the marquee.

If you can help please either speak to me directly, leave a message in the shop, or email [eardislandcfair@btinternet.com](mailto:eardislandcfair@btinternet.com)

Hopefully we'll see you all at the show. Thanks for your support!

Phil Milchard



### **EARDISLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Summer is all but over and with that the days are continuing to get shorter, nights longer, and we enter a period that historically sees an increase in the number of burglaries. As well as remaining vigilant, these steps will reduce the risk of becoming a victim: Lock all windows and doors; check that side gates, sheds and garages are locked and tools or ladders are not accessible; store all house, car and window keys out of sight and away from doors or windows; make your home look occupied by using a timer switch to turn on lights, a radio or TV at night. If you go away, ask a neighbour to keep an eye on your home. Wheelie bins left out and parcels left outside your door could be an indication to burglars that the house is unoccupied. It can't fail to help deter burglars if we look out for our neighbours if we know they are away. Neighbourhood Watch membership provides you with access to the website and more crime prevention advice including a burglary prevention toolkit.

You can register and join the Eardisland scheme using the following link <https://members.ourwatchmember.org.uk/join> and select the Eardisland scheme. Members can also access discounted security equipment and home insurance, and of course your window sticker is a visible deterrent to burglars and thieves.

If you have any questions on how to join or on any aspect of Neighbourhood Watch please get in touch, or if you don't want to join online, call or email me with your name, address and contact details and I can complete the membership process on your behalf.

Joe Logan

Phone: 01544 388878. Email: [eardisland\\_neighbourhood\\_watch@hotmail.com](mailto:eardisland_neighbourhood_watch@hotmail.com)  
(please note the 2 underscores)

# Auction of Promises



Fantastic lots including works by local artists,  
guided wildlife walks, family days out, meals at  
local hostelryes and loads more!

St Mary's Church, Eardisland  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025,  
Auction starts at 7pm - viewing from 6:30pm  
£5 entry to include a drink and nibbles –  
cash bar available

Tickets available from Eardisland Community  
Shop or contact Revd Rosie on 07720 333383 /  
[revd.rosie@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk](mailto:revd.rosie@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk)

## **AUCTION OF PROMISES CURRENT LIST OF LOTS**

- A selection of mounted sketches by Brian Pollard.
- A flatpack dolls house.
- A model church with interior items and weathervane.
- A selection of meal vouchers from local businesses.
- A ¼ peal of bells to mark a special occasion.
- A set of antique carpet bowls.
- A complete set of golf clubs and trolley.
- Several rounds of golf.
- A tour of the Eardisland church tower to admire the view.
- A birthday party at Halo Leisure Pool.
- A selection of cakes and preserves.
- Spanish/French tuition.
- A ride in a vintage car.
- A weekend break in a holiday home.
- A guided wildlife tour.
- Limited edition RAF prints.
- 2 full lengths of upholstery fabric.
- Collection of Barbie dolls and accessories.
- A 35ml bottle of Channel No. 5.
- A collection of Whimsical World Pocket Dragons.
- 3 Our Generation dolls.
- A collection of My Little Ponies.
- A hamper of local produce.
- A trip in a steam train.
- An MOT.
- A lawnmower service.
- Film tickets to the Courtyard Theatre in Hereford.
- Family ticket to the Judges Lodgings in Presteigne.
- Entry to Hergest Croft.
- A day at Oaker Wood Leisure.
- Admission to the Hereford Waterworks Museum.
- Limited Edition Flying Scotsman watch.
- Family History research.
- Bottles of wine/whisky.
- Nighttime driving glasses.
- Insulated backpack and accessories.
- Cheeseboard and knives.
- A Set of art supplies.

- A luxury quilt.

Plus, others to be confirmed!

A detailed programme, plus a sealed bid box can be found in the Eardisland Community Shop.

**Thank you to all our contributors**

### **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.**

#### **Rector's position is vacant**

Messages can still be left on Rectory phone 01568 708255

Curate	Rev Rosie Roberts	07720 333383 <a href="mailto:revd.rosie@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk">revd.rosie@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk</a>
Reader	Rosie Capon:	07811 436412
Churchwarden/Organist	Annette Blyth annette@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk	01544 388241
Deputy Churchwarden	Dian Cope	01544 388317
Treasurer:	Mike Coleburn	01544 388486
PCC Secretary:	Vacant	

#### **Services at St Mary the Virgin Eardisland, and in the Benefice**

Date	Time and type	Which church?
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>9.30am iSingPop</b> - Elijah	Eardisland
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9.30am <b>iSingPop</b>	Eardisland
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	11am Harvest Festival followed by lunch at 12.15pm	Eardisland
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland

Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov <b>Remembrance Day</b>	<b>10.45 at War Memorial with remainder of service in church</b>	Eardisland
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland

Many of you attended **Rev Julie's** final services, both at Eardisland and Kingsland; happy and special, but sad at the same time. Also, many of you kindly donated towards a retirement gift for her – we were able to present £1,700 in holiday vouchers for Julie and Nick to use as they wished. They were delighted and amazed; I know they would wish me to record their thanks to all of you.

**Vacancy** – The Church Wardens of our Benefice (Kingsland, Eardisland, Aymestrey and Leinthall Earles) have been very busy during the summer compiling documents ready to be given to applicants. Each parish has their own 'profile' with pictures, plus a piece about the needs of the Benefice and the attributes that would be desirable for the new incumbent to have to be the best 'fit' for our parishes.

All the paperwork goes to the Diocesan Office and the advertisements will be in the press during October; interviews will take place later in November.

We are most fortunate to have **Revd Rosie** still in place as our Curate; she is in the final year of her training now to become a fully-fledged Parish Priest. This will give us a good deal of continuity but she will still be doing her own job as she has always done, plus a few added co-ordinating roles.

Several other priests will be helping us during this time – in Eardisland we will be seeing a lot more of our Archdeacon, Derek Chedzey, who has kindly volunteered to take quite a few of our services. Our Rural Dean, Rev Mark Long, will be in contact with us regularly to make sure things are going smoothly.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
**11AM, SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**  
**FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT 12.15PM FOR**  
**ANYBODY WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US.**  
**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CUTLERY AND**  
**CROCKERY.**  
**PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST IN**  
**CHURCH OR EMAIL THE CHURCH WARDEN**  
**SO WE HAVE ENOUGH FOOD!**

**If you are new to the village, or not particularly a church-goer**, please know that you are always welcome to be involved in other ways than worship. Could you be our Secretary? Could you join a Gardening Session to keep the churchyard and graves tidy? Have you got building/DIY skills to help us maintain this ancient and historical place? Can you help with events planning? Publicity? Computer skills? Flower arranging? Singing? Bell-ringing? We would be so glad of a team of kind people to offer their skills and talents to help our church thrive for the next generation. Give me a call!

Annette Blyth  
Church Warden

**FROM: REV ROSIE ROBERTS**

Dear friends,

As I write this, the weather is starting to change and feel distinctly autumnal. I wore tights and boots for the first time this week – and regretted it halfway through the day when the sun came out and I was sweltering! We have started to get some decent rain which will hopefully allow the land to recover after such a hot, dry summer. We're seeing the effects of the extreme weather this year with shortages of some vegetables in our greengrocers and supermarkets, and I'm sure our farmers know these effects only too well.

Our harvest festival each year is a chance to come together and sing some traditional hymns, give thanks for the land and those who work on it, and to share food and fellowship together. But much more than that, it is a chance to connect deeply with what has happened on the land and in the working lives of our farmers in the past year, to give thanks for the good but also to lament the challenges that the past year has brought – and sadly, with the effects of climate change as well as changing to farming practices, legislation and other pressures, the challenges faced in farming year on year are not insignificant. But the church should be – and is – a place where we can bring all things – our joys and our sorrows, our triumphs and our struggles – honestly before God, who knows everything we go through and is big enough to hold it all.

In this spirit, I warmly invite you to join us for our harvest festival at St Mary's Church which will be held on Sunday 19 October at 11am, followed by a lunch – see the 'Church Matters' section for more details – where we can enjoy the richness of the harvest festival tradition alongside celebrating and lamenting the ups and downs of the last year on the land. Before then, do consider joining us for our upcoming events – the Auction of Promises on Friday 19 September – see elsewhere in this magazine for details of the event and the fabulous lots up for grabs – and the Craft Fayre on Saturday 4 October.

In the church year, we're coming to the end of a long season called ordinary time, which lasts from May/June time (depending on when Easter falls)

through to Advent Sunday at the end of November/beginning of December, which marks the start of a new church year. 'Ordinary time' might give the impression that this time is dull or unimportant, just a time to while away until we can get back to the excitement of Christmas and Easter. But in fact it's anything but - it's the canvas on which most of our life is painted.

Jesus often spoke of God's Kingdom using images of the small and everyday – the ordinary, you might say. Yeast in dough, a mustard seed in the ground, a lamp on a stand were all used to show how amazing, transformative things can come from what some might dismiss as small or insignificant. It's a reminder to take pleasure in the everyday, ordinary things of life; to slow down and notice those things which, in more exciting times, we might rush past.

This autumn, I pray that you will find joy in the ordinary, in the everyday...and when you do, remember that God delights in it just as much as you do.

With every blessing,

Rosie



## Can you help?



Eardisland Parochial Church Council (the committee that manages the church) is looking for a secretary. The main duties are preparing agendas and taking and writing up minutes for meetings (roughly every two months), dealing with correspondence and preparing reports, notices and other paperwork for our annual meeting.

If you would like a no-obligation chat about this role, contact Rev Rosie on [revd.rosie@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk](mailto:revd.rosie@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk) or 07720 333383.



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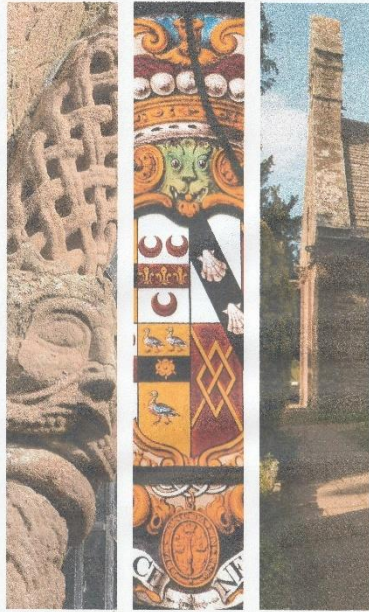
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THURSDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2025  
10AM - 12 NOON

ALL WELCOME, PLEASE BRING FRIENDS.  
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REPRESENTATIVES. CAKES AND PRODUCE  
STALL. RAFFLE.

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### **EARDISLAND WEATHER REPORT**

Summer arrives at last for July in Eardisland with temperatures recorded at 18°C to 31°C, but with a continued lack of rain, only 38mm (1.49 inches). Barometer pressures were 29.4 to 30.09, the river level dropped to 10 inches.

August temperatures remained high at 16°C to 29°C. Please note temperatures are taken in the shade. There was still a lack of rain with only 23mm (0.906 inches) recorded. Barometer pressures were 29.3 to 30.01. River levels are low at 9 inches.

The equivalent rainfall for July 2024 was 65mm (2.56 inches), and August 2024, 34mm (1.33 inches).

Doug Tantrum reporting from Kingfisher House

*Editor's note: 2025 has now officially been declared as the hottest summer on record. More worryingly, the hottest years are increasingly grouped together, which means that what is now out of the ordinary is becoming the new normal, as farmers will be all too aware.*



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Printed by PIP Printing, Hereford  
© Publisher and copyright: Eardisland Parish Council 2025

Views expressed are those of individual contributors and not necessarily those of Eardisland Parish Council. The Eardisland Parish Magazine is published by Eardisland Parish Council without inserts. The Parish Council's magazine contact is Cllr. Richard Davies. The Eardisland Parish Magazine is posted online in pdf format on the village website: [www.eardisland.org.uk](http://www.eardisland.org.uk).

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 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**



Photo: Chris Bivand