

Footprints

Issue No. CCLVII

January 2024.

Edited by Peter Walker, Norton Hse., Broad Green, Broadwas on Teme. (01886 822137)

E-mail : peter43walker@gmail.com

Copy by 15th of month, please.

A Happy New Year to all our friends and neighbours



A jolly photograph that has recently come my way.

These Guides are “enjoying” a rough and cold ride in the milk float that my Grandmother and Aunt Mary used for their dairy business from the Grove Farm. They ran the Knightwick Guide Company for many, many years. Date: Mid to late 1930’s

The flood mark on the garage wall, behind is 1st June 1924 and is still just about visible, the next big flood was 1947 and three bricks lower !

Monthly musings from Rev Anne (Team Rector)

Happy New Year !

As we move from one year into another we look backwards and forwards - During the past year the WWRT has started the process of settling into being a Benefice of seven parishes – Martley, Wichenford, LTV (Broadwas, Cotheridge and Knightwick), Suckley, Alfrick-w-Lulsley, Leigh and Crown East + Rushwick. Whilst this is not yet a legal entity within the Church of England, Clifton, The Shelsleys and Harpley, now have Rev Julie Curtis licensed as their Curate in Charge. In reality Julie will take on the role of incumbent, and I, in my licensed role as Team Rector, along with our ‘retired’, yet hardworking clergy, Rev Jennifer Whittaker and Rev Mike Gardner, the new member of our team Rev John Morris and curate Rev Sally Knowles will take care of the Benefice of the Worcestershire West Rural Team (WWRT).

During the coming year my prayer and hope is that we will continue to develop relationships across the Benefice, particularly in our outreach to families and the choral work offering folk the opportunity to sing in our bigger churches. However, each parish has its own identity and particular strengths which it is important to recognise and encourage depending on their context. For example, the relationships with the wider community, especially schools, and the space in which regular worship takes place alongside community events.

Here in the Lower Teme Valley the churches play leading roles in the lives of Broadwas and Cotheridge with Knightwick Chapel gathering congregation once a month. Broadwas is fortunate to be situated near the school with whom we are attempting to build closer links outside of school hours.

We have moved the **Worship for all** service (an all-age service aiming to reach families alongside still catering for the older generation) to Broadwas from Crown East. The reason for moving the service was because Broadwas Church has the space Crown East does not have at the front to engage with any children who come along. Crown East were sorry to lose this service but totally understood that more space was needed. Services like this need to be benefice rather than parish based as families will travel. For example

currently we have a couple of families who have started to attend from Rushwick and another from Leigh.

Whereas, in Cotheridge the building serves a much smaller community, yet it has so much potential for choral work and other community events. The space within the church building is being developed to create an adaptable space offering further opportunities.

Whilst the number of people of faith is nationally decreasing our parish churches, especially those situated in rural villages, continue to play a significant role in the lives of local folk. When you walk into one of our beautiful churches they are full of God's presence in the awe and wonder of the architecture, the stained-glass windows, the church 'furniture' and the high altar sitting beneath the east window. Whenever I go into one of our empty Church buildings I have an overriding sense of the 'cloud of witnesses' who have gone before. The thousands who have encountered God in worship, whether regularly or on a special occasion.

There is so much suffering whether through war, natural disasters, effects of climate change, or anything else and many may well question how a God of love and compassion can allow such pain across the world. Obviously, there is not a one sentence answer except to point out that God created humans to have free will and, therefore, we as a race are accountable for the lack of justice, compassion, freedom and love across communities and nations. What we can do is pray for these values to find their way into the hearts of all, especially those who have power and influence in a leadership role.... and where better to pray than in the house of God, the local Church building, which has been filled with the living Spirit, in Jesus Christ, for centuries past and will continue to be so, hopefully, for centuries to come.

In the meantime, let's focus on the coming year as, together, we pray for a peaceful 2024 filled with hope, joy (even in times of sorrow) and love.

Events Diary - January

4 th Thurs	12 - 2pm	Lunch in Company (LinC) - Broadwas Village Hall
7 th Sun	10.30am	Worship for All - Broadwas Church
	10.30am	Holy Communion : Epiphany - Martley Church
8 th Mon	11.00am	Royal British Legion meeting at the Talbot
10 th Wed	10.15am	Holy Communion at Heaton House, Martley
14 th Sun	10.30am	Holy Communion at Wichenford Church
	3.00pm	Evening Worship - Knightwick Chapel
17 th Wed	12.30pm	W.I. Christmas Lunch at the Royal Oak
21 st Sun	10.30am	Holy Communion - Broadwas Church
		Café Church - St Peters, Martley
24 th Wed	10.15am	Holy Communion at Heaton House, Martley
25 th Thurs	2.00-4.00pm	Cupper and Chat - Cotheridge Church
27 th Sat		Charity Coffee Morning at Martley Memorial Hall
28 th Sun	10.30am	Morning Worship at Broadwas Church
	10.30am	Holy Communion at Martley Church
	12.30pm	Service of Baptism at Broadwas Church
	4.00pm	Evening Worship at Knightwick Chapel

Some more "One-liners".:

Artificial Intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

Never attribute to malice what can be adequately explained by stupidity.

Fools rush in where fools have been before.

Everyone is entitled to be stupid, but some abuse the privilege.

This month it was our pleasure to have Gill Beardshaw visit us to demonstrate and help us make festive table decorations. We spent our time chatting whilst being busy creating. It was most enjoyable. Thank you very much Gill.

On Gill's behalf we made donations of food for the Foodbank, which I delivered the following day. Thank you everyone for your contributions which were gratefully received.

Our next meeting will be January 17th when we shall have our Christmas lunch at the Royal Oak.

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

Susan Reeve



Bromyard Choral Society

PRESENTS

An **AFTERNOON TEA PARTY**
at
WHITBOURNE VILLAGE HALL
on
SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2024
at **3 p.m.**

Please join us afterwards for a cream tea.

£8 entrance fee

Excerpt from **"Autobiography of Ted Morris"** - written about 1970 and recorded by a great Grandson, Richard Ankerson, from whom I got it many years ago, when I met him in Knightwick churchyard, visiting the family graves.

. So, I started to work for Mr. Walker at Horsham on June 17th 1910. In September hop picking commenced and the bailiff Mr. Nellist, asked me if I would do the booking in the hopyard, he said "If so I will give you 10/- a week", so I said "I will do my best", there was a heavy crop of hops and we had five weeks picking, of course it was all done by hand, at seven bushels to the shilling, when we had finished Mr. Walker was at the farm to pay the pickers at 9am the next morning. He always had two policemen there, one to see each picker into the house and the other to see them out. After he had paid them all he asked the bailiff "Who did the booking in the hopyard", he said "Ted Morris", he said "Fetch him in, I want to see him", so I went in, and he said "Did you do this book young fellow"; "Yes Sir" I said. "Well" he said "in all the years I have been hop growing I have never had it kept so neat and clean". On his table before him he had three basins, one had coppers in, one silver and the other had sovereigns in, he put his hand in and gave me two sovereigns and said "Well done my lad, I give credit where credit is due". I thanked him, and went out singing to myself, "For he's a jolly good fellow". In the November, the horses were kept in at night and the bailiff said if you will clean out from these twelve horses by 7am each morning you can still have 10/- a week so I agreed to do it, my brother used to leave home at 4am and I followed on at 5am and we never left the stables until 8 pm all the winter months but we were happy at our job. In March 1912 my brother emigrated to Canada, he asked Mr. Walker, if he would give him a character to take with him, he said "I will give you an excellent one, but I will give you a better one to stop here". Then he asked me if I would take my brother's job on as waggoner, at 15/- a week and I said "No thank

you Sir, now he is going I will not feel content here". Then he went and saw my father and asked him if he would try to persuade me to go to Ankerdine farm and look after his Hereford herd. My father said "You had better go", so I went.

In May, when the cattle went out to grass, bar the bulls, I went out into the fields to work. He had quite a few acres of strawberries on the farm and on the 15th of June picking commenced. Mr. Walker said "I want you to weigh those strawberries, and book them in"; he said "I am going to give them 2^d a basket of 12lb for picking", he said "There will be a number of pickers so don't get them mixed up". The first to come to weigh in was a young girl about eighteen years of age. I asked her if she liked fruit picking, she said "Yes I love it", then she told me she had been in service at Alfrick Rectory for the Rev. Shepperd at £4 a year, and that the living was not very good either. I felt sorry for her because she was a wonderful worker and kept good time, From then on our friendship grew and I had the greatest respect for her, when the picking was over, she went to service again at the Noak, Martley for Mrs. Nash at £5 a year and she had one half day every three months, she had to go to church each Sunday and I accompanied her to church and saw her safely in at night, I had three miles to walk home, but people walked for miles in those days.

In August 1914 the first world war broke out, and I was one of the first to be called up for service. I went to Norton Barracks, to Birkenhead, Manchester and to Bury Barracks in Lancashire. There I was enlisted into the Royal Lancashire Fusiliers and I found myself working for King George the fifth at 1/- a day.

. . . . *more to follow another month*

Village Information

Church Officials:

Team Rector - Rev Anne Potter 01886 832355
Team Vicar - vacant
Assistant Priest - Rev Jennifer Whittaker 01886 833897
Churchwardens – Lower Teme Valley Parish
Rob Pearce 01886 821959
Peter Walker 01886 822137

Parish Councils

Broadwas & Cotheridge : www.broadwascotheridge-pc.gov.uk
Chairman – Richard Burrows
Clerk – Email : clerk@broadwascotheridge-pc.gov.uk
Knightwick & Doddenham
Clerk – Richard Timney 07515881231
Email : richardtimney@yahoo.com

Village Hall - Broadwas Georgina Tabberer, Chair,

Email : Broadwasvillagehall@outlook.com

Clubs and Societies

Broadwas Sports Assoc. Sec. - David Creed-Newton - 01886 880534
davidcreednewton@btinternet.com
Croquet Club – John Guy 01905 748192
Royal British Legion – Sue Ganderton 01905 422711
W.I. – Barbara Lloyd 01905 333635

Schools:

Broadwas C of E Primary School - Secretary 01886 821347
Bumblebees : Pre-school/Out-of-School Care 07817637241

Community Website - www.broadwas-cotheridge.com

Footprints Production Team

Editor: Peter Walker 01886 822137 ; peter43walker@gmail.com
Treasurer & Distribution Organisers: Paul Reeve 01886 821322
paulreeve100@gmail.com