

Footprints

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April 2023.

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

E-mail : peter43walker@gmail.com

Copy by 15th of month, please.



Church Words

by Rev Anne Potter

Music to every Christian's ears. After six weeks of Lent we move into the most important week in the Christian calendar, Holy Week. The week that started with the Triumphant Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with people lining the streets to welcome their celebrity, their Messiah. The week of the Last Supper Jesus had with his disciples leaving followers down the centuries with the perpetual memory of his broken body and his shed blood. The week that witnessed the horrific death of the 'King' on the cross, the ultimate sacrifice for the salvation of humankind. The week in which the disciples felt complete desolation. Yet, the week ended with the joy of the Son's resurrection and the fulfilment of the Father's promise of eternal life.

Helen Steiner Rice, an American writer of both inspirational and Christian poetry who lived from 1900-1981 wrote a beautiful poem called *The Legend of the Raindrop*. The poem describes how a raindrop wavers about falling to the earth below as it is so beautiful shimmering like a diamond in the sky. However, the raindrop is persuaded to fall as by doing so it sinks below the soil and hence contributes to the cycle of nature – the growth of plants which in turn wilt and wither making the soil more fertile in readiness for the birth of further plants. Through the raindrop, who has a lesson for us all, Helen Steiner Rice describes death and the beauty of new life along with a special message of hope as summarised in the final four lines of her poem.

*For there is nothing ever lost, or eternally neglected,
for everything God ever made is always resurrected.
So trust God's all wise-wisdom and doubt the father never,
for in his heavenly kingdom nothing is lost forever.*

Easter is the time we Christians celebrate the joy of the resurrection and the fulfilment of God's eternal kingdom. We fill our churches with flowers after the austerity of Lent. We celebrate in the sharing of eggs, more often than not chocolate, reminding

us of birth and new life, the new life we are continually promised in Jesus Christ.

When we get to April 9th may I wish all our readers across the Worcestershire West Rural Team (WWRT) a joyous and blessed Easter.

Events happening in our team

April 2nd Palm Sunday 11.00.am- all are welcome at Laylocks to remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on a donkey.

*April 7th - Good Friday Workshop for Primary School Children at Suckley Church from 10-12 am - crafts and activities reflecting the Easter Story
Three-hour meditation around being at the foot of the cross 1-3 pm in Martley Church
Stainer's Crucifixion sung in Leigh Church at 6.00 pm*

Council Elections—4th May 2023

Change in representation for our Parishes

My name is Barbara Jones-Williams, and I am the current Malvern Hills District Councillor for the Martley Ward. I have had the pleasure to have held this position for almost twenty eight years.

The reason for me writing, is to inform you that following a public consultation, The Independent Boundary Commission have decided to change our local parish connections into a new, single-member ward structure. The parishes of Broadwas and Cotheridge and Knightwick and Doddenham will join Martley, Kenswick and Wichenford to form the new Martley Ward, after the 4th May local elections.

To give you a little information about myself, I was born into an old, established family in Clifton-on-Teme. I went to both Clifton Primary School and the Chantry High School in Martley. I have lived and worked in The Teme Valley my whole life, helping my late husband to run our family sawmills in Martley, as well as my own small business. I have four daughters, all of which live locally, and I am now married to Neville. We are all very active within the local community.

I am very much looking forward to welcoming our new rural parishes into the Martley ward.

Events Diary - April

2023

APRIL

1 st Sat	11am-2pm	Nora Parson's Easter Fair at the Centre, Venn Lane, Wichenford.
2 nd Sun	11.00am	Palm Sunday Service at Laylocks
	6.00pm	The Passion of Christ with Communion at Martley Church
6 th Thurs	12 - 2pm	Lunch in Company at Broadwas Village Hall
7 th Fri	10.30am	Coffee & Hot Cross Buns - Cotheridge Church
9 th Sun	10.30am	Easter Communion - Broadwas Church
12 th Wed	10.15am	Holy Communion at Heaton House, Martley
14 th Fri	7.00pm	Quiz Night at Broadwas Village Hall
16 th Sun		No Church service in the LTV
19 th Wed	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Cotheridge Church
	2.00pm	W I at Broadwas Village Hall
20 th Thurs	2.00-4.00pm	Cupper and Chat - Cotheridge Church
23 rd Sun	10.30am	Morning Worship - Broadwas Church
24 th Mon	9.00am	Morning Prayer at Broadwas Church
26 th Wed	10.15am	Holy Communion at Heaton House, Martley
27 th Thurs	10.30-13.00	Warm Welcome & Natter at Broadwas Village Hall
29 th Sat	10.30-12noon	Charity Coffee Morning at Martley Memorial Hall
30 th Sun	10.30am	Team - Songs of Praise on the Glebe at Martley

MAY

4th Local Councils Election Day

Broadwas Village Hall

(Charity number : 523106)

How can I join Friends?

Add your name to the contacts list to get involved.

Facebook : www.facebook.me/BroadwasVH

Email : **Broadwasvillagehall@outlook.com**

Use the above email to make inquiries for booking the hall, not quite as simple as before, but a new system is being developed.

Community Car Scheme

Having had a break due to the Covid situation, it has been suggested that the Community Car Scheme should be re-started.

Helen Walker is willing to be the co-ordinator and will be getting in touch with people who had previously volunteered as drivers.

It would be good to have a few more volunteers from the community and also possibly someone to take over from Helen as the organizer

The scope of the scheme is to provide transport for people unable to drive, for whatever reason, to get to appointments at the Doctors, Hospital, Dentist, Opticians etc, etc. or just to get to do the shopping now that our bus service is so depleted.

Contact : Helen Walker 01886 822137

Email : helenmwalker@btinternet.com

Joan Prout's talk, '*Found by My Family*' was a very moving account of how a family evolved over the years.

Joan says she knew she was adopted but had been unable to find information back in 1980's when she was expecting her first baby and wondered about her past. After the 1975 Adoption Act, allowing the release of information, including a full birth certificate, information was available and upon receiving the documents she decided not to contact her family. Would her loving adoptive parents be upset, would she like her birth family, would her birth mother want to be contacted and would her intrusion cause pain and difficulties?

In 2007 Joan did more research and registered with Social Services to find out more. Online searches of the 1939 register revealed more information showing that her mother married after her birth. Other searches were proving difficult so it was a surprise to Joan to receive an email from a sister who was looking for her. After tentative phone calls and then meeting her new found family the full story was revealed. This family had learned of a 'lost baby' after their parents had separated.

There were five more children to the same parents, and apparently the father had been married to someone else when Joan was born. Joan's mother, as a young nurse in training, could not bring up her baby by herself so the pregnancy and birth was kept secret. Happily, all these years later, the family were united and they found there was a close bond and are now enjoying each other's company.

It was a wonderful story and very moving. Thank you Joan for such an interesting tale of family life. It shows how things have changed over the years as to the right to know of your parentage, however difficult this might be.

Our next meeting is at 2pm on April 19th, 'From Railways to Royalty' a talk by Jack Boskett. The competition is a spring posy.

Susan Reeve

Give Croquet A Try At Broadwas.

You Don't Know What You've Been Missing!

It feels like it was only last year that I picked up a croquet stick for the first time ever.

Now, if you have never been within a hundred miles of a croquet hoop but were astute enough to immediately spot the above use of an incorrect term to describe a croquet racquet, then you are EXACTLY the sort of person we are seeking to welcome to **Broadwas Croquet Club** in the forthcoming season.

Until last summer, I had never laid eyes on a proper mallet, let alone swung one around my head like the God of Thunder. (Don't worry, you'll be instructed in the 'Thor Technique' before you take part in tournament matches). But one day in June 2022, my wife and I attended an open afternoon at the club. From that very first introductory afternoon hosted by Fun Day Friday Organiser Chris Croft, we were both totally hooked on golf croquet.

From the moment we arrived at the club, we felt completely at home and our slight trepidation at the thoughts of completely embarrassing ourselves due to our ineptitude was totally dispelled by the warmth of our welcome and helpful tips from Chris, other club members and senior players.

What perhaps struck us most about the club was how friendly and sociable the members and organisers are, always willing and happy to help out if we were unsure of what shot to play next. The club also has social events during the year and in the winter close season, a breakfast club helps members keep in touch and seeks to slightly shorten the agonising wait for the start of the season usually in April.

Within an hour of arriving on that first afternoon, we had assimilated the basic rules of golf croquet and were up and running and able to participate in a game.

As we were both newly retired and suffering the minor aches and pains that people of our age are occasionally prone to, we were slightly anxious that our physical fitness might not be up to the job, but we needn't have worried. Both of us feel positively invigorated after our afternoons on the club's five lawns. The Friday afternoon tea and cake also helps!

As the club chairman Stuart Smith told BBC's Midlands Today a few years ago after the club won a national title, croquet "Doesn't need strength, it doesn't need superhuman muscles or speed, it's all about finesse."

But if you're at all anxious about not being 'good enough' to play, forget all that. Golf croquet at Broadwas is as competitive or relaxing as you want it to be. Many members are content to just turn up on the Roll-up afternoons held on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1.00 pm until 4.00 pm, whilst others involve themselves in the club's internal blocks competition and league games against other local clubs, as well as national competitions. The club is hoping this season to once again hold free taster evenings for those interested in taking up the sport. Whatever level you play at, the atmosphere at Broadwas Croquet Club is always extremely relaxed.

If playing croquet in a tranquil setting with lovely people appeals to you, then why not give us a ring to arrange a visit? **Chairman Stuart Smith can be contacted on 01886 853311, Club Captain John Guy can be contacted on 01905 748192, and you can speak to Fun Croquet Organiser Chris Croft on 01886 821664 or go to www.broadwascroquetclub.org.uk for more details.**

Croquet Club – Publicity Officer

Paul (Felton) 07528 522231 paulyfelton@icloud.com

Village Information

Church Officials:

Team Rector - vacant

Team Vicar - Rev Anne Potter 01886 832355

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 – Geoffrey Brewin 01886 821386

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