

# CLEEVE PRIOR NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2023

## The Benefice of the East Vale and Avon Villages

It is good news to hear that the churches in and around Badsey are welcoming friends from their German partner parishes in the month of August. This partnership link has been going for several years, and I know that long-standing friendships have been made. It is part of a wider link that the diocese of Worcester has with the church in the eastern part of Germany, a link which began more than thirty years ago at the time when the Berlin Wall came down.

There were great hopes then as the countries of the former Eastern bloc and the West came together, and walls and political systems which had separated families and friends for decades began to crumble – all the more tragic then, that those divisions have arisen again with the war in Ukraine.

What difference might such a partnership visit as this make in our divided world? For the Christian it is a reminder that our ultimate loyalty is to God, rather than one political set-up. They come here as our brothers and sisters in Christ. Our faith unites us.

It is also part of our calling, in the words of Pope Francis, to build bridges rather than walls. Human beings flourish most of all when they are in community, and we need other people to become the people we are meant to be. Archbishop Tutu described the African concept of *ubuntu* like this: 'I am a person through other people. My humanity is tied to yours.'

So this partnership visit from Germany to England is one small way of building bridges, and learning more about ourselves by welcoming others. Come and meet them, please join in – it will certainly be enjoyable.

*Robert  
The Venerable Robert Jones  
Archdeacon of Worcester*

# **St Andrew's Church**

## **Services for August 2023**

Sun 6 August 11.00am Morning Praise Rod Carless

Sun 13 August 11.00am Benefice Eucharist South Littleton

Sun 20 August 11.00am Holy Eucharist Revd Clive Leach

Sun 27 August 11.00am Matins Rod Carless

Sun 3rd Sept 11.00am Holy Eucharist Revd Clive Leach

Churchwardens Rod Carless 01789 773357 Lis Hughes 01789  
772578

Safeguarding in our Benefice Safeguarding Officer – Lisa Farmer  
01386 4040

Safeguarding Advocate – Elizabeth Spencer 01789 720078

For enquiries concerning Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals contact  
Faith Quin [eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com](mailto:eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com)

### **STRAWBERRY TEA 2023**

### **A BIG THANK YOU**

We would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's Strawberry Tea in aid of St Andrew's Church a great success. Over £1,300 was raised and we are very grateful for the generosity not only of those who attended but for numerous donations from those who could not make it.

The event involves a considerable team effort behind the scenes, so a big thank you to the tent erectors, the tea preparers and servers, the stall keepers, the musicians (The Moseley Brothers), and for generous donation of raffle prizes, cakes and books. A special mention goes to Vicky and Stu from Mill Lane Nurseries for wonderful plants and Derek Wilkinson of Sandfield Farms for many boxes of fresh produce.

*Rod Carless and Lis Hughes*  
St Andrew's PCC

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### August 2023

The Council meet on the second Monday of every month at 7.30pm, and we allocate time on the agenda for your views, questions, and issues to be raised. You can see full details on our website [clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk](http://clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk).

Cllr Peter Wilson: Chairman [peterwilson545@btinternet.com](mailto:peterwilson545@btinternet.com)

Cllr Mary Smith: Vice Chair [47mary.j.smith@gmail.com](mailto:47mary.j.smith@gmail.com)

Cllr Ian Robinson: [irobinson773805@gmail.com](mailto:irobinson773805@gmail.com)

Cllr Kevin Mellor: [kevinjohnmellor@gmail.com](mailto:kevinjohnmellor@gmail.com)

Cllr Bryan Eden: [bryaneden@btinternet.com](mailto:bryaneden@btinternet.com)

Cllr Sandra Vincent: [sv180469@gmail.com](mailto:sv180469@gmail.com)

The summer festivities have been underway with the Strawberry Tea, the School's summer fete and the cricket match. Weather shall not wither us.

We're happy to report that we have now filled one of our vacancies and have co-opted Sandra Vincent as a Councillor and we welcome her to our team. We would also like to welcome PC Prentice who will be working alongside PC Beards and PCSO Samson as part of the Safer Neighbourhood Team to keep our village safe.

A polite reminder to please keep our pavements accessible and visibility clear by clipping back overgrown plants and hedges. A less polite reminder to dispose of your dog's poo. Nobody enjoys stepping in it and we are still receiving reports people are not being responsible.

The Parish Council have a break from meeting in August so our next meeting will be on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

You can keep up to date online with news, events and updates on the Parish Council website [www.clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk) , our

village website [www.cleevepriorvillage.co.uk](http://www.cleevepriorvillage.co.uk) and our village Facebook page [www.facebook.com/cleevepriorvillage](https://www.facebook.com/cleevepriorvillage).

For those less technically inclined, information is posted on the noticeboard and at Memorial Hall. Please continue to contact me by email if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

*Stacey Smith*, Clerk to the Parish Council  
[clerk@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk)

## **Cleeve Prior Telephone Box**

The telephone box opposite the village green was purchase by the Parish Council for the princely sum of £1 through BT's 'adopt-a-kiosk' in the 1980's, it has stood unused until the Coronation of His Majesty, King Charles III this year.

The iconic telephone kiosk was the result of a competition in 1924 and was designed by British designer Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. The phone box was introduced by the Post Office to help increase communication around the country.

Our box is a K6 and was introduced in 1935. Designed to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King George V, it bears a Tudor crown. The next display in the box will have a picture of the seat and tree planted on the village green to celebrate King George's Silver Jubilee.

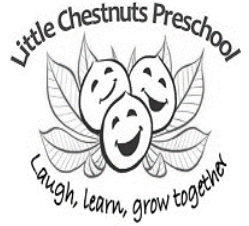
At a recent Parish Council meeting it was proposed to encourage the use of the telephone box for displaying subjects/times of interest from individuals or village groups. If you have any ideas for a display, please contact me and I'll be happy to help.

The next display will be going up soon and I hope you enjoy looking.

*Mary J Smith* (Cllr), [47mary.j.smith@gmail.com](mailto:47mary.j.smith@gmail.com)



# NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL



Dear Villagers

We have finally made it to the end of term! Another year has passed, my second as Head of School. We have held our leavers service today and said goodbye to yet another group of Year 5 and 6 children as they make their way to middle and high school.

Sadly, we have also said goodbye to two teachers, Mrs Wilks and Mrs Thompson who have decided to go off to pastures new. Fortunately, we have recruited Mrs Millard and Mrs Norden to replace them in September and drive our lovely little school onwards. I am sure you will get to meet both of them in due course.

We have some exciting things happening during the summer holidays to make you aware of. We secured a grant from the William Perkins trust for over £5,000 to allow us to have some playtime equipment put in which will be happening in August. We will invite you all in to see the unveiling in the Autumn term.

Despite the horrendous weather, our PTA held their summer fete and raised an amazing £407.55 for our funds. Thank you to all of the villagers who visited or bought raffle tickets and congratulations to those who won prizes.

Next year is a really important one in the history of the school. We are due our Church of England inspection and are expecting our return visit from Ofsted. We are very optimistic that both of these will be successful and our school will continue to thrive. Our numbers are down a little so please tell everyone you meet what a wonderful school the village has and that they should send their children to it. Your support for our school is vital and welcomed.

I sign off by thanking the community for its continued support and look forward to welcoming as many of you into our school and pre-school as we can in the new school year.

Best wishes.

*Sarah Laughlin, Head of School*

### JCS Motor Engineer – Cleeve Prior Garage

It's hard to believe that, by September, two years will have passed since the traumatic fire at The Garage. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued custom.



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vehicle

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Location – Rear of TJ Auto Electrics, Crossleigh,  
The Cross, Offenham, WR11 8RB



Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust

## News from Field Barn

The end of June was just as hectic as the first half, as we welcomed two more school visits. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> Cleeve Prior First School, and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Hollywood Primary School. A very big thank you to all the Volunteers who turned out to make this possible, some 3 times that week! We welcomed walkers from the Evesham Festival on the 30<sup>th</sup>, for tea and cake. They were enchanted with Field Barn and interested to learn more about us. It was just dry enough for them to sit out and enjoy a well-earned large slice of homemade cake and a mug of tea. Thanks again to those volunteers who baked and made tea!!!

July - we have been busy as ever with a wide variety of jobs both at the Sanctuary and Field Barn. Mowing paths through the orchard and at the Forest School, various maintenance jobs, the list is endless and I am always amazed at how much the team of Volunteers achieve on a Tuesday morning. We welcomed 17 visitors from the Worcestershire Archaeological Society on Tuesday 11 July who had a presentation from Ian Robinson, Chris Wolvercote and myself, before tea and cake, and then a visit to the Hovel. If you haven't yet paid a visit to learn more about the Market Garden Heritage of the Vale, why not come to the Plum Pick and pop over to the Hovel and have a look.

Anyone who attended the Village Cricket Match and enjoyed the BBQ will have seen and possibly sampled the first batch of this year's Field Barn cider. I suspect it will sell pretty quickly judging by how many cases we have sold in the first two weeks.

Our next big event is the **Big Heritage Plum Pick on Saturday 19 August**. See details elsewhere in the newsletter.

This is just a brief overview of the work our volunteers achieve at the Trust. Why not come and join us on a Tuesday morning or, to find out how you can support us, contact Gina Carr, Chairman, 01789 778051



## **Cleeve Prior Ramblers, 15 July**

Undeterred by constant heavy rain and the forecast of more heavy showers and strong winds on the day of our planned walk, a group of 19 ramblers and three dogs assembled at Field Barn for a local walk.

We followed the footpath opposite Field Barn and headed over towards the Littletons. As we approached the Tithe Barn in Middle Littleton, the threatened rain arrived. Fortunately, this was the venue for our coffee stop and we were able to shelter from the heavy shower whilst admiring the 13<sup>th</sup> Century craftsmanship.

Setting off in the dry again, we walked past the animal sanctuary and auction house and did a circular walk around North Littleton before retracing our steps to Field Barn.

We all returned dry and unscathed, to welcome pre-lunch drinks in the sunshine in the beautiful walled garden. The barbecues were fired up and an excellent lunch was enjoyed by 23 merry ramblers and partners.

Our next ramble is scheduled for September. Details to follow. New members are always welcome. Please contact Peter Wilson [wilsonatparkbourne@btinternet.com](mailto:wilsonatparkbourne@btinternet.com) if you are interested in joining us.

*David and Julia Davenport*

## The Annual Village Cricket Match Upper Cleeve v. Lower Cleeve, Sunday 16 July



The annual village cricket match was held on Sunday 16 July, in memory of the 11 men from Cleeve Prior who lost their lives in the two world wars. In keeping with tradition Mike Walker rang the church bells 11 times, whilst our compere for the day, Ian Robinson read out the names of the fallen men.

The teams faced not only battle between Upper Cleeve and Lower Cleeve, but also against the weather forecast and the potential number of spectators due to the timing clash of the Wimbledon men's final. Luckily the weather remained dry, and villagers turned up to support the event in their droves.

This year Upper Cleeve were looking to retain the trophy they won last year whilst Lower Cleeve, having assembled a strong team, were looking to take the win. It was great to see that within the 18 players who volunteered to play, there were some new faces to the village. Duncan Harvey, the Upper Cleeve captain won the toss and play got underway with lower Cleeve batting first. Although scoring was

proving difficult as the longer grass was making for a slower wicket, Lower Cleeve got off to a promising start.

It was lovely to see grandfather and grandson pairing of Colin Taylor and Luke Thomas open. Soon Upper Cleeve's bowlers made steady progress pinning back the batters, young Luke finally having to retire not out, having reached 20 runs. Everyone managed to have a bat and, with a couple of overs left, Luke was able to come back to bat. Lower Cleeve managed to score 80 runs.

After a short break the players took to the field. Some fine bowling and fielding took a few early wickets, but Duncan steadied the batting to put on a fine 20 and then forced to retire due to the rules. Upper Cleeve began to pile on the runs, scoring plenty of boundaries. The game saw some excellent fielding from Lower Cleeve and notably a fine run out by David Davenport. With 3 overs left, Upper Cleeve seemed to have the game in the bag. Duncan returned to the crease and with only a couple of runs needed and an over to spare, Mike Heelis faced the bowler confident of the win. He struck a fine shot, only for it to go for a six, meaning he was out. Match tied.

This was a fair result on the day, meaning Upper Cleeve retained the trophy.

I would like to thank everyone who helped out at the event to make it so successful. In particular, the volunteers who set up the event in the morning and broke it down after the match, Keith Richards who umpired, Lis Hughes and Judy Winters for scoring, Field Barn for putting on the BBQ, and the Memorial Hall for the bar. A special thanks to Julie, my wife, for mowing and preparing the wicket, and of course to the players.

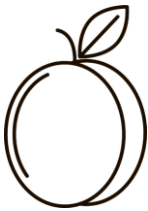
Additional thanks to all of you who turned up to spectate and for raising much needed funds for Field Barn and the Memorial Hall.

*Paul Freeman*

## Memorial Hall mailing list

For the information of those new to the Village, the Hall Management Committee maintains an email list of residents and occasionally sends out messages of local interest, forthcoming events, information from the Parish Council, etc. It is an easy way to keep in touch with the community.

If you would like your email address to be added to the list, just send your request to: [clevepriormemorialhall@gmail.com](mailto:clevepriormemorialhall@gmail.com).



## Wanted

Early ripening plums.

If you have a surplus, we would be pleased to accept or pick them to make jam and chutney to sell at the Big Heritage Plum Pick. Phone Liz Wadsworth on 07825 879586.

\*\*\*\*\*

### *GET UP AND GO*

*Why, when you  
Look at a star  
Do you wonder  
Just who you are*

*Where did you come from  
Where have you been  
Where are you going  
To fulfil your lifelong dream*

*If you never had one  
Make up your mind  
Get up and go  
And at last that dream find*

© Don Barber 13 July 2023



*Field Barn, Evesham  
Road, WR118JX*

## **The Big Heritage Plum Pick**

Saturday 19 August from 12 noon

LIVE MUSIC from THE MOSELEY BROTHERS

BBQ, Bar, Raffle

Childrens Garden Games

*Burgers and Cumberland Hot Dogs £3, Veggie Burger and  
Cheese Burgers £4, Served with Salad, Coleslaw,  
Onions, pickle and sauces*

#####

Enjoy a generous slice of delicious home baked cake,  
Heritage Plum Cake, Apple Cake, Carrot cake, or Coffee  
and Walnut, served with whipped cream, with unlimited  
tea or coffee £4

Squash and a kiddy cake for under 10's £2

**To Reserve a table**, Under cover if wet! Phone Phil 773287  
Or just come along with your friends and family and enjoy a  
day out at the Trust. Relax with a beer, Field Barn Cider or a  
glass of wine whilst listening to some great music!

***Cash only, and donations for plums picked  
gratefully received.***



The Cleeve Prior NWR Group have been taking a break during July as we had two events in June.

Our first outing was a visit to the Northwich Arms, an 18<sup>th</sup> Century former coaching inn situated beside the River Avon in Evesham. We were attending an event hosted by Evesham Festival of Words entitled DNA Detectives. The speaker was Turi King, an expert geneticist from the BBC Series DNA Family Secrets. Her entertaining and enlightening talk covered the rise in the use of DNA in genealogy and forensics, for everything from tracing long lost family members to catching criminals. She spoke to us about her best-known work which involved cracking one of the biggest forensic DNA cases in history – the genetic analysis which led to the confirmation that the body discovered in the Leicester Car Park was indeed that of King Richard III.

We also heard about one of the cases she worked on in DNA Detectives and I suspect there was not a dry eye in the audience after she showed us a clip from that series.

Our next trip was to Sezincote House and Gardens only a week later! Members were looking forward to the visit following the talk given to the group in April by Professor Nicola Watson about Orientalism in Gardens with special reference to Sezincote. We were not disappointed. It was a beautiful day and the House and Gardens were enchanting. Sezincote is the only authentically Mughal palace in Northern Europe and was the inspiration for the Brighton Pavilion. It is still a family home and the house and estate are very much family run. Our house guide was excellent and brought the stories of the house to life. Tea and cake were enjoyed in the lovely, curved Orangery Café. An NWR outing would NOT be complete without Tea and Cake.

Our next planned meeting is on 17 October when we will hear from Sue Ablett, the organiser of Evesham Festival of Words and her subject will be “Bums on Seats” – basically, how she organises a huge event like the Festival of Words. The following month will see the NWR

Annual Telephone Quiz Trail on Wednesday 15 November. I am hoping to arrange meetings for August and September and will email members soon.

*Evelyn 01789 772814*

## **Cleeve Prior Golf Society**

21 July 2023, Tewkesbury

On 21 July, the Golf Society travelled to the Tewkesbury Park Hotel complex to take advantage of their splendid golfing facilities. The weather was set fair for the day, warm but not hot, light zephyrs rather than howling gales and, most importantly, dry. Of course, this removes many of the standard excuses for low scoring but our Society members were determined to take full advantage of the benign conditions.

Our competition format for the day was individual Stableford scores plus a team competition. The course is extremely picturesque with fine views of open countryside and distant hills interspersed with points of interest such as Tewkesbury Abbey. One must not allow oneself to be distracted! Tewkesbury Park has many fine facilities but it appears that their fleet of golf buggies needs some attention. Two separate breakdowns necessitated interruptions to what were otherwise orderly and trouble-free rounds. However, this caused something of a delay so it was a late finish.

The day was rounded off with an excellent and sociable dinner at the Kings Arms Tavern where prizes were awarded to Alan Gittings for the best individual score, Curt Rathbone for 'longest drive' and to our Captain, Julian Franey for 'nearest the pin' on the par 3, seventh hole.

Altogether an excellent day. Our next outing is scheduled for 18 August at Boughton Park Golf Course.

If you are interested in the Cleeve Prior Golf Society, please email Peter Wilson thus: *wilsonatparkbourne@btinternet.com*



## Art Club

Well, we have come to the end of our first year together and have achieved a great deal during this time. The website, (<https://theartclubcleveprior.weebly.com>) which is updated regularly, shows the range of talent and how styles have developed.

In June we were able to invite Darren for a second morning's tuition. Prior to the session Darren had given us all tutorial sheets so we could prepare and sketch out the painting we were to complete during his visit. This was greatly enjoyed by all and our final paintings, most of which were completed the following week, were a great success. Some of our efforts can be seen on the website.

It has also been a time of opportunity to visit other artists in their own working environments through the Warwickshire Open Studios organisation. The range of artwork locally is amazing, such good quality, and all artists were very happy to share their secrets and discuss techniques. The Worcester Open Studios event will begin in September so still plenty of time to look around, for those who are interested to do so.

Our final session was held on 20 July. We had our final opportunity for art work together before September, but we also shared wonderful cakes made by very generous members of the group. It was a meeting that was enjoyed by all.

Our next art club will be held on 7 September at 10 am in the village hall. We meet until 12.30pm.

We are very happy to receive new members in September, you don't need to be an experienced artist, all are welcome.

For more information, please contact me.

*Louise Conneeley*  
[louiseconneeley@gmail.com](mailto:louiseconneeley@gmail.com)





## **Amanda Copperthwaite Select Mortgages**

I understand how unsettling the news around interest rates and costs of living is making everyone feel.

If I can help in any way to relieve any worries, please get in touch.

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# KINGS ARMS TAVERN

## THE KING LIVES ON!

BBQ every Sat 12-4pm (if we get English weather we'll do BBQ from the kitchen) Evening Service 6-9pm

Cow Club every Monday 12-2:30pm 6-9pm

Free wine with any steak & veggie options available!

+ Jazz Nights coming soon!

Coming soon

Wine tasting and food matching evenings

### OPENING TIMES

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

Bar: 12 Noon until 11pm

Food: 12 noon until 2:30pm & 6pm until 9pm

SATURDAY

Bar: 12 Noon until 11pm / Food: 12 noon until 9pm

SUNDAY (INCLUDING ROAST DINNERS)

Bar: 12 Noon until 7pm / Food: 12 noon until 4pm

Pub Quiz

30th July  
17th Sept  
26th Nov



SCAN ME TO SEE OUR NEW MENUS

Use your smartphone camera to scan the QR code to see our new Summer Menu. Daily Specials also available.

Dave and the team look forward to welcoming you soon.

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Telephone 0330 016 0219



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Tel: 01789 491417, 07803 720184

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SWade is a private cook, living locally, with over 30 years' experience in events and catering. Her niche is taking the "self" out of self-catering holidays but can also design bespoke menus for family gatherings through to gourmet delights.

[swade@dashzani.com](mailto:swade@dashzani.com) **07702 421 975**   **CookbySWade**

## **Can I help you?**

Hello, my name is Daniel and I live in the village. I would like to offer my services doing odd jobs: dog walking, gardening, painting, pet sitting, etc.

I will be finishing my A levels in late June. If you would be interested, please call me on 01789 773045. References are available.

# CREATIVE HAIR STUDIO

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Senior Stylist Kim is one of only a few Curl-by-curl method specialists trained in the art of cutting naturally curly hair in the Worcestershire area.

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**Contact Matthew 07770 582331**



## VILLAGE and LOCAL EVENTS

Date	Event	Time	Venue
19 Aug	Heritage Plum Pick	12 noon	Field Barn

**Cleeve Prior Art Group** meets in the Hall at 10 am on Thursdays. The Autumn Term starts on 7 September.

**Pilates** classes are held on Friday mornings in the Hall at 9.30 and 10.30 am.

**The CP Bowls Club** meets in the Hall on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday evenings, from September to May. Contact Les Bratt on 01789 773651.

### **EVESHAM RURAL NORTH SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM**

*Details of up-coming Cleeve Prior Drop-in Sessions with your Local Police Officers at the Village Hall will be posted in the Hall window*

PC 3838 Matt Beards / PCSO 40246 Bradley Sansom

### **St Joseph The Worker Catholic Church, Bidford**

There is no priest in residence at present so,  
If you need to speak to a Catholic priest urgently,  
contact St George's Worcester 01905 236888  
or Canon Brian McGinley 07917 341957

# The Church Rotas for August

## Sidesmen

6 Aug	Mrs J Taylor
13 Aug	No service at St Andrew's
20 Aug	Mrs M Greenwood
27 Aug	Mr A Taylor
Sept 3	Mrs L Hawkins

## Church Flowers

6 Aug	Mrs D Byrne
13 Aug	Mrs J Selby
20 Aug	Mrs J Stewart
27 Aug	Mrs L Parry
3 Sept	Mrs M Greenwood

## Church Cleaning

Mrs N Blakely
Mrs J McKay
Mrs B Walker
Mrs J Winter
Mrs H Bratt

## Memorial Hall 200 Club

### July Draw

£50, Sue Simpson

Copy for inclusion in the **September** edition

**By Thursday 24 August please**

Please submit copy by email to the following  
**email address: [cleevpriornewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cleevpriornewsletter@gmail.com)**  
or contact the Editor, Susan Mortimer (773453)

**This Newsletter is published by St. Andrew's PCC**