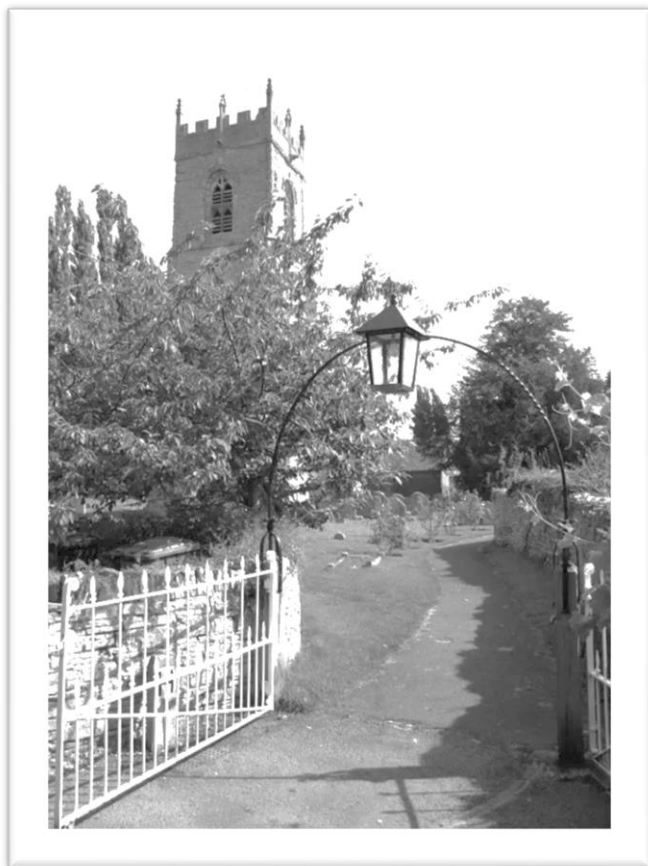


CLEEVE PRIOR NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2023

The Benefice of the East Vale and Avon Villages

What is the harvest you are waiting for? What is the Harvest that you want to celebrate? Why do Christians celebrate Harvest? The simple answer is, it is an opportunity for us to thank God for everything He has blessed us with.

In Old Testament times there were three major festivals where the Jewish people took the opportunity to thank God for blessing them. The first festival was the Feast of Passover. It was usually held in April each year – at the beginning of the harvest. It was at this festival that God's people recalled how God had been their Saviour by miraculously leading them out of slavery in Egypt.

The second festival was the Feast of Weeks or Harvest, where the Jews gave thanks to God for their crop. This festival occurred at the end of the barley harvest. It was also known as Pentecost because it was timed to be 50 days after Passover. It was at Pentecost when the power of the Holy Spirit was released on the disciples. And they were then able to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The third festival was the Feast of Tabernacles, which occurred after the grape and grain harvest was over. All three of these festivals reminded the people of God's blessings on them - Physical blessings and spiritual blessings. And the festivals reminded the people that God is a faithful God who would continue to bless the people year, after year, after year.

Maybe today you are not waiting for wheat to grow in your field, but I would guess that you are hoping for a harvest of some kind. Is your harvest about finances, to have a certain amount of money? Is your Harvest a dream of a bigger home? For some a harvest would be simply a roof over their head and sufficient food on the table.

What about the church, what does harvest mean and look like for us as the church? Simply put, Harvest represents the harvest of souls for the Kingdom of God. The harvest is the consequence of what you sow. Sow to satisfy sinful desires and you will harvest the consequences of decay and death. Sow to please God and the consequences will be eternal life and daily blessings.

To have friends in this life and in the next, we need to be planting seeds now.

Alan Bache

Licensed Lay Minister

St Andrew's Church

Services for October 2023

Sun 1 Oct	11.00am Harvest Festival Eucharist Revd Clive Leach
Sun 8 Oct	11.00am Morning Praise Rod Carless
Sun 15 Oct	11.00am Holy Eucharist Revd Clive Leach
Sun 22 Oct	11.00am Matins Rod Carless
Sun 27 Oct	11.00am Benefice service with Archdeacon Nikki Groarke at Badsey (no service at Cleeve Prior)
Sun Nov 5	11.00am Morning Praise Rod Carless 4.00pm Licensing of new Incumbent , Revd Jo Fielding, at Offenham. Details to be confirmed

Churchwardens Rod Carless 01789 773357 Lis Hughes 01789 772578

Safeguarding in our Benefice Safeguarding Officer – Lisa Farmer
Tel. 01386 40401

Safeguarding Advocate – Elizabeth Spencer Tel. 01789 720078

For enquiries concerning Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals contact
Faith Quin eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com

The Millennium Green

The Millennium Green is looked after by The Millennium Green Trust, a separate trust set up many years ago to manage the space on behalf of the village. The Trustees are looking to have a work morning on Sunday 5 November at **10.am** to carry out routine maintenance. We will be looking at: Cutting back overhanging growth. treating benches, oiling locks etc.

We would welcome any help possible from the village to keep maintain this beautiful and valued area maintained.

Thank You.

The Trustees

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

October 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 cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk.

Cllr Peter Wilson: Chairman peterwilson@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

Cllr Mary Smith: Vice Chair marysmith@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

Cllr Ian Robinson: ianrobinson@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

Cllr Kevin Mellor: kevinmellor@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

Cllr Bryan Eden: bryaneden@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

Cllr Sandra Vincent: sandravincent@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

Cllr Nicky Marshall: nickymarshall@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

There's a new chill to the air and the colours of summer will be slowly changing for those autumnal hues. Get out your wellies and get ready for the crunchy leaves.

We'd like to welcome Nicky Marshall, who we have now co-opted as a new Councillor, which means we are up to a full complement. We know she will be an asset to the Parish Council as she already is to our community.

There are seasonal events coming up including the Heritage Trust cider pressing at Field Barn. A new date of note is the village litter pick which will take place on the morning of Sunday 19 November. Please do look at our website for details of upcoming meetings, as well as the village site for events for the rest of the year. Our Facebook page will also advertise as always.

cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk, our village website cleevepriorvillage.co.uk and our village Facebook page facebook.com/cleevepriorvillage.

Please contact me by email if you have any questions, comments or concerns and I will do my best to help or pass you onto the best person who can.

Stacey

Stacey Smith

Clerk to the Parish Council, clerk@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

The Planters on the Village Green

We would like to thank Jan Stewart who has managed, watered and maintained the planters on the Village Green over many seasons. It has been very much appreciated. We are looking for any volunteers who would have time to keep an eye on them and ensure they are watered. If you think you can help, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council.

The Kings Arms in Cleeve Prior

You will know that the Kings Arms pub has been put up for sale by the private owner. The Parish Council (PC) registered the pub some time ago as a 'Community Asset'. This means that if the owner wishes to dispose of the property, then the community is legally entitled to an opportunity to make a bid for it.

The PC, in the past, has gone into some detail of the implications of purchasing the pub, repairing it to a commercial standard and operating it as a going concern. We came to the conclusion that it is not feasible for a PC of our size and resources to take on such a liability.

The Parish Council is aware that various individuals in the village have shown an interest in finding a way to retain the pub in its present capacity for the benefit of the village.

To pursue this, we have arranged a public meeting on Wednesday, 11 October at 7 pm at the Memorial Hall with a view to try and identify individuals who would be prepared to investigate the feasibility of acquiring, improving and running the pub, also identifying the sources of finance sufficient to make a bid. Any group established would have until the end of January 2024 to put forward a bid for the Kings Arms.

If you are interested in this, please enter 11 October in your diary.

Peter Wilson
Chair, Cleeve Prior Parish Council



NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL



It has been a great start to the new school year and the children have all settled really well.

We have a busy few weeks coming up before half-term. We will be celebrating Harvest at St Andrews Church at 9 am on Friday 29 September. You are very welcome to join us for the service. All donations will be passed onto Caring Hands in the Vale to support those using the food bank and community kitchen.

Our Stay and Play sessions have restarted on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am. We welcome children aged between 0 and 3 / 4 to come and join in fun activities in our lovely Preschool. Everyone is welcome and please spread the word.

The children have enjoyed their Bikeability sessions and learning the importance of keeping safe and learning to be responsible on their bikes. Oak class have also enjoyed their first music session with Severn Arts which take place on Thursday afternoons with this week's session learning all about drumming.

Our Forest School sessions have moved to Thursdays and it has been great for the children to have the opportunity to explore outside and develop their skills.

As you may be aware, we are lower on numbers this year. To try and build our numbers we have been working really hard to promote our school in the surrounding areas. To facilitate this, we will be displaying a banner promoting our school on the fence outside. It will be a professionally produced banner that will be in keeping with the surroundings. If anyone in the village has any concerns, please speak to me.

Further to this, we will be holding an Open morning on Wednesday 18th October from 9am until 11am, if you wish to come in to see our lovely school, you are more than welcome to come and see our school.

Best wishes

Sarah Laughlin
Head of School



An update from your local policing team...

Who are your local Neighbourhood Officers for the 'Rural North' area?

Your local Neighbourhood Officers are PC Matt Beards, PC Alex Prentice and PCSO Bradley Sansom.

They can be contacted by emailing eveshamrn.snt@westmercia.police.uk.

We are actively involved with social media accounts. Please follow them for updates on our work, and local events/news. These are @EveshamCops (Twitter) and @EveshamSNT (Facebook).

What have we been up to?

Recently we have been out conducting speed checks in areas that have been highlighted to us within our 'Rural North' area. Checks were done and approx. 70 vehicles were checked one weekend with words of advice given to only a small number of people.

We have also been out in our local village parks where we have had reports of anti-social behaviour. Please ensure you report any ASB through to us, either via the above email address or through 101. If there are areas that you are concerned about, please let us know and we can add this to our patrols. Various parish council meetings have been attended within our patch which has proved very helpful in meeting the community and addressing any concerns.

All of the above is sent through Neighbourhood Matters as well as any engagement sessions we run. We are encouraging people to sign up to this service as it's a great way of finding out what we are up to and where we will be. Please ensure you sign up to this free service.

Take a look at the website for further information:

<https://neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>



Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust

NEWS FROM FIELD BARN

NEWS FROM FIELD BARN - Another busy month from Noel and Gina

- Cider - our final batch of cider has now been bottled and labelled. We have had great success selling our boxes of 12 and with Autumn upon us, now would be a good time to get your hands on some but be quick - we will sell out.
- Whilst on the subject of apples, we are preparing for a number of school visits starting on Friday 29th September where children will pick apples and learn how to press them into juice. I'll let you know how these visits go next time.
- Our volunteers have been out in all weather's cutting and flailing the meadows and orchards. We have been busy removing Ragwort and Wild Parsley mostly by hand to prevent further spread. An owl box has been fitted in The Sanctuary and we are busy restocking the flower beds in Field Barn's beautiful enclosed garden.

Just note to anyone with Box Hedging in the village. We have discovered an infestation of the Box Moth Caterpillar. If left, they will do irreparable damage. If you would like advice on how to remove them with a pesticide that is not harmful to other creatures please do ask.

.....and finally we will be planting new fruit trees this season and are just in the process of choosing the most appropriate for our soil and location.

Nine Volunteers who help out on School Visits had great fun on a Training Day last month. We tried out all the activities we offer, giving everyone the chance to lead an activity. The group discussed what we might change or develop further. It was a good team building day and we all learnt something new to share with the children. With another 4 visits to come this year, the team are going to be busy.

COULD YOU SPONSOR A LAPTOP for the Trust? At present we rely on volunteers laptops which is not ideal. Could you or your company help? A laptop is essential for our school visits.

Gina Carr
Chairman 07769967243



The Art Club

Here we are in September, a whole year since we began meeting as the Art Club. I am pleased to say the majority of our original members have returned for a further session of meeting and working together on our own artistic projects.

We have had only 3 meetings so far this month and some members are still taking holidays or have family commitments. Nevertheless, attendance has been good and those returning to the group have been most enthusiastic. Since we returned there has been more of a focus on drawing and sketching portraits to prepare for our session with Mike Bagshaw early in October. This session was made possible through a grant which was made available to us this summer. Mike Bagshaw is a local artist who is an experienced teacher of art. We are all looking forward to working with him. Mike will be bringing a live sitter who we will use for our drawing. This will be very exciting as drawing from life can be very different from a photograph. Anyone wishing to join us for this (and other) or other sessions will be very welcome. Mike is visiting us on Thursday October 5th at 10 am.

We have also had the pleasure of wishing one of our more senior members a very happy birthday. Don is a very keen and very accomplished painter who has supported our group since it began, always ready to offer advice whenever he can. Our best wishes go with him.

All are welcome to the Art Club and being an accomplished artist is not a requirement. All you need is an interest and the wish to embrace the opportunity to meet others and explore your own potential with like minded people.

For further information visit our website: Theartclubcleeveprior.weebly.com
Or contact Louise Conneeley: tel 01789772749 or email: louiseconneeley@gmail.com



Following a break of two months, the members of Cleeve Prior NWR met to discuss Herbs – Medical and Culinary on a wet and windy Tuesday evening.

At the start of each year, NWR HQ announces a topic and a country on which member groups can base their programmes. The topic for this year was Drugs, Herbs and Medicine, and the Benelux Countries. We thought that our session on Herbs – Medicinal and Culinary would tick one of the boxes.

Each member was given a herb to research and they all applied themselves to this task with great diligence. Amongst other things we learnt that most common herbs have been used since ancient times and that their uses extended from medicinal to magical, not forgetting their use in cooking to add flavour and interest. They have been proved to have varying degrees of efficacy in dealing with health issues. **Oregano** is high in magnesium amongst other things: **Rosemary** was used in the embalming process in ancient Egypt: **Yarrow** was used to stop wounds bleeding but also to cause it if put up the nose! **Lady's Mantel** has been considered a "women's herb" as it was often used in late pregnancy to help strengthen the uterus. **Lemon Balm** has multiple uses and, like many herbs, it is reputed to have a calming effect: **Valerian** has a very interesting history and was mentioned in the writings of Hippocrates. **Nettles** are found almost everywhere in the world and contrary to popular belief, rubbing dock leaves on their sting has no chemical effect! **Sage** was used in Roman times to heal ulcers and stop wounds bleeding: it has shown promise in treating Alzheimer's sufferers although not enough research has been carried out: **Chives** probably originated in China 3000 years ago and are rich in vitamin C for immune system activity, as well as vitamin K for optimal blood clotting and wound healing: **Fennel** is referred to repeatedly in Longfellow's 1842 poem "The Goblet of life" and is a member of the carrot family, purported to strengthen the eyesight. Finally, the **Marigold** – this is native to Mexico where they were discovered in the 16th century and brought back to Europe. The Aztecs used them thinking them to be magical as well as medicinal. In Christian communities throughout Europe, poor people would use them as offerings to the Virgin Mary in lieu of coins because of their golden flowers, hence their name – Mary's Gold. All the plants we discussed had characteristics in common and the knowledge of their uses and healing qualities have been handed down over the centuries by the wise women in the villages. Magic and rituals surround many of these herbs and we all were given much to think about when looking at the various health and wellbeing issues around today.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 17 October, and we will be having a talk by Sue Ablet, the organizer of the Evesham Festival of Words, aptly titled "Bums on Seats".

If you would like to know more about NWR and our very lively Cleeve Prior Group, please contact me on evelynwbw@btinternet.com

Cleeve Prior Ramblers

Fourteen of us plus four dogs set off on a misty Saturday morning for Guiting Power, a typical Cotswold village; a tiny village green on a slope with a memorial cross in the middle, plenty of cafes, two pubs, a shop and a wide street, pretty cottages and all built of yellow Cotswold stone. Idyllic, and no wonder so many people come to walk from there. But you can get away from them all. We met very few as we left the village on a lane up hill and on to the Wardens Way/Winchcombe Way along well-defined tracks/bridleways. Continuing up and through the Farmcote Estate with its beautifully shaped, and painted in pale grey, wooden kissing gates, we reached Guiting Wood, a narrow winding path finally opening out into a very wide track. In fact there are many wide tracks criss-crossing the wood.

We passed isolated large and impressive houses with beautiful gardens surrounded by stone walls on the quiet lanes in the peaceful English countryside. The mist had lifted but the views we should have seen were not clearly visible owing to a lot of low cloud and grey skies. We just had to imagine the rolling green hills of which there are plenty in the Cotswolds! We returned alongside a clear narrow stream in Castlett Wood. There were two fords to negotiate, easily, as both had narrow bridges edged with low stone walls. Back into Guiting Power and The Farmers Arms for a very good meal with excellent service.

Thank you Tony and Carol for a most enjoyable walk – and with no stiles! The next Ramble will be led by Paul and Julie Freeman (07788 437271) on Saturday 21 October.

Mike and Bridgett Walker

Cleeve Prior Golf Society

End of Season event at Broadway Golf Club, 15 September 2023

Friday 15 September saw the last of our six golf outings for 2023.

Traditionally the final event of the year is held at Broadway Golf Club and CPGS members play for the Lynwood Trophy.

After meeting and satisfying the nourishment needs for a challenging round with coffee and bacon rolls, three teams teed off. The competition format was based on individual scoring and, apart from the Trophy, there were prizes for best team plus longest drive and 'nearest the pin'.

We could not have hoped for a better environment, light breeze, bright warm sunshine and splendid course conditions. All very well apart from removing standard excuses for sub-par play!

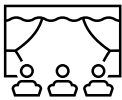
Broadway is a varied course with hilly parts and can present a real challenge for those less familiar with its idiosyncrasies. It also has some of the most splendid views across the Vale of Evesham to the Malverns and Black Mountains.

After the exertions of golf, we had time to enjoy a quick drink on the Broadway clubhouse terrace before an excellent dinner was served to the party of eighteen in the recently renovated dining area.

Gordon Davidson, our 2023 Vice Captain, stood in at late notice for Julian Franey, our 2023 Captain, who is recovering from recent hospitalisation. Gordon presented the CPGS Lynwood Trophy to John Vernon (a past Captain) who also led his team to take the Team prize.

Recognition and thanks were devoted to the officers in the Society who have organized the events at six different golf courses, including Tom Carr, Alan Gittings and, of course, Julian to whom we wish a rapid recovery.

Peter Wilson
CPGS Hon Sec



Cleeve Prior Players

We have been very fortunate in welcoming lots of new residents into the Village recently, many of whom may not be aware that the Players once existed.

The Players have been part of Village life for many years and past productions have included *Oliver*, *Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, murder mystery evenings where even the cast were confused, and home-grown events like *Cleeve Prior Remembered*, taking the form of a radio play written by three residents. There were also regular Music Halls and, on one occasion, an Adult Nativity – *Whilst Shepherds Washed Their Socks!*

The Players also provided the entertainment at the very popular Seniors' Christmas Lunch and their efforts were always greeted with enthusiasm. With so many new residents, I'm sure there must be someone out there who would love to revive the Village theatrical traditions. Please contact Evelyn Wilson, evelynwbw@btinternet.com for more information.

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Kings Arms Tavern

New opening hours

Friday: 5pm - 10pm
with occasional food pop-ups

Saturday: 5pm - 10pm

Pershore Choral

Saturday 18 November

An evening of French music featuring the Abbey's new pipe organ
Vierne, Mess Solennelle; Fauré Requiem

Saturday 16 December

Christmas Concert

Both concerts in Pershore Abbey at 7.30 pm.
Tickets available from Susan Mortimer, 773453

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VILLAGE and LOCAL EVENTS

Date	Event	Time	Venue
29 Sep	Harvest		
1 Oct	Harvest Lunch	1 pm	Hall
11 Oct	Public Meeting, Kings Arms	7 pm	Hall
22 Oct	Quiz Night	7 pm	Hall
5 Nov	Working Party, Millennium Green	10 am	Mill.Green
11 Nov	Village Dance, Kevin Grenfell	7.30 pm	Hall
19 Nov	Village Litter Pick	10 am, meet at Hall	

Cleeve Prior Art Group meets in the Hall at 10 am on Thursdays.
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, Contact Les Bratt on 01789 773651.

Useful contact details:

To book the **Memorial Hall**: cleevepriormemorialhall@gmail.com

To book **Field Barn**: garnettclarke@btinternet.com

EVESHAM RURAL NORTH SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Up-coming Cleeve Prior Drop-in Sessions with your Local Police Officers at the Village Hall will be posted in the street 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 October

Sidesmen

1 Oct	Mr A Taylor
8 Oct	Mr C. Greenwood
15 Oct	Mr A Taylor
22 Oct	Mrs J Taylor
29 Oct	No service at Cleeve Prior
5 Nov	Mrs L Hughes

Church Flowers

1 Oct	Mrs A Carless HARVEST
8 Oct	Mrs A Carless
15 Oct	Mrs A Carless
22 Oct	Mrs J Selby
29 Oct	Mrs L Hughes
5 Nov	Mrs A Carless

Church Cleaning

Mrs L Hughes
Mrs S Richards
Mrs M Taylor
Mrs L Hughes
Mrs M Copperthwaite
Mrs M Sylvester

Memorial Hall 200 Club

September Draw

£100: John & Norma Blakeley

£50: Roger Onions & Julia Moore

Copy for inclusion in the **November** edition

By Tuesday 24 October please

Please submit copy by email to the following

email address: cleevepriornewsletter@gmail.com

or contact the Editor, Susan Mortimer (773453)

This Newsletter is published by St. Andrew's PCC