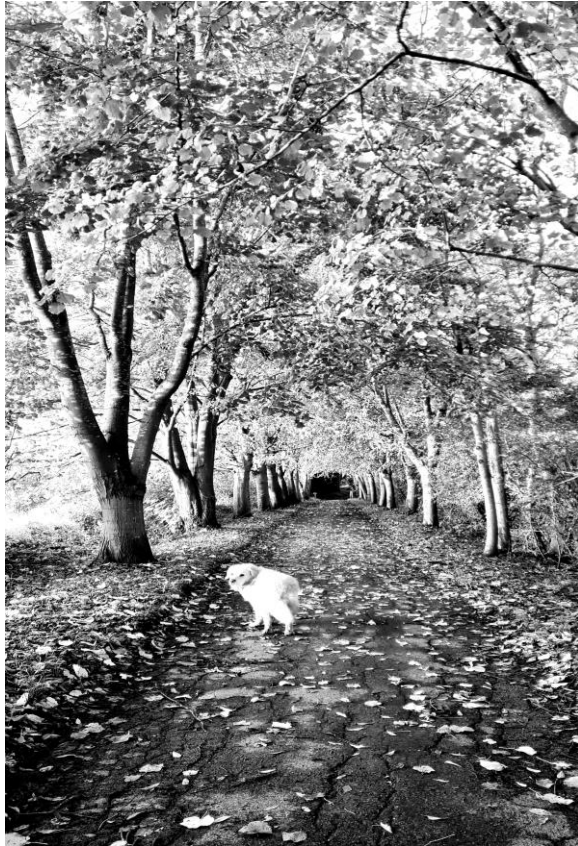


CLEEVE PRIOR NEWSLETTER



Sunrise Walk, Cleeve Prior

FEBRUARY 2024

The Benefice of the East Vale and Avon Villages

At this time of year as a child I remember hearing many times the first line of an old country rhyme, which said, "February fill the dyke". Of course, it referred to the fact that the month was known for its rainfall. It was also the title of a famous painting by Benjamin Williams Leader which he produced in 1881, showing a flooded landscape. So far this year with all the excessive rainfall, sadly there have been many dykes and rivers filled to overflowing, causing floods and devastation.

But the month of February is also a time of celebration in two special ways.

On 14 February we celebrate Valentine's Day which originally honoured a martyr named Valentine and it also became a celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world. Today it has become a time when we can express our love and adoration for those we love, by sending cards and flowers.

14 February 2024 is also the day to celebrate Ash Wednesday which is the beginning of Lent in the Christian Church. Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter and is the period of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. It replicates Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days.

This time allows us to stop and think and consider what Christ's life and death really do mean to us in our daily lives now in this troubled world.

Jesus came to show God's love for each one of us.

Revd Ralph Bolland

St Andrew's Church

Services for February 2024

Sun 4 February 11.00am Holy Eucharist Revd Joanna
Sun 11 February 11.00am Morning Praise Rod Carless
Wed 14 February 7.00pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist in Offenham
Sun 18 February 11.00am Matins Rod Carless
Sun 25 February 11.00am Morning Praise Rod Carless
Fri 1 March 2.30pm World Day of Prayer at Cleeve Prior
Sun 3 March 11.00am Matins Rod Carless

Churchwardens Rod Carless 01789 773357; Lis Hughes 01789772578
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

Calling all Village Organisations: Cleeve Prior First School, St Andrew's Church, Heritage Trust, Memorial Hall, Golf Society, Players, NWR, Book Clubs, Save the Kings Arms Campaign, The Kings Arms, the Ramblers, Sewing Groups, Parish Council

The Parish Council maintains a diary on the village website of events taking place in the village throughout the year. Would you please be good enough to confirm the events your organisations are planning during 2024, and update me with new information as it becomes available. With a comprehensive list it should be possible to avoid clashes of dates.

Please let me know if any organisations have been omitted from the above list.

ianrobinson@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

FEBRUARY 2024

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.

CLLr Peter Wilson: Chairman peterwilson@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

CLLr Mary Smith: Vice Chair marysmith@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

CLLr Ian Robinson: ianrobinson@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

CLLr Kevin Mellor: kevinmellor@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

CLLr Bryan Eden: bryaneden@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

CLLr Sandra Vincent: sandravincent@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

CLLr Nicky Marshall: nickymarshall@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

To keep up to date see clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk, our village website clevepriorvillage.co.uk and our village Facebook page facebook.com/clevepriorvillage.

Please contact me on the details below with any comments, ideas, or concerns you'd like the Parish Council to address.

Stacey Smith, Clerk and RFO to the Parish Council
clerk@clevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk

The Home Upgrade Grant is ready!

Government funding is now available for free energy improvements to make homes warmer and reduce energy bills for eligible households in Worcestershire.

Who is Eligible?

Homeowners and private tenants may be eligible if they meet the following criteria:

Have a household income of £31,000 or less, or the property is located in a government defined low-income postcode.

Have an EPC rating of a D or below – for homes that do not have a current/valid EPC certificate, an assessment can be funded if they meet all other criteria,

The property doesn't have mains gas central heating,

Pay council tax to Redditch Borough, or Bromsgrove, Malvern Hill or Wychavon District Councils. Those who are exempt will be asked to provide other evidence to satisfy they have an eligible postcode.

For more information or to register:

Website: www.warmerworcestershire.com

Call: 0800 988 2881, **Email:** advice@actonenergy.org.uk



8 June 2024 Save The Date!

Cleeve Prior Village are commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Day landings

To mark the 80th Anniversary, the whole country will be commemorating D-Day Landings and, as well as the national events, communities are being encouraged to also mark the occasion.

As with any major event or milestone in previous years, the Parish Council are organising an afternoon Family Picnic, 12- 4pm, and an evening ticketed event. Details are being finalised and vendors organised, and more details will follow. The Parish Council are working to organise another fantastic fun- filled day and hope you will join in.

If you have any ideas or would like to help with the organisation, or on the day itself, please let me know. Thanks, in advance.

Send all suggestions and offers of help to:
sandravincent@cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk



NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL



Dear Villagers

First of all can I wish everyone in the village a very happy new year.

We have come back to school, calm and ready to learn and have been working very hard. Spring term is always a busy and productive in school.

We are absolutely delighted that Reverend Joanna Fielding (or Mother Jo as we call her) is joining our school community. Not only will she be leading worships in school and church services regularly, but she will also be joining our Governing Body as an ex-officio member. I very much look forward to developing our connection further as the year progresses.

On a sporting front, all of our children have begun swimming at Evesham Leisure centre on a Wednesday morning. Our Key Stage 2 pupils will be practicing in earnest for the annual swimming gala in March /April. We are also in the process of rehearsing a dance in KS2 to perform at the Henrician theatre in February as part of a dance festival.

We are also continuing our fantastic music lessons each week through Severn Arts. Our children play the Djembe drums and Key Stage one children are using their voices, bodies and musical instruments to make music with me every Friday afternoon. Thanks to our efforts in music, we have just won first prize in the Elgar Society's competition and were presented with a cheque for £150 this morning in by Mr Packman from the society in our achievement assembly on the 25th January.

We have lots of othe exciting events planned for the rest of the term and look forward to telling the village all about it over the coming months.

Best wishes

Mrs Laughlin



An update from your local policing team... Who are your local Neighbourhood Officers for the 'Rural North' area?

Your local Neighbourhood Officer is PC Alex Prentice and your PCSO is 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?

With regard to speeding complaints, we ask that you direct your speeding concerns to your Parish Council who will direct the issue to our Road Safety Team. Data boxes can then be distributed to areas of concern that will give us an accurate measure of the speed of vehicles. Once this has been collated, the Road Safety Team will be able to address the area of concern and action appropriately.

Your local officers have been working very closely with our local housing associations and meetings are had regularly to share information regarding ongoing cases that are relevant to both partner agencies.

Weekend drop-in sessions/engagement sessions are attended throughout the month on the weekends to try and see people who might not be around in the week. If there is something you wish to discuss please feel free to contact the team on the above email address.

We were again invited to a local care home in the area for coffee and cake and have been invited to some further coffee mornings around the Rural North patch. These sessions are a great way for us to engage with people who may struggle to see us normally.

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/>

PC Alex Prentice 21115

Safer Neighbourhood Officer | Evesham Rural North | West Mercia Police

Evesham Police Station, Abbey Road, Evesham, WR11 4SS

Mobile: 07811 973304 **Direct Dial:** 101 or 0300333300

Personal email: alexandra.prentice@westmercia.police.uk



NEWS FROM FIELD BARN

DID YOU KNOW that Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust works on behalf of the village, as well as the wider community? We are a registered charity (no 1063291) and rely on grants and fundraising to carry out our work.

Based at Field Barn on the Evesham Road, our Trustees and Volunteers manage 27 acres of old pasture, traditional orchards, woodlands and ponds, and you are welcome to explore these at any time.

We have an amazing team of volunteers and we meet every Tuesday morning. You may think there is little to do at this time of year but we are in fact very busy pruning the hundreds of apple trees in our orchards to ensure they remain healthy and productive.

We have been thrilled to welcome several new volunteers recently to our happy Green Gym, so why don't you come along and see us on any Tuesday morning between 9:30 - 13:00. You would be made most welcome.

Noel Copperthwaite, Volunteer

If you would like to know more about our work, have a look at our website www.cleevepriorheritagetrust.co.uk or contact us at cleevepriorheritagetrust@gmail.com

CONSERVATION * PRESERVATION * EDUCATION



The Art Club

The Art Club had its first meeting of the year on 11 January. This was well attended and we had an enjoyable session catching up with news before becoming focussed once again.

Last year ended with a surprise visit from Darren, who came along to with a suggestion of a 'simple' snow scene for us to try. This proved an informative session with some additional hints and tips on how to develop our work. Although the snow scene proved not quite as 'simple' as we might have expected, it led to some interesting and original paintings! Thank you, Darren.

This year we once again have the option of a tutor-led session. There was some discussion and the outcome was in favour of some practice using acrylic paints. We will be contacting George from 'Artbase' in Bidford to see if she can offer a week to visit the group.

It was good to see so many of our members returning on such a cold morning, full of enthusiasm for their painting. We are all looking forward the spring and the opportunities and inspiration that it will bring.

We are always happy to embrace new members so please come along and join us if you would like to

Louise Conneeley
(louiseconneeley@gmail.com)
Tel 01789772749 or 07765482722



A New Year – a new NWR Program starts, but first the answer to the clue from our Telephone Quiz Trail – Quietly opens doors – Piano Keys!!! The other answer which we were unsure of was Barcode – the clue being Pub passcode. The clue had been wrongly worded and should have read Pub password so we were correct!

Our last event of the year was a visit to Pershore Abbey to listen to the Christmas Concert given by Pershore Choral. The Choir were in splendid form and it was lovely to hear the familiar Christmas songs and music in such inspiring surroundings. Drinks and nibbles at Top Farm made a fitting end to the evening.

Having had a musical end to last year, our first meeting of 2024 also had a musical element. We were entertained, informed and amused by Dr. Richard Churchley a talented singer, musician and historian. His “talk” was entitled The Folklore and Folksongs of the West Midlands. He took us on a tour of the area illustrating his talk with music and songs. We were required to join in with the choruses and did this with gusto. One particular song – The Keeper - was “collected” in Ilmington. It was supposedly about a game keeper and the animals he hunted but it was actually about his conquest of the local ladies. Shock Horror!!! Ours is an area steeped in folklore and Richard brought it to life.

Our first meeting of the year has set an extremely high standard but I am sure our subsequent meetings will be equally enjoyable.

February 20th should have been our Film Session but this has had to be postponed. The theme for this meeting now is The Caribbean and will be held at Lilac Cottage at 2.30pm. We are very pleased to have welcomed some new members and I do hope they enjoy our get-togethers.

Please contact me – Evelyn – 01789 772814 evelynwbw@btinternet.com if you would like more information about NWR.

Cleeve Prior Ramblers



Saturday 20 January saw a good turnout as 18 intrepid individuals and 3 dogs set off from the Masons Arms in Long Marston for the first walk of 2024.

The recent weather and conditions forced a downgraded walk from a cross country 'scenic adventure' to a 'out-and-back' walk along the Greenway to Milcote. Here we

stopped for a coffee at the Railway Carriage Coffee shop before heading back along the old Stratford to Cheltenham route.

We had trekked a total of just under 5 miles before arriving back at the Masons Arms for a well-deserved lunch in the snug. Although not the most adventurous or demanding of walks, it blew away the cobwebs and those taking part chatted enthusiastically as we went.

We are already looking forward to our next ramble on 17 February.

Liz Wadsworth

Cleeve Prior Golf Society

Annual General Meeting

CPGS held its Annual General Meeting on 18 January. With a good turnout of members, we reviewed the past year's events and considered the coming season. Our Captain Jules Franey and Treasurer Tom Carr gave their respective reports, after which we decided upon the golfing venues for 2024. These will be: Broadway, Ross on Wye, Evesham, Cleeve Hill, Stratford Park and concluding at the Vale.

The election of officers followed with our new Captain for 2024, Gordon Davidson.

Our first event is scheduled for April and then each month till September. We have a number of trophies to be competed for.

If you are interested in finding out more about our activities, please contact me at: wilsonatparkbourne@btinternet.com

Peter Wilson, Secretary CPGS

Rhubarb Rhubarb

Rhubarb splits – variety Victoria

Good for forcing. Crowns of various sizes, from £2 each.

Proceeds to CPHT

Call Brian Taylor, 01789 773075

Worcester Festival Choral Society

Beethoven, Mass in C

Richard Blackford, Mirror of Perfection

Saturday 16 March 2024, 7.30 pm, Worcester Cathedral

Conductor: Samuel Hudson

Meridian Sinfonia and soloists

For full details and to book online: www.wfcs.online. Tel: 0333 666 3366

Come and Sing, Rossini Petite Messe Solennelle

Saturday 13 April 2024, from 9.30 am to 4.45 pm

St Andrews Methodist Church, Pump Street, Worcester

Conductor: Christopher Allsopp

Accompanist: Nicholas Freestone

For full details and to book Online: www.wfcs.online/come-and-sing-events

Tel: 0333 666 3366

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Cairi Dyson, Email: cairid@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 01789 491417, 07803 720184

VICKY DUKE BHSii, Riding Instructor

Recently moved into Cleeve Prior

Available for private equestrian coaching sessions at your own home on your own horse or pony.

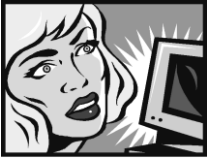
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Online www.vickydukebhsii.com



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For further info please call or Whatsapp 07508 595165. Or email Vicky29@me.com

D. Grace Plumbing and Heating

Mobile: 07428 303733; Email: darren.grace@yahoo.com
Main Street, Cleeve Prior, Evesham

New to the village, references supplied

Services:

Gas safe registered - Heating system installations
Heating system maintenance - Bathroom installations

CREATIVE 01386 833397 HAIR STUDIO



Hazel and Kim are two of Creative's up and coming dedicated professional stylists who strive to provide the best hair services in the local area and beyond.

Manager Hazel is a Schwarzkopf colour house professional who aspires to enhance any gorgeous hair cut design by incorporating her remarkable colour services.

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.

At Creative Hair Studio we want to make a better world one hair cut at a time.

creativehairblackminster.co.uk

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Contact Matthew 07770 582331



Reports of Rogue Traders (Nottingham Knockers), 18 January, from West Mercia Police

Over the past few days we have received several reports of rogue traders / Nottingham Knockers active in the villages around Evesham.

These traders will not have the correct licences to sell door to door and the products that they sell may be sub-standard and you may be overcharged for the product. (They are normally young lads who turn up on your doorstep with a huge black holdall full of cleaning products ranging from tea towels, dishcloths and dusters to sprays, polishes and even small clothing items. Initially they all came from the Nottingham area, obtaining their goods from a warehouse at Clifton just outside Nottingham and they then come 'knocking' on your door to trade, hence the term 'Nottingham Knockers'.)

We are encouraging all residents to be vigilant, not to purchase any items and report any such incidents using 101 or the online reporting form in non-emergencies.

Officers from the local SNT will be carrying out reassurance patrols in your area.

Evesham Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Save The Kings Arms Your chance to invest in history

Come to the pub open day on 10 February, between 12 and 4 pm to find out how to help save The Kings Arms for the village.

The bar will be open and venison hot dogs will be served.

Or contact Brian Williams: bwilliamsuk54@gmail.com

VILLAGE and LOCAL EVENTS

Date	Event	Time	Venue
10 Feb	Open Day	12 – 4 pm	Kings Arms
12 Feb	Parish Council meeting	7.30 pm	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.

Kings Arms Tavern open 5pm – 9pm on Fridays, with food. Book your table at bookings@kingsarmstavern.co.uk.

Take-away fish & chips can be pre-booked on 0330 016 0219 or the email address above.

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 displayed in the window of the Memorial Hall.

PC Alex Prentice / PCSO Bradley Sansom

St Joseph The Worker Catholic Church, Bidford

The Presbytery, Quinney's Lane

Rev Father Stephen Squires

07484 719463

The Church Rotas for February

Sidesmen

4 Feb	Mr C Greenwood
11 Feb	Mr A Taylor
18 Feb	Mrs L Hawkins
25 Feb	Mrs A Carless
3 Mar	Mrs B Walker

Church Flowers

4 Feb	Mrs R Perle
11 Feb	Mrs J Stewart
18 Feb	No
25 Feb	flowers
3 Mar	during Lent

Church Cleaning

Mrs M Sylvester
Mrs J Davenport
Mrs M Taylor
Mrs S Mortimer
Mrs D Byrne

Memorial Hall 200 Club

December Draw 2023

£100: David & Leigh Boyle

£50: Vic & Sylvia Birnie

January Draw 2024

£50: Janet Potter

Copy for inclusion in the **March** edition

By Thursday 22 February 2024

Please submit copy by email to the following

email address: cleevpriornewsletter@gmail.com

or contact the Editor, Susan Mortimer (773453)

Thanks to Noel Copperthwaite for the cover picture

This Newsletter is published by St. Andrew's PCC