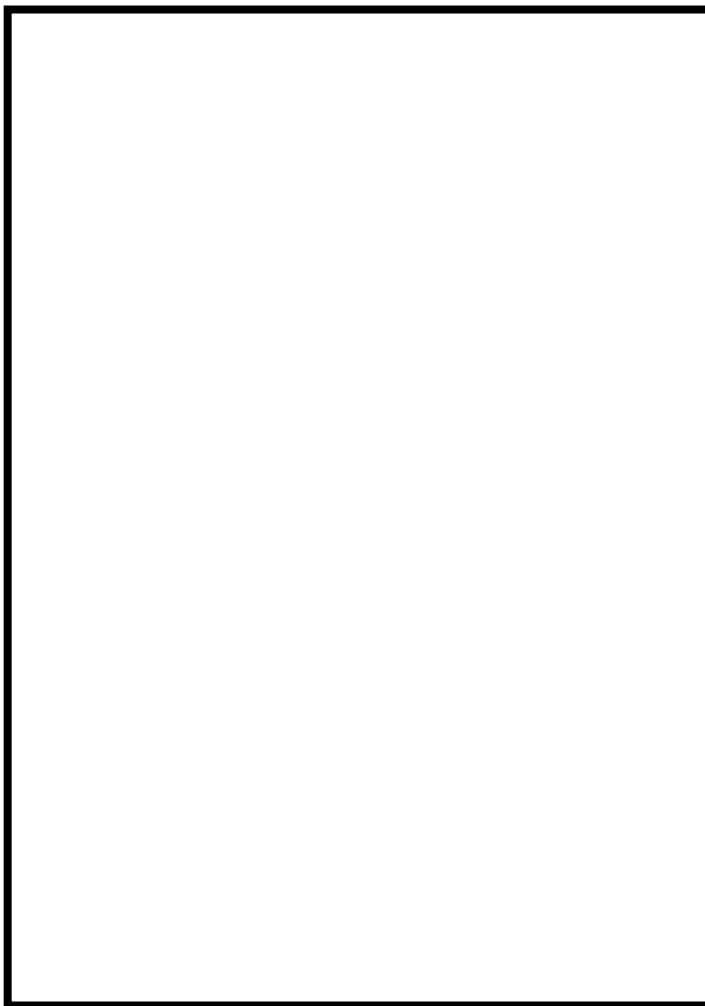


THE EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

MAY 2010

ISSUE 119



Wales opens the village shop, Saturday 1st May 2010

CHURCH SERVICES AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, EARDISLAND

Rector: Reverend Rob Taylor
The Rectory, Kingsland,
Tel: 01568 708255

Churchwardens:

Mrs S Askew
The Granary
Tel: 01544 388637

Dr A Hoda
Arrow Lawn
Tel: 01544 388131

Services May 2010

Sunday 16th May
Easter 7
9.30 Holy Eucharist

Sunday 23rd May
Pentecost
9.30 Holy Eucharist

Sunday 30th May
Trinity Sunday
11.00 Benefice Eucharist at Leinthall Earles – details to be announced

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EDITORIAL

You may notice a slight change to the presentation of this edition of the Eardisland Parish Magazine – the font (typeface). The new font is called Calibri and is in 10 pitch – (size). It is said to be much easier on the eye than the previous font Times New Roman. I hope you approve ; please let me have your thoughts.

The basic structure will be the usual details of index, dates and editorial etc., followed by community matters, including correspondence, then church matters, general interest articles, sport, weather, adverts and contacts. There will, of course, be some exceptions. Please don't forget that you can access the magazine, and all sorts of information about the village, by going to the village website: www.eardisland.org.uk

Much has happened since the last edition of your magazine and you can find further details in the various articles that follow. The Parish Council has now a new Chair following the resignation of Serena Askew. Maryan Hanson has been elected to take the reins after many years of service both as Vice Chair, and previously, Clerk. Also, there is a recently appointed Clerk, Mrs Suzanne Wenczek replacing Mike Coleburn.

A major improvement to village amenities is now provided by the village shop which started on Wednesday 31st March and was officially opened by 'Paul the Postman' on Saturday 1st May (photo: front cover). The shop has been a great success and is a real benefit to the village generally. Given that it is a community shop depend ing on volunteers to function, please consider helping when you can. It's not onerous, and can be really interesting meeting villagers and others.

I'm delighted to say that we have two travel pieces in this edition; the first from Keith and Annie Mitchell on their trip to New Zealand, the second from Sheila Krufft. Sheila was born in the village and lived in a number of different houses in Eardisland, and now lives near Bewdley. We have good reason to be grateful to Sheila because she gives substantial financial donations to the magazine which are much appreciated. Thanks, Sheila.

Finally, I am sure you will join me in sending best wishes to Mary Blatchford who has suffered a stroke but making good progress, and Sue Prewer with a new hip joint.

Chris Bivand

EARDISLAND VILLAGE DIARY 2009

Saturday/Sunday 19 th /20 th June	Open Gardens
Thursday 24 th June	PC meeting, VH, 7.30pm
Thursday 22 nd July	PC meeting, VH, 7.30pm
Saturday 21 st August	Children's Pirate and Princess Party
Sunday 29 th August	Duck Races
Saturday 4 th September	Village Show
Thursday 9 th September	PC meeting, VH, 7.30pm
Saturday 18 th September	Curry Supper , VH
Thursday 28 th October	PC meeting, VH, 7.30pm
Saturday 30 th October	Halloween Party
Tuesday 23 rd November	Christmas Bingo
Thursday 25 th November	PC meeting, VH, 7.30pm There are no PC meetings in August or December
Saturday 11 th December	Christmas Dinner

PARISH MAGAZINE DATES 2010

Copy Date	Projected distribution date
Friday 2 nd July	Friday 23 rd July
Friday 3 rd September	Friday 24 th September
Friday 12 th November	Friday 3 rd December

EARDISLAND CRICKET GROUND

To those of you who do not know, Eardisland Cricket Club no longer requires the cricket ground. The facility has been offered to other clubs but it is not needed.

The ground will be brought back into our arable rotation; this is to give you all advance warning. No doubt as soon as the plough is in the field our phone will start ringing!

Edward and Yvonne Thomas

GENERAL ELECTION 2010

Bill Wiggin: Conservative 24,631 – re-elected
Lucy Hurds : Liberal Democrat 14,744
Neil Sabharwal : Labour 3,373 7.1
Jonathan Oakton : UK Independence Party 2,701
Felicity Norman : Green 1,533
John King : Independent 586



The first customer, Wednesday 31st March 2010. Lou Loudon buys his breakfast from Albert & Joyce Sheffied. Rumour has it that Beryl Hoda sneaked in some minutes before for some milk!

After 18 months of planning and preparation we finally were able to open our doors for trading on Wednesday 31 March. For a couple of days we had a limited range as we awaited delivery of various local products from our wholesaler and we were without newspapers.

The opening created news with BBC Radio Hereford & Worcester sending along a reporter to conduct a live interview and later we were mentioned on BBC TV which was running a feature on Community Shops. We also

received coverage in *The Hereford Times*.

Two weeks later we had to close for a day to have the new windows installed. The old soft wood windows were rotting and when removed were found to have wood worm, they have been replaced with hardwood windows. The alterations and replacement of windows has been carried out in consultation with the Conservation Officer, Planning and the Dovecote Trustees. The appearance of the building, protecting its fabric and integrity have been uppermost in

our plans. All the internal works have been completed so that they can be easily removed in future, if required, with minimum disruption.

On Saturday 1st May we held our official opening ceremony. We chose Paul Jones, our village postman, to carry out the tape cutting ceremony as we felt as a committee that Paul demonstrates all the characteristics and qualities of reliability, availability, service and customer focus that we as your community shop aim to replicate. Many villagers attended the event and on the day we had 'goodie' bags for all children who came into the shop and all customers were entered into a raffle for shopping vouchers.

We are grateful for the many positive comments we have had both on the appearance of the shop and the range that is stocked. The shop has been described by some as like the Tardis, as people cannot believe we have so much in there. We are still though receiving requests for products not currently stocked and if we can supply them at a reasonably competitive price we will do so.

There have been inevitably some teething problems to overcome, most notably with newspapers. Our newspaper wholesaler seems to be incapable of sending to us the papers we require and in sufficient quantities. We are sorry if we have failed to meet your order and we are striving to get this working efficiently.

We have similar challenges with Alex Gooch bread on a Saturday, though we order in advance, it all comes down to what Alex bakes on a Saturday morning and again we have not always been able to fulfill orders. As a new and currently small customer of Alex we cannot influence his production too much, yet.

We have amended the opening hours slightly to: 8am to 5pm for Monday to Saturday and 10am to 2pm on Sunday in line with customer visits.

We are still seeking volunteers. It is not a requirement to commit to the same slot week after week, or do more than an hour or to find a replacement if you have to cancel. Just call in the shop, put your name on the rota and if you need to cancel phone the shop.

We thank everybody who has supported us either by volunteering, or with their custom and in many cases both. We particularly wish to thank the Dovecote Trustees for allowing us to set up in the Dovecote, to Barry Freeman for his invaluable input into our grant success and general good advice and wisdom and the Eardisland Parish Council for their support.

We also wish to thank the members of the Eardisland Community Shop Association for their financial and general support and entrusting the committee with the task of setting up and operating this venture.

As Chair of the Committee
I wish to thank all my fellow
committee members for their
tremendous efforts, David, Joyce,

Margaret, Ruth and Shelley who
continue to put in untold hours.
Look out for upcoming
features of your village shop in
Country Life and *Herefordshire Life*.

Albert Sheffield
Chair - Eardisland Community Shop Association
☎ 388026 asheffield265@btinternet.com

EARDISLAND PARISH COUNCIL

I am Maryan Hanson, the new Chair of the Parish Council. For those who do not know me, I am a farmer's wife and live at the farm adjacent to Burton Court. I have been associated with the council for some 20 years - 15 years as clerk and then as a councillor.

The circumstances of my appointment have followed a very turbulent time at the Parish Council. We now need to move on and become a harmonious and happy community once again. In the meantime, on behalf of the council, I would like to thank Serena Askew for all the hard work and dedication she put in as her time as Chair.

We have now appointed a new clerk, Mrs Suzanne Wenczek, who lives at Bearwood. We look forward to working with her and, as a team, meeting the challenges that are presented to us.

We now have a vacancy on the Parish Council. As we have only 12 months to run before we are put up for re-election, the rules require that 10 parishioners request an election. We are currently awaiting confirmation from Herefordshire Council that no such request has been made. The Parish Councillors will then be able to co-opt another member. If there is more than one person interested in being a Parish Councillor, the person appointed will be selected by secret ballot of the existing Parish Councillors.

The Parish Council has in good faith given funds to the Eardisland Community Millennium Fund to distribute to organisations within the Parish. We have not, however, acted according to the rules associated with the use of taxpayers' money and are awaiting policy guidance from the Herefordshire Association of Local Councils. Any organisation within the Parish must therefore approach the Parish Council directly for a grant. The ECMF has worked extremely hard for the good of the community and on behalf of the Parish council I would like to thank them.

Contact Details next page >>>

Clerk : Suzanne Wenczek
Tel : 01544 388302
Email : swenczek@hotmail.com

Chair: Maryan Hanson
Tel: 01 544 388850, 07791 231 783 (mobile)

THE PARISH LENGTHSMAN

Eardisland's lengthsmen's duties permitted by Herefordshire Council are described below for the benefit of parishioners who may feel that work by him is necessary. Any requests for work to be done should be passed to me for action. As the gentleman concerned carries on a business of garden maintenance, building work, and land management, any work outside the limits set by Herefordshire Council (below) may be undertaken by him at a parishioner's own request and cost.

Highways maintenance (other than trunk roads and 'A' roads within the Parish):

1. Cutting of verges.
2. Cutting back of overgrown hedges encroaching on footways, but NOT those in private ownership. Strimming of overgrowth along footways. Clearing of foliage blocking visibility of road traffic signs and sight lines.
3. Clearing leaves and other debris from gully grid tops, drainage grips, and entrances and exits of highway culverts.
4. Clearance of minor storm debris discharged on to highways.
5. Cleaning and straightening of traffic signs.
6. Any other minor Highway maintenance items.

N.B. The responsibility for keeping footpaths free of overhanging vegetation from private properties rests entirely with the property owners!

Graham Simpson ☎ 01544 388641

THE EDITOR'S ROLE

At the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 25th March 2010 the following job specification was adopted. Paragraph 6 asks specifically that comments relating to the magazine should initially be referred to the editor.

JOB SPECIFICATION: EDITOR, EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

1. The Editor is responsible to the Eardisland Parish Council which publishes the Eardisland Parish Magazine. As the publisher, the Eardisland Parish Council is responsible for any legal consequences resulting from the publication of the Eardisland Parish Magazine.
2. The Editor will use her/his judgement to produce a magazine consistent with the needs, views and wishes of the whole community, whilst bearing in mind the needs of minority groups. Decisions on form and content will initially be taken by the Editor to paragraph 5 below.
3. The Editor will exercise her/his decisions with due regard to existing legislation on all forms of discrimination.
4. The Editor will make a report to the AGM of the Eardisland Parish Council, and a written report given to the Parish Clerk for the record. The Editor will provide a written and/or verbal report if required by the Eardisland Parish Council between AGMs.
5. The Eardisland Parish Council will appoint from the Council members a representative to liaise with the Editor.
6. It is assumed that comments about the magazine of whatever nature will be given to the Editor in the first instance. In the event of an issue which cannot be resolved by discussion, the matter should be referred to the Parish Council's appointed responsible member and, if then there is no resolution, to the next available meeting of the Eardisland Parish Council.
7. The Eardisland Parish Council will be responsible for all reasonable expenses incurred by the Editor. All printing costs will be paid by the Eardisland Parish Council.
8. The Editor is expected to act in accordance with the principles set out above.
9. The Editor's appointment will be reviewed at each AGM of the Eardisland Parish Council. If it is found that the Editor has acted incorrectly, this will be referred to the next full meeting of the Eardisland Parish Council for their discussion and final decision.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Neighbourhood Watch is a personal reality check!

In the early part of 2010 my wife and I were able to fulfil a dream and travel around the world for seven weeks. It inevitably meant leaving the house empty for that extended period. I followed good NW practice by informing the different village neighbours of our plans as well as our local Community Support Officer. One neighbour kindly agreed to take all our mail over that period so it didn't clutter up the lounge floor leaving obvious signs of non-occupancy. The other two groups were keyholders and between them visited the house on a regular basis to check heating, lighters, plumbing, security, state of our plants, and to replenish the bird feeders from the stock in the barn. While we were away enjoying the summer of the southern hemisphere, the UK was experiencing a prolonged and severe winter. It was with great relief and much gratitude to our neighbours that we returned home with our house in good and trouble free. Such was the diligence of our 'team' that one of the neighbours had been 'caught and fingered at dusk by the CSO' while in the barn replenishing the garden bird feeders!

It seemed so simple to involve our neighbours in our plans, and we were able to go away and return knowing that friendship and selfless community spirit had triumphed.

Seasonal Crime Trends

1. Garden Shed Security

Although we are in a low crime area, around 1500 shed burglaries occur across the force area every year, with the spring time having a seasonal spike. Many people leave expensive equipment in poorly secured sheds and garages, which are easy pickings for the opportunist thief.

If you want to increase the security around your shed ensure you have a good padlock, hasp and staple on the door and that hinges don't have exposed screws. You might even want to consider purchasing a small shed alarm which will activate, either on the opening of the door or on detecting movement in the shed. These are reasonably cheap and found in DIY stores.

You can also use plants to protect your garden entry by using thorny hedges and prickly plants that will deter burglars from the property and getting close to windows and drainpipes. Good external lighting can also put thieves who prefer not to be seen!

Don't give thieves a helping hand either. Make sure tools and other valuable items are locked away and not left around the garden, especially ladders.

You can also property mark your items or consider using a UV chemical solution such as Smartwater.

2. Bogus Callers

- (a) Trading Standards has made us aware that a company called calling older vulnerable people to arrange lifestyle assessments. Recently CMCPersuaded an elderly person to part with £2,000 for a walkin bath which wasn't needed and never arrived. Should you have any contact from CM then contact the West Mercia or your NW team.
- (b) Beware of a Stockport based home security firm trad SAS Fire & Security. Their modus operandi is to cold by phone offering a free security review or a free security alarm. Any sign of willingness to list by the household results in an immediate high pressure visit from a salesman often intimidating elderly people into signing contracts for £10,000 for a 5 year contract for 'monitoring' the alarm system – and payable in full immediately. The alarm is installed the same giving little time to think about it. Sadly some customers have had to resort to court action to get their money back.

3. Distraction Burglary Be on your guard for tricksters who appear to be targeting members of the public using ATM cash handouts and pin machines in supermarkets and shops. Three people were recently remanded in custody in relation to thefts committed in Hereford and Leominster. Offenders have been known to watch people using ATM machines a memorising the PIN number they then engage them in conversation, distracting them by a variety of methods (e.g. asking for directions using a or informing people they have dropped some money when they have not) with an accomplice then steals bank cards or a purse.

Interested in becoming a 'Special Constable'? - West Mercia police has just launched a campaign to increase the number of volunteer Special Constables in the area. Special Constables carry out a variety of roles alongside regular officers to help police their local communities. They have the same powers as regular police officers, wear a similar uniform, and face the same challenges. The role is a part time one requiring a minimum commitment of 4 hours a week, usually evening and weekends.

The police provide all the necessary training, and the uniform! In return you will get the chance to learn more about policing, meet new people, enjoy new experiences and learn new skills. If you would like more information you can telephone 01905 747174 or click on the site for

www.westmercia.police.uk

Finally, please note that PC Sharon Wilson has moved, and her replacement is PC Jo E
☎ 07977098394

Keith Mitchell (Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator)

THE INDUCTION OF THE REVEREND ROB TAYLOR AS RECTOR OF THE BENEFICE OF KINGSLAND WITH EARDISLAND, AYMESTRY & LEINTHALL EARLES.

It was with great joy that a service of welcome for Rob was held at the Church of St Michael & All Angels, Kingsland, on the evening of the 27th of March. Invitations had gone out from the churchwardens to Rob's family and friends as well as to local ministers and lay representatives of the various benefice groups and bodies, though everyone was welcome to attend. Into a packed and flower decorated church the crucifer led the Bishop of Hereford, the Right Reverend Anthony Price, who processed to a hymn chosen by our new rector, "Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord". Our benefice Statement of Needs was read out by a representative of Deanery and included a wish for our new vicar to see and be seen on the street and to try and involve more young people in church life. This was followed by the Presentation of Rob to those assembled and the formalities of his Installation with churchwardens and motto show to all that the incumbent does not bear the weight of pastoral responsibility alone. A highlight of the service was the enthusiastic singing of choruses specially prepared by children of Kingsland School and their presentation of bread and wine to the new Rector. After the Bishop had delivered his sermon, which focussed on our need to live out our Christian faith in everyday life, Rob gave thanks as he sent us on our way with words "Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord". Afterwards we all gathered to share food and drink, as well as our thoughts on such a momentous occasion. We all wish Rob and his family a happy and lengthy stay with us in our community.

Beryl Hoda

BARBECUE AT HARDWICK HOUSE

Saturday 24th JULY- 6.30pm to 10.00pm

£15 adults; £7.50 under 16s; under 5s free

Includes main course and pudding

Licensed Bar; Live Music; Grand Draw; Firework Finale

Tickets from Village Shop 01544 388984

Tea Rooms 01544 388226

In Aid of Eardisland Church Appeal

RECTOR'S LETTER



By the time you read this, the election will be over, and what it means for our future will be becoming clear ... It may be a new leader, with new policies and procedures, a time of adversity as we face up to the financial deficit the country finds itself in and other changes. One thing is certain though in all this, some things will not change. Our day to day life will remain much the same, with thoughts and worries over money, jobs, holidays, health and relationships being central. And then news will be pretty much same, only the details will be different. So where can we find real hope and security for the future? Can we look forward to a time when our society will mature, and all people be

content? Will we learn to look after our planet for ourselves, but our descendants? Will we travel to the stars, or have Aliens help us? All these are real hopes for different people, and each face the challenge of our own nature.

Easter speaks of a different revolution, through each and every individual. And the revolution is driven by selfless love, willing to sacrifice itself to ensure the best for the other. History is full of stories of people who have been inspired by that story to challenge and change society by first being changed themselves. Easter also holds the joy of knowing we are not in this alone, but that God really does love us and wants to help us become what we could be.

However we imagine we might get there, all stories tell us we must work together, putting aside personal differences, and letting go of the past (though it may be costly to do so). As I reflected on the year ahead at the Church's AGM I was struck again by how much the Church needs to convey that its message is about people and not buildings, even though it doesn't always seem that way. (Though the buildings are also meant for all). So please when

you are a member of the Church, or have never step foot in it, remember we are here to be part of the community, and help it in whatever way we can. To become involved in the life of Eardisland, and be more readily available to you, I have arranged to be in Eardisland on ~~Tuesday~~ ^{Thursday} morning prayer in the Church at 9:00. I will be in the Village Hall from 10:00 till 11:30 for anyone to drop in and have a chat (~~please~~ ^{please} tell me of someone who would like a visit). After that I will be around visiting people as previously arranged. I hope you find this helpful.

To aid in this, after the 9:30 Services on ~~Sundays~~ ^{the 1st of May and 2nd of June} there will be teas and coffees in Church which I will be staying for. Please come along to the services, or just for the tea/coffee if you want to come and meet me.

I look forward to getting to know you over the coming months and being part of the Eardisland Community.

Rob Taylor

EARDISLAND CHURCH FLOWER GUILD

Jewels in the Crown was the title of village hall last month enabling our the wonderful floral demonstration Guild to raise an amazing sum of given by Beryl Griffiths of £449 which will go towards the Longhope. Beryl is a well known staging, in our Church, of our NAFAS Area Demonstrator and Flower Festival in September teacher and with her depth of very big 'Thank You' to everyone knowledge and bubbly repartee, who contributed to making this she entertained a full house in our event such a success.

Easter Lily Fund

Also on behalf of the Flower Guild, ladies who arranged the flowers so we want to thank everyone who beautifully for us. A sum in excess gave so generously to our Easter of £200 was raised and any monies Lily appeal. This paid for a remaining after the purchase of the wonderful display of lilies and other flowers in our Church to celebrate buy flowers for other special Easter Day whilst giving thanks for occasions in our Church calendar special things in archives and later in the year. Again many thanks remembering loved ones and we to you all. say a big 'Thank You' to all the

Wendy Priddy Pat Roche and Esther Simpson

FLOWER FESTIVAL

There will be a flower festival in Eardisland Parish Church the weekend of 10th, 11th and 12th September, with Songs of Praise on Sunday 12th September at 10^{am}. There will be refreshments throughout the weekend plus a raffle.

The theme this year will be "Earth's Riches" which will be in the church on Tuesday 6th July at 2.30pm for anyone who would like to arrange and be part of the team. To those who wish to sponsor an exhibit in memory of a loved one your donation will be greatly appreciated.

On Saturday 11th there will be a concert in the church starting at 7pm. A Musical Interlude with the Eager Divas from Hereford who are well known throughout the county and beyond. There will be solos, duets from opera and songs from the shows. Their accompanist will also include organ music. We are extremely hopeful to have young talent from the village. Tickets will be £5.00 include a glass of wine and nibbles. Tickets available from Wendy Priday on 01544 388570 or Esther Simpson 01544 388641.

ST MARY'S CHURCH 2010 AGM

Review of 2009-10

In October we said farewell to Nigella after ten years of service. And we wish her well in her "retirement". We anticipated a lengthy delay before a new Rector would be appointed, so we were pleasantly surprised when we were able to welcome Rob in March this year, making it one of the shortest vacancies ever! Even so we had to manage the vacancy, working with a number of clergy, with the attendant challenges. In particular Michael Denny proved to be a good friend of the Church and Village, and we hope to continue our

friendship in the future. We want to really thank all those who have worked in or helped the Church, especially during the vacancy, to make this year so memorable.

Of course much of the year was dominated by our appeal, as we face numerous challenges to make our building safe and more usable for the community. The appeal is making good progress, but a lot remains to be done. However, some tasks have now been completed, including the East Window, and the Clock (probably the easiest and most visible job).

Looking ahead for the coming year:

I am planning to explore and understand Eardisland and its needs, and how I, and the Church can support and encourage the whole village and parish. To be most effective we need to talk to each other and work together. So I plan for my weekly presence in Eardisland, and more time with the congregation of St Mary's. I, along with the PCC, will be considering how we can develop the Church to meet some of the needs and challenges of living here today. So please come and tell me your views and ideas, and join in the adventure of making our own future. However, these things take time, so please be patient to know you, but please be a part of it. And please remember I also have to balance the needs of the wider Benefice of Kingsland, Eardisland, Aymestry and Leintwardine Earles.

Here are details of some of those plans

May 16 th	9:30 Holy Communion	Followed by Teas & Coffees welcome
June 20 th	9:30 Holy Communion	Followed by Teas & Coffees welcome
Every Tuesday		
9:00 Morning Prayer, in St Mary's		
10:00- 11:30 Village Hall, available for chat		
11:30 onwards available for visits, and wandering around village /		

CHURCHWARDENS' ANNUAL REPORT FOR PCC MEETINGS – MONDAY 19 APRIL 2010

The year 2008 to 2009 proved to be a very busy year for St Mary the Virgin church! The retirement of Nigella Tyson, after nine years as our priest, and the start of the consequent vacancy, are the things that most people will think there were other areas in which much has happened also.

1. Building and fabric matters.

The church clock was repaired and a new battery was inserted. It now keeps reliable time with a little assistance from the bell ringers!

The roof tiles on the Lych gate were replaced by Postons, as they had been loosened when the repair work was carried out last March/April.

In October armoured cable was installed running from the church porch by our electrician, to replace the previously unprotected cable. Due to a fall of plaster from the narthex roof that part of the nave roof was netted as a precautionary measure in October.

We had a Visitation by the Archdeacon in August when he declared that he saw no problems other than the need to replace the baptismal font which was well over 100 years old!

The last quinquennial report had identified that repair work to the tracery and ferramenta of the East window was required. In 2009 the specification for this was prepared, tenders issued and accepted, and a faculty granted for work to commence in 2010. The contract was awarded to Reccl Ltd. The work was undertaken early this year and completed at the end of March 2010. The Church Commissioners are responsible for this chancel work. In June 2009 a fresh application for grant under the Repair Grants to Listed Places of Worship scheme was submitted to English Heritage. In view of the problem with the narthex roof the four areas for repair were identified as the rainwater goods, the porch roof, the bell tower roof and the font. In December 2009 we were informed that English Heritage is prepared to grant £14,000 towards the initial investigation work, and a further offer of £88,000 towards the costs of the stage two repairs and fees. The three previous applications having been unsuccessful this was exciting news. The PCC has agreed that the raising of the match funding this requires, and the management of the project, is to be undertaken by the Appeal Committee as an advisory body to the PCC. A separate account has been set up for the project.

2. The Interregnum

In October Nigella retired and an interregnum which proved to be one of the shortest ever began. Nigella had done a considerable amount to prepare us for this, including setting up our PCC committees for worship, finance, fabric and fundraising.

With the great support of the Rural Dean and the Leominster Team in organizing priests to cover our services it was possible to keep all the regular services in place. At Christmas we were extremely grateful to the Reverend Michael Denny who undertook the Carol service and the Christmas services. Michael has also been taking two Sunday services each month, and has really become a friend to all.

Archdeacon Malcolm was very quick to get the churchwardens together and a Statement of Needs prepared so that the advertisement for post of rector of the benefice was advertised in December 2009 and January 2010. In February this year the interviews took place as they say, is history, as Rob was installed on March 7. We welcome Rob as he starts his ministry among us and look forward to sharing it with him.

We are also very grateful to the Bishop, Archdeacon and Rural Dean for their guidance throughout the interregnum and the appointment process.

We also wish to thank all those who have taken part in services, or helped to support the church during the vacancy whatever way.

3. Fundraising

During the last year most of the fundraising was concentrated on the Appeal but the 2009 annual Open Gardens weekend was solely for church funds and was the most successful ever, raising just under £3,000. No other event undertaken in 2009 for PCC finances. 2010 started with a Big Breakfast in for church funds.

THE EARDISLAND CHURCH APPEAL

Launched in early 2008, the appeal has now reached a halfway stage in terms of time and is well past the halfway point towards the planned financial target.

It is, therefore, an appropriate stage at which to provide all parish residents and other interested parties with a detailed report recording achievements to date and plans for the coming year.

The Establishment of the Appeal Structure

Discussions within the Parochial Church Council (PCC) led to the then vicar, Nigella Tyson, inviting four people to form an Appeal Advisory Committee: Peter Brown; Barry Freeman; Richard Kirby and Bert Priday, vicar, vicar, vicar, vicar, church wardens Serena Askew and Jim Collins. When Jim retired in April 2007 after almost 40 years of service, the committee welcomed Alister Hoda as his replacement.

The original remit of the Committee was to advise the PCC on the best scheme for providing a new church heating system. The existing installation dated from a similar appeal in 1927 and was inadequate and almost worn out. This had been highlighted by the Quinquennial Architectural Report presented by the church architect, Lesley, in November 2007.

Early discussion within the Advisory Committee indicated clearly that the scope of the committee's activities needed to be widened. The architect report had also emphasised various works that needed to be undertaken to fabric of the church and the committee decided that this need could not realistically be ignored by recommending that a new heating system should be installed in a building that needed major renovation. It was felt that a single appeal should cover all known requirements.

There were also clear indications that any appeal would take a great deal of work to organise and that the Appeal Committee would need to widen

its remit from an advisory to an executive role, because PCC members were already occupied with going organisational matters, including finding sufficient finance to balance their books each year and today's day in costs.

For these reasons, the heating appeal became a general appeal and the Advisory Committee also became an organising committee.

The Enlarged Scope of the Appeal

From the Quinquennial Report the following list of repairs and renewals was compiled:

1. Heating replacement, renovation of nave walls and seating.
2. Tower roof repairs/renewal.
3. East Window repairs.
4. Rainwater goods and drains repairs/renewal.
5. South porch roof repairs/renewal.
6. Lychgate repairs/renewal.
7. Churchyard boundary wall repairs/renewal.

From a Quantity Surveyor's Report adding in a sum for professional fees and contingencies, an Appeal Target of £50,000 was agreed and a high quality prospectus was produced, funded entirely through the generosity of Mark Adcock, proprietor of Print Plus of Hereford. Reprints of the prospectus were distributed to all parish households.

The Appeal Strategy and Outcomes during 2008

It was obvious that anything approaching the target sum of £250,000 could not be raised locally and a strong strategy was adopted.

1. Local fundraising events.
2. Approaches to commercial companies and appropriate charities.
3. An approach to the Church Commissioners for the east window work.
4. A grant application to English Heritage.

The outcomes can be summarised as follows:

1. Local fundraising events were well supported and individually reported in successive issues of the parish magazine. The PCC added the greater part of legacies from two late residents, Phillip Powles and Peter Hog to the total.

2. Companies were beginning to realise the full impact of the recession and the responses fell short of what had been hoped for. One notable exception was Border Oak, who agreed to undertake the necessary repair work on the lychgate (see below).
3. The approach to the Church Commissioners progressed favourably (again see below).
4. The application to English Heritage was unsuccessful. English Heritage advised us to reapply in 2010.

The Appeal Strategy and Outcomes during 2009

At its first meeting of 2009 the appeal committee was obviously disappointed at the outcome of the English Heritage application but drew some encouragement from the invitation to reapply in the coming year.

It was resolved to continue fundraising during 2009 and review the position in January 2010 when two options would probably be available to the committee, once the response from English Heritage was known, which would be in December 2009.

- Option A. Success with E.H. would make our target achievable and we would progress enthusiastically into 2010.
- Option B. Without an E.H. grant our best option would be to draw up a schedule of work with the available money and recommend it to the PCC.

A programme of local fundraising events was therefore compiled, negotiations with the Church Commissioners were continued and preparation of a re-application to E.H. commenced.

In March 2009 Border Oak provided the first practical achievement of the appeal with a characteristically first class renovation of the lychgate, undertaken speedily and efficiently. The goodwill and generosity of John Green and Mark His is hereby acknowledged on behalf of the whole community.

As in 2008, a huge amount of effort was put into organising local fundraising events and they were well supported. Negotiations with the Church Commissioners were successful and work on the windows was scheduled for late January 2010.

In December came the news that E.H. had awarded a grant totalling £2,000. To suggest that the inherently staid members of the appeal committee ran round the village punching the air and shouting "it's an overstatement", but it was certainly very pleasing and a great relief. 2009 ended on a note very different from 2008.

1. The financial position at the end of February was:

Balance for Appeal Fund	£45,077
First E.H. stage payment	£7,000
Firm commitments from 2 sources	£7,500
Total to date	£59,577

2. A fundraising series of events for this year is under organization, liaison with the PCC who also need to raise funds for the everyday running of the church.
3. Applications to numerous charities are currently being made.
4. The Repairs to the East Window were completed by Easter 2010 and approximately 90% of the costs are being paid by the Church Commissioners.
5. Project Development Work has been commenced by the architect. The results of these investigations are now being written up as the basis of specifications which will be submitted to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for approval. Once this has been obtained the work will go out to tender, and quotes to take the repairs will be invited.

Conclusion

This is a fairly lengthy report: as stated at the beginning it was felt that everyone interested in the welfare and future of our church and community in general would appreciate, and deserved to receive a statement of how we have operated, where we stand at the present time and where we are heading in the next 18 months or so. We hope this report has proved informative and helpful.

Anyone who has any questions or comments is invited to contact any member of the Appeal Committee whose names are listed at the start of this report.

CHRISTMAS IN EARDISLAND - AN INVITATION TO ALL EARDISLAND PHOTOGRAPHERS

No, it is not yet Christmas time!

Eardisland PCC needs to increase its income to meet the annual costs of running the church. It is hoped to contribute to this by producing a set of eight Christmas cards using photos taken by local people.

All parish residents are invited to submit one or two images for possible inclusion. From these it is hoped a number will be chosen to be printed and put into packs which will then be available for purchase. Once the costs have been covered all profits will go towards the running expenses of St Mary's Church.

Please note the following guidelines:

- *All images must be taken within Eardisland parish, and the location provided not obvious.
- *All images must be in digital form and sent to James Miller at jmiller114@btinternet.com
- *A maximum of two images per photographer.
- *Photographers' names will not be used and selection will be on pictorial merit and suitability.
- *Both landscape and portrait formats are acceptable.
- *ALL IMAGES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY 21ST MAY 2010.
- *Our Rector the Reverend Rob Taylor has been asked to make the final selection of 8 images and the cards will be printed in June.
- * Full details will then be published in the July magazine.

If you have some suitable photos perhaps taken during the last winter you think others might like to send to their friends next Christmas why not send them off straight away?

ST MARY'S CHURCH PARISH ELECTORAL ROLL

Any members of the Parish who would like to be included on the Church Parish Electoral Roll please contact me Dian Cope on 01544 388317, Downome, Church Lane

Eardisland and I will be pleased to pass on the Electoral Roll Form for you to fill in. Any one who has not registered please give it some thought.

Thank you,

Dian Cope.
Church Parish Electoral Roll Officer

Following the highly successful Winter Carols Concert which I reviewed in the March edition, we have now enjoyed two more musical evenings which between them provided a comprehensive look back at popular music of the mid-20th century. Both had the benefit of extremely knowledgeable presenters, clearly total enthusiasts for their chosen eras.

Phil Chase in Cabaret on 27th March drew a packed house for his evening of 50s and 60s music and comedy. Twice voted Club Comedian of the Year, he treated us to an astonishingly wide repertoire of music and humour which kept the audience singing and laughing for almost two hours. His versatility on his double banked electronic keyboard was something to marvel at.

The evening was organised in support of Eardisland Bowls Club's fundraising campaign for a new club house. David Wallis was the genius behind the scenes, supported as ever by family and friends from his former life in Manchester and here in Eardisland. A sumptuous supper and a draw with a huge number of prizes completed a grand evening.

entertainment. Well done David, Sue and everyone who helped.

Old Blue Eyes is Back! The event on 12th April gave us a nostalgic look back across the career of the Voice of the Twentieth Century. This was a warts and all presentation of Sinatra, charting his philippic and misdemeanours and his low points as well as his worldly triumphs. Approve or disapprove of his lifestyle he was, as we all are, who he was. The uniqueness of Sinatra is that his legacy of popular songs and films may never be equalled.

The evening was presented by Richard Jordan, a man with a lifelong admiration for Sinatra's repertoire. It is an admiration which I have always shared and am extremely grateful to members of Eardisland W.I. for giving us this opportunity to enjoy this unique presentation of the man and his music.

Barry Freeman

RETIREMENT TREAT



Having finally said goodbye to the world of work in Summer 2008, we had for the first time the freedom to travel whenever and wherever we chose—luxury! New Zealand was high on our list of places to visit and Annie had always had a dream of a ‘round the world’ ticket, far away places and the life of a ‘flashpacker’.

After months of planning, internet bookings and pouring over maps and guide books, we finally took off for Hong Kong in January, with the excitement of seven weeks of travel ahead of us. (Annie) a not insignificant feeling of apprehension as to what we would encounter on route.

It proved to be a holiday of variety and contrasts, ranging from the high density, sophisticated life of Hong Kong, a laid back New Zealand, a frenetic Sydney and the final gentleness and beauty of the Fijian Yasawa Islands. Accommodation was as varied as the places and experiences. Lots of wonderful holiday parks in New Zealand where everyone met round the communal barbecue at night, motels when we were ‘on the road’, an occasional touch of luxury in a posh hotel and a mini cruise on a catamaran.

People have asked us about special memories and also what surprised us. Impossible to answer without feeling guilty about what we have not mentioned. However, there are each of us special moments that will remain vivid, and just a mention will recapture the thrill of the moment. The deep, resonance of Maori voices singing their traditional songs made the hairs on back of our necks tingle. How does one describe such a volume of sound? The varied and beautiful landscapes of New Zealand left us short of superlatives as we drifted along dramatic coastlines, crossed wide plains, went our way through majestic alpine scenery and experienced the remoteness and peace of Fjordland. The sight of a giant Sperm Whale diving, an Albatross with a three-metre wingspan flying immediately overhead, baby Fur Seals in a nursery pool and Bottlenose Dolphins playing around our boat in Milford Sound—unforgettable wildlife treats.

The villages of remote South Pacific islands and their cultural and community values and lifestyle reminded us of something long gone from western life. The friendly smiling faces of children at a school, the joyful entertainment they provided and the inevitable local craft stalls (everything dollars and no change!) were a wonderful wind down to our adventures. Would we do it again? Yes please.

Annie & Keith Mitchell

CHINA - BRING YOUR OWN TOILET PAPER



In November my daughter, Rachel, said 'How do you fancy a trip to China?' My immediate reaction, taking into account that I had a very painful leg was 'No way'. However, two weeks later with my leg slightly improved in a

moment of madness I said 'OK, let's go for it'. A Rachel does not believe in organised tours to meet the people, etc. By internet she made various arrangements, booked flights to Beijing (£4 return to Birmingham, via Paris on the way out, Amsterdam on the return, 3 March to 18 April), made a deal with a Couch Surfing host and also incorporated 4/5 days towards the end of the trip with a guide and air conditioned car.

For those who have not heard of Couch Surfing, this is a worldwide organisation in which individuals host people free. The accommodation can vary widely! I took our sleeping bags with us, a tall American, who hosted us in Beijing, sent me 'Bring your own toilet paper' He was not joking. Very few places provided any, and you had to be careful deposit it in a bin not in the toilet.

We arrived five hours later than scheduled due to a cancelled flight from Birmingham, but benefited from this by being upgraded to business class from Paris onwards. We even managed to sleep a little.

I had no preconceptions about China, had never dreamt of visiting it, so everything was to experience. Beijing proved to be an enormous city about 60 miles across, about 22 million inhabitants with another 8 million transients. That is nearly half the population of Britain! There were masses of cars, tricycles and bikes weaving in and out alarmingly. Most of the bikes and trikes had no lights at night, but that did not hold them back. Subway tickets were 20p, while a journey on a bus was 10p. We managed to see some of the main sights: the Forbidden City, Tiananman Square, Summer Palace, Temple of Heaven and the Great Wall. All very Chinese as expected, but we also walked through the

hutongs (alleyways) where people live and make a livelihood in every limit accommodation, possibly without running water, selling all manner of things.

What struck me most of all was how dry. Although carrying bottles of water with us we still suffered from thirst and dry, cracked lips. The sky was blue, the wind, cold, the pollution in the air spoiled the scenery. My host was an excellent host, explaining how things were in China and how best to get around.

We left Beijing on a 'soft sleeper' night train to Datong. Booking in advance is advisable. It is possible to get a 'soft sleeper' (four bunks to a cabin) or a 'hard sleeper' (six bunks and no door on the cabin). Advice was to take top bunks as the Chinese eat their noodles on the bottom bunks during day journeys. However, I found some in the top bunk! I'm not sure whether this was better or worse than the French couple below who found a cigarette butt!

In Datong an English speaking taxi driver 'got' us straightaway, and a booking into the hotel he took us 40 miles north to the temple. The temple is extraordinary. Apparently the monks had got tired of being flooded in the valley below and built it on the side of a sheer mountain side, supported by quite a few wooden poles. Next we were driven to the Great Wall (sorry I can't remember the name) where my legs finally said they had had enough. In the company of two camels (not sure why they were there) while Rachel disappeared for an hour or so viewing the hundreds, or was it thousands, of carved Buddhas, some extremely large.

Next morning an early start was made by bus to Wutai Shan, one of the four most important Buddhist sites in China. The bus was very comfortable. We were immediately drawn into the nearest 'hotel'. Very cheap! The man said, yes, £3 each per night. Could we have a shower? Oh, no, too cold. OK we'll forego that then. When we investigated the bathroom however, not only was there no hot water there was no water at all and the toilet did not drain. Toilet paper, I guess! We stayed overnight, but then it to a 4 star hotel down the road for the next night.

Leaving Wutai Shan the next morning we went by bus and train to Pingyao, an international heritage site, a beautifully preserved walled city where a back packers' hostel had been booked. It was very friendly, reasonably priced, had hot showers! and they spoke English. The hutongs were all pedestrianised and attractive. While there we took a trip to some underground tunnels, dug about 1000 years ago and also to the Wang Courtyard, neither of which we were able to fully appreciate because we were so cold. There was snow and ice lying on the ground and not banked on it being quite so cold.

From Pingyao we took another night train (hard sleeper this time) to Xi'an, previously the capital of China. Our guide, Peter, met us at the station and

organised everything for us for the next four days. On the first night we went to a banquet and song and dance show by the Tang Dynasty players, which was very beautiful. Overnight it snowed. Cars had about four inches of snow on them, but remarkably there was none on the streets. Peter took us to Tang Paradise Theme Park, Big Wilde Goose Pagoda, another park and then to the Shaanxi History Museum. Finally a short visit to the Valley, by which time my legs had had enough.

Our guide collected us next morning and off we went to the hot springs. This was a very interesting place, where the Emperor and his favourite concubine spent 10 years away from the court neglecting his duties. Peasants revolted. It was also the place where Chiang Kai Shek stayed for a while until an attack (you can see the bullet holes) sent him scurrying into the high mountain behind where he was later found hiding between some rocks in his pyjamas. Then it was off to see the Terracotta Army, another heritage site. It is amazing to think of all the work that has been put in to unearth and restore this phenomenal site. Some of it is being left undisturbed as the colours on the figures disappear where unearthed.

That evening we arrived in Hua Shan, a mountainous area of mountains. If you thought Wales had mountains, try Hua Shan. The road snaked its way round countless hairpin bends with sheer drops on one side and unscalable granite mountains on the other. Our reason for going was that Rachel wanted to climb hills. The morning we ascended by cable car some of the way, but at the top of the cable car a notice saying 'From now on it's mountaineering' I immediately sat down on the nearest bench and read my book while Rachel continued for another couple of hours. In the snow of the previous day, I got sunburnt!

Saturday morning we had flights booked back to Beijing and arrived at the hostel reasonably early, only to discover there had been a volcanic eruption in Iceland and our flight back home next day was cancelled. Rachel's husband in England managed to rebook for the Friday and we persuaded Sully to host us a few more days.

My impressions of China?

Very dry (we were mostly in the North). I just longed to see water.
People were friendly and helpful.
Toilets?????

This is only the briefest of accounts. If you would like to read more and you have internet access go to <http://www.travelpod.com/members/rachelkw>

Sheila Krufft (nee Cole)

EARDISLAND HISTORY & HERITAGE SOCIETY

LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY

During February, March, and part of April, one of Eardisland's local farmers (who remains anonymous to prevent possible intrusions) has allowed our History Group diggers to investigate a possible site of historical interest which appeared on aerial photographs of his land. As he uses the land as meadow grass and needs to return his cattle to their pasture we were given a deadline by which to find out as much as possible regarding the site.

The site is about 50m. by 15m., and is surrounded by a shallow hollow which appears to be a silted-up ditch. After doing a thorough survey with metal detectors, (which revealed only three pony shoes, two nails, and many small pieces of barbed wire, sadly no Staffordshire board !), we opened a trench across what appeared to be a buried retaining wall, and six further "inspection" trenches to try to elucidate the use of the area in the past. The topsoil is underlain across the entire site by a stony layer about 10 to 15 cm below the surface, with soil underlying that.

A visit from Tim Hoverd, of Herefordshire Archaeology, helped to establish that the area is probably the site of a medieval farmstead and outbuildings which may have been abandoned about the time of building a newer farmhouse about 100 m. away.

This "newer" farm is itself of 16th Century date, and the earlier and later sites may well have been occupied for an overlapping period before the earlier one fell into disuse.

The site has now been returned to farm land, but it is hoped that we may revisit it during next Winter/Spring to carry out further investigations. (Of course thanks are due to this anonymous farmer for his help in allowing us to make use of his land.

Graham Simpson

HISTORY MISCELLANY

Whilst checking a London A-Z recently for directions to visit a relative living in North London I noticed that there was a surprisingly large number of streets with names of local relevance. Within a square mile the following roads interconnected with each other: Pembridge; Bulstreybury Hereford; Garway; Gloucester; Chepstow; Monmouth; Shrewsbury; Powis and Denbigh Road. Searching outside this area I couldn't see any roads or streets which had any similar local geographical connections. There is no doubt a straightforward explanation. I wonder what it is?

Recalling Eardisland in wartime

In a recent edition of this magazine the story of Gwyn Price, who was an engineer flying in Lancaster bombers during the war was told. Also mentioned was Bob Olausen who married Peggi (who had lived in Crabtree Hall in Lyme Lane before the war). At the age of 17 Bob, a New Zealander, was a gunner on board the Achilles and sent to help attack the Graff Spee at the battle of the River Plate, 1939. Peggi wrote to say how pleased she was to read the article since she was able to contact Gwyn, having spent the days together in the 1930s, in Eardisland. Peggi also said how she recalled a number of others from the same period who played an important part in the war effort, some losing their lives. She asked if their names could be recalled. If anyone has further information about those who were involved please let us know, since it is important to have a record for future generations.

Peggi's memories

I have been giving thought about other 'war heroes' from Eardisland, there are quite a few of them that went to school there in my time (the 1930s). There were at least eleven including Gwyn Price, as far as I know. There were others who had direct connections with the village. Bill Stead who was at Dunkirk, Harry Davies was in the Army, and is now living in Leominster. As a matter of interest, Harry was probably the last member of the Burton Court Cricket Club that the Oral History Group members were able to interview, having played for the team before the war as an opening batsman. There remains an enthusiastic member of the Bowls Club there was Donald Barrington (known as Clayton) who sadly went down on a ship in the English Channel. Lewis Stanley Kay, Tom Rimmer and Mary Weaver all in the R.A.F. Edith Morgan and Megan Davies were in the Army and Jack Arnold (one of the AA men in the village before the war) was sent to France at the time of Dunkirk to help with supplies. He was wounded, and had an awful scar down the side of his face. Fred Fairweather (who lived close by in Welcott I believe) was in the Army as was Winnie Downing who lived at Moss Hill (and who came to school on a horse). On the war memorial, too, there is Thomas Cook who had lived at Crabtree before we moved in. His parents rented it from the owners of Street Court.

I thought it might be of interest to mention these people; they all made a contribution to the war effort. Considering the very small school that existed in Eardisland at that time, it was quite an important effort. There might be others that I don't know about.

Peggi Olausen

From the archives of the Oral History Group

Peggi's letter was a reminder that we had received some interesting information about life in the village during wartime. Many of those who were present between 1939 and 1945 have since died but their memories were invaluable. It seems that there were several occasions when bombs, incendiaries and even planes crashed in the close vicinity.

Peggi remembered how her father returning from Home Guard duty one night and discovered two villagers huddled at the bottom of a dry ditch, having taken refuge there on hearing an air raid warning. Tom Mainwaring related how he had been informed that a bomb fell in the fields between her and Pembridge. It may have been a (possibly British), getting rid of excess load before finding a landing field; but Tom told us that it made a crater and lot of noise.

In the course of an interview with Mr and Mrs Cole (Mr Cole had worked at Grove Farm Mrs Cole and Nancy Price worked in the munitions factory in Hereford) much fascinating information emerged Mrs Cole remembered with amusement how her husband was in the Home Guard. She said *They had the time of their lives; their HQ was in the old Smithy, opposite the White Swan; that was alright; nip out, get a drink, back in and play cards and*

But Mr Cole remembered, however, several occasions when there were emergencies. A few incendiaries were dropped around the Kingsland area. Bombs were dropped in Hereford. He remembered how an aeroplane, probably a Miles Magister, *crashed at the back of the orchard close to The Pitch, near Perry Ditch Farm* and he recalled going to see it in the orchard by the side of the house Leslie Evans, too, described a plane crashing down close to Burton Court; it had been towing a glider and the pilot baled out in Burton Lane. Les rescued him from a coppice and saw him being taken back to Shobdon.

Mervyn Morgan also described how landmines and incendiaries were dropped in the valley along from Dilwyn towards Weobley; again probably to lighten the plane carrying them in order to escape from pursuers. He how his brother Roland found one of the bombs in the moat of the castle at Weobley and was carrying it home, causing some concern among everyone who saw him. Eventually, a policeman caught up with him and took the bomb away. It was then discovered that it really was live!

Mrs Cole said that although wartime had its problems, in terms of rationing and blackout precautions, nonetheless she always managed to have butter in the house. *She said: "Weir made it; Mrs Owen, at Stanhope, she made it too."* Mr Cole described how German and Italian POWs were bussed in every day from a camp in Presteigne to work in the fields. *He said: "a couple of*

~~WEIR~~ Janet Morgan had letters from Italian POWs who, on leaving in the 40s, sent thank her father for the kindness that the family had shown to them at Grove Farm. Interestingly, her father (Jim Kington) had himself fought bravely

throughout the First World War, as a Lewis gunner, having been badly gassed at Ypres. Her grandfather had fought in the Crimean war.

But it's clear from these reminiscences that although there was no shortage of butter, it was a little more hazardous living in rural Eardisland in wartime, than we might have imagined

Paul Selfe

Have you ever dug up anything and wondered what it was? If so, bring it along to the "Archaeological Roadshow" at the History Meeting on Monday 17th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Have your finds identified, dated or just explained by an expert!

EARDISLANDIANA

an

alphabetical compilation of
events and circumstances of historical interest.

Alphabet (i), part (i).

A.....Ajax family. Mr. Ajax and Assistant of Eardisland School died in Eardisland in 1821. He was interred in the churchyard on the 4th of September

B.....Bollard family. In 1500 Richard Bollard, a customary tenant of the manor of Burton, held one messuage and 22 acres of "arable with pasture", in "Hardwyke", at a rent of 6s4d. per annum.

C.....Church On February 13th 1278 Richard de Wye was instituted as Vicar of Eardisland under the patronage of the Abbey of Lyre, Normandy.

D.....Domesday Book In 1086 King William I "The Conqueror" caused what soon became known as the "Domesday Book" to be compiled. Eardisland does not appear in it by its present name (Burton, Hinton and Twyford not at all) but expert opinion has, for many years now, been that Eardisland is represented in Domesday Book by the second of the two entries headed "Lene" at folio 179d (Phillimore edition the original is not numbered), where interesting detail is to be found.

E.....Electricity The Grid system was introduced into the village in May 1931 by the Shropshire, Worcestershire & Staffordshire Electric Power Co., and after nationalisation was run by the Midlands Electricity Board. In January 1956 all the outlying hamlets, farms and cottages were still without mains electricity.

F.....Fish Pondn his Will dated 17 September 1745 John Trumper left much to his daughter Anne Trumper but stipulated that "...my said daughter shall permit and suffer my said wife and her assigns to hold and enjoy during her natural life two plocks of land adjoining to the buildings to the right of the Porch House in Eardisland aforesaid & enclosed with walls and wherein a fish pond and Brick Building now stands with a garden." Porch House was later, after 1902, known as Vulcan House and then, probably in the 1930s was being run as a Guest House, it became known, inaccurately, as Old Manor House.

George Alderson.

EARDISLAND BOWLING CLUB

The club has made an encouraging start to the 2010 season, with a near record turnout on Opening Day, followed by victories in the first two club fixtures. The first was a particularly fine effort at Presteigne on Wednesday evening, with Eardisland coping the best on a tricky green. It rained on the early part of the day and with the hosts unable to respond, claimed victory by 76 shots to 54. Gill Williams and Phil Sharp were both winning skips, but best rink went to skip Tony Stokes, Lynda Lynne, John Hill and Neil Powell. Tony Stokes was back in action the following evening in a match against a strong St Martins side. Following heavy afternoon rain, the game was played in constant drizzle, although the surface played true and was a credit to the groundsman, Tony Stokes, who, once again skipped the best rink of Mavis Tantrum, Phil Lynne and Tom Chandler. There was also a win for John Moses whilst a thrilling draw for Phil Sharp was enough to secure a win by 63 shots to 56. If you are interested in joining the club, I would simply like to give it a go, please contact either myself on 388097, or Pat Roche on 388492. Thanks,

Phil Milchard

WEATHER REPORT

The weather this year has been on the whole calm, so far. As mentioned in the last report January was above average for rainfall, thus continuing the pattern of the last four years of above average rain. However, since then we have had a period with February (32mm), March (36mm) and April (29mm), all well below the expected amount. April was marked by particularly contrasted weather patterns; the month opened on a very bleak note but then much warmer weather arrived (although with some slight night frosts). The month was the sunniest April since the beginning of the 20th century. Colder, wetter weather returned at the very end of the month.

Peter Glenn

£1 MILLION OF WASTE PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES IN HEREFORDSHIRE EACH YEAR

We all know a spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down but did you realise £1 million of prescription medicines are literally going up in smoke in Herefordshire each year?

The not-so-sweet news means that money which could pay for 30 extra community nurses, or 200 more hip operations, or 140 more heart bypass operations, is being lost through wasted prescription medicines.

To cut this figure, NHS Herefordshire is kicking a campaign with a series of roadshows next month.

An experienced pharmacist will be on hand to offer advice to patients, carers and family members.

“Unused prescription medicines cannot be used by another patient and have to be incinerated,” said Sue Hickman an NHS Herefordshire pharmacist

“We’re asking patients to only order the repeat medicines they need, ask your GP to amend your repeat prescription if you don’t need all the medicines that are listed on it, always take your medicines with you if you go into hospital, ask your pharmacist for a free talk about your medicines or ‘medicines use review’; and, dispose of unwanted medicines safely at a pharmacy or dispensary,” added Sue.

The roadshows will be held at:

- Hereford High Town, Wednesday, May 19
- Bromyard, Tenbury Road car park, Friday, May 21
- Rosson-Wye, next to Market House, Saturday, May 24
- Kington, car park opposite primary school, Tuesday, May 25
- Leominster, Corn Square, Thursday, May 27



Volunteer Week A celebration of Volunteering.

Volunteer Week is an annual event which celebrates the fantastic contribution that millions of volunteers make each week. The Week which runs from June 1st to June 7th plays a huge part in raising the profile of the millions of volunteers who regularly contribute to society, while inspiring others to get involved too.

Volunteering is a great way to have a meaningful impact on your community but it also has many other benefits that can have a positive impact on your life. These include the following:

- meeting new people
- training and work experience
- increased confidence
- a real sense of achievement
- references
- a boost to your career options
- lots of fun

If you are interested in volunteering or are an organisation looking for new volunteers REACH provides a new volunteer support service that is available in Kington every Wednesday at Marches Access Point. Please contact Vicky Hamilton on 07827 775700 or email v.hamilton@herefordshireva.org find out more.

We need you!

REACH, the new lottery funded project which aims to support voluntary and community groups in Herefordshire, needs people willing to act as community contacts for their area. A Community Contact will act as a volunteer representative of REACH in the parish where you live, to be our ‘eyes and ears’.

If you are already active in your community would like to be a Contact, please contact Hannah James for more information on 07827 775701 or email her at hannah@herefordshireva.org. Hannah is based in Kington at Marches Access Point. The role will not take up a great deal of your time and may well be what you are already doing!


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Next copy date for the Eardisland Parish Magazine

FRIDAY, 2nd JULY 2010

Why Teachers Drink

What was Sir Walter Raleigh famous for?

He is a noted figure in history because he invented cigarettes and started a craze for Bicycles.

What did Mahatma Gandhi and Genghis Khan have in common?

Unusual names

Name one of the early Romans' greatest achievements.

Learning to speak Latin.

Name the wife of Orpheus, whom he attempted to save from the underworld.

Mrs Orpheus