

EARDISLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

JULY 2023

ISSUE 195



This lovely photograph, by Patricia Gill, was taken at about 8.00pm on Friday 30th June. The camera was on an iPhone 13. Anyone interested in photography could not help but be amazed at the quality of a camera with a very small lens, and the whole camera part of the phone about the same as the top of your thumb. The photo above is straight out of the phone camera with no processing.

The Editor welcomes photos of Eardisland scenes, although there can be no guarantee of publication – there are just two pages in colour in the printed version!

In this issue:

Index/Editorial	2	Village Hall	18
Parish Diary	3	Neighbourhood Watch	19
Obituary: John Greene	4	Scams	20
Parish Council Update	7	Village Show	21
Herefordshire Council	8	Church Matters	27
Mortimer Medical Practice	9	Eardisland in Bloom	29
W.I.	9	A Super Cub	30
Duck Races	10	Sewing Exhibition	31
Village Show	11	Drivers Needed	32
Twinning Association	12	Weather	33
Cheese and Wine	13	Passports	33
Environment+Sustainability	14	Contacts	43
DEFRA Visitation	16		

EDITORIAL

I have been made aware of a number of attempted burglaries from local outbuildings recently. This is not a new phenomenon given that this rural area tends to have outbuildings with garden machinery and other valuable mechanical devices. It would be wise to check security measures such as locks and sensor-controlled lighting.

I was saddened to hear of the death of John Greene, whose obituary appears on page 4 of this magazine. It is the most extraordinary story of enterprise, hard work and driving ambition. To create a company, Border Oak, with such a reputation both nationally and internationally is truly a magnificent achievement. Our condolences go to John's family and friends.

It's not often that the village is visited by a Minister of State, but this happened in late May, with a visit by Thérèse Coffey from DEFRA. An account of this rare occasion is on page 17.

Following the Parish Council elections in May, Cllr. Richard Davies is now the representative on the PC for the Eardisland Parish Magazine. I look forward to working with Richard, whom I have known for many years. Interestingly, his father, Howard, was also a Parish Councillor.

It is planned to update 'Who's Who and Organisations' shortly. If you are associated with an organisation, you will be contacted to ascertain contact details for publication.

Finally, a very warm welcome to Amber Littleworth, the newly appointed Clerk to Eardisland Parish Council. I wish her well.

Chris Bivand

EARDISLAND PARISH DIARY 2023

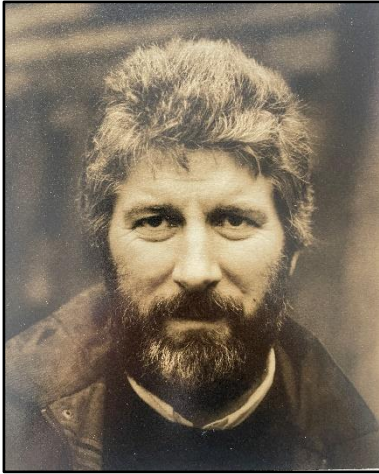
Thursday 13 th July	Parish Council Meeting
Friday 14 th July	Carbon Report, p.14
Thursday 10 th August	Parish Council Meeting (if required)
w/e 26/27 August	Sewing Exhibition, p.31
Sunday 27 th August	Duck Races, p.10
Friday 1st September	Magazine Copy Date
Saturday 2 nd September	Eardisland Village Show, p.11 and p. 21 on
Saturday 9 th September	Eardisland Twinning Association Cheese and Wine Evening, p.12
Thursday 14 th September	Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 14 th September	Patient Participation Meeting, p.9
Saturday 7 th October	Craft and Produce Fair
Thursday 12 th October	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 28 th October	VH Octoberfest
Thursday 9 th November	Parish Council Meeting
Friday 10 th November	VH Quiz Night
Friday 17th November	Magazine Copy Date
Sunday 10 th December	VH Christmas Food and Gift Fair
Thursday 14 th December	Parish Council Meeting (if required)

If you are planning an activity to be advertised in the Eardisland Parish Magazine, please bear in mind the dates above. I will always try to make exceptions for late copy in the case of completely unforeseen events – an accident or sudden death, for example. Otherwise, the copy dates are fixed. Please think ahead and allow for the time-lag given the copy dates above. Also, problems can happen with equipment failure or other reasons which can affect distribution dates.

I will submit proposed dates for 2024 to the Parish Council for their approval in September, with publication planned for November of this year. They will be in the diary when agreed.

Finally, a plea. The copy date for the magazine does not mean the date to give me copy. It is the final date for copy. If everything comes in at the last moment it makes life very difficult for me and runs the risk of pushing back the printing schedule, which, in turn, may render some adverts and dates irrelevant. Thank you for your help with this.

Ed.



John Greene started Border Oak with his brother-in-law, Mark Hicks in 1980, in a shed at the bottom of the orchard behind Knapp House, Eardisland.

From these humble beginnings John and Mark pioneered the revival of green oak framing after it had been obsolete for more than 200 years, creating an entire sector of housing that is still thriving today and setting up a highly successful local business, now based in Kingsland. They went on to shape and influence the UK self and custom build industry for more than 40 years – renowned for their sustainable and innovative

approach to house building, both here and abroad. John lived in Eardisland for almost his whole life and loved the village - and he was a generous benefactor to many villages causes over his 74 years.

John was born at his grandparents' home; Crown Cottage, Teapot Turn, Eardisland. He was the first child and only son of Reg and Ethel and deeply loved by all from the moment he arrived. Reg and Ethel were both strong characters and had a huge influence on his life. John has two sisters, Sue and Sally. Crown Cottage was the first of John's homes in Eardisland, but soon after John was born Reg and Ethel bought The Lamb Inn at Stoke Prior and established their successful business, buying, running and selling a number of local pubs along the way.

John attended Dutton House prep school in Leominster from the age of 3. He famously passed his 11+ exam aged 9 and later attended Leominster Grammar School, where he met his wife, Patsy. John's school report is full of *'if only he would try'* or *'what a waste of a great mind'* phrases. It is clear that many of his teachers were convinced he would achieve very little in life despite being academically gifted. He excelled at Maths, Art, Woodwork and English – which of course would prove very useful later in life.

As a teenager John lived at The White Swan, Eardisland. John was convinced that The White Swan was haunted, recalling several chilling encounters with a distressed figure which made him feel uncomfortable upstairs, and he avoided the first floor even as an adult. But he very much enjoyed listening to the late-night sparring between his father, Francis Greenhough from Staick House and Commander Simpson, who stayed with Ethel and Reg while purchasing Burton Court. John was mystified that the long, confusing and

impassioned debates between these three opinionated, but highly intelligent men, often ended with one of them storming out or getting barred. Yet the next evening they would reconvene and start all over again!

As John came to the end of his school years, Reg and Ethel built a super modern pre-fab bungalow called Bardufoss, on land they owned behind the pub. It was this project that ignited John's early interest in building from scratch. Reg also built a strange subterranean swimming pool that barely held water and had an aviary full of exotic birds, plus a tame pet badger that lived under the bungalow and would sleep under the bar stools at the pub in the evening.

John met Patsy, married at Leominster Priory on the 15th February 1969 and shortly afterwards they moved into The Monument Pub, Kingsland (a wedding gift from Reg and Ethel) becoming the youngest publicans in Herefordshire at the time.

John worked at the bank during the day and would travel to work with Johnny Gittoes from Eardisland. He recalled that Johnny's sage advice had guided him on many an occasion. They also shared a love of jokes and mischief. Those seemingly ordinary, everyday trips were the highlight of John's day and something he valued for all time.

John knew that the banking world wasn't for him, so he followed his love of old buildings and trained as a surveyor – at which he excelled. His natural gift for engineering meant he was successful from a young age, project managing large contracts such as the building of the road over Dinmore Hill. He also lectured at Hereford Tech College which he enjoyed immensely.

After a time at local construction company Bengry's, John accepted a partnership at Lewis' Construction in Ludlow. During his time at Lewis' John visited a farm near Hay on Wye to measure up for a new milking parlour. It was here that he discovered the 14th century oak framed barn that was to transform his life. Terrified that the farmer would carry out his threat to make space for the milking parlour by burning down the old cruck frame, John rashly agreed to buy it, remove it and store it in the garden of Knapp House, the medieval cottage he had bought to restore in Eardisland now that he had a young family.

After restoring Knapp House John began to re-erect the old barn with the hope it could become the next home for his family. Luckily, his sister Sally had married a talented carpenter, Mark, so together they set about building, repairing and restoring this majestic frame learning many traditional methods as they went.

When the time came to ask for planning approval to convert the barn into a home, John encountered resistance from the council. They didn't think it was a building that could be converted into a home and couldn't see that John's passion for green oak framing would come to much. His tricky application was passed to a forward-thinking young planning officer and conservation officer and they offered him a lifeline, intrigued by his crazy idea that green oak was the

future of house building. And so began Border Oak – Mark and John making green oak frames in John’s orchard in Eardisland, desperately hoping that someone would buy one.

After much hard work Border Oak became a huge success and John is responsible for an exceptional portfolio of 20th and 21st C homes across the globe – he surpassed all that he could have dreamt of as young schoolboy whose teachers believed would amount to little.

He turned a pile of rescued old beams into a multi-million pound company, provided good jobs for hundreds of people and homes for thousands more – and he saved an entire genre of building from the being consigned to history.

When students study vernacular architectural history in half a century’s time, we hope that they know that John David Greene of Eardisland is the reason oak frames are still being made.

There is so much more to say about John, Border Oak, and the importance of what John and Mark achieved over the past 45 years, but sadly not enough space here. John was an industry pioneer and a relentless entrepreneur but he was also a gentleman with an unwavering love of Herefordshire.

In January 2019 John had a cardiac arrest in his office chair and was revived by his work colleagues. After this most would probably take life a little easier. But John felt that he still had a lot to do.

During his recovery time John designed and built a beautiful oak framed home for himself and Patsy on the edge of Eardisland, where everything was designed by John and made by local craftsmen. This won a National Award for the ‘Best Self-Build Home 2022’. And he finally purchased Staick House (which had been the home of his father’s friend Francis) after years of wanting to restore the majestic manor house that had so inspired him as a child and adult.

John was a wonderfully complex man of many talents, who valued life’s simple pleasures. Despite his incredible achievements he was shy, humble and endlessly hardworking. John was kind to his core, generous, loyal and steadfast. He was highly intelligent but also silly, funny, eccentric and an exemplary businessman.

Above all John was an incredible father and grandfather, brother, friend, uncle, colleague and boss.

John died on Friday 2nd June 2023 with Patsy by his side. He was privately cremated on 20th June. His last journey took him from Redgate House, past Knapp House, EarlsIsaen House, The White Swan, Bardufoss, Church Road, Staick House and then Crown Cottage.

Above all, John David Greene was a great Herefordian.

My thanks to Merry Albright and family for this fascinating account of John’s life.
Ed.

PARISH COUNCIL

1.This is my first Parish Council update since taking over from Debbie Cottam. I hope to find my feet quickly within the Council and look forward to working with everyone. The Parish Clerk email address and mobile number remain the same - parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk / 07799 826779.

Please note the new postal address - Stonelea Cottage, Eardisland, Herefordshire, HR6 9AS. These details are also on the website.

2.Are you prepared for the next flood event? Please make sure that you have your Personal Checklist to hand, and you know what to do in a flood event. Most importantly, please make sure you register with the Environment Agency for flood alerts and warnings - go to <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings> or ring 0345 9881188.

The Eardisland Flood Response Plan is available on the website -

<https://www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk/eardisland-flooding-response-plan-efrp/> or contact the Parish Clerk on 07799 826779 for a copy of the Plan.

3. As the warm weather is continuing to rise, river swimming can be fun, but it also can be dangerous. If you see someone in trouble, the life buoy on Arrow Lawn can be accessed by anyone in an emergency.

4. Are you new to the Parish; have you just moved in? Welcome to Eardisland. If you have not already received a 'Welcome to Eardisland' pack, please contact the Parish Clerk and we will be pleased to bring you one.

5. The Parish Council website can be accessed at www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk [1] with the community website continuing to provide all other information at www.eardisland.org.uk [2].

6. The following Planning Applications have been considered or noted at recent Parish Council meetings: P230738/K, Staick House, HR6 9BU - T1 Sweet Chestnut Tree - to be dismantled to ground level due to severe decay at base and in stem. Works can proceed. P231336/FH, 2 Arrow Barns, HR6 9BN - Proposed ground floor rear extension. Support subject to the use of appropriate materials. P231336/F, Burton Court, HR6 9DH - Proposed development including the provision of one temporary removable timber-built cabin on wheels with associated access, parking and landscaping for the purposes of tourist accommodation. Support, though members wished to note that the ecology query on drainage/phosphates remains outstanding. P231434/F, Lower Hardwick Farm, HR6 9HF - Proposed agricultural manure storage building. Support on the understanding that the building is not used for livestock.

7. The planned Parish Council meeting dates can be found in the diary of the magazine. Extra meetings will be held if required to meet deadlines for response to Planning Applications and details can be found on the Notice Boards and website. Meetings are open to the public and a short time is allocated on the

Agenda to take questions or comments from Parishioners, in line with the Council's Standing Orders.

Amber Littleworth
Eardisland Parish Clerk

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT ROGER PHILLIPS

rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

I thank those of you who turned out and supported me to be re-elected as your County Councillor. It is a great pleasure and privilege to represent the Eardisland community and I will continue to do my best to support the wellbeing of parishioners, businesses and our environment.

Annual Fire Service Report

I have been the lead elected councillor for Herefordshire on the Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority for some years and recently the annual report has been published. The service covers the two counties with a joint population of 790,000 people (Herefordshire 190,000), 342,000 households, 48,000 businesses with 4,755 miles of highway.

In the year 2023/24 we saw an increase in incidents of 9% to 8,132 across the two counties, the main increase coming from the number of wild fires during last summer's heatwave. There are 41 fire engines at 25 stations, with 239 wholtime firefighters, 361 on call, 26 control staff and 139 support staff, and a budget of 37 million. The service not only provides response to incidents but deals with prevention and protection matters which include across the counties over 6,500 home visits and also business inspections.

In Herefordshire we have 13 stations with only Hereford being manned with full time crews, which deals with 47% of all the call outs in the county. In the last year there were 1,862 incidents in the county including 454 fires, 643 special incidents including road traffic collisions and 756 false alarms.

We struggle to meet our 10-minute call out response time due to the rural nature of the county and our new targets in rural areas are 20 minutes. This is timed from call centre alert, on call firefighters arriving at station, journeying, and arriving at the incident. Kingsland is our local station and works regularly with our community on preparing for flooding events.

Planning permission has just been gained for a new Hereford Fire Station on the present site and we are negotiating two decamp sites during the rebuild. More details at <https://www.hwfire.org.uk/>

Roger

MORTIMER MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

The Practice has some new staff starting this month a new GP, Dr Dora Hemson, a new practice nurse, Mrs Anita Sharrad and a new receptionist Mrs Christine Downing .

The Government has announced that the healthy 50-64 years old have been removed from this year's Flu Programme. So it will be for over 65s and those clinically vulnerable. As yet there is no information regarding the Autumn COVID booster. The clinics will however be run as before with booked appointments.

The Practice has advertised for some time that hay fever medication can no longer be prescribed routinely. Patients who suffer from hay fever are being encouraged to purchase over the counter medications from pharmacies or local supermarkets.

If when ringing the Practice for an appointment the receptionist asks questions about your symptoms etc. they are not being nosy. They are trying to make sure you are seen at the earliest time by the most appropriate person .

If anyone has any concerns or issues they would like me to raise at our next PPG meeting on 14th September, please contact me.

Diane Lee
01544 387685

EARDISLAND WI

The Eardisland WI continues to meet on the second Monday of the month at 2.30p.m. There is a varied programme which covers visits, talks and social events throughout the year. So far in the first quarter of our membership year we have had an historical talk on the half-timbered buildings of Herefordshire by Penny Platts, tasted Happy Fudge with Sally Stick who opened her shop in Leominster last year and visited the excellent Aulden Farm which is part of the National Garden Scheme.

We met Thérèse Coffey as part of her ministerial visit to the village and were able to talk to her about the WI annual resolutions regarding plastics and clean rivers for people and wildlife.

Before our summer break we will have our annual garden party and social event in our President, Rita Kirby's, garden. Our programme will resume in September with a visit from the RSPCA to talk about the wide aspects of the work that they do.

New members are always welcome, and guests can attend for a £5 fee. A free taster session is available to those who want to "have a go". Full details can be found on the Eardisland Website.

Eardisland WI Committee



Eardisland Duck Races

Sunday 27th August



Ducks on sale from 1.45pm;
first race at 2pm

Races | Refreshments | Raffle

Come and join us for our annual duck race.
A family afternoon of fun, all in aid of funds for the
village hall.




Eardisland
Village Hall

Charity No 1108366



EARDISLAND VILLAGE SHOW



Saturday 2nd September
2pm to 4.30pm

Eardisland Village Hall

PRIZES AWARDED AT 4PM



ADULTS £1
CHILDREN FREE

COME & TAKE PART!
OPEN TO ALL AGES,
CHILDREN'S ENTRIES TOO!

- 
- 
- Raffle • Refreshments •
 - Dog show • Arts •
 - Crafts • Cookery •
 - Floral • Horticulture •
 - Photography •

Charity No 1108366

Entry forms available from the
Eardisland Community Shop or Parish Magazine

EARDISLAND TWINNING ASSOCIATION

VERY SAD NEWS

Michel Dessarthe, former mayor of La Vieille-Lyre, died in May after many years struggling with Parkinson's disease. Michel was the French driving force behind the setting-up of the Twinning between Eardisland and La Vieille Lyre. He organised the initial visit to La Vieille Lyre of Eardislanders in 2005 and in the early years was a dynamo in helping both villages move towards official Twinning status in 2007. Michel was a compassionate man with a huge sense of fun and will be sorely missed by friends from both sides of the Channel. We send our deepest condolences to his widow Jacqueline and to all Michel's family and friends.



The official twinning in Eardisland Village Hall. 23rd June 2007.

FRENCH WINE AND CHEESE EVENING-

Please come along to the French Wine and Cheese evening – details are on the facing page. Everyone is welcome! Previous evenings have been a sell-out and great fun...

Ruth Brinton-Bivand
Chair, Eardisland Twinning Association
(01544 388375/07773 706147/ruthbrintonbivand@gmail.com)

Eardisland Twinning Association
Invites you to an evening of
WINE AND CHEESE

Eardisland Village Hall
Saturday 9th September 2023
7.00pm - 9.00pm

Tickets £7.50
to include your first glass of wine/juice
and portion of French cheeses
+ French bread & butter/condiments

WINE &
JUICE BAR



EVERYONE
IS
WELCOME

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM EARDISLAND COMMUNITY SHOP
from Tuesday 1st August 2023

EARDISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

The E&SG is a working group of the Parish Council. Anyone interested in making Eardisland a more sustainable parish is welcome to come along.

Parish Council Carbon and Biodiversity Annual Reports

The Parish Council's Climate and Biodiversity Emergency declarations commit the council to producing an annual **Carbon Reduction Impact Report** and **Biodiversity Improvement Report**. These assess the progress the council has made in the previous year across the full range of aims set out in the Environment and Sustainability Policy.

The group has been working on these annual reports for the last few months and presented them to the council on the 8th of June. It is expected these will be published on the council website on the 14th of July. The reports cover a wide range of areas where the Parish Council has influence including management of assets such as the Village Hall and Recreation Ground, spending of public money on suppliers, commenting on planning applications, supporting groups in the parish, and engaging with parishioners.

Following on from the reports the E&SG has produced annual Carbon Reduction and Biodiversity Improvement Plans. These will be presented to the council on the 13th of July and set out a series of prioritised steps the council is recommended to work towards over the next 12 months.

Tree Watering

Our new trees on the recreation ground will need watering over the next 6 months (especially if it's a dry summer). If anyone would like to 'adopt a tree' then there are labels on each tree you can write your name on. Thanks to Jo, Felicity, Susie and Bert who have already signed up! Each tree needs a watering can of water two or three times a week.

There are cans by the Village Hall water butts, and they can be filled from the Village Hall outside tap if needed. Perhaps something that could be done while walking the dog?

Repair Cafés

Repair cafés are run by volunteers and encourage you to bring along broken items to be fixed (if possible) for free, for instance bicycles, electrical appliances, sewing. There are monthly drop-in sessions in Leominster Community Centre 10am – 12:30pm (1st Saturday of the month) and Presteigne Youth Centre 10am – 12pm (3rd Saturday of the month).

Soft Plastic Recycling

Soft plastic recycling is now available in Leominster Co-op and Morrisons. Recycling soft plastic can massively reduce the amount of waste in our dustbins.

What is Soft Plastic?

Soft plastics are lightweight plastics that cannot be placed in the usual recycling bin. Items like plastic film lids on yoghurt pots, soft fruit punnets and ready meals, as well as plastic crisp packets, pasta bags, bread bags, chocolate or biscuit wrappers and bags that fruit and vegetables are packaged in.

How to recycle it?

Clean it – give it a quick rinse if it has food on it and then leave it to dry.

Scrunch it – give it a squash, if it pings back, it's suitable for soft plastic recycling.

Stuff it – save it all up by stuffing it in something like a bread bag.

Recycle it – drop it off in Leominster every few weeks (you don't even need to shop in the Co-op or Morrisons).

Ben Woodcock b3nwoodcock@gmail.com 01544 388976

TREES OF EARDISLAND

The Environment & Sustainability Group received funding to look at trees in the parish as part of understanding the importance of Eardisland's trees and how we can look after them. Details of all trees surveyed can be found on

<https://treezilla.org/>

Common Yew - *Taxus baccata*

Location: The Churchyard

Height: 11 metres

Trunk diameter: 140 cm

Leaf area: 1200 square metres

Life expectancy: more than 40 years

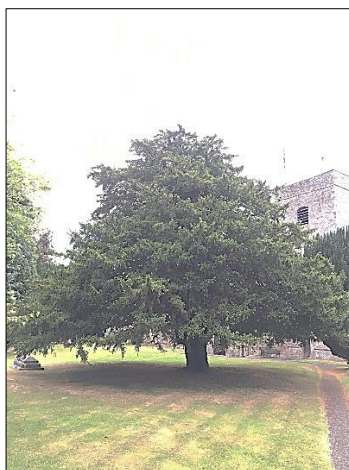
Carbon Dioxide stored: 2620 kg to date

Carbon Dioxide removed: 44 kg a year

The carbon dioxide stored by this tree each year is about the same as emitted by producing 100 eggs.

You can see how much carbon dioxide is produced by entering various food items on this BBC calculator:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-46459714>



**Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the
Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey visit to Eardisland on Tuesday 30 May.**

Thérèse Coffey came to Herefordshire for the day on May 30th meeting in Hereford in the morning with the farming community, Herefordshire Council, Natural England, Environment Agency, the Welsh Government, local environmental groups, and developers, to discuss the environmental and rural challenges being faced across the River Wye Catchment and the region. The Secretary of State also requested a visit to a Rural Village Hall that had been fortunate to have received Acre funding in the past and still needs future funding. Eardisland Village Hall met that criteria and was privileged to have been chosen for her to visit.

She met with members of the Parish Council and Eardisland Village Hall Management Team to view and admire our Village Hall Facilities, with particular emphasis on the new kitchen facilities, supported and co-funded by the Parish Council, as well as the funding received by Acre. She also discussed future funding needs and requirements that the Government could help with in the future.

The Secretary of State met some of the groups and clubs that meet at the Village Hall including representatives of the Cookery Club, WI, Eardisland Stitchers, the Environment and Sustainability group, the E-Team and enjoyed watching one of Barbara's Pilates Classes. We were fortunate that whilst here she also visited our children's allotment (planting some veg with children from the village) and stopped to chat to bowlers on our village bowling green.

She admired our photo wall in the Main Hall of recent events in the village hall and our recent Coronation Celebration Weekend and expressed what a great village community we have and completed the visit with an announcement of the new Rural Action Plan she is launching in Parliament.

Finally, the Secretary of State announced that the government is looking to publish *Unleashing Rural Opportunity*, which outlines some of the work we've already done and some new initiatives to help rural communities. The core aims are to provide schemes and funding - to help grow the rural economy, to help increase digital connectivity, energy efficiency schemes for rural community buildings and the introduction of affordable housing to help strengthen rural communities.

We look forward to the launch of the new grants where we hopefully will be able to access funding for improvements to the energy efficiency of our Village Hall and funding for a community digital hub inside the meeting room in the hall.

Susie Curtis
EVHMC



Thérèse Coffey with members of the Parish Council, EVHMC and friends



Let them eat cake!

EARDISLAND VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – CHARITY 1108366

We have had several successful fundraising events that have been enjoyed in the village hall over the last few months. These included another of our Quarterly Quiz Nights where teams have challenged each other in the amusing question rounds. Our quizzes are fun and suitable for all. The next one is Friday 7th July: why not come and join in?

We were privileged to host a visit by Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to our village hall on 30th May. A huge thank you to members of the WI, Cookery and Stitchers Clubs, Environment and Sustainability Group, Children's Allotment, E Team and Barbara Kay and her Pilates attendees for making themselves free to show a sample of what goes on, in and relating to the village hall. It was important to show the collaboration of the individual groups and how the village hall is an essential part of Eardisland village life.

Lastly in June we hosted a "Race Night" which was well supported by the village including a number that were welcomed from Arrow Bank Holiday Park. The hall was full, and many a loud cheering of horses was heard! It was a great success and saw the room overflowing with race goers.

A huge thank you to everyone supporting our events. I am pleased to say we raise much needed funds for the upkeep of the village hall. Our key projects moving forward are to repaint the inside of the village hall, its entrance and committee room to give it a fresh new feel. We are also looking at creating a community hub in the committee room once the WI-FI is installed in July this year. These need funding and we are working hard to raise the funds as soon as possible, hopefully with grants where possible.

If you feel you have a little spare energy, enthusiasm and ideas then volunteer with us or join the Committee to ensure the village hall stays the vibrant heart of our terrific community. It's also a great way to get involved in village life and make new friends.

Please look out for our Future Events and Village Hall Activity Posters and information on the slider board for what is coming up in the next few months.

We look forward to seeing you all soon,

Susie and team
EVHMC



EARDISLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

I am pleased to report that we recently welcomed our 33rd member, a great result for a fledgling group such as ours. I am afraid that there has been no progress on obtaining replacements for our aging Neighbourhood Watch road signs, so fingers crossed that I will have some good news to convey in the next edition. Neighbourhood Watch is one method of preventing crime and another is an initiative by our Police and Crime Commissioner to establish Smartwater villages. I have made enquiries as to how this might be implemented and hope to be able to report on this too in the next edition but in the meantime here is some information on the topic:

<https://www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk/pcc-john-campion-is-calling-on-more-areas-to-sign-up-to-smartwater/>

Do you want to be member number 34? If you are interested in joining this scheme, you will need to become a member and then join the Eardisland scheme using the following link:

<https://members.ourwatchmember.org.uk/join> to register by providing your personal details. Once you have done that and you are in your account, select the 'Manage Schemes' option in the 'dropdown' under 'Neighbourhood Watch Tools' in the top banner on the page, then click on the yellow 'JOIN OR APPLY TO CREATE A NEW SCHEME' bar and follow the process, selecting Eardisland to join this scheme and gain access to regular security hints as well as discounted security equipment and home insurance.



If you have any questions on membership, drop me a line or give me a call with your name, address and contact details and I can complete the membership process on your behalf.

Joe Logan

Westgate, Eardisland HR6 9AR, Phone: 01544 388878

Email: eardisland_neighbourhood_watch@hotmail.com (please note the 2 underscores)

SCAMS

Sadly, statistics show that scams of various kinds are on the rise. Even the savviest of people get caught out by clever criminals, and nobody is immune. I received the following from West Mercia Police:

Protect yourself

- Your bank or the police will never call you to ask you to verify your personal details or PIN by phone or offer to pick up your card by courier. Hang up if you get a call like this.
- If you need to call your bank back to check, wait five minutes; fraudsters may stay on the line after you hang up. Alternatively, use a different line altogether to call your bank.
- If you think you have been scammed, use the dedicated “159” telephone number for direct access to your Bank.

IF YOU THINK YOU ARE BEING SCAMMED **OR DO NOT RECOGNISE THE CONTACT**

Take Five To Stop Fraud

- **STOP:** Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.
- **CHALLENGE:** Could it be fake? It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- **PROTECT:** Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam
and report it to Action Fraud

If you've fallen for a scam, report it to **Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040** or via [actionfraud.police.uk](https://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

Scam Text messages can be forwarded to 7726 to help phone providers take early action and block numbers that generate spam on their networks.

Forward **Fake Emails** received to report@phishing.gov.uk

For further information visit:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>



Upcycled

The Recreation Ground
Saturday 2nd September 2023
2.00 – 4.30 pm

Prizes will be awarded at 4.00 pm

£1 admission charge for adults

Eardisland Village Hall Management Committee (EVHMC)
Registered Charity 1108366

Section A **COOKERY**

- 1 A lemon drizzle cake (see recipe on entry form)
- 2 A jar of homemade jam
- 3 A jar of homemade marmalade
- 4 A jar of homemade chutney
- 5 3 mini savoury snacks (same type, please specify)
- 6 3 decorated fairy cakes (any type- please specify)
- 7 A loaf of bread (any type- please specify) *men*
- 8 A loaf of bread (any type- please specify) *women*

Section B **DRINKS**

- 9 A flavoured gin
- 10 A flavoured spirit
- 11 A non-alcoholic drink

Section C **FLORAL ART**

- 12 A door decoration
- 13 An arrangement of dried flowers and / or seed heads
- 14 *Upcycled* (an arrangement in an upcycled / unusual vase)

Section D **CRAFT**

- 15 An item of macramé (any size, any material)
- 16 A household item (any material)
- 17 *Upcycled* (1 piece of craft, any medium)

Section E **HORTICULTURE- Division 1**

- 18 A single yellow rose (Megan Lloyd Trophy)
- 19 Roses (3 stems, any variety)

- 20 Garden flowers (3 stems, any variety)
- 21 Sweet peas (5 stems, any colour)
- 22 Free choice (a single flower head)

HORTICULTURE- Division 2

- 23 3 cooking apples (Leslie Evans prize)
- 24 3 tomatoes
- 25 A display of garden fruits (any size)
- 26 A display of garden produce (any size)
- 27 A hand-tied bunch of fresh herbs (may be displayed in a jug)
- 28 Free choice (1 item of produce)

Section F PHOTOGRAPHY

- 29 The River Arrow
- 30 A black and white photograph
- 31 *Upcycled*

Section G ART

- 32 A painted pebble
- 33 The River Arrow
- 34 *Upcycled* (1 piece of art, any medium)

Section H JUST FOR A LAUGH

(entries free and open to all ages)

- 35 Limerick beginning, "In Eardisland we like to..."
- 36 A vegetable animal
- 37 Heaviest pumpkin

Section I CHILDREN

Children are also welcome to enter the adult categories.

Children under 5

- 38 A painted pebble**
- 39 A sea creature (craft)**
- 40 A savoury snack**
- 41 A lego model**

Children 5-10

- 42 A painted pebble**
- 43 A sea creature (craft)**
- 44 A savoury snack**
- 45 A lego model**

Children 11-15

- 46 A painted pebble**
- 47 A sea creature (craft)**
- 48 A savoury snack**
- 49 A lego model**

Children 16-17

- 50 A tie-dyed item**
- 51 A sea creature (craft)**
- 52 Origami item**
- 53 A savoury snack**

See Entry Form for details of how to enter

Entry Forms available from the Village Shop, Parish Magazine or Parish Website from July.

Entries cost 40p per item for adults. Children may enter free of charge in the Children's Sections but fee payable in adult section.

EARDISLAND VILLAGE SHOW ENTRY FORM 2023

Eardisland Village Hall Management Committee (EVHMC) Registered
Charity 1108366

Please circle the numbers of classes you wish to enter. Entry costs 40p for the adults' section, children are free in the children's section.
Complete and return this entry form with the fees in a sealed envelope marked 'show' to either the village hall or the Community Shop by Friday 27th August.

Enquiries: Susie Curtis  07799486210

COOKERY	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	
DRINKS	B9	B10		B11					
FLORAL ART	C12	C13		C14					
CRAFT	D15	D16		D17					
HORTICULTURE (1)	E18	E19		E20		E21		E22	
HORTICULTURE (2)	E23	E24		E25		E26		E27	E28
PHOTOGRAPHY	F29	F30		F31					
ART	G32	G33		G34					
JUST FOR A LAUGH (free to enter)				H35		H36		H37	
CHILDREN: I38 I39 I40 I41 I42 I43 I44 I45 I46 I47 I48 I49 I50 I52 I53									

Full name: _____

Telephone number: _____

Exhibits must be your own work. Judge's decisions are final.

Entries should be taken to the Recreation Ground on Saturday 4th September between 9 am and 10.30 am. Judging will take place during the morning and the marquee will be open to the public from 2pm. Prize giving, and raffle draw will take place at 4pm. Prize money will be paid out after the announcements. Any prize money not collected by 5pm will be returned to Show Funds. All exhibits must be collected by 5pm.

LEMON DRIZZLE CAKE RECIPE – A1

INGREDIENTS

225g unsalted butter, softened
225g caster sugar
4 eggs
225g self-raising flour
1 lemon, zested

DRIZZLE TOPPING

1½ lemons, juiced
85g caster sugar

METHOD

Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4.

Beat together the butter and caster sugar until pale and creamy, then add the eggs, one at a time, slowly mixing through.

Sift in the self-raising flour, then add the lemon zest and mix until well combined.

Line a loaf tin (8 x 21cm) with greaseproof paper, then spoon in the mixture and level the top with a spoon.

Bake for 45-50 mins until a thin skewer inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean.

While the cake is cooling in its tin, mix together the lemon juice and caster sugar to make the drizzle.

Prick the warm cake all over with a skewer or fork, then pour over the drizzle – the juice will sink in and the sugar will form a lovely, crisp topping.
Leave in the tin until completely cool, then remove and serve.

CHURCH MATTERS

All are most welcome to services and will find a friendly and caring community. Come along and find out more; contact us too, if you are interested.

If you would like to volunteer to read a lesson, lead prayers, become a welcomer, sing, play, look after the church in any way or choose a hymn for a special occasion, please let us know.

Priest-in-Charge:	Rev. Julie Read, The Rectory, Kingsland. 07826 194400, rev.julie@hotmail.com	01568 708255
Curate	Rev Rosie Roberts	tba
Reader	Rosie Capon:	07811 436412
Churchwarden/Organist	Annette Blyth	01544 388241
Deputy Churchwarden	Dian Cope	01544 388317
Treasurer:	Mike Coleburn:	01544 388486
PCC Secretary:	Avis Denny:	01568 780874

Services at St Mary the Virgin, Eardisland and in the Benefice

Date	Time and type	Which church?
Sunday 9 th July	9.30am iSingPoP	Eardisland
Sunday 16 th July	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 23 rd July	10.30am Confirmation Service with Bishop Richard	Kingsland
Sunday 30 th July	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland
Sunday 6 th August	10.30am Benefice service	Aymestrey
Sunday 13 th August	10.30am Patronal Service for St Mary the Virgin	Eardisland
Sunday 20 th August	10.30am Benefice service	Leinthall Earles
Sunday 27 th August	10.30am Songs of Praise	Kingsland
Sun 3 rd September	9.30am Holy Communion	Eardisland

RICHARD KIRBY

As many of you may be aware, Richard Kirby, our Church Warden, stood down at our recent Parish Meeting. He has been a member of the PCC for many years and was the chairman of our meetings for most of those, in addition to more recently becoming Warden.

He was deeply involved in the huge building project that we began in 2010 both on the practical details and fund-raising. He was instrumental in creating both the Open Gardens and Craft Fair annual fund-raising events and previous to that, the Big Barbecues, auctions and many other occasions. He has freely given of an incredible amount of time, expertise, wisdom, not to mention hard work and even, I daresay, worry.

Just keeping the finances on an even keel and the church building in a good state of repair, organising emergency repairs when ‘things happened’, as well as dealing with the details of the (dreaded) Quinquennial Report – this is a 5-yearly inspection of the building by a “qualified person” who provides a long list of Things That Need to be Done, generally entailing the spending of more money, not to mention monitoring oil prices and negotiating insurance, as well as being present at most services, moving chairs and general logistics. Then there’s the emails and the meetings... suffice to say that we owe Richard – and Rita – the deepest appreciation and most grateful thanks for all that he has done for us and our community. We pray that he may return to good health and energy very soon.

Annette Blyth

FROM REV. JULIE READ

Congratulations to Rev Katie Smith on the completion of her curacy. Over the last 3 years Katie has grown in confidence and in presence as an accomplished priest in our group of parishes and we are glad that she is now a fully-fledged minister – associate priest. Hot on her heels we are to welcome Rev Rosie Roberts who is to be ordained in Hereford Cathedral on 1st July (will have happened by the time the magazine comes out). Rosie will live in Bodenham, where she is married to Rev Paul Roberts who is the vicar there, and they have two children Jack and Ben who are primary school age. We will be having a party on 2nd July to welcome Rosie to our parishes and we look forward to the next few years of her curacy and her work with us.

I would like to thank all those who contributed to Open Gardens in June. As always, a well-oiled event, with lovely teas and cakes, pretty good weather, stunning gardens (Lotty!!) and volunteers to sit at the door and take your money. This brings in valuable funds to keep the lights on in church and the insurance paid and often a goodly group of people from out of the village.

I know Annette is writing about Richard Kirby and his service to the church, but I too wish to thank him for his calm ordered approach to his oversight of the church over these last few years. He has chaired the PCC with clarity and fairness, and has undertaken responsibility as churchwarden, looking after the fabric of the church, and prompting the necessary fundraising activity in a year. Richard, I trust that you have time to make sure your health is given first priority and that you return to full health in the near future. In the meantime

Annette Blyth has taken over the responsibility as churchwarden. She has a generous and kind heart, and a care for the community and will serve the parish well with the support of Dian Cope as her able deputy and the PCC willing to play a greater part. We wish them all well as the church undertakes another chapter of its life in Eardisland.

August sees us going round the group of parishes on our Summer Safari and we will be in Eardisland on 30th July and 13th August. This year we are basing our Summer Services on the Hymn Let us build a house where love can dwell.... All are welcome in this place. Each week we will look at one verse. It looks at the church being a place of safety for all people of whatever age, gender, colour or ability, allowing all a space to discover the things of the Christian Faith and its openness to all people. In the Bible the Pharisees were often wondering why Jesus was talking to the tax collectors and sinners and Jesus showed them that all were important in his eyes, and all worth talking to and engaging with. I hope you find a welcome and openness when you engage with the church, and I hope we can welcome you this Summer.

Every blessing
Julie Read

EARDISLAND IN BLOOM



Firstly, a big thank you to all those who supported the annual Plant Sale back in May. Visitor numbers were probably down on previous years, but nearly everything we had for sale sold and a healthy profit was made.

The last couple of months has seen the team carrying out mostly routine gardening, involving planting, weeding and

some much-needed watering.

I'd like to thank Gavin Evans for generously donating and laying a quantity of small stones in the A.A. box garden, an area we're pleased to have helped to maintain.

Some team members have removed the ivy from the village car park wall, which was 'strangling' the hawthorn trees as well as damaging the wall.

Sadly, like so many gardens this year, we have lost several perennial plants, probably due to the very low winter temperatures. It now appears the three hypericums in the Manor House border garden may also be victims, as the leaves have dropped and there is bare wood. All three have been pruned and we'll see if there is any sign of recovery.

Phil Milchard

A SUPER CUB REBORN

G-BHOM (S/N: 18-1391) Piper L18C Super Cub. Call sign: "Oscar Mike"

The photos (on page 44) show the aeroplane which is the subject of this article in the 'as bought' red colour scheme and the olive drab scheme which during the restoration I chose to use to represent its use by the French military from February 1952 until August 1968.

When I bought 'Oscar Mike' in July 2014 it was clear that whilst airworthy she was in a somewhat tired condition and would need an overhaul. Having discovered that she had French Military history I was keen to return the aeroplane to its French military paint scheme and thus started many months of research into colours, national markings, insignia etc.

'OM' is an example of the military variant of the Super Cub powered by a 90/95 hp Continental engine and with a large additional area of glazing behind the rear seat.

She was built by the Piper Aircraft Corporation during November 1951 for the United States Air Force (USAF) using frame 18-1272, coming off the production line on the 15th with Constructor's number 18-1391 and given the USAF serial number 51-15391.

During the years 1951 – 1952, 352 of this type were gifted to the French Army by the USAF under the Mutual Defense Assistance Programme. This aeroplane made the transition in January 1952, when it was transferred to the Aviation Légère de L'Armée de Terre (ALAT) – the French Army Air Corps. Serving initially with 1 GAOA (Groupements d'Aviation d'Observation d'Artillerie), a school training observers and pilots in artillery spotting and forward air control. Probably based at Nancy in NE France, 1 GAOA had the unit codes 'Ox then AOx' during the period 14 February 1952 to 30 June 1958. It is these later codes with the addition of an individual aircraft identifier that I have chosen as appropriate for this aeroplane.

After serving with ALAT in various guises the aeroplane was demobbed and sold to Belgium in 1968. It had two identities there OO-HMT and from 1970 OO-PIU. It was sold to the UK in 1980, registered as G-BHOM and spent the next 34 years based at Benington near Stevenage in Hertfordshire.

In the autumn of 2019, I made the decision to take the aeroplane out of the air to carry out a restoration which I thought would take 18 months to 2 years. In fact, it took twice as long and finally flew at the beginning of May this year.

The restoration took the form of a partial re-cover, meaning that the fabric on the fuselage would be replaced but that on the wings and tail surfaces would be kept. So, the aeroplane was dismantled and transported to my home in Eardisland. The fabric was removed from the fuselage revealing the steel tube

framework. This was given a thorough rub down before painting with epoxy primer. The controls were cleaned/repared and installed in the fuselage before the new fabric was glued on. Once this was complete the whole fuselage was treated to 13 coats of dope (a special product that seals and tautens the fabric). With the fuselage complete and standing on its own wheels it was taken to Shobdon Airfield and the wings and tail surfaces brought back to Eardisland for preparation and painting in the green dope. Once this work was complete these parts were taken to the airfield and reunited with the fuselage.

That left the engine to be dealt with. It had been in storage but was now taken to a specialist firm of aircraft engine overhaulers in Somerset. They stripped the engine down and found that some major components were not in a good enough condition to be re-used and they had to rebuild it using some expensively acquired used parts that were in good condition. This work took about 13 months to complete, and the engine was finally re-installed in the fuselage and test run in early February this year. Some fuel and oil leaks needed to be repaired and it was not until the beginning of May that the aeroplane was able to be flown. There now remains a period of 'running in' during which time the engine has to be run quite aggressively to ensure the internal parts can all bed in properly.

The project has been all consuming for the last three and a half years and I hope that I will now be able to fly it often enough to ensure that I can continue to enjoy the experience!

Bob Lee

SEWING EXHIBITION



Lingen Stitchers are holding an exhibition of their sewing work over the August Bank Holiday weekend, Saturday 26th August 10am–5pm and Sunday 27th August 10am–4pm, in Lingen Village Hall.

Refreshments, raffle and sales tables including Sandra's Sewing Shop, Knighton, with free entry and a charitable donation from profits to go to St Michael's Hospice.

This is our first Exhibition since 2018 so there will be plenty to see.
Everyone welcome!

Maggie Flanders
Secretary, Lingen Stitchers



Drivers Needed

Community Wheels is the provider of Community Transport across north and central Herefordshire. We provide door-to-door travel for people of all ages who do not have access to a car and are unable to use public transport due to mobility difficulties or its unavailability.

Before the Pandemic we had 84 Volunteer Drivers, we now only have 59. The need of the service is increasing, to the point, that we haven't enough drivers to help. Therefore, we are looking for volunteer drivers in Eardisland and surrounding Parishes. If you are over 21, have a car and some spare time, we'd love to hear from you. A few hours a week could make a huge difference to someone without transport. Our drivers volunteer their time and receive payment for all the miles they drive.

Help others – Learn new skills – Meet new people –
Have fun!

**Please contact Linda for an informal chat on 01568
737940 or email: linda.jones@hvoss.org.uk**

EARDISLAND WEATHER REPORT

The weather for May in Eardisland continued with the lack of rain with a total of 33mm (1.3 inches) recorded. Temperatures ranged from 15°C to 24°C with barometer pressures ranging from 29.5 to 31.2 bar. The river level was a steady 16 inches.

June continued to be another dry month with only another 33mm (1.3 inches) of rain recorded. Temperatures ranged from 18°C to 32°C and barometer pressures ranged from 29.6 to 30.02. The river level dropped to 10 inches.

Doug Tantrum reporting from Kingfisher House

PASSPORTS

If you are thinking of going to Europe this year, or later, it is worth bearing in mind that the regulations changed when we left the European Union. To put it bluntly, get it wrong and won't be allowed in. Prior to leaving the EU you could renew a passport before the expiry of the previous one. The balance was added on to the new passport to give the new expiry date which consisted of the date the passport was renewed plus the ten years on the new passport.

Now it is 10 years from the date of issue. In other words, ignore the expiry date on your passport and work from 'date of issue'. Further, different countries require there to be time left on the passport after you leave their country. This varies, but it's usually three or six months. This needs to be checked for the country you intend to visit. Don't get this wrong because it can turn out to be difficult, embarrassing and expensive.

Another issue to bear in mind is that the latest photo driving licences last for ten years only (previously for life to the age of 70). You can check the expiry date on the front of the plastic card under section 4b, or on the back at the top of column 11. You pay for renewal, of course, unless you are 70 years of age or over, in which case the licence lasts for three years and is free to renew. Please don't get this wrong because driving without a licence is an offence and may invalidate your insurance.

Finally, the EHIC cards have been replaced by GHIC cards. Luckily, the EHIC cards are valid until they expire. The replacement GHIC card is free. Be careful not to fall into the trap of companies that advertise on Google and elsewhere to renew your card or licence for a fee. There is no reason at all to use them.

Chris Bivand

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Copy date for the next edition of the Eardisland Parish Magazine:

FRIDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 2023



A labour of love! Before restoration above and after below

Please see page 30

