

Issue No. 97

Winter 2015



# Foxley News

*For the residents of Mansel Lacy, Brinsop, Moorhampton,  
Upperton, Wormsley, Yarsop & Yazor.*



*Merry Christmas*

*Published by St. Michael's Mansel Lacy Community Association  
With financial support from a Foxley Group Parish Council grant.*

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## Editorial

We sadly said goodbye to Barbara Bodkin at her funeral on Thursday September 17th. Church Cottage now holds just Mike Bodkin and we wish him well.

Brian Lewis who had suffered a short illness died in his sleep on Friday 6th November. His funeral was held on Tuesday 17th November, our thoughts are with you Joyce.

See page 11 for Brian's eulogy.

The Mansel Lacy church had a joyous occasion too! - on Sunday 4th October, Alice and Paul Frazier christened their daughter with the name 'Epernay' after a village in France where champagne is produced and guess what - Alice loves champagne. Congratulations. On Monday 5th October the Mansel Garden Club held it's AGM, the results are on page 4

On 11th October Cis & I met up with John & Monica Stansbie who 11 years ago lived in Apple Tree Cottage in Mansel Lacy. We found them in their home in Moncarapacho in the Algarve region of Portugal. John had been seriously ill recently but had now returned to reasonably good health along with Monica, who still speaks with gusto.

Brinsop church held it's annual Coffee Morning in Mansel Lacy Church on Saturday 21st November.

The Mansel Lacy Christmas Fayre organised by Trixie Goodger was held on Saturday 28th November, results will be in the Spring edition of this magazine.



*Editor Cal Edwards*

*Assistant Editor Joyce Potts*

*All articles, letters or other items may be subject to editorial discretion. The editors do not accept responsibility for articles printed in this magazine. Please send or deliver your copy to:-*

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# Foxley News

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## Foxley Flyer

*The supplement to the Foxley News will be published at the beginning of the months when the Foxley News is resting. Viz. January, February*

*April, May, July, August, October, November. It is a single A5 sized sheet. - Brief items of interest should be sent to*

*Joyce Potts, editor, within the copy deadlines. Tel: 01432 356392*

*e-mail - [mike.joyce@talktalk.net](mailto:mike.joyce@talktalk.net)*

## Community Association

The Hog Roast held on September 6th was attended by 49 adults and 7 children. As usual the roasted half pig was cooked and served along with apple sauce, stuffing and crunchy crackling, by Chris Ogleby and his daughter. Although this is not a fund raising event we do like to break even or make a slight profit, which on this occasion amounted to £23.00.

The Annual General Meeting of the Community Association took place on Thursday 29th October and the usual officers were all re-elected. The outcome is in the Who's Who on page 17. We do welcome new members. As it was an AGM anyone could attend and propose other members for any of the posts up for election. I was re-elected as Chairman and have also been asked to remain a member of the Mansel Lacy PCC by the Vicar. Although not a regular church goer I agreed, so as to protect the interests of the Community Association. We will be looking to increase the "License to Occupy" agreement for a further ten years at least. (It has been running for 20 years successfully)

The Vicar has accepted eight resignation letters from former members which if you look at page 17 'Who's Who' you will see that only 3 members remain. This is a situation which I'm sure will be resolved given time, understanding and tolerance.

The annual Bonfire and Firework display on November 7th was again a resounding (pun) success, with a very good and generous crowd. The sausages were very tasty indeed. See page 12 for a report from Dave Gwynne, who deserves a big thank for organising it. October for me personally has been pretty busy. A couple of holidays, an old school reunion, a Flu Jab, a new hearing aid, the CA AGM (by the way, thank you Fiona for the refreshments). Then in November I was elected as President of Weobley branch of the Royal British Legion, a tooth extraction and 3 funerals to go to. Then there was "Barney", that's the gale force gust of wind which lifted the 12 x 4 metre marquee off the ground just 20 minutes before Brian Lewis' funeral began. Luckily no-one was seated in the marquee nor walking through when the marquee was observed, at very close quarters, lifting up into the air before crashing down to the side. No-one was hurt and the canvass only received a small tear in one corner, however half the poles are bent and can't be repaired. The central heating boiler has developed a fault and received some attention from Roy Eckley. It looks as though a new motor is required on the burner unit which will have to be removed for repair. Hopefully a spare burner can be fitted pro tem.

At the time of writing I am preparing for the next CA meeting which will take place on Monday 23 November. An invitation is extended to Trixie Goodger who is organising the Christmas Market taking place on Saturday 28th November from 6 pm onwards.

Hopefully this mag will be in your letterboxes by then, which gives me the chance to say a very big thank you to the distributors of the Foxley News, whilst the postman situation sorts itself out. They are John Spinks, Brian Barrett, Stella Icke, Jane & Robin Cox, Keith Jones, Kevin Bayliss and Eddie Williams who has just handed over to Peter Baines.

Eddie deserved many thanks because has been having difficulty in walking for some little time.

Cal

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### Funding for Community Amenities (England and Scotland)

The SITA Trust provides funds to not-for-profit organisations to improve amenities that are available for leisure and recreation use by the general public. These could include:

Community cafes - Theatres - Play areas - Skate parks - Youth centres; etc.

The SITA Trust can offer grants of up to £20,000 through its Smaller Projects Fund and grants of up to £50,000 through its Primary Fund. To be eligible the applicants needs to be a not-for-profit organisation located within three miles of a qualifying SITA UK waste processing location (known as a SITA Trust funding zone). Closing dates are 12th October 2015, 25th January 2016 and 25th April 2016.

## Mansel Garden Club

**September** - visit The Brooks, Pontrilas, the home of the Stainton family, who moved from London to this wonderfully situated garden, with beautiful views towards The Black Mountains. The Staintons took the house and garden in hand, reorganising the house and then the garden, adding a greenhouse, built on top of their water tower, planting a huge array of trees in the grass meadow, now intertwined with mown paths. A sunhouse which catches the setting sun and placed for the views. The Staintons aim in the future to produce much of their electricity from their tracking PV panels placed in the meadow - and were very willing to tell members how these performed, although a little patience was required before they paid for themselves. The gardens had been redesigned, much thought given to long term affect. The garden opens twice a year under the NGS scheme, but The Staintons have planned this garden so that they can go on holiday, and not become slaves to their garden. Self watering devices, and careful planting have enabled them to up and away if they choose, but this garden, hidden down its own private drive could be a hideaway for many. Our visit followed with the obligatory tea coffee and cake. The **October** meeting was our **AGM**, abnormally for an AGM we always have a very good attendance, 36 members, but not I fear because they are desperate to take office, but for the very good eats supplied by the committee, and the wine supplied from the cellar by our resident Chevalier Peter. Chairman's Report, a good year, great speakers, we travelled to Builth, Monmouth, Pontrilas and Brobury on our out visits, so got to see quite a lot of the neighbouring countryside. Robin announced that it had been decided to serve just tea coffee and biscuits at future meetings, in the hope of drawing more members onto the tea rota. Treasurer's Report, Peter reported finances were good, no need to increase subs this year

### Election of Officers

**Chairman Robin and Jane Cox ; Treasurer Pat Astley; Meetings Secretary Sue Carpenter; Visits Sec. Vacant; Raffle Organiser Jan Kersley; Social Secretary Tom and Paula Fitch** Peter and Viv were thanked for their work over the past 11 years, and Pam Powell was thanked for her work over the past 13 years, with couple of breaks, certainly time for some fresh blood. New members Alison Dawes & Rosa Williams were welcomed, Sally Stenman was unable to attend the AGM. New members are welcome, please contact Pat Astley. The meeting closed and was followed by Great Mansel Lacy Taste Off, members brought along jams, pickles, salads, cakes, all containing produce from their gardens, sampled by members, whilst they enjoyed their tippie, they were of course all prize winners. Pat Astley collected subs and Christmas Party monies, handing out the new Programme. Tea, coffee and cake followed, ably served by Jan Kersley and Pam Powell Westons Cider, Much Marcle, our **November** meeting. A small courtyard garden to meander through, but our visit this time was to see the life of a cider apple once it had made its journey from tree to mill. We were welcomed at the cider cellar, and taken on a tour, first to look at the original cider press and mill, now redundant, a filmshow followed, then on to the 'factory', where the apples are washed, a member of staff standing guard in case any stray leaves or debris have got through the now very sophisticated washing system. The apples are crushed, all that lovely juice collected in huge vats. Scientific work then takes place, taste has to be exact. The cider is then bottled, and delivered by Westons, the lorries laden with bottles deliver on a daily schedule. This is a family firm which has expanded hugely over recent years, and is very proud that it employs local families, often several generations. All the fruit is locally sourced, making this a totally English Cider, sweet to dry, flavoured or just plain, so many choices. Members then moved back to the cellar for sample tastings, soon deciding their favourites, the tour finished with the usual tea, coffee and cake, washing away the dregs of cider, but a very pleasant way to spend a November afternoon. Christmas Party Monday 6th December Mansel Community Centre

Pam Powell

## Lacy Ladies

August: Cliff and Beverley Rose came to give us an illustrated talk on the life of the honey bee. He told us that the bees have a different role to play in the running of the hive, some look after the queen, others gather the pollen. They can travel a great distance to do this ; whilst others keep the hive clean. Most of the bees have short life span, only the queen and a small number of bees survive the winter. The bee keeper must keep inspecting his bees for any sign of illness. The honey is collected from the hive in the Summer, it is put into jars and can then be runny or left to set; sometimes it is left in the comb. Beverley makes hand cream and lip balm with beeswax. She also makes silver jewellery in the form of butterflies and bees also impressed into the silver. We were able to purchase some of their products. A very interesting evening.

On 24th September a talk on life in military music to the Lacy Ladies, turned into life as a headteacher in garrison schools. Robin Cox spoke of his primary headship experiences in 3 very different schools, the first being in Singapore 1974 - 75, Tengah was a tropical layout for 120 pupils and 6 staff. Largely an RAF community, he wore civilian 'uniform', short sleeved white shirt, white shorts and white knee-length socks. His office displayed a shelf of bottles containing pickled snakes caught on school premises, always a talking point for visiting parents. On one occasion R had risen from his metal framed chair to indicate these snakes when a flash of lightning struck the chair. The first caretaker - a Hindu called Lingham invited all the Cox family to his wedding. Speech in the school was often punctuated by the sound of aircraft taking off and landing. Children and staff got used to pausing till they could be heard. Life in Singapore encompassed Chinese, Indian and Malay cultures. Quartering was provided, often colonial but always spacious.

By Xmas 1975, all the British were withdrawn and Robin closed the school

January 1976 saw him in post in Hong Kong as head of Stanley Fort School. Overlooking the South China Seas, it was a wonderful setting. Life changed as pupils were largely from the 2nd Battalion Royal Grenadier Guards at that time. In Robin's 3 years there, regimental postings saw several changeovers and it was the Green Jackets who saw him depart. But the second caretaker was Chinese, not a lot of spoken English, but Ah Poon brought his entire family to clean! They cooked in the school and the smell of fish lingered. The first royal visit saw Princess Alexandra arrive to make a regimental visit at the same time as HMI to inspect the school. Union Jacks were waved as the pupils lined her route, but she didn't stop. Time pressure. But as the school buses slipped down the narrow and steep road at home time, 2 of them neatly sandwiched the royal car - much to the delight of the children and the discontent of the Colonel! Our family life was a spacious 4th floor apartment overlooking Repulse Bay. A beautiful and unforgettable view.

Xmas 1978 saw Robin handing over his second headship and the family packed up to relocate to Germany. After nearly 5 years in the warmth of the Far East, it was a shock to arrive back into a European winter. Robin's 3rd headship was Hemer Primary School with 450 pupils, mostly 2nd Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. The school included a Special Unit for 8 needy pupils. The building had been a Canadian High School and the challenges centred around the former secondary school now housing younger children. There was an American annex in the building. HMI decided to visit after 2 months. Robin felt the need to change the culture towards positive encouragement and re-ordered the playground usage for out of school hours. He ended the Sin Bin - always the same names on the list, disposed of the cane and introduced thematic assemblies highlighting helpfulness, courtesy, and good manners.

Cox's Tours encouraged parents to look round the school, groups lead by the teachers. In the next 4 and a half years regimental postings saw pupils and staff turn over 3 times. The staff of 24 pulled well together and the HMI visit was a reported success.

continued on page 7.



# Mike Matthews

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*Continued from page 5*

Personal lives brought drama into the staffroom, the saddest being the accidental suicide of an infant teacher. The whole responsibility of this fell on Robin, as did any problems staff had outside the classroom. Another royal visit, this time by Princess Anne saw the whole school repainted! Second visit of HMI brought accolades for Robin and the staff. This led to Robin being appointed as Inspector/Adviser to half the 84 Service schools in Germany. He felt this was a privilege to share outstanding teaching practice across the region.

October: By request of the members we were asked to arrange a bring and share supper and get to have chat with one another. The meeting was well attended and a variety of food was on offer, everyone went home feeling well fed. An enjoyable evening.

Next Meeting November 26th at 7.30pm. An evening of Poetry with Jennifer Spinks and friends. Everyone is welcome.

For more information contact Joyce Lewis on Tel: 02982 590638.

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A group of seniors were sitting around talking about all their ailments at a favorite restaurant. "My arms have got so weak I can hardly lift this cup of coffee," said one. "Yes, I know," said another. "My cataracts are so bad; can't even see my coffee." "I couldn't even mark an "X" at election time because my hands are so crippled," volunteered a third. "What? Speak up! What? I can't hear you," said one elderly lady. "I can't turn my head because of the arthritis in my neck," said one, to which several nodded weakly in agreement. "My blood pressure pills make me so dizzy!" exclaimed another. "I forget where I am and where I'm going," said another. "I guess that's the price we pay for getting old," winced an old man as he slowly shook his head. The others nodded in agreement. "Well, count your Blessings," said a woman cheerfully... Thank God we can all still drive.

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When I heard Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson were guest preachers at a nearby Houston church, I decided to check them out in person and see what it was all about. I sat down and Sharpton came up to me, I don't know why, maybe it was because I was the only white person in the Church.

He laid his hands on my hand and said: "By the will of Jesus the Lord All Mighty, and the will of God, you will walk today." I told him I was not paralyzed. Then Jesse Jackson came by and said: "By the Grace of God, and his Son Jesus, the Lord All Mighty, you will walk today." Again I told him there is nothing wrong with me.

After the sermon I stepped outside and Lo and Behold, my car had been stolen....

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*She didn't see the sunrise lighting up the scene;  
 She was busy watching pictures on her iPad's tiny screen.  
 She didn't see the lovely views, the trees, the grass, the flowers;  
 She was editing her Facebook page, been doing it for hours.  
 She didn't see me wave to her or hear my cheery greeting:  
 She had tons and tons of tweets to read and then some more re-tweeting.  
 She was tapping on her tablet in a thoughtful kind of way;  
 And didn't see the little children coming out to play.  
 She didn't see the daffodils, the poet's inspiration;  
 She was messaging and texting, head bent in concentration.  
 She was talking on her iPhone, some grave matter on her mind:  
 She didn't see the HGV. She was mown down from behind.*

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### Letter to the editor

I was thinking the other day how lucky we, who live in and close to Mansel Lacy, are. As I sit typing this, I can raise my eyes from the laptop and look out of the window across fields and woods, beautiful at any time of the year, where we are so much more attuned to the changing seasons than those who live in towns and cities. Granted, we have to drive to any shops, however that seems a small price to pay. We have a low crime rate and, most of all, people care about each other.

There are those of us who give their time to the Community Association and the Foxley Group Parish Council, plus those who give their time and energy to creating events like the Summer fete, the Christmas market, the fireworks and the wonderful music evenings at Yazor Church. Everyone pulls together, in good times and bad.

We are also extremely fortunate in that Nigel Hartshore delivers our newspapers and milk to our doors, in all weathers. The roads can be appalling in the winter but he always does his best to get to us all. This was brought home recently, when illness prevented him from coming out to us. I was horrified to learn from him that, due to offensive and spiteful messages left on his answerphone, he was driven to returning to his deliveries far sooner than his doctor advised. Whilst I hasten to say that I know full well that no-one from Foxley would dream of doing such a nasty thing, I was shaken to think that people could behave in this way. May I therefore ask that we all make our appreciation clear to Nigel? Just a word and a smile makes all the difference.

Our grand-daughter has been staying with us and was watching The Vicar of Dibley on the television. In that particular programme, it showed the villagers caring about each other, helping in a crisis. Thea turned to me and said "Granny, that's like your village." I thought that was something I wanted to share with you! Maggie, Yarsop

A drunk man, smelling of liquor, sat down on a subway next to a priest. The man's tie was stained, his face was plastered with red lipstick, and a half-empty bottle of gin was sticking out of his coat pocket. He opened his newspaper and began reading. After a few minutes the man turned to the priest and asked, 'Say Father, do you know what causes arthritis?'

The priest replies, 'My Son, it's caused by loose living, being with cheap, wicked women, too much alcohol, contempt for your fellow man, sleeping around with prostitutes and lack of a bath.'

The drunk muttered in response, 'Well, I'll be damned,' Then returned to his paper.

The priest, thinking about what he had said, nudged the man and apologized. 'I'm very sorry. I didn't mean to come on so strong. How long have you had arthritis?' The drunk answered, 'I don't Father, but I was just reading here that the Pope does.'

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**The small brown Bottle . .** The other day I went over to a nearby CVS Pharmacy. When I got there, I went straight to the back of the store to where the Pharmacists' Counter is located. I took out my little brown bottle along with a teaspoon and laid them both onto the counter. The pharmacist came over smiled and asked if he could help me. I said, "Yes! Could you please taste this for me?" Being I'm a senior citizen...I guess the Pharmacist just went along with me. He picked up the spoon and put a tiny bit of the liquid on his tongue and swilled it around. Then with a stomach-churning look on his face he spat it out on the floor and began coughing. When he finally was finished, I looked him right in the eye asked, "Now, does that taste sweet to you?" The pharmacist, shaking his head back and forth with a venomous look in his eyes yelled, "HELL NO!!!" So I said, "Oh thank God! That's a real relief! My doctor told me to get a pharmacist to test my urine for sugar!"

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Eulogy to Brian Lewis Brian Lewis was born in Hereford on June 5th 1941 to Jim and Dorothy Lewis. Sadly Jim was killed in action in 1945 so Brian never really knew his Dad. Brian went to Scudamore Primary School and became a chorister at Holy Trinity Church. He then won a choral scholarship to Hereford Cathedral school. Brian was a very sporty youngster enjoying athletics, rugby, cricket and rowing. Joyce said that before they married she used to spend Saturday afternoons on the touchline being first aider and sometimes ferrying the wounded rugby players to hospital. Joyce and Brian had first met in hospital when the consultant, seeing that Brian was a little nervous, ordered the young nurse to hold the patients' hand before surgery on his foot.

Brian took an apprenticeship in electrical engineering at Henry Wiggin when he left school and he and Joyce married on March 7th 1964 at Hereford cathedral. Their first daughter Nicola was born in January 1965 but died in February 1987 at the age of 22. This was a terrible blow to all the family. Their second daughter Claire arrived in April 1968 followed by Christopher in December 1969.

In 1964 Brian started suffering from Asthma and was no longer able to participate in his sports. This was a blow, but then he was persuaded to try golf which he loved. In 1999 he was captain of the Herefordshire Golf Club and had a very busy, but enjoyable and successful year. However as his health deteriorated he had to use a buggy then finally had to give up golf, which he missed greatly, not only the game, but the company of other golfers, although he did continue to enjoy going up to the golf club on a Sunday morning for a drink and a chat. In 1977 Brian decided on a change of career and joined Westons Cider. He started in sales and became Director of export sales, selling Weston's products overseas. He was with Westons for 29 years until his retirement in 2006. He badly missed the job and the people but found some solace in his garden.

Joyce & Brian had moved to Mansel Lacy in 1981 and really enjoyed the larger garden and later the polytunnel used for growing strawberries and vegetables.

Chris and Han got married in 2008 and Brian & Joyce became Poppy and Granny to Ava and later to Thea, born in 2009 & 2013 respectively. These two little girls brought enormous pleasure to them both in their new role as grandparents.

Brian was a gregarious and popular man and a good friend. It has been sad for all of us to witness his declining health. This Summer Brian was admitted to hospital then moved to Ross Community hospital and finally to Newstead. R.I.P

Please give yourself 2min and read this:-

Let's say it's 7.25pm and you're going home (alone of course) after an unusually hard day on the job. You're really tired, upset and frustrated. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up in to your jaw. You are only about five km from the hospital nearest your home. Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far. You have been trained in CPR, but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.

#### **HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE?**

*Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again. Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital. Tell as many other people as possible about this. It could save their lives!! A cardiologist says If everyone who reads this and tells 10 people, you can bet that we'll save at least one life.*

Three contractors are bidding to fix a broken fence at Government House. One is from Ottawa, another is from Toronto, and the third is from Montreal. All three go with an official to examine the fence. The Ottawa contractor takes out a tape measure and does some measuring, then works some figures with a pencil. "Well," he says, "I figure the job will run about \$900, \$400 for materials, \$400 for my crew and \$100 profit for me."

The Toronto contractor also does some measuring and figuring, then says, "I can do this job for \$700. That's \$300 for materials, \$300 for my crew and \$100 profit for me."

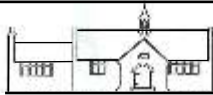
The Montreal contractor doesn't measure or figure, but leans over to the government official and whispers, "\$2,700." The official, incredulous, says, "You didn't even measure like the other guys. How did you come up with such a high figure?"

The Montreal contractor whispers back, "\$1000 for me, \$1000 for you, and we hire the guy from Toronto to fix the fence." "Done!" Replies the government official.

And that, my fellow tax payers, is how a Government Stimulus plan works.

The annual Mansel Lacy Community Association bonfire night was held on the Foxley Estate and saw a number of new faces to the event, we know a few locals were concerned that due to the weather predictions that we might not be able to go ahead, but this is Mansel Lacy and we are blessed with breaks in the local weather when we hold events, long may this last. There was a grand turnout this year so well done everyone, we are sure you enjoyed what was on offer as the burgers and sausages went down well and we managed to finish the cider, Although the event was a non profit making event we did make a small return which has gone into the Association account. I'm sure you would like me to thank Major David and Jamie Davenport for allowing us the use of the estate for the bonfire and his staff for the building of the fire, particularly Andrew Birch, and all those members of the Association and villagers who helped in putting up the tent and setting up the site, and those ladies on the BBQ and refreshments, Tammy, Gill, Barbara, Ann and Nikki. So hopefully we will be back next year, so please support your Association which is there for you and your friends

Dave Gwynne.



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The Day Centre Managers, Marion and Sara, both have qualifications and vast experience in Health and Social Care, Dementia, Dignity Champions and Palliative Care. They work closely with health professionals in The Garth Care Home to offer you an exemplary service.

- Arts and crafts
- Quizzes and word games
- Gentle exercise
- Music therapy, poetry
- Holistic therapies
- Respite for carers or families
- Topical discussions
- Reminiscence workshops
- Advice and information

### St. John House Day Care Centre

THE SQUARE, KINGTON, HEREFORDSHIRE HR5 3BA T: 01544 230321

## *The Herefordshire Golf Club*



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*please contact either Sarah or Angela on **01432 830219***

*Either option 3 for catering or 4 the office*

*Our Sunday Carvery is proving a very popular so booking is a must and value for money at £11.50 per person for a two course lunch & under 10's go free.*

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**Foxley Group Parish Council**

New road markings have appeared on the A480 approaches to the Bishopstone Road. The number of speed related accidents at this location (three major incidents in the last year) prompted the Parish Council to press for a speed restriction but this is unlikely to be agreed and the "slow" road markings will help drivers be aware of the hazard and, hopefully, save Stuart Deane's wall and house from further damage !.

Before going ahead with the purchase of the red telephone box in Mansel Lacy, the Parish Council would like to know what local residents think we could do with it. Other boxes are now greenhouses or libraries or Village information centres. Please let Brian Barrett know on 01981 590706. The Parish Council has also renewed all of the Parish noticeboards; these are lockable but are still available for use for bonafide local events. Contact details of keyholders will be located in each notice board in due course

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**St Michael's Hospice**

'Light up a Life' is a very special event full of warmth and love. This year, St Michael's Hospice is joining with 26 local venues enabling families and friends to come together to remember and celebrate the lives of their loved ones. 'Light up a Life' events take place across the world during November and December every year. A light is dedicated to a loved one: it could be in memoriam, to celebrate the gift of friendship or mark a special occasion. The lights lit are also beacons for everything that St Michael's Hospice stands for: giving care to local people with life-limiting illnesses and supporting their families and friends in Herefordshire and the surrounding counties.

We would like to invite you to dedicate a light and attend one of our special services or events. Through your dedication, you will not only be illuminating the life of your loved one, but will be helping to provide invaluable support to local people who need the specialist care that St Michael's offers. This year, we hope our 'Light up a Life' services will raise enough money to pay for two Staff Nurses to care for patients at St Michael's Hospice in 2016.

For more information, please call the Family Support Team on 01432 851000.

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**Have you checked your heating oil tank?**

With the weather getting cooler many households will soon be getting heating oil delivered ready for the winter. The Environment Agency is urging people to check their oil tanks to reduce the risk of damage to the environment and avoid costly clean up bills.

Leaked oil can end up in groundwater supplies and drains, many of which lead directly into rivers, streams, lakes and even garden ponds. Oil is poisonous to fish, other wildlife and smothers plants - just two litres of oil could seriously pollute the volume of fresh water needed to fill an Olympic-size swimming pool. Our vital drinking water supplies can also come from the same surface and groundwater so protection is important. Steve Brown from the Environment Agency said: "Heating oil can cause serious problems if it gets into the water environment. But it's not just the cost of losing the oil that can be expensive, clean up costs can be large and are not always covered by household insurance policies.

"This is why it is vital that oil is only ever stored in tanks that are in good condition. Both the tank and associated pipe work should be regularly inspected and people should never buy more oil than they can safely store."

To report an oil spill people should contact the Environment Agency's 24-hour incident hotline on 0800 80 70 60.

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**Heating Oil Consortium**

*from Michelle Sheers*

The consortium covers Brinsop, Mansel Lacy, Westmoor, Yazor and Yarsop.

We have been able to achieve useful savings on heating oil over the last three years.

For any household not yet part of the scheme, if you would like to join, please contact me.

I can be contacted by telephone or e-mail, and would expect to reply to any enquiry within 3 days (this allows a weekend away).

I can be reached at 01981 590765 or e-mail: [shef.sheers@gmail.com](mailto:shef.sheers@gmail.com)

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One Summer evening during a violent thunderstorm a mother was tucking her son into bed. She was about to turn the light out, when he asked with a tremor in his voice, "Mummy will you sleep with me tonight?". The mother smiled and gave him a reassuring hug. "I can't dear", she said. "I have to sleep in Daddy's room.

"A long silence was broken at last by his shaky little voice. " The big sissy".

## Cider Museum

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**Mansel Lacy  
Community Association**

Chairman - Cal Edwards  
Vice Chairman - Dave Gwynne  
Secretary - Mike & Joyce Potts  
Treasurer - Mike Jones

Membership Registrar - Joyce Lewis  
Hall Booking Agent - Cal Edwards

Committee Members -  
Angie Deane, Ann Fairhurst,  
Stuart Deane, Jane Cox, Ken King,  
Barbara Stevens & Sue Rawlinson  
Jacky Jones John Spinks,  
Fiona Harwood, Kath Morgan,  
Vera Cole, Kevin Bayliss

**Lacy Ladies**

Chair - Rosa Williams  
Vice Chair - Vera Cole  
Treas. and Social Sec. - Joyce Lewis

**Mansel Garden Club**

Joint Chair- Robin & Jane Cox  
Vice Chairman - Vacancy  
Secretary - speakers Sue Carpenter  
Secretary - Visits Vacancy  
Treasurer - Pat Astley  
Social Secretary - Tom & Paula Fitch  
Draw organiser Jan Kersley

**Mansel Lacy  
Churchyard Grass Cutters**

Graham Carpenter, Cal Edwards,  
Mike Jones, Dave Gwynne, and Mike Bodkin

**Foxley Group Parish Council**

Chairman - David Davenport  
Vice Chairman - Cal Edwards  
Councillors - Andrew Davies,  
David Gwynne, Alan Powell,  
Eddie Williams, Robin Cox  
Clerk - Brian Barrett

**Mansel Lacy PCC**

Chairman - Vicar  
Vice Chairman -  
Vicar - Rev. Rana Davies-James  
Rev. Angie Deane  
Churchwarden: Vacancy  
Secretary - Vacancy  
Treasurer - Stuart Deane  
Deanery Synod Rep.- Vacancy  
PCC Members :-  
Brian Gorst,  
Cal Edwards

**Brinsop with Wormsley P C C**

Chair - Rev Rana Davies James  
Vice Chair - James Spreckley  
Secretary - Liz Hill  
Treasurer - Jane Simons  
Churchwarden:- Katrina Morris,  
PCC Members: Brenda Mills  
Connie Kingsland, D Filsell,  
David Williams,

**Herefordshire Council's Handyperson Scheme.**

The Handyperson Scheme is available to people over the age of 16 who find the pressures of maintaining their home difficult on account of disability, life experience or illness. We can undertake small maintenance tasks such as fitting locks, fixing curtain rails or even replacing light bulbs. Referrals can be made by phone or by completing and returning a form.

For more information please call us on 01432 260757.

Jan Blecker Home Improvement Agency Administrator

You @ Home, Herefordshire Council, Nelson House, Hereford.

Tel: 01432 260235 Fax: 01432 260357

e-mail: [jblecker@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:jblecker@herefordshire.gov.uk)



For more information call  
the EventsTeam at  
St Michael's Hospice  
01432 851000  
or visit [www.  
st.michaelshospice.  
org.uk/events](http://www.st.michaelshospice.org.uk/events) see page 15



## Herefordshire Headway

Headway House  
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The next couple or so Coffee mornings  
are on  
Thursday 3rd December

Between 10.30 and 12 noon.  
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**Disability Equipment Service Herefordshire (DESH)** is a new local website  
which lists second-hand disability equipment no longer required which is being  
sold or given away by people who live locally. The site is administered and  
maintained by Herefordshire Carers Support.

It is **FREE** to advertise and simple to use.

Visit [www.herefordshirecarerssupport.org/desh](http://www.herefordshirecarerssupport.org/desh)

If you prefer, you can call us on **01432 356068**.

**Don't forget to register with us as a Carer if you care for a family member,  
friend or neighbour. We can provide you with the support you need via  
our support workers, a regular magazine, social events and groups.**

**ACSYL** Do you like people? Are you a good listener? Are you confident with people,  
well-organised and keen to learn? If so, you may be a good Community Connector  
for ACSYL (A Circle Supporting You For Life). The salary is £10.00 per hour and training  
will be given.

For an information pack, email [info@acsyl.co.uk](mailto:info@acsyl.co.uk) or  
call Michelle Sheers on 01989 555006.

### DO YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS TO SPARE?

Age UK Hereford and Localities is currently  
recruiting volunteers for our footcare service  
at different locations across Herefordshire.

No previous experience is necessary. All you  
need is a compassionate and caring nature  
and a willingness to help others. Full training  
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imbursed. Volunteering is fun, worthwhile  
and very rewarding. To find out more about  
volunteering with our footcare service, please  
contact

Margaret Metzger on 0845 688 1298  
or email her directly on  
[margaret.metzger@ageukhl.org](mailto:margaret.metzger@ageukhl.org)  
Registered Charity Number: 1093512

### G.T (Get together) Club News

If anybody is interested in knowing more about GT contact:

Katrina Morris [paebkam@aol.com](mailto:paebkam@aol.com) 01432760350, and Stuart Deane 01981590615

### FOOD BANK APPEAL

Please could everyone make a special effort to remember to add one item extra to the weekly shopping list? There is a suggested list by the box in the church porch - a tin of meat to a bar of soap. If all who read this could add an item to the box, then we can make a difference to people who are in need, especially for families with children. You can visit the Hereford website for more details. Homemade jams/marmalades very welcome.

THANK YOU for taking time to care.

### Bonus Ball scheme

As neighbouring villages, on 2nd August 2003 the Bonus Ball Fundraising scheme started in Mansel Lacy. Though not all 49 numbers have been owned continuously the system has worked to produce a regular income for the 2 village charities - Community Association and PCC. When 49 numbers were owned it produced an income of £2548 a year with £25 a week paid out to the owner of the Saturday National Lottery Lotto Bonus Ball making £1300 a year. The remaining £24 a week totalling £1248 a year was shared between the CA and PCC. The Treasurers receive cheques on 1st January and 1st July. On 10th October 2015 the organisers decided to increase the numbers to 59 and we decided to retain the former Bonus Ball structure and offer numbers 50 to 59. Annual figures would show an income of £3068, £25 a week winnings still £1300 with £34 a week amounting to £1768 meaning each charity would receive £884 each - depending on all 59 numbers being owned.

Already people have been prepared to take a second number and new people have stepped forward so that now THERE ARE JUST 6 NUMBERS WAITING TO BE OWNED..

The CA and PCC run the last publicly owned building in the village - the church. This is important as a working heart of our community. The costs involved still climb with heating oil, electricity, water and insurance- this latter is very high because of the need to cover public liability. Then the churchyard must be looked after so the mower must be regularly serviced and replaced as occurred recently. One dreads the day when the quinquennial inspection announces we need a new roof!

We would like to thank Alison Powell, Fiona Horwood, Caroline Barrett and Sue Carpenter who have cheerfully volunteered to become collectors. If you feel you could help support this village cause please speak to one of the collectors or ring us on the tel no below. Hoping to hear from you - Jane & Robin Cox 01981 590269

### Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

The following and other courses may be of interest to you ! If they are contact: Anastasia Calder who is Publicity Events Officer e-mail: [a.calder@herefordshire.co.uk](mailto:a.calder@herefordshire.co.uk)

<i>Tremendous Trees – A tree-mendous tree walk</i>	<i>Sat 5 December</i>	<i>10am – 3pm</i>
<i>The Changes in Forestry Practice over three decades –</i>	<i>Wed 6 January</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>
<i>The Return of the Polecats – talk by Elizabeth Croose</i>	<i>Thurs 7 January</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>
<i>Series of 2 Day Hedge Laying Courses</i>	<i>Sat 9 - Sun 10 January</i>	<i>9am-4pm</i>
<i>Cider Making Workshop</i>	<i>Sat 9 January</i>	<i>10am-4pm</i>
<i>Mountain Flowers – talk by Roger Smith</i>	<i>Tues 26 January</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>
<i>The work of the Brecon Beacons National Park -</i>	<i>Wed 3 February</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>
<i>Birds in a Herefordshire Garden – talk by Dr M Colquhoun</i>	<i>Thurs 4 February</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>

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From the Rev. Rana Davies-James, The Vicarage,  
8 Hillside View, Credenhill HR4 7FD 01432 760443  
E-mail: rana.james@virgin.net

Dear Friends,

I have been finding it difficult to get into shopping for Christmas this year. I feel a little overwhelmed by the desperate needs of so many people here and abroad. Our world seems so messed up, with the horror of terrorism, wars, disease, poverty, slavery and utter misery in so many places. But I don't think that the world has ever been different. So that is what makes Jesus', being born as a vulnerable baby under such lowly circumstances, so amazing. God has lived among us as one of us, and at Christmas we remember this and rejoice for his graciousness and willingness to leave his throne in the heavens, to live in our miserable, messy and broken world; experiencing our pain and anguish for himself (remember that with he, with his parents, was a refugee in a foreign country for a time). He showed us how to love the unlovable by his example and as we rush around spending money on often unnecessary and expensive gifts for each other, let us also remember the poorer folks in our communities for whom Christmas is a real struggle. I encourage you to be as generous as you are able and support and pray for charities that are working with the poor and marginalised, so that you follow Jesus' example. Then wherever you worship this Christmas, you can do so with a clear conscience and an understanding heart of the real reason for the Christmas season! Trevor joins me in wishing you all a joyous Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!

With every blessing, Rana

Services at St Michael & All Angels Church, Mansel Lacy continue at 9.00am every second and third Sunday of the month. On 20th December at 3.00pm we will have a Carol Service - everyone is very welcome for this. Christmas morning Holy Communion is at 9.00am. If any one is housebound and would like either to receive Christmas communion at home or a visit please let Rana know on 01432 760443.

---

***Normal Sunday Services as follows:***

***Brinsop 1st Sunday in month at 9 am (Holy Communion)***

***Mansel Lacy 2nd and 3rd Sundays in the month at 9 am***

***Bishopstone 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in month at 10am***

---

**Mansel Lacy Community Hall and Church Cleaning/ Flower Rota**

***January - Jane Cox/Anne Chidwick. February - Tammy Gwynne/Fiona Horwood***

***March 19<sup>th</sup> 10.00 to 1200 noon Spring Clean - All help needed***

***April - Lindy Davenport/Vera Cole May - Pam Powell/Marian Powell***

***June - Jennifer Spinks/Anne Chidwick July - Tracey Lewis/Sue Rawlinson***

***August - Ann Fairhurst/Jacky Jones September - Jane Cox / Anne Chidwick***

***October - Vera Cole / Kim Williams November - Fiona Horwood/Jennifer Spinks***

***December - Christmas Décor All who can give time please***



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E-mail: [williamrowlatt@btconnect.com](mailto:williamrowlatt@btconnect.com)*

*~Our promise is to care for you and those you love~*

***Community Association Christmas Lunch***  
***Sunday 13 December 2015***  
***Wormsley Golf Club***  
***12.00 for 12.30pm***



***Menu: Starters:***

*Breaded Brie Wedges with Cranberry Sauce and Salad Garnish.*  
*Winter Vegetable Soup with Coriander Croutons*  
*Parma Ham & Melon Salad*

***Mains:***

*Roast Turkey with Pigs in Blankets & Apricot & Chestnut Stuffing.*  
*Glazed Gammon Ham in a Parsley & Cider Sauce.*  
*Ratatouille Stuffed Pepper.*

*All served with Roasted Potatoes, Spring Onion Mash Potatoes, Sprouts,*  
*Braised Red Cabbage, Carrots & Petit Pois.*

***Desserts:***

*White Chocolate & Mixed Berry Torte.*  
*Christmas Pudding with a Brandy Sauce.*  
*Cheese & Biscuit selection with Chutney, Celery & Grapes.*

*Freshly brewed Coffee & homemade Mince Pie.*



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