

Harbury & Bishops Itchington Surgeries

Main telephone line open: 8 am - 12.15 pm & 13.30 - 18.15

Harbury Surgery Opening Times

 Monday
 8.30 am - 12.30 pm & 13.30 pm - 18.30

 Tuesday
 8.30 am - 12.30 pm & 13.30 pm - 18.30

 Wednesday
 8.30 am - 12.30 pm & 13.30 pm - 18.30

 Thursday
 8.30 am - 12.30 pm & 13.30 pm - 18.30

 Friday
 8.30 am - 12.30 pm & 13.30 pm - 18.30

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Dr Wood	Dr Wood	Dr Snowdon	Dr Wilkinson	Dr Snowdon
	Dr Panting	Dr Wilkinson	Dr Chard	Dr Panting	Dr Wood
PM		Dr Panting	Dr Wood	Dr Chard	Dr Chard
	Dr Snowdon	Dr Wilkinson	Dr Chard	Dr Wilkinson	Dr Wood

Bishops Itchington Surgery Opening times

Monday 9am – 12 noon & 16.00 pm – 18.00

Tuesday 9 am - 12 noon Closed

Wednesday 9 am - 12 noon & 16.00 pm - 18.00

Thursday 9 am – 12 noon Closed Friday 9 am – 12 noon Closed

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Dr Snowdon	Dr Panting	Dr Wood	Dr Chard	Dr Wilkinson
PM	Dr Panting		Dr Snowdon		

REPEAT DISPENSING -

Dispensary collection hours during COVID19 Mon – Fri 9.00 – 12.00 & 15.30 – 18.00 (Phone Dispensary between 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm)

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Please allow at least 72 hours' notice on all repeat prescription requests.

Registered patients can now book appointments & order prescriptions online.

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Hello again, it's nice to know you are still out there and carrying on as normal (as best we can), although I still can't get used to it. I've said to myself many times lately "I did not know how lucky I was". I do now! One of the things I now know is how lucky it is to have the Yellow Land and reserve right on our doorstep plus the good weather to go with it. It is so peaceful for one thing and no guilt attached to taking a stroll whenever you feel like it. I haven't got to go somewhere or be somewhere. Silver linings and all that!

I'm very sorry but on reading the WI report (well, the report from 1936) I got a fit of the giggles. I am very appreciative of this report as it proves just how much we have changed. What a shame Mrs Glover of Corley missed her bus. For one thing, I should imagine that was quite a journey from the other side of Coventry. I was very glad she was given a "hearty vote of thanks" considering she had to go all the way back again!

It does seem an awful pity that those of us who like to go into a church for some quiet reflection (as people have always done in times of crisis) can't. But "better safe than sorry" cannot be truer than it is today.

Do read "A Walk in the Cemetery", it is a fascinating history of a village family. I so enjoyed reading it.

Finally, keep safe and well and here's to happier times.

Please let Stella Angliss or Phyl Moir (phylmoir@btinternet.com) have items for the July Scene by June 5th

SCENE EDITING COMMITTEE

Stella Angliss 16 Huckson Road 613594 Yvonne Smith Fairview, High Street 612639 Phyl Moir 42 Lakin Drive 612827

Ann Murphy (please ring Stella Angliss if there is a problem)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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Auctioneers & Value			311394 or 613902
Locke & England	889100	Registrar of Burials	
Beauty/Nails		Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Zoe's Beautique	07946 170450	County & District Co	ouncillors
		Christopher Kettle (D. Cll	
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T M & J M Grey Builders	817744	Boo sievens (County Cir	011051
J. M. Services	07834 688259		
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	& 07956596681		
	07950 679998	Doctors/Health Care.	/Dentist
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		Chiropody/Podiatry (J. F.	Small) 811272
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		Dog Grooming	
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r		with the felling services	012310
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ыдинотте неат	01/89 20013	Leanington Spa	423231

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Food/Pubs/Club Bishops Fryer & Offie	614093	Bishops Itchington Primary	612297	
The Butchers Arms	614161	FOBIPS	07825 837326	
The Greaves Club	612349	Out of School Club	07729 134849	
The Greaves Club	012349	Ladybirds Preschool	614300	
Fuel		Kineton High School	640465	
Red Horse Vale Ltd	642832	Southam High School	812560	
F		Baby & Toddler Group ema		
Funerals	(4020)	hello@bibabyandtoddl	ergroup.org.uk	
R. Locke & Son	640386			
Sun Rising Natural Burials	01293 088488	Solicitors	250255	
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Paul Intrater	07825372128			
Bernard Bodner	07944440196	Tree Surgery		
** *		Tom Rogers 07958 794	4180 or 810716	
Handyman	07750572016	T.7		
Bolt's Helping Hand	07759572816	Vicarage	613466	
Hairdresser				
Emily Jayne	611944	Church Wardens	(12507	
· · ·		Jim Beeston	612597 07973 53 4731	
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Harbury Library	258776			
Southam Library	0300 5558171	Village Amenities		
Mobile Library	851031	Community Centre	07548 591 692	
Memorials		Memorial Hall Bookings –	(10/75	
C. Pullin & Son	426435	(Mon-Friday 9am-6pm only) 612675	
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Newspaper Shop Bishops Itchington News	612387	Katy Biggs	07534807826	
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Southam / Neighbourhood	Team 684984	Beavers/Cubs/Scouts Leade		
Post Offices		Paul Buckley	07774978734	
Southam	817532	Youth Club	612165	
Harbury	612645			
-				

REGULAR MEETINGS

BABY & TODDLER GROUP	Memorial Hall	Thursday 10.00 - 11.30 am
BEAVERS	Memorial Hall	Thursday 5.45 -6.45pm (School term only)
CUBS	Memorial Hall	Thursday 7.00 - 8.30 pm
DARBY & JOAN CLUB	Memorial Hall	Every other Tuesday
		2.15 - 4.15 pm
INFANT WELFARE CLINIC	Early Years Centre	1 st Wednesday of
		month 1.00 - 2.45 pm
MEN'S SHED	Gaydon Road	Wed & Fri 7pm – 9 pm
NHS BABY CLINIC	Pendicke Street	2 nd and 4 th Tuesdays of
	Southam	month 9.30-11.30
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	Community Centre	2 nd Monday of month 7.30
	Ladbroke Road	except Bank Holidays)
RUNNING CLUB	Playing Field	Monday 7.30 pm start
SCENE CLOSING DATE		5 th of month
SCOUTS	Memorial Hall	Friday 7.00 - 9.00 pm
SENIOR RESIDENTS	Greaves Club	3 rd Thursday of month
		10 am - 12 noon
SHORT MAT BOWLS	Memorial Hall	Wed & Friday 2 – 4pm
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE	Memorial Hall	1st Wednesday of month
		7.30 pm

MOBILE LIBRARY - Service suspended until further notice



REFUSE COLLECTION (Grey Bin) RECYCLING (Blue & Green Bins)

JUNE 2020

 Wed 3rd
 Wed 10th

 Wed 17th
 Wed 24th



Pop Up Post Office – There is a planned reopening on Wednesday May 27th (Monday is a Bank Holiday) with social distancing measures in place, including a one way system with entry from the Café front door & exit from the side door.

June 2020

Mon 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th 2 – 4.30 pm Community Centre Wed 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th 2 – 4.30 pm Community Centre



Entrust Care Partnership who run the Blue Butterfly Café are pleased to announce that they have secured three year funding to employ an Employment Development Manager. They are committed to the Cafe in the long term but are working within the advice of Government Guidelines on the coronavirus so the Cafe is likely to be closed on a temporary basis.



Bishops Itchington Football Club



(Sponsored by Greaves Club and MKM Building supplies)
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Still nothing much to report unfortunately! Last month I mentioned pitch maintenance and we'd like to thank Michael Mann for aerating and seeding the pitches. All we need now is a drop of rain to get it going! Not too much mind you!

With all this walking and running going on round the village, we should have the fittest footballers in Warwickshire, ready to play again when we're allowed!

Bishops Itchington Sports Association



As you may be aware, we have been working with the Pavilion group in recent months and an important decision had to be made, so we had a virtual meeting via Zoom to get it done. It was quite good fun and we have set a date for another one. The Pavilion group too have been having this type of meeting as they try to get the Business Plan finished, so that the next stage can be started.

As the weeks of lockdown go by, there seems to be more and more people out walking, running and cycling. Perhaps one of the positives to come out of this Coronavirus situation will be that we'll be fitter and more used to spending time outdoors as a family.



70 ON THE 12th June

To a wonderful husband, dad, gramp and father-in-law.

Have a lovely 70th Birthday

(under the lockdown)

All our love

Janet, Sharon, Paul, Neil, Lisa, John, Alison and all the grandchildren xxxxxxxx

ST MICHAEL'S NEWS

Stay Alert ... for each other



We have started a new part of our journey through this pandemic. People are being encouraged to go back to work today if they can't work from home, even though safety for them may be uncertain or compromised, and our new slogan is "stay alert" ...

More than ever, we need to take real and very careful responsibility for how we respond to these relaxing guidelines....careful because other peoples' lives may depend on it. These new steps are aimed at starting up the economy, but we must make sure that people are safe....and that's about all of us taking responsibility to care for each other as we have been doing so diligently under lockdown.

In my daily walks, people I meet are getting more anxious now than they were under the initial restrictions, and that's not a good thing. There is a real fear that this is too soon ... and for some, a real pressure about the need to work but the fear of going back into a potentially dangerous situation.

Where does church fit into this?

The church has been functioning through these weeks with online and video services, prayers and practical support. People have missed the gatherings, but found other ways to be in contact and provide care.

There are murmurs about churches being opened again, but this is likely to be just for private prayer or very limited numbers. Public worship is not likely to happen for some months yet, and of course this has a huge impact on weddings, funerals and other community gatherings, as well as weekly worship.

Whatever guidelines emerge, we need to make sure lives are put before everything else, and not do anything that puts people at risk.

ST MICHAEL'S NEWS

But that should be what underpins everything at the moment, whether it's about schools, shops, companies, nurseries, churches ... that the amazing community care that's arisen through this crisis continues so lives are not endangered and hospitals not overwhelmed. And we each have our part to play in that.

But this time is also raising lots of questions and changing our values ... we have found some things that have been stripped away to be less vital than we once thought, and things like community and support and health and care have become much higher priorities. Many working from home have found that they have been more productive and have certainly not missed the daily travelling. The space for some has been a real blessing and the new routine for all ages has benefited many. For some, the face to face encounter with our mortality has raised important questions of faith and value too, of what is really important in our daily lives, and whether we want to return to our hectic lifestyle, and whether employers will allow a new way of working.....
For others the experience of isolated grief and unwelcome pressures alone is proving desperately hard.

So maybe our new slogan can be used to continue to be alert to each other and the very real needs around us ... and may we continue to take our personal responsibilities seriously and keep each other safe. And I am always happy to stop and chat as I walk and pray round our village

In the meantime, video services continue online at the church website: www.stmichaelschurch.co.uk.



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In these challenging times with many of us staying at home, some businesses are offering 'free' trials of their goods or services.

These can be very tempting when so many of us have more time on our hands or are trying to juggle our work while also attempting to fill our children's time. But there can be pitfalls if we later find out we have signed up to more that we bargained for!

Genuine businesses should be open and up-front about what you're signing up for, but unfortunately some unscrupulous traders use 'free' trial offers to get you to agree buy goods in quantities you would not have done so normally.

Some 'free trial' offers, (often posted on social media or promoted via advertising pop-ups) ask consumers to use their debit or credit card to pay for postage and packaging to receive the 'free' product. However, hidden in the small print can be a subscription agreement committing the consumer to purchase large quantities of goods on a monthly basis. Money is taken from the same card used to pay for postage and packaging as a recurring or continuous payment transaction.

If you have inadvertently signed up to a paid contract after a 'free' trial, complain to the company concerned. If you see an unexpected charge on your bank / payment card statement you can also contact your bank or card issuer for help.

Report any type of scam to the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133. Citizens Advice can provide telephone support and advice. They will also alert Warwickshire Trading Standards Service who can provide additional advice.

Advice based upon information issued by the ASA and CMA, visit: https://www.asa.org.uk/news/how-free-is-that-free-trial.html

Web version of advice, please

share: https://safeinwarwickshire.com/2020/05/15/free-trial-offer-warning/

A Stroll round the Village by Pictures

Begin your stroll down Lakin Drive from the main road end and turn left when you pass (1).

Walk along and turn right when you see (2).

Keep going straight until you have passed (3), (4) and (5).

Round the S bends you will find (6) and (7).

Turn back and go straight up past (8) and (9). Pause at the junction and take a good look around for (10).

Now turn right and after spotting (11), (12), (13), (14), (15) and (16) turn right again by (17).

You will be needing some of (18) and (19) by this time. Turn back and when you see (17) again, turn right.

Walk along and just after you have found (20) turn right and follow the road round you will pass (21).

At the junction turn right and then immediate left and then left again when you spy (22) a short while later.

After finding (23) turn right at (24).

Walk along and turn right. You should be back where you started.



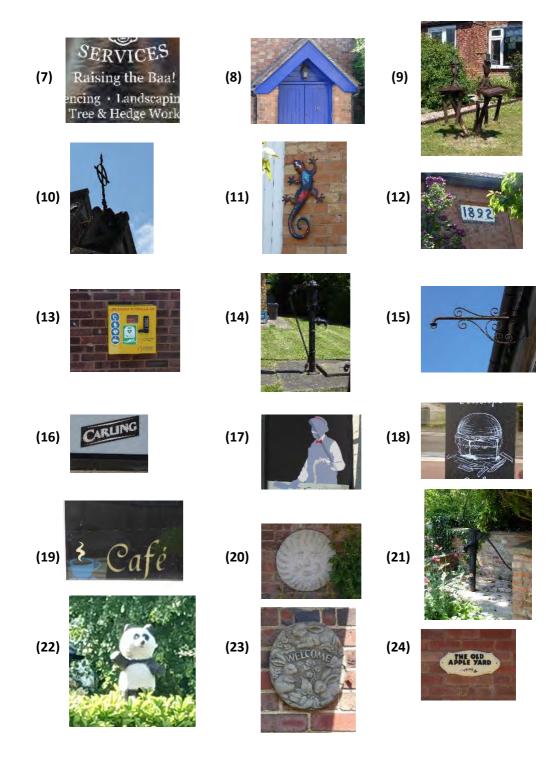














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A WALK AROUND THE CEMETERY: SARAH ANN WEBB

Walk past the Chapel to end of the old path where the iron railings were once in place and then walk to the end of the row. Here you come across the grave of Mrs Sarah Ann Webb, she was the first person to be buried in the Cemetery on 26th November 1905. Mr Arthur Overton oversaw digging her grave and the service was held in the Chapel by Rev. Wilkinson.



Sarah's maiden name was Collins and she was born at Pillerton Priors. Her father, Daniel, was born in 1831 at Whatcote and her mother, Emma, was born in 1833 at Bentley. They moved around South Warwickshire looking for work. Sarah's siblings were Thomas born in 1855, Elizabeth in 1859, Ellen in 1862 and William in 1869. They lost a daughter, Mary, in 1876 before she had her first birthday. The children could not have had a settled childhood with moving so often, living in Whatcote, Alvechurch, Pillerton Priors, and Tredington. When Sarah was 14 years old she got employment with Joseph and Sarah Green, landowners. Most children started work at 14, often earlier, robbing them of the childhood we know of today.

Sarah married Thomas Gubbins at Warwick in 1875 moving to live in Bishops Itchington, first at Dadglow House and then moving to High Street. The Gubbins family were a long standing village family. Thomas and Sarah had 7 children in 15 years. (losing 2 babies, Mary Emma in 1876, Elizabeth Emily in 1891). The other children were Joseph Thomas 1878, Albert Henry 1881, Arthur Wilfred 1884, Emily Elizabeth 1890 and Dora Ellen 1893.

A WALK AROUND THE CEMETERY: SARAH ANN WEBB

Dora was born after her father Thomas had passed away in November 1892. Sarah's parents with their son William moved into the home in High Street later having a works cottage at Lower End. After Thomas passed away aged 37, life would have been hard for Sarah. She was pregnant with Dora, there was no state help and she had to find food for the table and pay the rent for her home. The house in High Street belonged to Bull Greaves and Lakin. The children would have gone to Sunday School and the village school which was run by the church and stood in the lower part of the Churchyard. It must be remembered that the village was very poor with the gentry few. With Sarah's parents coming to live with her, later moving into a cottage at 'Lower End' and then with the Gubbins family living in the village, she would have had some support regarding looking after the children. She could have taken the job of charwomen, working as a laundress or even taking in sewing.

Many will remember the Thacker family, natives of Bishops Itchington. William Thacker moved from the village to live in Victoria Street, Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton. He had married Sarah from Hartshill, and opened a coal business (many coal mines were around North Warwickshire) which would be his source of income. William heard about the passing of Thomas Gubbins and offered two elder boys work and lodging. Joseph and Albert went to live with the Thacker family which must have been a different way of life for these two men. Still living in High Street with Arthur, for Emily and Dora life would have slowed down without the two eldest boys. In 1894 Sarah married Edward Webb from Northamptonshire, he came to work at the cement works and they had one child Elizabeth May Webb born 1896.

A WALK AROUND THE CEMETERY: SARAH ANN WEBB

I expect life got easier once Sarah had a man's wage coming into the home, but by 1905 she became ill. Sadly Sarah passed away in 1905 aged 49, by this time most of the older children were married. Joseph married and stayed in Nuneaton, Albert married in 1911 he was a police constable in Coventry, Arthur married in 1906 and moved to live in Radford Semele, Emily married in 1921 moving to Kenilworth. The two younger children, Dora and May, were under 10 when they lost their mother, which would be hard on any child. As soon as Dora was old enough she went into service in Willes Road, Royal Leamington Spa.

Later marrying in 1918 in Birmingham, Elizabeth May married into another long-standing village family, she married John Robbins in 1922.

Edward Webb remarried in 1910 to Sarah Busby. By this time all the Gubbins family had moved away leaving just May. The family moved to live with Sarah's father, George. He was a widower so I expect he was pleased to have Sarah to do the cleaning and cooking.

Sarah had a hard life but I should imagine a happy one. When Edward married into the Busby family, Sarah's father George Busby counted May as his granddaughter. Which shows what kind of family Edward had married into.

Sarah has a large number of relations living in the area, namely Gubbins, Webb, Collins. Many are buried in our village cemetery.



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Bishops Itchington WCC Councillor Annual Report May 2020

As I write this report in lockdown and self-isolation I reflect back on the past 12 months with disbelief. This time last year Theresa May was our Prime minister, Brexit was about to happen and the country was beginning to lose the shackles imposed by Austerity. The effects of climate change were considered to be a prominent influence on all decisions. Since then we have had a new Prime Minister, a general election and Brexit has eventually happened (or has it?). As a mild winter turns into spring we now have to face the worst pandemic this country has ever experienced and whose end is nowhere to be seen. How has all this effected life and Bishops Itchington in particular?

The County Council

As a result of the prudent and cautious financial management the County council has weathered the effects of austerity and this year's budget was based on an optimistic but achievable 4 year plan and an easing of the purse strings particularly with respect to Adult care, Public health and children's welfare (including early years provision) was proposed. Climate change was the driver in all departmental Budgets as was the intention to strengthen communities and maintain Warwickshire's reputation as being a good area in which to live. However despite grants from the government the extra costs associated with the pandemic are likely to reflect in the future spending and balance sheet of the County Council over the next few years.

At the same time the top management of the County Council had a significant reorganisation. Monica Fogerty became the new Chief Executive and three new directors were appointed into a revised management structure. A new chief fire officer together with a new director of public health was also appointed. As each new director reorganised their "new" departments many senior officers in the organisation were allocated a change in their responsibilities. A few took early retirement and redundancies were minimal. Further reorganisation at a lower level is still being implemented.

HS₂

One of my responsibilities as a County councillor is lead member for coordination of HS2 activities in Warwickshire.

I report to the leader/ relevant portfolio holder.

The County council has a team of officers who work directly with HS2 and liaise with the sub-contractors; in particular over traffic management. Most of the activities associated with the building of the railway are covered by a Hybrid act of parliament. Deviations are dealt with by the WCC team except for some planning decisions when deviation is required from the act. At present the works being carried out are the early preparatory works in preparation for the construction of the line for which permission to proceed has now been given. This early work involves clearing forestry, Archaeological exploration. HS2 Ltd are responsible for ensuring that their sub-contractors conform to the Social Isolation regulations.

Highways

Warwickshire roads are rated by the UK highways authority as being in the top quartile in the UK. From day to day maintenance to longer term planning the underfunded department performs above its weight .The increase in housing together with the growth of the counties industrial base (In particular at JLR) has created more traffic and consequently more speeding in all our villages. At the same time the police force are unable to fully enforce speed limits with their reduced numbers. During the Corona lock down only essential highway work is being undertaken. Balfour Beatty, the main contractors, are revising their work programme to conform to the Lock down regulations.

Fire Service

The County Council, who are the fire authority has a new fire chief who is reviewing the organisation of the management structure and re visiting methods of improving cross fire authority working.

Education

Over the year the move toward academisation has continued especially with our secondary Schools. Kineton have joined the Stowe Valley MAT joining Bilton and Southam in this expanding trust which also includes Bishops Itchington Primary School. Southam college's new sports Hall is progressing but delayed by the present lockdown.

Climate change

Fire, Floods and Famine all featured in the worlds headlines during the past year and were accredited to climate change. A young Swedish girl captured the world's imagination, especially school children, with her campaign to reduce carbon emissions. Local governments in England (including Warwickshire County council) declared a climate change emergency. The county council have established a working group to monitor all the council's activities with respect to their possible effect on the climate and have produced a set of proposals as to how the County council can reduce the Counties carbon footprint. All residents can play their part in improving our atmosphere and save the planet.

The year ahead

Over the last 2 months everything has changed and the future is uncertain. The corona virus has disrupted the lives and ambitions of the whole nation and here in Warwickshire the county Council have reduced activities on all fronts unless they are connected with fighting the pandemic. The majority of staff are working from home and some have been reassigned to help with the increased social care requirements. Shire Hall is closed for usual business. Information sharing and joint working between all levels of local Government (County District and Parish Councils) as well as the tremendous efforts in all our communities to help the most vulnerable has demonstrated that community spirit is alive and well for which we all deserve credit. Web conferences and home working is becoming the norm and may well continue as we return to normality. However the next few months are unpredictable as the lockdown regulations are modified to meet the ever changing situation and the nation returns to a work ethos, trying to catch up on a lost year.

Emerging from this crisis I hope we will see a more streamlined local Government that is fit for all as we enter the next decade.

Bob Stevens, County Councillor Feldon Division
PS WCC web site has a mass of information on the Corona Virus

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Did you spot the error in last month's Report? In the first para "Malvern" should have read "Ludlow". We didn't go anywhere near Malvern. Hopefully I won't drop a clanger in this month's edition — after all, under the circumstances, I haven't got any trips/activities to report on.

But there is some news. We've now have two celebrities in our midst. One is our oldest member, Barbara Cox, to whom a whole page is devoted in the latest edition of our national WI magazine, WI Life. This magazine, a "glossy", now printed on recycled paper, is sent out to all WI members countrywide (over 200,000 of them) ten times a year. The article covers Barbara's experiences in the Land Army during WW2. I won't go into details here but am planning to reproduce it in the August edition of Scene. So watch this space.

other is Phyllis Taylor who was the subject of a photo picked out by the Duchess of Cambridge on a morning TV programme for her new project on the current pandemic. The photo, taken during the lockdown, shows Phyllis's Sunday dinner being delivered to her through a window. In some ways it's a relief that there are currently no meetings as otherwise we'd have to greet them with a curtsey – Barbara and Phyllis that is.

And now for two further instalments of our current exciting serial, snappily titled "Minutes of Bishops Itchington's Women's Institute 1936". I bet the suspense has been almost unbearable.

Monthly Meeting held in the Memorial Hall Sept 2nd 1936.

Mrs Jeffrey in the Chair.

16 Members and 1 Visitor present.

Report of last meeting read and confirmed.

County Secretary's letter read.

It was decided to have a Rummage Stall for WI Funds at the Annual Meeting in Nov. It was also decided to have a Whist Drive on Oct 23rd. Secretary was asked to write to the Postmaster at Leamington concerning the internal lighting of the Telephone Kiosk in the village. Mrs Thacker was elected Delegate to the Autumn Council Meeting, Miss Davies and Mrs R. Jenkins proposed attending as visitors.



Mrs Handford was welcomed to the WI as a new Member. 11 Members applied for bulbs, 66 being required in all.*

A very interesting talk on the Work of Women Police was given by Mrs Glover of Corley, this unfortunately being very short owing to the Speaker arriving late through missing her bus. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded. After tea members sat down to a short Whist Drive. Winner, Mrs Mann after a cut with Mrs R. Jenkins and Mrs Bean. Winner of the Mirror Drawing Competition, Mrs Jeffrey. (Signed) Helen Jeffrey

*It is assumed that these are for planting in the garden and not to help with the lighting in the phone box. And

Monthly Meeting held in the Memorial Hall Oct 2nd 1936.

Mrs Jeffrey in the Chair.

22 Members present.

Minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

County Secretary's letter read and discussed.

A letter from the Postmaster informing the WI that a light would be installed in the Telephone Kiosk.

Mrs Jeffrey, Miss Davies and Mrs R. Jenkins volunteered to attend the Group Meeting at Mrs Rylands.

It was decided to have the Whist Drive on Oct 21st for WI Funds. It was decided owing to lowness of funds to make a charge of 9d for tea at the Annual Meeting on Nov 5th. Mrs Jeffrey announced that Southam WI had offered to provide the entertainment by bringing the Southam Concert Party to give a free programme, and it was decided for Members to be permitted to invite two friends to the Concert, visitors to pay 3d each towards expenses. After the business a very enjoyable recital of poems and songs was given by Mrs Platt to demonstrate her lecture "The Charm of Poetry & Song". Mrs Platt afterwards arranged a very pleasant hour of games. Winner of the Snapshot Competition, Miss Hartshorne, and guessing the weight of two potatoes, Mrs Bostock.

(Signed) Helen Jeffrey



And after all that excitement here's a calming poem fresh from the pen of Barbara Laughland:-

Lying here in the sun
I think of all the jobs I've done
Weeding and planting, watering too
Now I'm waiting for the flowers to come through
Enjoying my chocolates and drinking gin
What a wonderful world I live in
My hair has grown long
My whiskers are showing
But what do I care?
The fruit trees are in blossom
Soon apples will be growing
For all the WI to share



And thanks to our Secretary, Jane Thomas, for the BIWI Newsletter she's compiled and sent round. Hopefully it's enabling us all to keep in touch in addition to the phone calls. Please send contributions for future editions to her. You should have her contact details.

Federation has optimistically arranged a few activities for later in the year, see below. (Fed has to plan a long way ahead!) Further details of these are on the Federation website. If wanting to apply please contact Jane Thomas.

For your diary

Weds 19 Aug - Hugely Huggable History of the Teddy Bear talk Thurs

3 Sep - MCS Workshop

Mon 7 " - Oxford Walking Tour

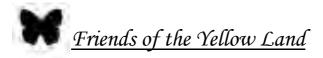
Sat 12 " - Drama Workshop

Fri 18 " - Archery Taster Session

Sat 26 " - Abba Tribute Night

Mon 28 " - Instagram Workshop

Mon 26 Oct - Grand Day Out to Windsor (new date)



A couple of the group have been down to the orchard just to keep the paths and trees clear (working at suitable distances apart of course!). We will try and keep this going when we can. Spotted down there on the nettles, was a mass of small tortoiseshell caterpillars. Let's hope they turn into a good number of butterflies.

I have started to do my weekly butterfly walk over on the Yellow Land and over the heap. This week (8th May) I spotted all four of the rare species on my target list – the small blue, dingy skipper, grizzled skipper and green hairstreak, along with the more common species of early butterflies. Those of you who have begun to walk and explore the area, keep your eyes peeled for these rarities.







Green Hairstreak





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If you would like to include a birthday message, to congratulate anyone for their achievement or to thank someone, we will be more than happy to include it in the magazine free of charge

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