

Footprints

Issue No. CCLX

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Copy by 15th of month, please..



BROADWAS VILLAGE HALL SOCIAL NIGHT

POP-UP-PUB WITH FOOD TRUCK

Have a Laugh, Some Good Food
Traditional Bar Snack
Affordable Drinks
Selection of Fun Pub Games Available
#Supportlocal

**BOTTOMS UP! SATURDAY 20TH APRIL
6:00 PM TO 11:30 PM**



Monthly musings from Rev Anne (Team Rector)

Many of you may be wondering what I actually did during my sabbatical last Autumn and so now that Christmas, the New Year, Lent and Easter have come and gone I thought that perhaps in this April issue I would give you a flavour of the time I spent in Malawi visiting four specific projects.

The first part of my sabbatical was spent having a holiday with my husband, Mike, visiting South Africa, including visiting long-time friends who live in a very rural, Afrikaans place, on our way to Botswana. This was a special time giving us time to enjoy and appreciate God's wonderfully created world from the smallest spider to the largest elephant, from the most delicate desert flower to the sturdy Baobab tree.

We returned to UK to help look after grandsons whilst our daughter, Claire, who some of you know, gave birth to our latest granddaughter (we now have nine lovely grandchildren ranging from 7 years down to 3 months, at time of writing).

I then set off to Malawi with, Julie, a girlfriend for three weeks of intense travelling and meeting so many wonderful people doing amazing work with young and old, vulnerable and disabled, empowering women to become economically independent. Most of the Malawians we met were practising Christians from a variety of denominations – Baptist, Church of Scotland, Roman Catholic and Anglicans.

It was particularly interesting travelling with Julie, having someone who saw things through a different lens. Having been born and brought up in Malawi, and then been back to visit as an adult over the years, there was so much I too for granted and perhaps accepted, such as the men sitting separately on chairs, from the women and children sitting on the floor, in a rural church. Whilst I wanted to attend the big church service in the outskirts of Lilongwe our host took the 'rich people from UK' to a rural church with no roof. I don't think he expected me to comment that 'without the roof the prayers had a quicker route to the Almighty'!

We visited the charity Friends of Mulanje Orphans (FOMO) of which Mike and I are trustees more about that in the May issue. We were blessed to be taken to visit a Mother and Baby healthcare project run by St John's Ambulance in an urban area of Blantyre during which, with an interpreter, we were able to hear from a mother expecting a baby and a mother with a nine month baby, how the project was supporting them with nutrition advice, how

to care for themselves and their baby, the importance of follow up visits to the clinic, and so on. The next project we visited was Building Futures in Malawi, which is a charity providing resources to local Government schools, and we attended a lesson with a group of secondary school girls on making washable sanitary towels. Such an important skill as the majority of girls only attend school three weeks in every month. We were asked to talk to the girls encouraging them to have career aspirations and hence the importance of education to achieve a vision. Teenage pregnancy is still a real problem in Malawi which in turn contributes to a high number of maternal deaths. The other joy of visiting the school was seeing the integration of Muslim and Christian girls reflecting how these two world faiths harmoniously live alongside each other in the towns and villages. The fourth project we visited was Chisombezu Deaf and Blind school, which Edgbaston Rotary support (and our very own David Fowler was the link). Set up and run by a faithful servant of God, Sister Emma (a Roman Catholic Nun) this residential school, just outside Blantyre, has around 16 children from 5 to 20 years old. The children are so well cared for and with love, given a life. Sister Emma also has an outreach programme working with parents of deaf and blind children in the Thyolo area (south of Blantyre) helping them to accept and integrate their children into the community.

There is so much poverty in Malawi with people unable to feed themselves, yet the sun shines and the children smile. We have so much for which to be thankful. I've run out of space (along with meeting the Editor's deadline) so next month, watch this space for some pictures of the projects we were privileged to have visited. In the meantime, may God bless you and your loved ones

Rev Anne

Cuppa and Chat returns to

St Leonard's Church, Cotheridge

on

Thursday 18th April 2- 4 pm

Everyone is welcome, so why not come along for a natter with residents from Broadwas, Cotheridge and beyond.

A donation towards refreshments is welcome.

Events Diary - April

- 4th Thurs 12 - 2pm Lunch in Company (LinC) - Broadwas Village Hall
- 7th Sun 10.30am Worship for All - Broadwas Church
10.30am Holy Communion : Martley Church
6.00pm Evensong - Cotheridge Church
- 8th Mon 11.00am Royal British Legion meeting at the Talbot
- 10th Wed 10.15am Holy Communion at Heaton House
- 11th Thurs 7.00pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Broadwas Church
- 14th Sun 10.30am Holy Communion at Wichenford Church
3.00pm Evening Worship - Knightwick Chapel
- 18th Thurs 2.00 - 4pm Cuppa & Chat at Cotheridge Church
- 20th Sat 6.00 - 11.30pm Village Hall Social Evening - Broadwas
- 21st Sun 10.30am Holy Communion - Broadwas Church
Café Church - St Peters, Martley
- 24th Wed 10.15am Holy Communion at Heaton House
2.30pm W.I. meeting - Appletree Kitchen at Pitlands
- 27th Sat 7.30pm Bromyard Choral Concert in Gt Malvern Priory
- 28th Sun 10.30am Morning Worship - Broadwas Church
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Save the Date

- **Cotheridge Fete** will be held this year on **Saturday July 13th**

A good laugh and a long sleep are the two best cures for anything (Irish Proverb)

The less you respond to rude, critical, argumentative people, the more peaceful your life will become.

Today we welcomed Avril Pulley who came to talk to us about her hobbies. From the age of 17 Avril worked at the Royal Worcester Porcelain Factory and trained as a flower maker, providing a range of clay buds, posies and decorations for larger pieces of porcelain. She passed round booklets showing examples of her work. Avril worked there for 11 years then she married and had family and moved on to working with sugar paste and more recently using an air drying product called Hearty Soft Modelling Clay. Avril demonstrated how to make many flowers and showed us examples of her work including corsages, posies and single sprays all beautifully made and the roses were even scented. It was all so delightful.

After our refreshments we held a special meeting where we had to decide on the future of our WI. Patience Broad, the vice chair of Worcester Federation of WI conducted a ballot and the outcome was that our members voted to suspend the Branch.

There has been a WI here for 70 years which has provided fellowship for many women in the area and whilst we shall no longer be a WI we have decided to carry on as a Friendship Group which is good.

We will meet on April 24th to make plans for the future

Susan Reeve



Concert

Bromyard
Choral Society with
Cradley Singers

Saturday 27th April at 7.30pm in Great Malvern Priory

DURUFLE REQUIEM together with Franck: PANIS ANGELICUS;
Faure: CANTIQUÉ DE JEAN RACINE; and Mascagni: EASTER HYMN

Conductor : Kate Cheetham Organist: Piers Maxin,
Soloists: Bridget Snasdell, Paul Mocroft
Cellists: Jonathon Cheetham, Raphael Coleman

£15 from **the Priory**, cradleysingers@gmail.com and **01432 820813**



During the 2023 season, Club President John Steel was honoured by the Croquet Association by being presented with a Diploma for Services to Croquet. When John first joined the club, it only had one lawn, which had been cut into the outfield of the former village cricket club. The Croquet Club now has five lawns and boasts 80 members.

In other good news, the club has begun work to install an invaluable piece of life-saving equipment at its Stoney Ley ground. After raising funds and securing grants, John Steel is overseeing the installation of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) at the club pavilion, which will be available in an emergency to Broadwas residents.

The opening of the new croquet season will be weather dependant, but it's hoped that play will be possible in April.

Broadwas Croquet Club welcomes new members whether complete novices or experienced players. If you would like to give croquet a try, why not join one of our taster sessions? If you are interested, contact Club Captain John Guy on 01905 748192 or Chairman Fran Wall on 07914 083747.

Excerpt from "**Autobiography of Ted Morris**" - written about 1970 and recorded by a great Grandson, Richard Ankersen, from whom I got it many years ago, when I met him in Knightwick churchyard, visiting the family graves.

. . . When I look back on my life I have seen good times and times not so good. I can remember the Boer War in the reign of Queen Victoria, her death, the coronation of King Edward the seventh, his death, the coronation of King George fifth, his death, the abdication of Edward the eight, the coronation of King George the sixth, his death and the coronation of our present Queen Elizabeth the second.

I remember hauling coal from Pensax pits at 15/- a ton at the pit head and now it is that much per cwt. I have cut the corn by hand at 10/- per acre, and my wife tied it up behind me and stook it, when we had cut ½ an acre and stook it we had done a good day's work. I have mowed grass at 6/- per acre and I have threshed corn on the barn floor by hand with a threshel. I expect the generation of today would not know what a threshel was if they saw one and I am sure they would not know how to use one.

My father always told us "that hard work never hurt anyone, only those who did not like it"; he used to tell us "always go out to meet your work, never let it come to meet you or you will always be behind".

When we were first married, my wife's wage was 10^d a day on the farm from 8am until 5pm we had to pick the cherries at 1/6^d a side that was 60lb. but if you tell the young generation that, they say we had no brains in those days.

In 1968 my wife began to waste away, her memory failed her and she lost all interest, I did my best for her in every way, I kept her as long as ever I could, she was always a honest wife and a loving mother, but in the end I had to let her go into hospital. I visited her three times each week, and at the last week three times each day; then on Feb 17th 1969 she died and on Feb 20th I laid to rest the girl I first met in the strawberry field at Ankerdine Farm on June 15th 1912.

We had 53 years of happy married life together.
I go to her grave each day. Silently I stand and pray:

***"Oh God in heaven, all love divine
Look down upon this soul of mine
Comfort me, that I may be
One day with her, nearer my God to thee"***

Finis

Village Information

Church Officials:

Team Rector - Rev Anne Potter 01886 832355
Team Vicar - vacant
Assistant Priest - Rev Jennifer Whittaker 01886 833897
Churchwardens – Lower Teme Valley Parish
Rob Pearce 01886 821959
Peter Walker 01886 822137

Parish Councils

Broadwas & Cotheridge : www.broadwascotheridge-pc.gov.uk
Chairman – Richard Burrows
Clerk – Email : clerk@broadwascotheridge-pc.gov.uk
Knightwick & Doddenham
Clerk – Richard Timney 07515881231
Email : richardtimney@yahoo.com

Village Hall - Broadwas Georgina Tabberer, Chair,

Email : Broadwasvillagehall@outlook.com

Clubs and Societies

Broadwas Sports Assoc. Sec. - David Creed-Newton - 01886 880534
davidcreednewton@btinternet.com
Croquet Club – John Guy 01905 748192
Royal British Legion – Sue Ganderton 01905 422711
W.I. – Barbara Lloyd 01905 333635

Schools:

Broadwas C of E Primary School - Secretary 01886 821347
Bumblebees : Pre-school/Out-of-School Care 07817637241

Community Website - www.broadwas-cotheridge.com

Footprints Production Team

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