

Footprints

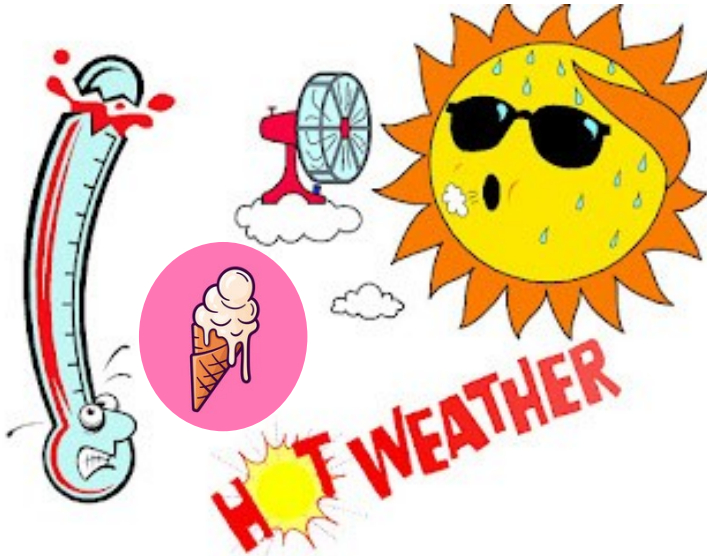
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August 2026.

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Copy by 15th of month, please..



Definitely a Heat Wave!! Though Coleen in California says they are having a cool summer at just 39C (102F in old money).

Funny? The way we still use old units in certain circumstances? With temperatures at the high end and the low end I tend to drop into Fahrenheit. Weights - Stones and pounds for human weights, lbs and ozs for cooking with an old recipe book. In the carpentry trade they still refer to a 2" x 4" though its cut to a "slightly smaller" metric size, but sheet materials are still made at 8 feet x 4 feet, with the thickness in mm.!! Tyre pressures, I think in "psi", but usually end up in "bars" when I get to the machine.

Monthly musings from Rev Anne (Team Rector)

In our local communities there are so many who volunteer in so many ways giving their time and energy to helping others. Therefore, I would like to suggest that this August we recognise those people and perhaps make a point of thanking them in whatever walk of life we meet them. You know the people to whom I am referring - the 'angels' who work quietly serving others in a variety of settings, from the local community shop, to giving transport when needed, to working tirelessly at the Foodbank, to offering a listening ear, to simply being there in a time of need.

In the April issue I wrote about spring flowers and so I thought I would share the following story which illustrates how in the ordinariness of our days we can give thanks and recognise the extraordinary effect of the smallest, yet meaningful words and actions.

Grace had worked at the little flower shop on the corner for nineteen years and she had a passion for the language of petals. Roses for love, lilies for sympathy, sunflowers for hope. Every morning, she arranged her blooms with quiet precision, her hands moving like a practiced waltz. Customers came and went, their gratitude often hurried, their eyes fixed on the flowers rather than the woman who coaxed them into beauty. Grace didn't mind—or at least, she told herself she didn't. Recognition was for grand gestures, not for the quiet work of keeping beauty alive.

One rainy Thursday, a young man entered, dripping water onto the tiled floor. He looked nervous, clutching a crumpled note. "I need... something special," he said. "For someone who's always been there for me, even when I didn't notice."

Grace gently smiled and began to work. She chose freesias for trust, daisies for loyalty, and a single white rose for gratitude. As she wrapped the bouquet, the man watched her hands, his expression softening. When she handed it to him, he hesitated. "You're Grace, right? My mother used to come here every week. She said you always remembered her name, even when she was sick and you made her feel special and seen."

Grace blinked, the ribbon in her fingers trembling. She murmured

“Your mother was... lovely.” The young man nodded. “She wanted me to thank you as my mother said you gave her more than flowers—you gave her dignity.”

When he left, the shop felt warmer, despite the rain. Grace stood for a long moment, her hands resting on the counter, the scent of freesias rising around her. For the first time in years, she felt the weight of her work—not as routine, but as something quietly extraordinary.

That evening, she locked the shop and walked home with a small bouquet of her own. Not for sale, but for her and in the soft rustle of petals, she heard the echo of a truth she had almost forgotten - even the smallest acts can bloom into something unforgettable.

Recognition is all about being appreciated for simply being there just as God is always there for us – even in those times when we may not see or feel his presence around us. We can be assured that in carrying out Jesus’ commandment to love one another as we share God’s love, in our words and actions, we are recognised, valued and eternally blessed.

With summer blessings

Rev Anne

*The Pastoral Team of Martley, Wichenford
and The Lower Teme Valley invite you to*

A TEA PARTY

When?

on Thursday 20th August 2026

Where?

At Martley Memorial Hall

at what time?

2.30-4pm

Do join us for a short act of worship, tea, savouries, cakes
and a chat with friends old and new.

ALL ARE MOST WELCOME.

Events Diary - August 2026

2 nd Sun	9.00am	Communion at Cotheridge Church Worship for All - not this month
3 rd Mon	11.00am	Royal British Legion meeting at Talbot Hotel
6 th Thurs	12-2.00pm	Lunch in Company - Martley Memorial Hall
9 th Sun	3.00pm	Evening Worship - Knightwick Chapel
12 th Wed	10.15am	Holy Communion at Heaton House
15 th Sat	1.00pm onwards	: Martley Summer Show
16 th Sun	10.00am	Café Church - St Peters, Martley
	10.30am	Holy Communion at Broadwas Church
20 th Thurs	2.30pm	Pastoral Tea Party - Martley Mem. Hall
23 rd Sun	10.30am	Morning Worship - Broadwas Church
26 th Wed	10.15am	Holy Communion at Heaton House
27 th Thurs	2.00 - 4.00pm	“Cuppa & Chat” - Cotheridge Church
30 th Sun	10.30am	Benefice Family Service at Cotheridge Church

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

POPPY DISPLAY FOR BROADWAS CHURCH

MEETING

Firstly, a huge ‘thank you’ to everyone who has been and continues to be involved in this project.

We now need to see how many poppies we have, the potential scale of the waterfall and plan the “making”. Everyone is invited to a meeting at 11.00am on Monday 24th August at Cotheridge Church. Refreshments provided.

If you are unable to attend but have any thoughts, please email me.

Many thanks

Elizabeth Hill

ehill473@gmail.com

Broadwas & Cotheridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 8th July at Broadwas Village Hall. It was a full agenda so here are some highlights:

Berryfields Recreation Area - progress with work funded through the MHDC Legacy Fund award.

Despite the very hot weather the contractors were able to complete the re surfacing of the car park, although due to the weather we had to keep it



closed for longer than planned. Many thanks to the school for making alternative arrangements during this time. There are some further associated works to be completed (topsoil and edging plus white lining and these will hopefully be completed by the end of August.

There are 2 further phases to be completed:

- replacement of fencing and signage (including new fencing around children's play area)

- Creation of a seating area and informal garden adjacent to where the container was sighted and some general landscaping.

The height restriction barrier sited on the school car park has finally been fixed at the expense of the Parish Council.

A44

The eagle eyed amongst us may have noticed that the County Council has implemented the works resulting from the Road Study they conducted in

response to the concerns repeatedly (then and since) raised by the Parish Council and others.

It might have been that some of us were hoping for a step forwards, however it does appear that the absolute minimum rule has been adhered to. So in case you did not notice in effect they have renewed the chevron signs, taken some road side marker posts away, moved others and installed some new ones. There also appear to have been some minor changes to road markings in places. On the Parish Council website there is summary of these changes.

The expectation may be that we should be grateful, but it is difficult to see how these changes come anywhere near addressing the concerns many parishioners have.

The Parish Council whilst not looking a gift horse in the mouth, together with Cllr's Fordington and Jones Williams remain committed to getting the County Council to come forward with proposals that will actually help reduce the risk of fatalities and improve conditions for those parishioners that live alongside and use the A44.

It remains the case that we feel that what would make some difference is as follows

- reduction and associated measures of the national speed limit between the 2 Cotheridge Village signs
- Introduction of speed reduction zones and associated measures to slow speed of traffic entering Broadwas from either side
- Consideration of changes to road layout and design at critical points in the parish.

Parishioners should feel free to contact ourselves or the County Council direct if they continue to be dissatisfied with the County Council's response especially in the light of 2 fatalities in the past year and regular accidents and incidents.

At the meeting the Parish Council agreed to begin some work on **preparing a plan about what we can do to help in the event of a major incident or emergency.**

We also agreed to pull together and review with a view to seeing if there is more the Parish Council and others could do to improve the condition of the **verges, footways (where these exist) and appearance generally.**

As with many things to do with Local Government simple solutions and arrangements tend not to be the rule of thumb, and verges etc are a good example of this. With the County Council being responsible for some things, the District and Parish Council for others and of course homeowners and landowners, as well. There are also legitimate environmental factors that have to be considered.

Hopefully all concerned will be clearer as a result and that we can help all concerned to reach standards and respond when there are issues. We are grateful for the efforts many homeowners and landowners make in playing their part, but clearly as this is an issue often raised with the Parish Council there is room for improvement by all concerned.

Back to spotting whats different - some may have noticed in Broadwas the **new signs at the end of Church Lane** and we thank the District Council for supplying and fitting these.

If anyone else feels there may be a case for putting up similar signs either because the existing ones are in a poor state or because there are none, then please contact the Clerk and we will see if this is possible. Hopefully the new signs in Church Lane will help all visitors (especially on line shopping deliveries) to get to where they need to be.

The Parish Council does not meet in August so will meet again on September 9th, 7pm St Leonards Cotheridge.

Richard Burrows
(Chair)

Charlie Brown - One-liners

Definition of a Friend : someone who says nice things about you when you aren't around.

The smile on my face doesn't mean I'm perfect. It means I appreciate what I have and what I am blessed with. I choose to be happy.

Village Information

Church Officials:

Team Rector - Rev Anne Potter 01886 832355
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 : richardtminney@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

Schools:

Broadwas C of E Primary School & Bumblebees Pre-School/Wrap
Care tel: 01886 821347
office@broadwas.worcs.sch.uk / broadwasbumblebees@msn.com

Community Website - www.broadwas-cotheridge.com

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