



Marden News & Views

September 2026



SEPTEMBER DIARY

1st	Mothers Union	Vivien's House	2:30pm
1st	Marden Wildlife Trust	Marden Church	7:30
5th	Repair Cafe	Marden Hub	10:00am-1:00pm
6th	Dog Show	Marden Church	2:00pm
9th	Marden Gardeners	New Parish Hall	7:00pm
10th	WI	Bodenham Hall	2:00pm
12th	Wildlife Trust Trip	Marden School	9:30am
15th	Marden Parish Council	New Parish Hall	7:30pm
19th	Yardbirds	Marden Church	10:00am-1:00pm
20th	Harvest Tea	Marden Church	4:00pm
23rd	Marden Arts and Crafts	Bodenham Hall	2:00pm

Advanced Notice October 2026

3rd	Repair Cafe	New Parish Hall	1:00am-1:00pm
6th	Marden Wildlife Trust	New Parish Hall	7:00pm

Parish Contacts

COUNTY COUNCILLOR		ASSOCIATIONS	
Peter Bryce Hamblin, Tel: 07792 880222 peter.hamblin@herefordshire.gov.uk		Afternoon Whist: Leader - Lesley Day	CLOSED
PARISH COUNCIL		Amberley Crafters: Sue Price	01432 882231
Parish Councillors		Art & Crafts: Wendy Steadman	01432 880203
Chairman: David Bennett 07702 582584 david.bennett@mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk		Brownies: Katy Brandwood	07527 689718
Vice Chairman: Kate Ryan 07980 310696 kate.ryan@mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk		Rainbows: Laura Marsh	07966 960708
Paula Barrett 07985 576230 paulabarrett942@hotmail.com		Guides: Alison Thomas	01432 880094
Mike Blake 07753 197718 mblake777@hotmail.com		Gardeners: Angela Sasso	01432 882102
Lesley Hayward 01432 801505 lesley.hayward@mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk		History Society: Lin McCoy	01432 880413
Rod Lees 01432 880679 rodlees1234@btinternet.com		Morse Bags: Wendy Steadman	01432 880203
Chris Morgan 01432 880449 chris@morgan-shack.co.uk		Marden Band of Ringers: Ian Thornewell mardenbells@outlook.com	
Richard Paske 07753 398435 richard.paske@mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk		Mothers Union: Penny Godfrey	01432 882101
		Pilates: Emma Caldwell	07971009691
		Playing Fields Booking: Steve Miles	01432 880976
		Pre-School: Paula Barrett	01432 880034
SAND BAGS: Andy Owens	07792 827184	Volunteers' List: Kate Ryan	01432 880369
Parish Clerk: Richard James Tel: 01432 683787 parish.clerk@mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk		Womens' Institute: Moira Thomas	01432 880143
Footpaths Officer: TBA		Wildlife Trust Marden: Jess Tidball	01568 797227
Tree Warden: Andrew Matthews	07973 837564		
COMMUNITY HALL		SPORTING ORGANISATIONS	
Booking Clerk: Mrs Chris Wathen	01432 311565	Badminton Club: TBA	
		Riding Club: Hollie Cartwright	07707 075285
		Tennis Club: David Bennett	07702 582584
NEWS AND VIEWS			
Doug Cross		TRAVEL INFORMATION	
Hilary Lees	01432 880679	Bus information: Call Traveline 7 day/week, 7:00am – 8:00pm	08712 002233
		Lugg Valley Travel (local buses)	01568 612759
CHURCHES		INNS	
St Mary's Parish Church		Amberley Arms:	CLOSED
Churchwarden: Jessica Tidball	01568 797227	Volunteer Inn:	CLOSED
J Tidball—Mobile	07983120580		
Churchwarden: Janet Hewlett	01432 880061	MARDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	
Church Library: Sandra Watkins	01432 880258	Head Teacher: Elizabeth Orton	01432 880208
Amberley Chapel			
Hon1 Churchwarden: Jo Erskine	07949527471	Police Safer Neighbourhood Team	101
Hon2 Churchwarden: Vivien Gumble	07842272928	Crime Stoppers	0800 555111
Marden Chapel			
Jill Brooks	01432 880583	S&A Produce	01432 880235
For changes and additions, please contact Doug Cross—Email: mardennewsandviews@hotmail.co.uk			

News & Views Monthly Picture Competition

The front page shows a picture of the Hawkstone Farmers Choir, winners of Britains got Talent. Andy Owen, thank you for putting Marden, Herefordshire on the map so to speak and a well done to all the members of the choir.

How to Contact News & Views

EDITORS:

Doug Cross: Email: mardennewsandviews@hotmail.co.uk

Hilary Lees: Rosemary Cottage, Marden, Herefordshire, HR1 3DX. 01432 880679.

Although, emailed contributions are preferred, hand written contributions are also accepted. Please address hand written contributions to 'The Editors' and deliver to Rosemary Cottage, Marden, Herefordshire, HR1 3DX

All articles must be submitted to the Editors no later than the 15th of each month to appear in the next edition of the Newsletter, **(that's the deadline, but there is absolutely nothing wrong with being early)**. Articles should be relevant to the parish. Subject to space being available, the Editors will always do their best to try and include all submitted articles.

TO ADVERTISE IN NEWS & VIEWS — contact the Editors.



MARDEN CHAPEL

SEPTEMBER SERVICES

EVERY SUNDAY AT 10AM

SUNDAY 6TH COMMUNION SERVICE

SUNDAY 13TH WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY 20TH WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY 27TH SHARING SERVICE

*Services last about 1 hour and
everyone is welcome*

For further details contact: Jill Brooks 01432 880583

Celebration of Patronal Banners

A lovely afternoon was spent at Amberley Church in July, celebrating the new banners depicting St Brigid & St James the Great.

Thankyou to all those who helped make it such a success and to all those who came and supported the church.

Special thanks go to Sue Price who first suggested the idea of creating the banners and played a huge part in carrying out the work.

Jo Erskine

General Data Protection Regulation

Marden Parish Council (PC) and Marden News & Views (N&V) are committed to safeguarding your personal data and complying with the rights of individuals under the GDPR. The PC Privacy Notice and other GDPR documents can be accessed on the website using this link <https://www.mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/data-protection-gdpr/>. Submitting an article or advertisement for publication or contacting N&V for any other reason, is taken as positive consent under GDPR for N&V to hold your data and for publication in hard copy and electronic form on the parish website. Such data will only be kept for purposes relating to N&V. Please contact us on mardennewsandviews@hotmail.co.uk or our usual telephone numbers if you want your data deleted.

Marden Arts and Crafts

After the summer break our meetings will resume in September when Pauline Ranson will be showing us how to paint on silk to produce attractive pictures which can be made into greetings cards. If you can, please bring a fine paint brush, a small container to hold water and a paint palette, jam jar lid or similar for mixing paint as well as an apron or overall to protect your clothes.

We look forward to seeing our members on Wednesday 23rd September at 2.00pm in Bodenham Parish Hall. Visitors are always very welcome to join us

Wendy Steadman

Marden Gardeners Club

As I write this in mid-August, it's certainly been a hot, HOT dry summer. Everyone is struggling to keep their gardens going this year. The phrase of the summer is "drought tolerant planting" – and I'm certainly going to plan on doing more of it. The "Tomato Report" is a dire disappointment despite the heat. Unlike the luscious tomatoes that grow so well in the American Midwest summers where I come from – I have hard little marbles this year. I only realised this summer that our common British tomato varieties were bred for short cool summers! The positive side of this is - more Beefsteak Tomatoes!

So, who doesn't like Free Plants? Join us for our next evening Gardener's Meeting where we welcome plantsman and Bodenham Garden Club President - David Griffiths - who will be giving us a "Masterclass on Plant Propagation". David will also be bringing along Plants for Sale!

TIME AND DATE: Wednesday 9th September 7pm

WHERE: I am very pleased to say that we will have our meeting in the new Marden Parish Hall – "The New Tin Shed"! Hooray! There is parking out front, but if it is full, don't forget you can also park at the school after hours – it's just a short walk away.

DON'T FORGET: We'll have a Single Stem Competition and there will be refreshments and a raffle! We welcome visitors for £3pp, so come along!

ADVANCE NOTICE: Next Meeting is Wednesday 14th October 7pm, New Marden Parish Hall.

Jo Weightman of the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust will be talking on "The Fascinating World of Funghi". It will be the last Single Stem Competition of the year with refreshments and a raffle.

"A garden is always a series of losses set against a few triumphs, like life itself."

May Sarton

Angela Sasso

Marden History Society

The History Society is currently not meeting. However, Lin McCoy can still be contacted for any enquiries regarding Marden Parish history.

Lin McCoy

Girlguiding News

Sutton Rainbows and Marden Brownies and Guides are looking forward to a challenging and exciting year. Brownies and Guides may well have a new meeting place soon!

I'm sure that you have seen the publicity about the new uniforms over the summer – they all look great and will be introduced gradually as girls grow and change sections. We were all involved in the design of the new uniform. We sent off our ideas to Girlguiding a couple of years ago, so everyone has had a chance to contribute. Even the leaders have a new uniform!

A big welcome to our new Rainbows, and those Rainbows and Brownies who have moved up to the next section. I'm sure you're all going to have a great time!

Sutton Rainbows and Marden Brownies are looking for some new members to join them!

If your daughter would like to join us, or you would like to volunteer to help us, you can register your interest on the Girlguiding website <https://girlguiding.org.uk> - just click on 'Register a Child' or 'Volunteer' and fill in your contact details.

Or contact our local groups directly for more information:

For Rainbows (Age 4-7) please contact Laura at Suttonrainbow@gmail.com

For Brownies (Age 7-10) please contact Katy at mardenbrownies1@outlook.com

For Guides (10 – 14) please contact Alison at mardenguides@outlook.com

Alison Thomas – Guide Leader

Marden WI

At our September meeting we shall be welcoming a speaker from The Little Princess Trust who provide free real hair wigs for children and young people who are facing hair loss.

We look forward to seeing members and visitors, as we resume our meetings after the summer break on Thursday 10th September at 2.00pm in Bodenham Parish Hall.

Moir Thomas

Bodenham Bowling Club

We have just one more friendly game to play on 12th September before the green finally closes for the season. The extreme heat has caused problems with the green, however we have managed to complete our programme of matches although some have been shortened due to the excess heat.

Several members took part in County competitions but were not fortunate enough to qualify for the championships at Leamington Spa this time.

We hope to continue our short mat games in Bodenham Parish Hall in October, so look out for further information in next month's newsletter.

Jean Fryer (Secretary) 01568 797338

Mothers' Union

See page 8

News from your Parish Church

St Mary the Virgin, Marden & the Amberley Chapel

Rector: Rev Paul Roberts (01568 797863) email: maundchurches@gmail.com
Churchwarden: Jess Tidball (01568 797227); jessicatidball70@outlook.com & Janet Hewlett on 01432 880061.

Amberley Hon. Churchwardens: Jo Erskine (01432 880821) & Viv Gumble (07842272928)



SERVICES

Church Sunday Services in September:

Sunday 6th 10.30am. **Morning Praise** Sides person: Sally. Psalm 145.8–15. Readers: Dave & Penny. Readings: Ezekiel 33.7–11; Psalm 119.33–40; *Romans 13.8–end; Matthew 18.15–20 Refreshments: Penny & John

Sunday 13th 11.15am. **Holy Communion**. Sides person Jean. Readers: Janet & Jess. Readings: Genesis 50.15–21. Romans 14.1–12 Matthew 18.21–35

Sunday 20th 3pm. **Family Harvest**. Sides: person Dave T. Readers: Jenny & Annie. Readings: Deut.8.7-18; 2 Corinth 9.6-15; Luke 12.16-30. followed by 4pm Harvest Tea.

Sunday 27th 11.15am. **Harvest at Amberley**. Readings: Deut.8.7-18; 2 Corinth 9.6-15; Luke 12.16-30.

Please note sometimes services and times are changed at the last minute due to a change of circumstances, so please check the church notice boards or phone the Churchwarden.

Marden Church 200 Club

The July draw took place at Amberley Chapel, the lucky winners were:

Place	Prize	Ticket No.	Winner
1st	£20	103	Angela Jones
2nd	£15	272	Keith Podmore
3rd	£12	122	Bryan Mahony
4th	£12	198	Mike Britten

Marden Church 200 Club

The August draw was held at the Cream Teas in Marden Church, the lucky winners were:

Place	Prize	Ticket No.	Winner
1st	£20	129	Margaret Minchin
2nd	£15	228	Margaret Locke
3rd	£12	218	HL
4th	£12	247	JR

Yardbirds

Saturday 19th September, 10am – 1pm.

New Volunteers are very welcome.

Contact Dave T: 07980 653118 or Dave L on 07931 427140

Churchwarden's News 2026

September is here but we have no rector/vicar and the Benefice and its churches will go into what is called an interregnum. There will be many meetings ahead with the PCCs and with the help of Mark Long, the Rural Dean and Derek Chezney, the Archdeacon steering us all in the right direction. This may take some time, at least up to a year before we have a new incumbent. We are all very grateful to Rev Paul for helping us by putting in place services and other aspects of church business that goes on throughout the year. The church will still function and with the help of retired clergy and lay persons the services will continue in the same way. The weekly updates will be coordinated by Jess Tidball and Jasmine Collins so any info that you wish to be in them, email them to myself jessicatidball70@outlook.com

Paul has been with us for many years and I could talk for hours about all the wonderful things he has done for us all. However, the main points being work with the young in services, schools in the parishes and the bringing together of the Benefice so that we support each other and work as a team. He will be a hard act to follow with his radiant personality, his flexibility and care for all. He and his family will be greatly missed but God has set us a challenge to find someone else to continue the good work and bring their personal touch to the spirit and love of God. On Sunday 23rd August he led his last service and a farewell bash was held afterwards to wish him well on his future journey in Herefordshire and beyond and to thank him for everything.

The church in Marden, will go on with the plans for changes inside the building and events. I would alongside my other churchwardens Janet, Jo and Vivien like to say a big thank you to all in our parish that help, give a support and encourage us all on our road ahead.

We would like to thank all of those who attended the Amberley Celebration in July and the Cream Teas at Marden throughout August and for all those wonderful helpers with the making and serving of the refreshments.

Jess T

Helping Hands in August:

Cleaning: Roger & Janet. **Flowers:** Kate M. Then Harvest Flowers for the 20th to put in either Friday 18th or Saturday 19th the church will be open from 10am.

Events at Marden Church: Sunday. 6th September Autumn Fayre and Dog Show starting at 2pm. If anyone has any small items to go on the Church Tombola Stall or a larger one for the Church Raffle please contact Jess T.

Sunday 20th September Harvest tea at 4pm following the Harvest Service at 3pm.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

The Wedding of Jessica Davies and Gabriel Ropez-Zackon took place on Saturday 22nd August at Marden Church. May they have a long and blessed marriage together.

The Baptism of Mia Margaret Dillon took place on Sunday 16th August and she was welcomed into the church.

DR ELLIE CHOWNS MP

Surgeries and Public Meetings September 2026



Bartestree Surgery



Friday 4th September 2026



8:40am - 11:00am

Appointment Only



Kington Surgery



Wednesday 30th September 2026



10:00am - 1:00pm

Appointment Only



Leominster Public Meeting



John Abel Room, Grange
Court, Leominster HR6 8NW



Thursday 17th September 2026



Refreshments from 6:15pm,
Q&A 7:00pm - 8:30pm

All Welcome



Bromyard Public Meeting



Queen Elizabeth High School,
Ashfield, Bromyard, HR7 4QS



Thursday 24th September 2026



Refreshments from 6:15pm,
Q&A 7:00pm - 8:30pm

All Welcome

To Book a Surgery Appointment
Surgeries are 1 to 1 meetings with Ellie



01568 630065



ellie.chowns.mp@parliament.uk

Mothers' Union

Marden MU branch will be meeting on Tuesday 1 September at 2.30 pm in Viv Gumble's house. She will be talking about the Hereford Food Bank. If anyone requires a lift, please contact Penny Godfrey (01432 882101).

Members from the branch attended the 150th anniversary service of the MU at Colwall Church (where Mary Sumner was married) on Sunday 9 August and the Marden MU banner was processed.

Penny Godfrey

New Parish Hall

Many of you visited the New Parish Hall at our open day at the end of August and saw for yourselves what a wonderful asset it will be for our community. Our hope is that the hall will be used all day, every day: the meeting rooms filled with bookings, and the lobby and café area busy with people dropping in, meeting friends, working, getting a little help with their computers, or simply enjoying a change of scenery. Once our premises licence comes through, we plan to open the lobby in the evenings as a weekly social space serving both alcoholic and soft drinks, as so many other community halls do so successfully.

The **Marden Links Hub** has moved from the room next to Streets hairdresser. For now, we are keeping to our usual times of each Wednesday and Friday, 2–4pm, but once we have settled in, we will add a third weekly session in the morning, and then a fourth. As soon as we have been inspected and given the go-ahead by Herefordshire Council, we will also be offering a light lunch on Wednesdays. To do this we need volunteers — so if you have a couple of hours to spare, enjoy a good chat and can make a great cup of tea, there has never been a better time to join us. We would love to have you!

The **Repair Café** will stay in the Hub room by Streets hairdresser for the time being. Having concentrated on moving the old community centre and Marden Links café furniture ready for the open day, we need a little more time to move all our remaining equipment across — and we wanted to let the new clubs and bookings settle before another big move.

Upcoming Repair café dates and location: Saturday 5th September and Saturday 3rd October, both in the current Hub room.

How to book: As usual, you can book online, by phone, by email, or in person at the Hub. www.marden-links.org/repair-cafe or phone 07980 310696

Our lovely and very well-used **Community Garden** will stay exactly as it is for everyone to enjoy. For now, the container will remain in place, as it provides very useful, clean, dry storage for the Repair Café and garden tools and equipment, as well as for the glasses and crockery we loan out to parishioners.

Hub Café every Wednesday & Friday 2-4 pm

Repair Café first Saturday of the month 10-1pm

Email; contact@marden-links.org

Website; www.marden-links.org

New Parish Hall Website www.mardenparishhall.org.uk

Community Wine Glasses

The Community Wine Glasses that were given for the use of Bodenham and Marden Parishes are now stored at Jess Tidball's. Therefore, if a community group needs them for an event please contact Jess Tidball on 01568 797227 or email: jessicatidball70@outlook.com

Gift Cards

As the name suggests, Gift Cards are a useful way to send a gift to a friend or relative. However, they are an equally handy way for Fraudster to extract money from an unsuspecting victim, and there is very little chance for a victim to get any reimbursement of the money lost.

What are the commonest types of Gift Card Frauds?

1. Emails claiming to be from Government Agencies such as HMRC, DVLA, or a Utility company demanding overdue payments with immediate reimbursement of the sums due by Gift Cards – would such an organisation really accept payment by Gift Card?
2. Urgent email or text from a person claiming to be a family member or friend by cloning their identity. They may spin out a hard luck excuse for a reason they cannot get out and buy the Gift Card themselves so ask you to purchase the card, then pass on the code off the back of the card to them. First, double check with that person by contacting them on a trusted number to make sure they had actually made that request.
3. Romance Fraud victims are often asked to send money via Gift Cards after the Fraudster has spun out some hard luck story to gain the victims sympathy, and once again asks them to then pass on the code off the back of the card.
4. Fake Prize Draws/ Competitions - you have won a major prize! You are then asked for a payment by Gift Card to cover the delivery costs of this fake prize, and once again your money is lost.

Always remember.

- The criminal does not need the actual card to redeem the money, just the code scratched off the back of the card
- Never make payments by Gift Card to someone you have never met
- Always check that the Card has not been tampered with when you purchase it and always ask for a receipt for the value of that card. Unscrupulous retailers may also switch the card at point of payment and hand over a valueless card.
- You can always report the fraud to the Gift Card company, but you are only likely to have any chance of reimbursement if the fraudsters have not used the card details and drawn down the funds using the code sent to them



Tell the police about cyber crime and fraud
Call 0300 123 2040



reportfraud.police.uk



DEFIBRILLATOR

The Marden defibrillator is located outside the
Marden Primary Academy

Sutton Walls Conservation Group–Woodland Plan

The Sutton Walls Woodland Management Plan is now available to view on the Sutton Walls website. www.suttonwalls.co.uk

Our next steps will be to commission a detailed programme of works for the next 10 years, together with a species management plan, so that work on managing the woodland can start.

This is an exciting new project which Trustees hope will promote woodland diversity while preserving the integrity of the Scheduled Monument and its associated archaeology, to manage diseased and damaged trees, and to maintain and enhance responsible public access and community involvement with the site

If you have any queries or observations about the WMP then please do contact us at: suttonwallscg@gmail.com

SWCG Trustees

'Timber-framed buildings in Herefordshire: with reference to buildings around Sutton St. Nicholas'.

A talk by Duncan James

Monday 28th September 2026

Duncan James is the leading expert on the county's timber-framed 'black and white' buildings with a new book being published in 2026. His talk will introduce Herefordshire's unique building styles and will reference black and white houses found across the county including examples from in and around Sutton.

7:30pm in Sutton St Nicholas Village Hall, Bayley Way, HR1 3SZ. Doors open at 7.00pm Entrance donation £3.00. Refreshments will be available. Cash only

Sutton Environment & History Group - **Judy Stevenson** -
richandjudy93@gmail.com 01432 880748

h.Art
herefordshire art week
5-13 September



Seek out more, feel inspired, browse, chat, make a purchase, discuss bespoke commissions, and indulge your creative self in workshops.

Go to h-art.org.uk to:

find out your **local guide pick up point** from late July. Download a **Guide** & maps. Contact us to get your paid for **posted guide**. Explore more about the artists and galleries and keep up to date with each artist on their **Artist** pages.

You can pick up a free guide

up to 50 miles radius of the county. Find them in TIC's, main Libraries, Arts centres/galleries, and main tourist attractions.

What's going on in Dore Abbey in September

September 5 - 13 H Art exhibition including 13 artists. Opening with a preview evening on Friday 4 September. The exhibition will be open during the evenings in conjunction with the concerts. There will be refreshments all day and during the intervals at the evening activities. See <https://www.doreabbeyarts.co.uk> for tickets.

September 4 - Violin and Piano Concert - Concert starts 19.00
Hungarian violinist Boglárka György accompanied by Amy Butler on the piano. Mozart, Bruno Walter, Gustav Mahler, Beethoven.

Tickets on the door - £10. Online tickets available from www.courtyard.org.uk/

September 5 - Paul Spicer's Choral Workshop -Haydn's Nelson Mass (Schott edition) Workshop from 10.00 to 18.00 Tickets £45 (students £22.50) for the day. Performance for the public at 17.00 Tickets for audience £5 on the door. More information, details and to book contact Isabelle George - george_j@btinternet.com

September 6 Harpist Concert – Concert starts at 18.00

Harpist - Anwen Mai Thomas will be playing a varied selection of music from her repertoire, including music by Smetana, Hasselmans and Welsh composer John Thomas. Find out more about Anwen - <https://anwenmai.harpist.wordpress.com/>

Tickets £15 on the door Contribution for Dore Abbey

September 9 - Silent movie evening with a live accompanist – Robert Peate

Silent Movie will start running at 19.00

Tickets £10 on the door Contribution for Dore Abbey

September 11 - Ceilidh led by a band of six. Supper is included in the ticket price.

Calling starts at 19.00

Tickets £20 on the door. Contributions for Parkinsons and Dore Abbey.

September 12 - local singer and multi-instrumentalist Imogen Bliss , will be performing a cycle of songs from various places and times, all focussing on nature and the earth as a direct celebration of the spark of divinity at the heart of life. Tickets £15 on the door. Contributions for Doctors without Borders - Médecins Sans Frontières.

For more information please contact **Carey Godwin** cjgbd@aol.com; 07970 07970 911115, or Dore Abbey Arts doreabbeyarts@gmail.com

Wanted—Marden News & Views Deliverers

We need help delivering our wonderful Parish magazine.



If you have time to spare and would like to help, please contact Hilary Lees: Rosemary Cottage, Marden, Herefordshire, HR1 3DX. 01432 880679 or send an email to mardennewsandviews@hotmail.co.uk

Marden Branch of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

The September meeting will take place on Tuesday 1st at Marden Church HR1 3EN, 7.30pm start in church, for a talk by "Herefordshire's Batman", James Bisset, with refreshments. This is then followed by a walk outside to find and identify the bat species around. Donations are optional and will go towards purchasing more bat boxes for the churchyard. Wear appropriate clothing.

There is a visit to The Newport RSPB nature reserve by coach on 12th September. There are still places on the coach. Cost 19.50 each. Come for a great day out. Meeting to leave at 9am Hereford and 9.30am at Marden School. More info contact Jess.

The October meeting will be at the Jubilee Room at Queenswood. If you are not registered with your car at HWT please let Jess have your number plate for free parking. Our resident artist Richard Bavin is showing us an exhibition that is on all week about 'Black Poplars'

Donations as usual. £3 members £4 non-members of HWT. For more information contact: Jess on 01568797227 or WhatsApp on 07983120580 or email: jessicatidball70@outlook.com or Gwyneth on mardenhwt@icloud.com

The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust on 01432 356872, email - enquiries@herefordshirewt.co.uk, visit www.herefordshirewt.org, or visit 'Queenswood' Country Park and Arboretum, Dinmore Hill, Leominster, HR6 0PY
Jessica Tidball, Chair Marden Branch



Don't throw your broken items away, let us see if we can repair them?

1st Saturday of the Month - 10.00am – 1.00pm

We have a team of volunteer repair experts on hand who are keen to repair:

- ☐ household goods ☐ tool sharpening ☐ electronics ☐
- ☐ toys ☐ garden tools (exc. ones with petrol engines) ☐
- ☐ electrical appliances ☐ furniture/wooden objects ☐
- ☐ clothing/textile repairs ☐ ceramics and much more ☐....

Enjoy a drink, homemade cake and a chat while you wait

**To book: www.marden-links.org/repair-cafe/
or email: repair.cafe@marden-links.org**

Wildside 2026

Come September the summer should be coming to an end. However, as I write we have another heat wave. The wildlife is suffering in the drought. Trees are dying, losing leaves under great stress, so that branches become brittle and are likely to crack and fall. The fields and verges are yellow with many flowers over and gone to seed. Most of my garden looks dead with only some areas surviving, as we have had to limit the water use. The dryness has sparked off wild fires in the UK and Europe, which have devastated moorlands and forests and animal, plant and human lives have been lost. I was told in France, as deer leapt out of the burning forests, the firemen helped by dampening them down with sprays of water to cool them. There is food for the seed eating birds but the herbivores are starving and deer are being found dead of possible starvation and dehydration. My apples are falling, so I am leaving them on the ground for the birds and others. Many of us are leaving water down for all. It must be clean and bowls cleaned out weekly. Our pond was low, but our reclaim tank underground had water in, so we were able to top up, leaving happy water boatmen and other critters. If you top up with tap water it must stand for a few days to reduce the chemicals in it before replenishing the pond.

Our wildlife watchers have been busy this summer and on the Lugg a Kingfisher has been spied fishing. A wonderful splash of blue. Even if the Lugg is low, the fish are surviving for the moment. In July volunteers with HWT were counting butterflies and many beauties have been seen in great numbers. At the moment of writing I have spotted many in the garden. In France I saw amazing examples of butterflies, many the same as here, such as, common blues and whites. I did have the pleasure of spotting a Swallow Tail, a large butterfly that has yellow and black chequered wings with pointed ends, hence its name. The rear of the wings having a row of blue dots and at the central edges reddish/ orange spots. They are native to the UK, but not here unfortunately, as they are mostly on the east side in the Fenlands. Their caterpillars gorge on milk parsley that is prolific there. However, there are butterflies and moths that have appeared as rare sightings in Herefordshire. Our local watchers have seen many Humming Bee Moths, that are plentiful in Europe, but not common around here. They are fascinating to watch as they move at great speed from flower to flower with their great proboscis searching for nectar.

We will now approach autumn and hopefully lots of moderate rain to replenish the ground and water reserves as heavy rain runs straight off hardened ground and causes flash floods.

JT August 2026

jessicatidball70@outlook.com

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85th Birthday

A very big thank you to all who came to help me celebrate my 85th Birthday. I cant believe that you all knew in early March and not one of you let the cat out of the bag.
It was a lovely to see you all. Thank you for all my lovely cards and presents.
A very big thank you to all my family for all their hard work.

Love to you all

Rex Jordan

Thank you

I would like to extend my most grateful thanks to all the Marden villagers who have sent cards and condolences to me on hearing of June's sudden and unexpected death. I am equally grateful because it was instant and painless in my presence.
Many villagers did not even know June because of her private manner despite our 58 year tenure at 22 Orchard Green. She would have been 90 in October.

Colin Bates

Leominster Vintage Club

To the residents of Marden village and surrounding area. I am writing on behalf of the Leominster Vintage Club who held a vintage rally at Nash Hill on the weekend of the 11th & 12th July 2026.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the event and helped us to raise over £500for the charity Riding for the Disabled Association.

I would also like to thank S&A Davies for their sponsorship and donation of strawberries, and Beacon Foods for their sponsorship.

I give my apologies for any noise disturbance on Saturday night as we were screening the England football match.

Yours Sincerely

Ben Aubrey

(Chairman Leominster Vintage Club)

Wellington Charities

A talk at Wellington Parish History Society by Gill Bullock, 24th September 7.30pm at Wellington Community Centre HR4 8AZ. 07377 728822. £3 for visitors. Messrs Nott and Perrott, bread charities and the tumbledown Turks House.

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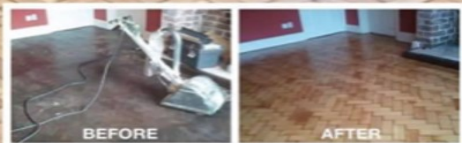
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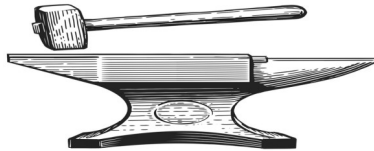
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- Local police Safer Neighbourhood Team – Email herefordrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk or ring 101
- The Rural & Business Crime Team consists of Sarah Smith, John Meek & Paul Crumpton, who work across Herefordshire as part of a larger dedicated problem solving team supported, not just by Special Constables and volunteers but also by members of the public. Their message to you is: *“Please, please, please report suspicious activity, people or vehicles. No matter how insignificant you might think it is, if it is suspicious to you, it probably is so let us know at the time.”*
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