



Marden News & Views

October 2026



OCTOBER DIARY

3rd	Repair Cafe	Marden Hub	10:00am-1:00pm
6th	Mothers Union	Marden Church	2:30pm
6th	Marden Wildlife Trust	Queenswood	7:00pm
8th	WI	Bodenham Hall	2:00pm
9th	Amberley Harvest Supper	New Parish Hall	7:00pm
14th	Marden Gardeners	New Parish Hall	7:00pm
17th	Litter Pick	New Parish Hall	10:00am
17th	Yardbirds	Marden Church	10:00am-1:00pm
17th	Coffee Morning	Marden Church	10:30-12:00noon
20th	Parish Council Meeting	New Parish Hall	7:30pm
28th	Marden Arts and Crafts	Bodenham Hall	2:00pm
29th	Flicks in the Sticks	New Parish Hall	5:45pm

Advanced Notice November 2026

2nd	Free Digital Skills Training	New Parish Hall	10am-12.30pm
3rd	Marden Wildlife Trust	New Parish Hall	7:00pm
7th	Repair Cafe	New Parish Hall	10:00am-1:00pm
7th	Quiz Night	New Parish Hall	7:00pm
9th	Free Digital Skills Training	New Parish Hall	10am-12.30pm
16th	Free Digital Skills Training	New Parish Hall	10am-12.30pm

News & Views Monthly Picture Competition

The picture on the front page was taken by Carol Panniers whilst walking the fields around Marden.

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**

**OCTOBER
SERVICES**

EVERY SUNDAY AT 10AM

SUNDAY 4TH	COMMUNION SERVICE
SUNDAY 11TH	HARVEST SERVICE
SUNDAY 18TH	WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY 25TH	SHARING SERVICE

Services last about 1 hour and everyone is welcome

For further details contact: Jill Brooks 01432 880583

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7.30pm Saturday 17/10/26
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Marden Arts and Crafts

At our October meeting, Ros Hesbrook will be introducing us to Kawanda Quilting and showing us how to make a coaster using this technique. Members need to bring a sewing kit including scissors, pins and a sharp needle which will be able to go through several layers of fabric and with an eye which will take 3 strands of embroidery cotton. There will be fabric and stranded thread for members to use but you can bring your own if you have a colour scheme in mind.

We look forward to seeing our members on Wednesday 28th October at 2.00pm in Bodenham Parish Hall. Visitors are always very welcome to join us at any of our meetings.

Wendy Steadman

Marden Gardeners Club

The September Meeting took place in the new Marden Parish Hall. Plantsman David Griffiths gave us a talk on propagation methods and the overriding message was: "just have a go". David also bought a selection of plants for sale that he had grown. Many thanks to David for demystifying this topic.

For our October meeting we will be welcoming Jo Weightman from Herefordshire Wildlife Trust who will be giving us a talk on the Fascinating World of Fungi.

TIME AND DATE: Wednesday 14th October 7 pm

WHERE: new Marden Parish Hall

DON'T FORGET: there will be a single stem competition (the last of the year), raffle and refreshments.

Visitors are always welcome for £3 pp.

"Just as the creation of a garden is a continuous process going on through the years, so the enjoyment of it grows with time." Douglas Swinscrow

Mothers' Union

We will be holding a Harvest Communion Service on Tuesday 6 October 2026 at 2.30 pm in St Mary's Church, Marden, with Rev Penny Littlewood as our celebrant. A collection for the Hereford Food Bank (tinned goods, toiletries, dog food, etc) will be taken. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Please remember that this service is open to all – male or female/young or old/MU member or non-member. Everyone is welcome. The theme for the MU in our 150th year is 'Join Us; Join In' – so, we hope to see you there.

We also have to report the sad news that Rev Alison Leigh died on 9 September. She had been long-serving and devout member of the Branch and we will miss her dearly. Her funeral took place on 28 September.

Penny Godfrey

Girlguiding News

Sutton Rainbows and Marden Brownies and Guides are looking forward to an exciting year. The Brownies and Guides will be moving to Sutton St Nicholas village hall, to join the Rainbows. We are all looking forward to getting to know our new home. We will still be keeping our names though and will be contributing to community events in both Marden and Sutton.

We have all sorts of adventures planned for this year, with a cinema trip at Christmas, Guide camp next year and lots of other things in the pipeline – together with our weekly activities!

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 October meeting we shall be welcoming local farmer, Richard Thomas, who will be telling us about "A Year in the Life of a Farmer". Richard's farm is at Stoke Prior and he will be telling us about the ups and downs of modern farming and the ways in which he is attempting to make life easier, including the ways in which he looks after his livestock.

We look forward to welcoming our members and visitors to the meeting on Thursday 8th October at 2.00pm in Bodenham Parish Hall.

Moir Thomas

Bodenham Bowling Club

The green at Siward James Centre is now closed for the winter and will re-open in April next year. We look forward to our annual lunch when winners of our club competitions will receive their trophies.

In the meantime we have our short mat season in Bodenham Parish Hall commencing Wednesday 7th October at 2pm until 4pm and every 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month until March next year. If you are interested in joining us why not come along to one of our sessions and find out more, you will be most welcome.

Jean Fryer (Secretary) 01568 797338

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 October:

Sunday 4th, 10.30 Morning Praise Trinity 18. Sides person: Sally.

Readers: Dave & Brian. Readings: Isaiah 5.1–7. Philippians 3.4b–14. Matthew 21.33–end. Refreshments: Margaret & Brian.

Sunday 11th, 11.15 Holy Communion: Trinity 19. Sides person: Jean.

Readers: Janet & Jess. Readings: Isaiah 25.1–9. Philippians 4.1–9. Matthew 22.1–14.

Sunday 18th, 11.15 Holy Communion Luke. Sides person: Roger. Readers:

Jenny & Penny. Readings: Isaiah 35.3–62. Timothy 4.5–17. Luke 10.1–9.

Sunday 25th, Amberley 9.30 Holy Communion Last after Trinity. Readings:

Leviticus 19.1–2, 15–18. 1 Thessalonians 2.1–8 Matthew 22.34–end.

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 September draw took place at the Autumn Fayre and Dog Show, the lucky winners were:

Place	Prize	Ticket No.	Winner
1st	£20	219	Ed Skyrme
2nd	£15	37	HL
3rd	£12	6	KP
4th	£12	295	Caroline Stretton

Helping Hands in October:

Cleaning: Margaret & Brian. **Flowers:** Jess

Events at Marden Church: Coffee Morning 10.30 – 12 Saturday 17th October

Harvest Supper Friday 9th October 7 for 7.30pm tickets £12 bought in advance for Amberley contact Jo E.

Yardbirds

Saturday 17th October, 10am – 1pm.

New Volunteers are very welcome.

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

Churchwarden's News 2026

As we head into October and Autumn we must be alert to heavy rain and flooding as we approach winter. If the parish church in Marden floods services will be moved to our smaller church at Amberley. August was the month when we said goodbye to Rev Paul Roberts as he started his new job at All Saints, Hereford in September. We have started putting together ideas for a new Rector of the Benefice. One meeting has already taken place with PCCs of the Benefice; with Derek Chezney, the Archdeacon and Revd Mark Long our Rural Dean, who throughout the interregnum will be the Priest in Charge. We have been blessed by having services led by trained lay people and retired clergy who will be supported by the Diocese.

Back in early 2000s we had retired clergy who moved into Marden and were licensed by the then Bishop, to be able to take services in 2002. One priest was Revd Alison Leigh, who alongside her late husband Roy, took part in Marden services and other aspects of parish life. After Roy died, Alison developed a form of dementia that gradually led to her being unable to lead services, visit the school and all the other events, that she enjoyed so much over the years. One event Alison used to love was the Autumn Fayre and Dog Show, where she and her dog Lucy and then after Lucy, Pippa, always took part. They always came away with rosettes with their speciality being 'Musical Mats'. Alison also organised the Crib Services with the finale creating as much noise as possible with a rendition of the Calypso Carol. We have continued this and will do so in her memory. Alison came to this September's event and had a great afternoon chatting with dogs and their owners. Unfortunately the following week she passed away. She was well remembered at her funeral. Alison did so much for Marden and she was a lady of love and fun and may she rest in peace and be reunited with all those she loved that went before her. God Bless her.

Jess T & J Hewlett

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

The funeral took place of Revd Alison Leigh on Monday 28th September. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

Marden Church Library

Why not cuddle up with a good read. We have a good range of fiction and non-fiction books to suit everyone. You can borrow or buy.

Or you can tackle one of our jigsaws.

We are open when the church opens at 10am subject to a church service.

All are welcome.

Sandra Watkins

St Brigid & St James' Church, Amberley

Harvest Supper

@ Marden Parish Hall

'The New Tin Shed'

Friday 9th October 6.30pm for 7pm

*A tasty Pulled Pork Roll with all the trimmings
or Beef or Vegetarian Chilli with Jacket Potato
followed by a flavoursome homemade
fruit based dessert with cream.*

*Choices need to be made in advance,
at time of purchase of tickets*

Tickets £12

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Ruth Rogers

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Please bring your own drink

HEREFORDSHIRE
Historic Churches Trust



Annual Coffee Morning and grant making surgery

The Haywain, Lyde Arundel, Hereford, HR4 7SL on the 29th October starting at
10am—12noon

All welcome, please bring friends. Meet Trustees & Diocesan Representatives.

Cakes & Produce stall. Raffle.

(Please use the entrance off A4110)

No entry fee—Donations welcome

New Parish Hall

We are settling in well to the new hall and slowly adding the finishing touches to the building. Bookings are being made by a range of people, and we have several groups book to look around with a view to booking. We are having some initial teething problems with the online booking system, so please bear with us whilst the volunteers learn the new systems. Let us know if you need help with a booking, we would be happy to help.

We have our very first Flicks in the Sticks event planned for half term, with a great family-friendly seasonal film, Grow (PG) – a first for Marden. We hope to show films every month, so do let us know if you have any favourites you'd like screened. This will be followed by the ever-popular Quiz Night on 7th November.

If you haven't managed to see inside the hall yet, pop in on any Wednesday or Friday afternoon and the Hub team will be pleased to give you a tour.

The hall website is www.mardenparishhall.org.uk

Marden Links Hub

The move of Marden Links Parish Hub from the room next to Streets hairdresser to the New Tin Shed has proved popular with visitors and volunteers. It has a lovely fresh, airy feel and much more space than our previous home. For now, we are keeping to our usual times of each Wednesday and Friday, 2–4pm. Join us for great tea, coffee and homemade cakes.

Coming up in November, we are hosting a series of free digital skills training sessions run by AbilityNet, covering 'staying safe online and avoiding scams', 'getting to know your mobile phone', and 'an introduction to AI'. Book your place at the Hub, or by phone or email.

Repair Café

Our October repair café will again take place in the Hub room by Streets hairdresser. November onwards we will move to the New Tin Shed. We will have more space and will be able to accommodate even more repairs. Book in your garden tools to be sharpened ready for an autumn garden reset.

Upcoming Repair Café dates and location: Saturday 3rd October – in the old Hub room by Streets hairdresser. Saturday 7th November – at the New Tin Shed.

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

Community Garden

Like many gardens in the Parish our community garden is looking a little worse for wear after the long dry summer. Our next volunteer garden tidy up day will hopefully restore some order. If you would like to help in the garden anytime you would be very welcome, let us know and we can keep you posted of future dates.

Marden Links Parish Hub news, continued on page 10



Flicks in the Sticks

at

The New Tin Shed





Family film (PG)

Adults	£5.00
Under 18's	£3.50
Family Ticket	£15.00

(2 adults, 3 children)

Sweet or salty popcorn,
Drinks, Ice-creams available to buy



Thursday 29th October

Doors Open 5.45

Film starts at 6pm

a polished pumpkin growing caper stuffed with perky charm
and comedy talent. A touching, uplifting, and sweet film

IMDb 6/10 Rotten Tomatoes 93%

Marden Links Parish Hub news continued from page 9

We are also looking for someone to take over the planting, watering and maintenance of the various planters around the village (by the bus stops at the minimarket and the end of Rudge Grove).

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

Sutton Walls Conservation Group

The AGM of Sutton Walls Conservation Group will take place on Thursday 22nd October at 2 pm at Sutton St Nicholas Village Hall. All welcome.

Sutton Walls Conservation Group and Sutton Environment & History Group

The Wildlife of the Walls: A Talk by Stuart Moore on November 3rd

Stuart Moore's presentation will look at the range of species on and around Sutton Walls hillfort. Stuart is a resident of Sutton St Nicholas and has been undertaking monitoring and surveys of the flora and fauna of Sutton Walls over the past five years including bat and moth surveys. Join us for what promises to be a very interesting talk.

Tuesday November 3rd - doors open at 7.00pm talk starts at 7:30pm. Sutton St Nicholas Village Hall, Bayley Way, HR1 3SZ. Entrance £3.00. Refreshments will be available and there will be a Raffle. Cash only please.

A joint event by Sutton Walls Conservation Group and Sutton Environment & History Group.

Contact Judy Stevenson 01432 880748 richandjudy93@gmail.com or Jane Keating at suttonwallscg@gmail.com for more details





Free Digital Skills Training!

Build confidence with your phone or tablet
Free group sessions with Richard from AbilityNet at the Marden Parish Hall from 10 - 12:30pm on

Mon 2nd November - Staying Safe Online & Avoid Scams
Mon 9th November - Getting to know your mobile phone
Mon 16th November - An introduction to AI

To book your place, please contact Kate Ryan or send an email to contact@marden-links.org





DEFIBRILLATOR

The Marden defibrillator is located outside the
Marden Primary Academy

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 October meeting on Tuesday 6th in the Jubilee Room at Queenswood Country Park Dinmore Hill for a 7.00pm start. Our resident artist Richard Bavin is talking about & showing us an exhibition about 'Black Poplars'. There will be refreshments available. Donations are optional and will go towards The Native Black Poplar Project

If you are not registered with your car at Queenswood please let Jess have your number plate for free parking for this evening.

The Advanced notice for November 3rd will be in Marden Parish Hall (It's new) With a talk by Mike Henderson on 'Encounters with Polar Bears and Friends'

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

The autumn appears to be coming early as the evening temperatures start to fall and so do the leaves following the dry summer. Exploring some of the nature reserves around here is always a pleasure as there are so many around the County and all differ in their geology and ecology. Some of our local wildlife team attended a training course for HWT branches up at Birches Farm near Kington. We had a guided walk around the meadows and in one, there were many crocus like flowers in bloom, with no leaves, poking out of the grass. These were meadow saffron, which according to the Wildlife Trust is a plant of damp hay meadows, woodland rides and clearings. It is a colchicum so it is not a crocus although sometimes it is known as the Autumn Crocus, or because it appears with no leaves, Naked Ladies. The leaves appear in the spring but die down when hay is made and the flowers appear after the hay has been cut. This is just as well as the plant is very toxic so the grazing of animals can be precarious. It is an attractive flower of pale purple petals with a bright yellow centre. I then looked in my garden and the natural cyclamens are very similar. No leaves at this time of year, but masses of pale purple flowers. They seem to have spread after this hot summer. However, I did notice in the spring that their variegated leaves were everywhere. So I thought how do they spread? A friend and wildlife colleague told me its all down to ants. The fruit of the cyclamen is like a round pod that opens to produce masses of brown sticky seeds. The ants then eat the sticky coverings, then discard the seeds. Wow, how amazing is nature. Not only do ants provide food for green woodpeckers but they help sow seeds too. My garden is full of ant hills especially under the clumps of grass and in the mini meadow. Once cut it will allow the woodpeckers to come and gorge on the ants.

As we have not been feeding birds this summer (to try and reduce the spread of disease), the birds have been more elusive. Commenting on their antics has been harder. Luckily there have been more insects, larvae and seeds to feed them this year and my garden and many hedgerows are now full of berries. Jenny wren has been popping around and the robin too but I have really missed the blue tit, great tit and woodpeckers, but I am sure they will be back.

Cameras set up in local gardens have revealed quite a few hedgehog, deer, foxes and badger in built up areas nearby. I even found an owl pellet in my garden. As for bats, there are many species around as we discovered with the bat detectors at Marden church in September. You never know what is lurking in the undergrowth or flying above.

JT September 2026, jessicatidball70@outlook.com

Welsh Water Phone Number

Welsh Water Emergency Operations. Leaks, Blockages (incl. blocked drains), etc. can be reported on:

Freephone 0800 052 0130



Throughout the year, rain or shine, Janet Peacock is a familiar figure walking around our village. When Macmillan Cancer Support issued a national challenge to raise money for their cause by walking 100 miles in August, Janet signed up immediately. Not only did she more than double the target by achieving 242.66 miles but completed it in just twelve days in punishing heat during the early part of the month. So far she has raised an amazing £1,050 donated by sixty six contributors and received a commemorative medal and a T-shirt. Well done, Janet! Many congratulations from us all.

Susan Addis

MARDEN SCARECROW TRAIL

24TH OCTOBER-1ST NOVEMBER

We are looking for villagers willing to display a scarecrow in any design they like (does not have to be Halloween themed) and have it ready outside your home by 23rd October

Come along and find all the scarecrows around the village and collect a prize at the end. Maps for £1 can be bought from Farmer John's Shop and Marden Mini Market. Call/text 07500 626267 or email mardenptfa@yahoo.com, if you would like to display a scarecrow.

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to spare?**



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DOG GROOMING

MARDEN,
HEREFORDSHIRE

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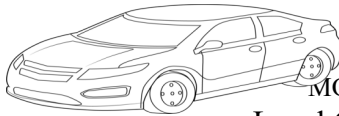
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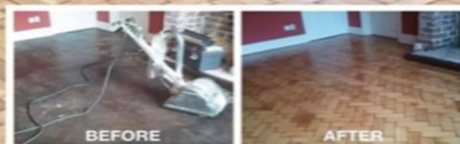
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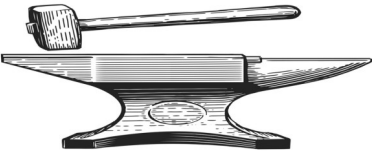
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- To report potholes or drainage problems with roads – Ring 01432 261800 or go to https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads/190/report_problems_on_the_road
- To find out about local roadworks – Check the parish website or go to <https://roadworks.org>
- To contact the Parish Clerk – Email parish.clerk@mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk or ring 01432 683787
- The parish website is www.mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk
- 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.”*
- For a confidential conversation with Sarah, John or Paul contact them directly on:
PC John Meek 07773 044234 or john.meek@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
PC Sarah Smith 07773 047243 or sarah.smith@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
Paul Crumpton 07773 044781 or paul.crumpton@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
- Reporting an incident of bad/dangerous driving, you can report it online at the time or soon after and upload a photo or video that includes the number plate details to <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/police-forces/west-mercia-police/areas/west-mercia/campaigns/campaigns/2019/operation-snap/>
- If a road is blocked by such an incident, you need to report it at the time to 101. Submitting data to Operation Snap requires you to give your personal details and agree to go to court if required. However, only 1-2% of reported offences actually go to a court case, in most cases a driver improvement course or fixed penalty notice will be issued.
- For a persistent nuisance problem caused by smoke/bonfires or sewage problems, contact Herefordshire Council online at https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/50/contact_us or ring 01432 260000. **All such issues need to be reported at the time of the issue**
- If you have problems with sewage contamination of drains or roads, please **report it at the time** to Herefordshire’s Community Protection team on 01432 260000 and the Environment Agency incident hotline on 0800 807060

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