



Marden News & Views

November 2026



NOVEMBER DIARY

3rd	Mothers Union	Nash Hill	2:30pm
3rd	Marden Wildlife Trust	New Parish Hall	7:00pm
3rd	Sutton Walls Conservation Group	Sutton Village Hall	7:00pm
7th	Repair Cafe	New Parish Hall	10:00am-1:00pm
7th	Quiz	New Parish Hall	7:00pm
11th	Marden Gardeners	New Parish Hall	7:00pm
12th	WI	Bodenham Hall	2:00pm
14th	Yardbirds	Marden Church	10:00am-1:00pm
17th	Parish Council Meeting	New Parish Hall	7:30pm
21st	Christmas Bazaar	New Parish Hall	2:00pm-4:00pm
25th	Marden Arts and Crafts	Bodenham Hall	2:00pm
29th	Flicks in the Sticks	New Parish Hall	5:45pm

Advanced Notice December 2026

2nd	Marden Wildlife Trust, Christmas lunch		12.30pm
5th	Repair Café	New Parish Hall	10:00am-1:00pm

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: TBA	
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
		Volunteers' List: Kate Ryan	01432 880369
		Womens' Institute: Moira Thomas	01432 880143
		Wildlife Trust Marden: Jess Tidball	01568 797227
SAND BAGS: Andy Owens	07792 827184	SPORTING ORGANISATIONS	
Parish Clerk: Richard James Tel: 01432 683787 parish.clerk@mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk		Badminton Club: TBA	
Footpaths Officer: Kieran Merrick		Riding Club: Hollie Cartwright	07707 075285
		Tennis Club: David Bennett	07702 582584
Tree Warden: Andrew Matthews	07973 837564	TRAVEL INFORMATION	
COMMUNITY HALL		Bus information: Call Traveline 7 day/week, 7:00am – 8:00pm	08712 002233
Booking Clerk: Mrs Chris Wathen	01432 311565	Lugg Valley Travel (local buses)	01568 612759
		INNS	
		Amberley Arms:	CLOSED
		Volunteer Inn:	CLOSED
NEWS AND VIEWS		MARDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	
Doug Cross		Head Teacher: Elizabeth Orton	01432 880208
		Police Safer Neighbourhood Team	101
		Crime Stoppers	0800 555111
		S&A Produce	01432 880235
CHURCHES			
St Mary's Parish Church			
Churchwarden: Jessica Tidball	01568 797227		
J Tidball—Mobile	07983120580		
Churchwarden: Janet Hewlett	01432 880061		
Church Library: Sandra Watkins	01432 880258		
Amberley Chapel			
Hon1 Churchwarden: Jo Erskine	07949527471		
Hon2 Churchwarden: Vivien Gumble	07842272928		
Marden Chapel			
Jill Brooks	01432 880583		
For changes and additions, please contact Doug Cross—Email: mardennewsandviews@hotmail.co.uk			

News & Views Monthly Picture Competition

The picture on the front page of Jim Jenkyn was provided by Mike Steadman. Please see page 15 for the narrative. Congratulations Jim!

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

NOVEMBER SERVICES

EVERY SUNDAY AT 10AM

SUNDAY 1ST	COMMUNION SERVICE
SUNDAY 8TH	WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY 15TH	WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY 22ND	WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY 29TH	SHARING SERVICE

*Services last about 1 hour and
everyone is welcome*

For further details contact: Jill Brooks 01432 880583

MARDEN PARISH TRUST
Presents
QUIZ NIGHT
Sharpen your pencils
& brush up your trivia

Saturday,
7th November 7pm

at the New Tin Shed
School Field Place
Marden

£3
per person
including
Nibbles
BYO

Max 4 per team
To book your team,
Phone Sue or Andrew 882231
www.mardenparishhall.org.uk

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

“Seeing Stars” is the theme for our November meeting when we shall be making stars using a variety of techniques. Please bring a basic sewing kit and scissors with you to the meeting on Wednesday 25th November at 2.00pm in Bodenham Parish Hall. We look forward to seeing you.

A reminder that this will be our last meeting before Christmas as we do not meet in December. Our meetings will resume on Wednesday 27th January 2027. This will be a short AGM followed by refreshments and “Bring what you are working on” and a “Show and Tell” session.

Wendy Steadman

Bodenham Bowling Club

As time rolls on towards the end of the year, we have enjoyed our end of season lunch with trophies presented to worthy winners and had our AGM when positive decisions were made regarding next year’s season.

Our short mat games continue on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in the month from 2 – 4pm at Bodenham Parish Hall and we are pleased to welcome three new people who came along to our opening meeting. If you are considering taking up a new interest come along to one of our Wednesday afternoon sessions and find out more!

Jean Fryer (Secretary) 01568 797338

Marden Gardeners Club

The next meeting of the Marden Gardeners will be Wednesday 11th November 7pm in “The New Tin Shed”. On the agenda will be the Annual General Meeting where we will elect new officers for 2027 and our Annual Gardener’s Quiz with Drinks and Nibbles. If you are interested in becoming an Officer or a member of the Committee, please let Jan or myself know.

We’ll also be handing out the new Programme for 2027 – just a reminder – we’re going back to our regular Tuesdays.

In our November meeting we’ll also have the sign-up sheet for the Annual Christmas Lunch. The date is Wednesday 9th December, and will be held at the Fisherman’s Arms – and per usual, a £10 deposit per person is required. Philip will be emailing out the menu for the meal. You can bring cash to the November meeting or drop an envelope into Philip’s post box which is “Stonewell” and is located at the corner of Laystone Green and Orchard Green.

ADVANCE NOTICE: Our first meeting for 2027 will be on Saturday 9th January 2pm at “The New Tin Shed”. Our guest will be Reg Moule from BBC Hereford and Worcester who will be doing his very own Q&A! Put it in your diaries.

“Some of the days of November carry the whole memory of summer as a fire opal carries the colour of moon rise.” – Gladys Taber

Angela Sasso

Girlguiding News

The Autumn term is an exciting time for **Sutton Rainbows and Marden Brownies and Guides!** With Halloween, Bonfire night, Remembrance and Christmas, not to mention the Marden Scarecrow Trail, we have loads of inspiration for our activities and crafts. We fit plenty of other activities in too – the Guides were testing teddy bear zipwires last week!

All sections have spaces for girls to start NOW.

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

In November we shall be welcoming Lara Vafiadis as our speaker. Lara will be telling us about her 98 day solo row across the Atlantic to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK.

We look forward to seeing all our members for this fascinating talk and we welcome any visitors who would like to attend. There will be a £5 entry fee for visitors to include refreshments

The meeting will take place in Bodenham Parish Hall on Thursday 12th November at 2.00pm.

Moira Thomas

Mothers' Union

The November meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd at 2.30 pm at Nash Hill, Marden. We will be planning the 2027 programme and collecting items for the tombola at the Christmas Bazaar on 21 November.

The Hereford Diocese Mothers' Union will be holding a Blue Christmas Holy Communion Service, on Monday 23 November at 11.00 am, at the Mascall Centre Ludlow. Light refreshments of coffee/tea and biscuits will be served following the service. The Blue Christmas service is for everyone, but it will be a quieter service to reflect and acknowledge that Christmas time is often sombre for the lonely, the sad, and those whose loved ones are far away; in fact, all those for whom the high intensity revelry is not for them. Nevertheless, there will be a warm welcome and special fellowship as we all anticipate the annual journey to the Christmas celebrations, in whatever form they may take.

Venue information: The Mascall Centre Postcode is SY8 1RZ, and has free parking. It is approximately a quarter of a mile off the A49 at the roundabout with Tuffins Garage alongside.

Penny Godfrey

News from your Parish Church

St Mary the Virgin, Marden & the Amberley Chapel

Rector: Vacant

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 November:

01/11/2026 10.30 All Saints & All Souls Morning Praise. Welcome: Sally.

Readers: Jenni & Penny. Readings: 1 John 3. 1-3 Matthew 5.1-12

Refreshments: Penny & John

08/11/2026 10.50 Remembrance Welcome Dave. Readers: TBA Readings: TBA

15/11/2026 11.15 Holy Communion. Welcome: Jean. Readers: Janet & Jess .

Readings: Zeph 1. 12-end, 1 Thess 5. 1-11, Matthew 25.14-30

22/11/2026 Bodenham 10.30 Holy Communion Group Service Christ The King.

29/11/2026 Amberley 9.30 Advent Sunday Morning Praise Readings: 1 Corinthians 1. 3-9, Mark 13. 24-37

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 October draw took place at the Harvest Supper in the new Tin Shed. The lucky winners were:

Place	Prize	Ticket No.	Winner
1st	£20	49	Anne Sperring
2nd	£15	17	Heather Williams
3rd	£12	47	Pauline Griffiths
4th	£12	194	Ian Thornewell

Helping Hands in October:

Cleaning: Sally & Jenny . **Flowers:** Jenny. (Poppies)

Events at Marden Church: Saturday 21st November Christmas Bazaar 2-4pm
Grand Draw at 3.30pm

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. Linda Coates funeral will be held at St Brigid and St James Amberley at 11am on Tuesday 3rd November. May she be at Peace and Rise in Glory.

Churchwarden's News 2026

In October another one of our church faithfuls died: Linda Coates. She was on the PCC in the late 80s and early 90s and her children Giles and Verity played in the 'Windband' at Family services and were part of the church youth group where Linda helped out. Later on, once the family had left home, Linda and her husband Roger attended our smaller church at Amberley, being just a stone's throw from their home. Right until the end Linda was part of the Amberley stitching group and she had a great sense of humour and told good stories. She shall be sadly missed by all her family as well as her friends and colleagues. She had a wonderful alto singing voice and will now be singing on a higher plain. Linda's funeral will be held at St Brigid and St James Amberley (please see page 6 for details). May she be at Peace and Rise in Glory.

November starts as a dark and sad month. The First Sunday (1st November) is All Saints Day or All Souls Day and we will be remembering the Saints and the Souls of those who have died especially in our parish. We will be lighting candles in memory of our loved ones, so if you wish a candle to be lit either come to the service or contact one of the churchwardens to light one on your behalf. Names can be submitted before the 1st to go in a book, or on the day. Sunday 8th November will be another day of reflection, as we pray and think about those who have served our country and died in the brave cause of bringing about peace. This Remembrance Sunday we will either meet at the War Memorial at 10.50 or in church at 10.55 for those who cannot walk back to church. The end of the month becomes more cheery as we have the Church Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 21st 2-4pm at the New Marden Parish Hall with many stalls, a few games and Father Christmas with the Grand Draw being drawn at 3.30pm. Come along to have fun, a cuppa with friends and a Christmas shop.

Preparations for the birth of Christ start on Advent Sunday which is on 29th and will be celebrated at Amberley at 9.30am.

Jess T & J Hewlett

Yardbirds

Saturday 14th November, 10am – 1pm.

New Volunteers are very welcome.

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

Yardbirds are a voluntary group that try and look after the grounds and graveyard around Marden Church. It has lost a few members through death or health and they are always looking for anyone willing to help out when they can. It depends on the weather but runs most months usually on the 3rd Saturday and cake and coffee is served. If you have gardening tools and can spare an hour or so on the dates shown you would be most welcome especially if you have relative's graves you would like kept tidy.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HOME!

What a month it's been! The Hub has settled into the New Parish Hall, and what a difference it makes: more space, fabulous facilities and superfast wi-fi throughout.

The Hub is here for everyone in the parish. Pop in to catch up with friends and neighbours, find a quiet spot to work or study, or simply enjoy a change of scene. Young or old, you'll always be made welcome.

We're now open three days a week:

- **Tuesday, 10am–12 noon** – coffee and cake
- **Wednesday, 1–3pm** – light lunches, with sandwiches, cakes, and soup in the colder months
- **Friday, 2–4pm** – tea, coffee and, yes, more cake!

There's no charge, though any donation you can spare helps keep us going.

COMING SOON: EVENING OPENING

The eagle-eyed among you may have spotted the premises licence notices around the hall. We're hoping our licence will be granted very soon, and once it is, we plan to open once a week in the evening with a licensed bar stocking all your favourites. Watch this space!

DIGITAL SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Our AbilityNet workshops have proved really popular, with plenty of bookings, but at the time of writing there were still a few places left on each:

- Staying safe online and avoiding scams
- Getting to know your mobile phone
- An introduction to AI

The workshops take place on **2nd, 9th, and 16th November**. To book, just ask at the Hub, give us a ring or drop us an email.

REPAIR CAFÉ – SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER, 10AM–1PM

This month's Repair Café is moving into the New Parish Hall, giving us more room and better access for everyone. So dig out those broken bits and pieces and bring them along. Let's give them a new lease of life and keep them out of landfill!

A few facts from our repair bench:

- We average 15 to 18 repairs every session
- Over 80% of items go home fixed
- Your donations cover spare parts and equipment, with a little left over
- Our most common repairs are tool sharpening, vacuum cleaners and radios
- Our most unusual so far? A pendulum cuckoo clock powered by opposing magnets!

COULD YOU JOIN US?

We're a small but beautifully formed team, and the number of repairs we can take on depends on how many volunteers we have. We're lucky to have some really talented people mending electrics, wooden furniture, textiles and bicycles, but there's always room for more. If you have a skill to share, we'd love to hear from you.

How to book: online, by phone, by email, or in person at the Hub.

Website: www.marden-links.org/repair-cafe Phone: 07980 310696

COMMUNITY GARDEN

A huge thank you to Lesley and Ted, who've worked so hard to bring the garden back into shape. After the recent rain it's looking tidy, green and lovely once more.

We've also taken on a local gardener to help care for both the community garden and the grounds around the New Parish Hall.

AT A GLANCE

Hub Café	Tuesday 10am–12 noon · Wednesday 1–3pm, Friday 2–4pm
Repair Café	Saturday 7th November, 10am–1pm (then the first Saturday of each month)
Digital Skills Workshops	2nd, 9th and 16th November 10am–12.30pm
Email	contact@marden-links.org
Website	www.marden-links.org
New Parish Hall	www.mardenparishhall.org.uk

Christmas wreath workshops



£30

JOIN US FOR FUN, SEASONAL WORKSHOPS
MOST SUPPLIES ARE PROVIDED BUT YOU ARE WELCOME TO BRING SOME FOLIAGE, SECATEURS AND WIRE CUTTERS

At Marden Parish Hall
Choose from either

Sunday 29th November 10am–12pm
Sunday 13th December 6–8pm

Tea, coffee, mince pies

To book :-email admin@mardenparishhall.org
Or phone Lorna on 07947 810136

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 Jane Keating at suttonwallscg@gmail.com for more details

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

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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

St Brigid and St James's Church, Amberley

A big 'thankyou' to all the planners, bakers and helpers who made the Harvest Supper such a great night. Also to all those who came along and supported our church at Amberley. A grand total of £642.00 was raised.

Joanna Erskine

Marden Branch of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

The November meeting will be on the 3rd in **Marden Parish Hall** (It's named 'The New Tin Shed') Just east from the school. The talk is by Mike Henderson on 'Encounters with Polar Bears and Friends' at 7-8pm.

Parking can be at the School(need a torch) or there are some spaces outside the new hall.

Donations are £3 HWT members & £4 non-members.

There will be refreshments on arrival and a HWT Christmas shop plus a raffle.

The December meeting will be a Christmas Lunch at 12.30pm on **Wednesday 2nd** December at the Golden Cross in Sutton. To Book Contact Jess see below.

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



DEFIBRILLATOR

The Marden defibrillator is located outside the
Marden Primary Academy



Flicks in the Sticks at

The New Tin Shed



Rental Family (12)

Family film (12)

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

Saturday 28th November
Doors Open 7.00pm
Film starts at 7.30pm



An American actor in Tokyo struggling to find purpose lands an unusual gig: working for a Japanese "rental family" agency, playing stand-in roles for strangers.

He rediscovers purpose, belonging, and the beauty of human connection.

IMDb 7.5/10 Rotten Tomatoes 87%



Wildside 2026

This is the November edition but many of you will read this article before the 31st October, which is a night when spooky and sinister creatures lurk about, including spiders. I have a fascination for spiders. Some make me jump if I catch them running across a room out of the corner of my eye, or if a cobweb touches my face. There are nearly 670 different types of spider in the UK and as climate change continues there maybe more. Most UK spiders are harmless, although there are about a dozen that may bite and the venom causes a red spot for a day or two, but it doesn't have any long term effect on humans. Spiders are Arachnids and have 8 legs. There are other creatures that have 8 legs like mites and Harvest men that are not spiders. All spiders have good single vision at the front from 2-8 eyes, the most found in hunting varieties. The autumn is called spider season and large house spiders suddenly appear as the males scuttle across the room looking for a mate. We call them Freds. A safe way to evict them from your room is by placing a large glass over them and slipping a thin card underneath and turning it upside down (as long as you have got all the legs in) and safely placing them where you don't mind them being. They will make it back again as they have been living with you all year but tucked into crevices and small places where you don't see them. The spider I don't like in the house is the small bodied long legged cellar spider, sometimes known as daddy longlegs, not to be confused with crane flies that also get into the house in autumn. They are the messy spiders that live in corners and trap anything, including their own kind, by winding their silks around their prey with their long legs. The legs also keep them out of harms way of being eaten themselves. I allow them in the garage or cellar but vacuum or feather dust them out of the house. Strangely I don't remember this type of spider when I was a child as I would have liked to watch them spin when you touch their silks.

There are spiders that seem to live in water such as the raft and diving bell spiders. There are many garden spiders that are beautiful, for example the wasp, and the cucumber green. My favourite spider is the zebra. It is a hunter about a finger nail in size with pretty black and white stripes and it jumps on to its prey, which is often bigger than itself. Out of the 10 common spiders that live outside, the cardinals are the largest and the smallest is the money spider floating on silk in the wind. I once had a tarantula placed on my head but it was very slow moving and the risk of it falling to the ground and exploding was more of a worry!

JT October 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

Sutton Walls—Ward Report

From County Councillor Peter Hamblin

This month I would first like to report on the public meeting held at Marden Parish Hall to give residents an opportunity to hear more details of the proposed planning application at The Volunteer Inn for 54 dwellings.

Approximately 100 residents attended and many views and opinions were discussed. Among the foremost of these were:

- Re-opening the pub
- Access
- Drainage

A show of hands revealed 100% support for re-opening the pub. I am strongly in favour of this. It was argued that the pub is un-viable. I argue that if the pub was separated from the housing development, then the 'open market' would make the viability decision. It would be a matter for the buyer and no longer a matter for the applicant in this planning proposal.

The other matters are being considered, and one hopes that when the application comes forward that everything has been considered. The Planning Committee will require to see these issues correctly dealt with.

A new bursary backed by Herefordshire Council will help more local people access higher education and study for degrees here in the county.

The **Herefordshire Futures Bursary**, offered through Hereford College of Arts and Herefordshire, Ludlow & North Shropshire College, will provide eligible students with **£1,000 for each year of full-time undergraduate study, up to £3,000, or £500 per year for eligible part-time study.**

Priority will be given to applicants from disadvantaged communities, low-income households and those who were eligible for free school meals in further education during 2025/26. Other Herefordshire residents facing financial barriers to higher education may also be considered.

The bursary forms part of the council's work with local education providers to create stronger routes from education into higher-skilled employment, helping local people develop their careers while building the skills needed by Herefordshire employers.

Together with NMITE, the county's higher education providers offer opportunities in areas including creative and digital industries, engineering, technology, health and other professional careers.

Applications are open now for eligible students beginning courses in September 2026. Applicants must live in Herefordshire and apply for and accept a place on an eligible course.

Prospective students should contact their chosen institution for eligibility criteria, application deadlines and details of how to apply.

Ward report continued on page 14

Ward Report continued from page 13

Work to improve the reliability and safety of the **Commercial Road and Blueschool Street junction in Hereford** will begin on 12 October.

The existing traffic signal system is being replaced with modern, more reliable equipment to help keep traffic moving and reduce the risk of faults causing disruption. Improvements will also be made to pedestrian crossings and vehicle detection technology.

Works will run from **12 October to 4 December 2026**. The junction will remain open to traffic for the majority of this period, with temporary three-way traffic signals in operation while the permanent signals are replaced.

Daytime closures will be required on Union Street on 20 and 21 October, from 7am to 5pm. Signed diversion routes will be in place.

The scheme forms part of wider investment in modernising traffic signals around Hereford city centre, with further work planned at Station Approach and Stonebow Road.

Residents and road users are being advised to plan ahead and allow extra time, particularly during busy periods.

Updates will be available through Herefordshire Highways social media channels, the council website and the interactive roadworks map.

Could you use your skills and experience to make a difference to children and young people in Herefordshire?

Schools across the county are looking for people to volunteer as school governors – and you don't need to be an education expert to get involved.

School governors help shape the strategic direction of a school, influencing important decisions about education, resources and how schools support their pupils. It's also a great opportunity to develop skills in leadership, finance, decision-making and constructive challenge.

One Herefordshire governor said:

"Governance is incredibly rewarding. I now feel I am part of something, able to make a difference and advocate in a way that no other volunteer role would enable me to."

Governors come from all backgrounds. What matters is being committed, curious and willing to learn – and bringing your own experience and perspective to the role.

Interested in becoming a governor? Contact the Governor Services team at governorservice@herefordshire.gov.uk to find out more.

Ward report continued on page 15

Ward Report continued from page 14

Preparation works are underway for the first phase of Hereford Bypass being the new link between the A49 and the A465, improving access from the south west of the county and South Wales, and helping to reduce traffic on Belmont Road, Asda roundabout and nearby rural routes currently used as shortcuts.

In the longer term, the scheme will form the anchor point for the full bypass route to the West of Hereford, which, when delivered, will alleviate traffic congestion through the city, and unlock land that could support up to 14,000 new homes and employment space for up to 10,000 jobs. Herefordshire is required by government to plan for 27,000 homes in the county by 2041, and the bypass forms an important part of enabling that growth in a planned and sustainable way.

There is still active opposition to the building of any new road but I believe the overwhelming majority of residents and businesses believe this is long overdue, and it continues to be top priority for the current administration.

County Councillor Peter Hamblin

Jim Jenkyn - Marden's oldest resident?



Hereford Probus 3 Club held a special meeting at Farmer Johns coffee shop on Wednesday 14th October to celebrate Marden resident Jim Jenkyn who will be **106 years old in January**.

Jim, who was president of the club in 2007 is now an honorary member. Members came from all over north Hereford for the occasion.

Jim is now believed to be the oldest member in Probus in the entire UK.

Probus is most commonly known as a global network of community-based social clubs for retired and semi-retired Professional and Business people.

Hereford Probus 3 Club meets most Wednesdays at the Bunch of Carrots in Hampton Bishop.

(Above L to R: Chris French, Bill Wright, Mark Lilley, John Pavely, Henry Rogers, Edwin Wilson, Robin Brook, Bill Gregory, Mike Steadman, Geoff Rawcliffe, Jim Jenkyn, Keith Thomas & Tony Featherstone)

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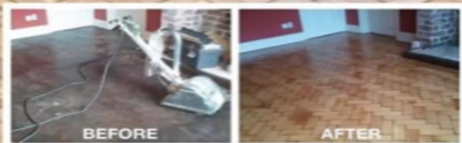
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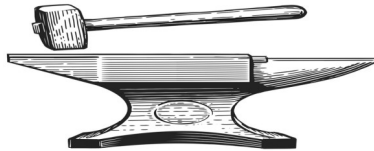
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- Local police Safer Neighbourhood Team – Email herefordrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk or ring 101
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