

# Walford Parish Newsletter

Winter  
2012

Issue  
NO 4

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*Photos by Bridget Vine*

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Chairman: Frank Myers MBE

Vice Chairman: Philip Heath

Clerk: Catherine Murray

Website: [www.walford-pc.org.uk](http://www.walford-pc.org.uk)

# An introduction from the Chairman

Let me begin by wishing you all a happy New Year and welcome to this the Fourth Edition of our newsletter.

As we start the year I would, once again, like to return to the subject of taking an active interest in your Council. During the forthcoming months we are to be required to engage in 'neighbourhood planning', in conjunction with our colleagues on the Herefordshire Council. This will be a major exercise which could shape the course of events in our Parish for years to come.



*Councillor Frank Myers  
Chairman*

As ever, it is crucial that we are given every opportunity to understand the wishes of our local people. Whilst we all do our best to seek this opinion in whichever way we can, by local contact, it continues to be disappointing to see the poor attendance at Council meetings. It is here where you, the public, can hear the debate, understand the direction of travel of some projects and, most importantly, make your own contributions to the debate.

The importance of this has been illustrated in the past few months by the debate about the Parish Recreation Ground, a project which had progressed to a level of thinking which came as a surprise to many residents. Lively dialogue ensued which served the purpose of emphasising the diverse views and ensuring that any future developments will be properly understood and agreed before they go ahead.

We can all think of examples where action groups spring up when developments reach a stage which concerns otherwise passive people. Often the action groups are formed too late to influence the progress of controversial projects. Surely it is better to engage at an early stage by making sure that your voice is heard at our meetings. You will be very welcome.

*Councillor Frank Myers MBE – Chairman*

## Kerne Bridge Ward Councillor's Report

A Happy New Year to you all! I wanted to let you know some good news stories of what has been happening in the County.

The new livestock market is up and running and I'm pleased to report that business is up by 20%. In relation to what will happen to the old site you may already be aware that Debenhams have announced they will come on as the anchor store alongside a new multi-screen Odeon cinema. The demolition of the old cattle market buildings is due to begin in February.

The visit to the Rotherwas Industrial Estate by Prime Minister David Cameron earlier this month went really well and we have secured Enterprise Zone status.

We also have been accepted as part of the rural superfast broadband pilot scheme so we are doing all we can to improve broadband in rural areas. In addition we have secured £5 million for improved rural transport, which includes a major revamp for Broad Street.

As you well know our region is prone to flooding and the Council are always researching new ways to protect our towns and villages. I wanted to let you know that the completed £4 million Yazor Brook flood alleviation scheme now protects homes and businesses in Hereford city centre, a great help especially with all the rain we have had recently!

We have also established Healthwatch, which is a new health watchdog, and a health and wellbeing board to oversee the management of all of the health and welfare services in the County.

*John Jarvis - Kerne Bridge Ward Councillor and Leader of Herefordshire Council*



## \*\*\* Meet Your Councillors at Walford School \*\*\*

The next Meet Your Councillors session will take place at **Walford Primary School**. The Headmistress, Louise George has kindly agreed to host this event at the School and the PTFA have generously offered to provide refreshments for the occasion.

The session will take place on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February between 16.45 and 18.00** and will give parents and relatives of children at Walford Primary School the opportunity to meet their local Councillors, to express their views and to ask them questions.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This session is restricted to parents and relatives of children attending the School, but other sessions are being arranged later this year, so everyone will have the opportunity to make their voice heard.

Future sessions will be advertised by means of posters on the Parish notice boards and via the local press.

***Look out for posters around the Parish and come along to express your views – they are important.***

# Walford Recreational Field Project

Since our last report the project has been discussed at our parish council meeting in some depth – and to conclude – a decision was taken to change the role of the team from a working group into a committee. The reason for this is that the project is significant, and there is a need to keep the public fully informed of the projects activities. What this means, is:

- 1. All our meetings will be in a public place**
- 2. All our meetings will be announced at least three working days before they are due to take place, by posters on all the parish notice boards and on the website.**

If you wish to register your interest with us, we will notify you by e mail.

- 1. All our meetings will be formally minuted**
- 2. The press and public will be invited to attend our meetings.**
- 3. There will be a public speaking time.**

The Working group team are now a committee, comprising 5 members – with a Chair, Vice Chair and the Clerk as a minute taker. The Chairman of the Parish Council is also an ex-officio member of the committee. Additionally we are able to co-opt on a short term basis on to our committee people in an advisory capacity for any specific work that requires specialist advice.

The new committee will present their plans to the Parish Council, who then plan to hold a public consultation open day – where we will be able to discuss progress so far and be available for new ideas – and suggestions, as well as find out how the public view this project. This will then give us an indication of what the public want and how we can progress the project with the public's support.

*Councillor Cheryl Carpenter – Chair - Walford Recreational Field Committee*

## Walford Links Cycle / Bridle Way and Footpath

A copy of the Trails Trust Guide has been obtained by the Parish Council, negotiations with landowners have commenced and a copy of the guide has been left with one of the main landowners concerned, for their consideration.

*Councillor Philip Heath – Project Leader – Walford Links.*

## Kerne Bridge Canoe Launch Management

There has been no further progress on this project since the last report.

This is because Herefordshire Council are currently undertaking a review of cultural services and one of those services is Countryside which manages Kerne Bridge.

As soon as the review is completed we hope to progress and have plans in place in time for the opening of the season around Easter.

*Councillor Frank Myers - Chairman*

## Land at Forest Green

Evidence of recent use has been received and has been sent to the relevant authorities for their consideration.

*Councillor Cheryl Carpenter – Chair of Forest Green Working Group*

*Providing people in Herefordshire's rural communities with easier access to information and services.*

**What are Community Agents?** Community Agents are locally based people who are able to provide face to face information and support which enables older people (aged 50 plus) to make informed choices about their future needs.

They will bridge the gap between the local community and statutory and voluntary organisations by visiting older people in their homes and making referrals to organisations and service providers. Agents will act as facilitators in the provision of high quality information, promote access to a wide range of services and identify unmet needs within their community.

**Who is the service for?** Primarily the service will be provided for older people (aged 50 plus) but other disadvantaged and isolated people would also be able to receive Community Agent support.

**How does it work?** Community Agents visit people in their own homes and actively put people in contact with services. After each visit a Community Agent makes, they are required to fill in an online referral, 'gateway' form. The form collects demographic data, the nature of the problem and other information relevant to any follow up visit. The referral form is then emailed to the required agency by the Community Agent for the query to be addressed. On referral, the partner agencies call the client and arrange for the service and/or visit.

It is crucial that agents maintain a high profile in their area so they may also arrange other activities such as giving talks in local community centres or writing a column on a community monthly newsletter in order to raise awareness of their role and available services.

**What we plan to do next:** We would like to trial this service within Herefordshire to determine the benefit, use and cost of maintaining such a service. The Parishes of Walford and Bishopswood have agreed to us using them as a test bed. This will mean we will set up a similar system for trialing purposes and then run it for a set period – after which we will be able to evaluate our findings. We would value input from the villagers and parishioners throughout this process as this is a service set up for them. If after we report out findings, we determine that this is a facility that will work in our County I would propose we roll it out to the larger community. As you can appreciate there is a lot of work to be undertaken to get this system up and running, we will be working with local service providers (i.e. GP's, hospitals etc) as well as third sector providers (i.e. Age Concern, Parkinson's Society, etc) to ensure we have as much support as possible. We will keep you all posted as to how the trial set-up is going, and will post updates on the Walford Parish Council website, as well as monthly and quarterly local publications for all parishioners to see.

Working with me on this project and setting up the trial is Councillor. Cheryl Carpenter and as an advisor is Mr. Paul Baker who has been involved in the set-up in Gloucester.

**It is intended that this initiative will be shared with Goodrich and Whitchurch Parishes to provide an excellent service at the lowest possible cost.**

# Borders Broadband Project

On behalf of our rural community, Herefordshire Council in conjunction with Gloucestershire County Council is running a project to create the infrastructure for the provision of faster broadband.

The aim is to provide a minimum of 2Mps broadband speed to the majority of users in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire, so it's faster than most of us have now and that has to be good!

## Why does faster broadband matter?

- Watching catch-up T.V. from the BBC, ITV and Channel 4 requires a minimum of 2Mps to enable continuous viewing without freezing.
- There is a need to encourage new businesses into the area; the choice of location is increasingly influenced by the availability of good internet access and we must keep our County competitive.
- More and more businesses and services are being provided on-line.



- In order to convince potential bidders of the commercial viability of the project, Herefordshire Council issued a questionnaire to all households to assess the demand.

If you have not completed the questionnaire a copy can be obtained from me or better still; it can be completed on-line at [www.fastbroadband4herefordshire.org.uk](http://www.fastbroadband4herefordshire.org.uk)

*Councillor Dave Berry, Broadband Champion. T: 01989 564005. E: [dave.berry666@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dave.berry666@tiscali.co.uk)*

## Walford Parish Community Access Point

- The Walford CAP Steering group are pleased to announce that they have re-located to Fowbridge Gardens and will be running sessions on a regular basis once the phone connectivity has been installed. Whilst we have not been very visible to parishioners, our equipment has continued to be used by the third sector.

- **What is it?** The CAP will provide 6 laptop computers, access to Broadband, a printer, scanner, projector and screen, webcam and lots of software and not forgetting the gaming consuls. There is no cost to the use of this facility to any Walford resident.

- **Who can use it?** It is for the use of Walford Residents. It does not matter if you have a PC at home and there is no age limit, you can still use it.

- **Don't know how to switch one on?** It doesn't matter come along and we will show you how – so that you can use it. Our village school and our nursery will all have access to this facility as well as the migrant workers working within our community. We have equipment that you can use for your event like the projector or camcorder which may even help you raise further funds for your project. There may be a small charge for these facilities which will go toward the wear and tear costs. However if there is a user from the wider area – say Ross wishes to use the facility there will be a charge made. This will help us to start saving for updating and renewing our equipment.

- **Where do I find it?** It will be hosted in the Fowbridge Gardens meeting room.
- **When will it be open?** We aim to start by opening for two hours per day for two days a week. As demand increases we will adjust our times accordingly. These days and times are yet to be decided and the process of setting up a new Hall Committee is underway, with whom we will negotiate, in order to finalise this.
- The steering group would like to hear from anybody who would like to help set this project up, help out with the re-launch day, or use the facility. We are looking for people who have IT knowledge who would like to help people use the PC and internet facility. We would also like to hear from people who would be willing to share their knowledge with others, perhaps form an internet user group. Although this is a free service we will need to finance the project and pay our bills so we are looking for fund raisers and sponsors. Our project will need to keep the equipment working and eventually we will need to replace it. We are also looking to form a youth group for the young people to be able to gather in one location play games, listen to music and even use the internet for homework or job seeking.
- **To find out more, or register your availability to help, please contact:**  
Cheryl Carpenter – Chair of Walford Community Access Point. Tel: 01989-218079

**nationalgrid**

## National Grid work continues in the area

- As you may remember from last year's newsletter, National Grid has been working in the area since April 2011 to replace underground electrical equipment running between Walford and Brelston Green. The project is progressing well, with the initial excavation work going as planned. It has also largely completed its work on roads near its main site compound in Walford.
- During the next stage of work, National Grid needs to temporarily close a section of the road between Goodrich and the A40, between 2 February and 14 March. There will be no direct vehicle access to or from Goodrich off the A40 during this time, but following completion of the work the road will be reopened and there will be no further closures.
- Bob Hughes, the project manager, told us: "We'd again like to thank the people of Walford and neighbouring parishes for welcoming us to the area, and for their continued patience while we carry out this essential work. We've met with the parish councils and given a talk for the local Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty group up at Goodrich castle, and are always looking for other ways to work with the local community. We're doing everything we can to cause as little disruption as possible and will of course return the area to its pristine condition once work is complete. If anyone would like to talk to us about the project, please call our community relations helpline on 0800 073 1047. The line is open 7am-7pm, 7 days a week."
- As well as talking to local parish councils, National Grid has been consulting with Herefordshire County Council, the Environment Agency, Natural England and other statutory consultees throughout the work. The first part of the work to replace electrical equipment should be complete in late 2013. Then the project has to decommission the old equipment and re-instate vegetation in the area, which could take up to another two years.

- In 1971 the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty area was designated and around 75% of Walford parish lies within the area boundary.
- Last year during the *40th birthday year* there was a very successful series of 4 free *celebration events* focussing on the themes of hidden industry, viewpoints, river connections and hill forts.
- A grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund enabled a new *Youth Rangers* scheme to be launched. This 2 year project will offer, free of charge, to 15 young people the opportunity to explore the natural landscape and industrial heritage of the AONB area and learn a range of new skills. Kate Humble, who lives in the lower Wye Valley, has agreed to be Patron of the scheme.
- In November *refurbished canoe launch sites* were opened in Ross on Wye and at Kerne Bridge and will enable greater access to the river for disabled canoeists and also saw the introduction of a Code of Conduct for canoe users.
- This spring the *Overlooking the Wye* Partnership scheme comes to an end after 3 years. A grant of £2.5M lottery funding has enabled successful projects to conserve over 40 sites in the AONB area.
- In February a seminar entitled 'Past, Present and Future' will celebrate and mark the achievements of the scheme and its legacy within the WVAONB.
- The Wye Valley AONB unit in Monmouth is responsible for the administration of the AONB and it arranges events, courses and walks throughout the year in the AONB area. These are advertised in the quarterly '*Picturesque*' Newsletter and also on the website. The latest, updated edition of the *Wye Valley Walk Guide*, published by Cicerone, is now available having been launched last September.
- Volunteers work throughout the year on a wide range of conservation projects such as stonewalling, vegetation management, path reclamation and pond clearance. Further information about the WVAONB, the events, activities and volunteering to help the unit can be obtained by contacting the WVAONB Administration Officer on Tel No = 01600 713977 or by looking on the Website = [www.wyevalleyaonb.org.uk](http://www.wyevalleyaonb.org.uk)



## Parish Pound available for rent...

The Parish Pound is available for rent.

It is situated opposite Walford Court on the B4234 and is a small secure enclosed walled space, which can be used for horticultural activities.

Please contact the Parish Clerk if you are interested: [clerk@walford-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@walford-pc.org.uk)

Or Tel: 01989 562476

# Traditional Orchards In Herefordshire

## Can you Help?

*Paul Esrich - Manager, Malvern Hills AONB Partnership*

Traditional orchards are a valuable and distinctive feature of the landscape in many parts of Herefordshire. They are one of the most important habitats for wildlife in the county and are often also of great cultural and historical interest in the local area.

Some owners and organisations are already carrying out excellent work to conserve traditional orchards. However, recent survey work has revealed that there are almost 3400 traditional orchards in Herefordshire and it is estimated that many of these are in poor condition, so there is much still to do. For this reason a partnership of interested bodies across the orchard-rich counties of Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire has recently been formed to help develop project ideas and to prepare funding bids to help support more locally based orchard management.

### **Please contact us if you:**

- *Are interested in volunteering in some capacity to help conserve Herefordshire's traditional orchards (e.g. receiving training to carry out wildlife or archaeological surveys, getting involved in community events or carrying out tasks such as tree planting or pruning);*
- *Are the owner of a traditional orchard and would like some help with its management;*
- *Have some relevant knowledge or expertise that could be shared with others.*

It is anticipated that applications to funding bodies to support orchard conservation work will be made in Spring 2012. The more people who register an interest in this subject the more likely it is that these applications will be taken seriously and funding be granted, so please do get in touch.

- Please contact the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership office for further information or to register an interest. **Email:** [aonb@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:aonb@worcestershire.gov.uk). **Tel: 01684 560616.** More about this project and the partnership behind it can be viewed at: [http://www.malvernhillsaonb.org.uk/orchard\\_project.html](http://www.malvernhillsaonb.org.uk/orchard_project.html)

## Walford Pre-School Playgroup

• The new term welcomes new children and a new committee to Walford Pre-School Playgroup, and we are all looking forward to an Olympic 2012. Based at Walford Village Hall during term times, we offer pre-school children an excellent environment to learn through play.

• Each day our children are presented with an exciting array of activities from baking, biking, gardening, painting and many more besides. With our highly qualified staff overseeing all aspect of the children's development.

Following on from our brilliant Christmas play, we are hoping to launch into 2012 with a Spring Open Day (information available soon on our website), May Fayre and annual summer sports day.

• Walford Pre-School Playgroup children normally start the term of their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday, so if you have children or grandchildren, who are of pre-school age, please come along and see us for yourselves.

*For more information, please see our website: [www.walfordpreschoolplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.walfordpreschoolplaygroup.co.uk) Or contact our Play Leader, Sara Jones on 01989 566979 or during sessions on 07765 005871*

# Rights Of Way

Walford Parish Council has recently been contacted by the Ross-on- Wye Walkers are Welcome Group, who have secured grant funding from the Severn Waste Environmental Fund. This funding is towards the replacement of 18 stiles with gates along the part of the Wye valley Walk between Welsh Bicknor and Ross-on-Wye.

As most parishioners will know, the Wye Valley Walk passes through Walford as it wends its way through the Herefordshire countryside. Of the 18 stiles that the Walkers Group are hoping to replace, 13 are in our Parish, so when completed, access should be greatly improved for those who find climbing stiles difficult, whether walking locally, or undertaking the longer journey.



Similar work has been completed in Bridstow Parish and it is hoped that the 13 stiles in Walford will be replaced within the next 6 – 9 months. As with general Rights of Way clearance & maintenance work within this Parish, it is expected that much of the work involved will be undertaken by Ross based 'EnviroAbility'.

*Councillor Heather Evans – Rights of Way Officer*

## The Lengthsman report

Walford Parish Council have recently joined the 'Winter Maintenance Self Help Scheme' and our Lengthsman is now responsible for overseeing the distribution of extra grit and salt over the winter period.

Last year self help schemes were trialled in three parishes with the aim of encouraging self help in rural communities. Deliveries of salt were taken by the Parish Councils which enabled them to set their own priorities for treatment by their Lengthsman.

Our Parish Lengthsman attended the 'Winter Maintenance Self Help' training evening held at Amey Herefordshire on the 8<sup>th</sup> December at their Rotherwas Training Room, which he found very informative.

Since the last newsletter, the Lengthsman has been carrying out his usual duties, cleaning the grips, strimming gullies as well as tidying and repairing the bus shelters.

Please advise the Parish Clerk of anything requiring the attention of the Lengthsman.

*Councillor Luke Freeman is our Lengthsman Co-ordinator.*

# Bishopswood Village Hall

Happy New Year from us all at Bishopswood Village Hall, we hope to see more of you at our social events over the next 12 months.

Fuel costs continue to rise, but we recognise that hiring costs need to be kept as low as possible – it's quite a juggling act! Luckily the hall continues to be well used by the local community and for wedding receptions and parties. A full diary of events is being organised to raise much needed funds throughout 2012, one major project for this year is the resurfacing of the hall floor.

Table Sales start again on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February, with another on 10<sup>th</sup> March. Sellers admitted from 9:00am and buyers from 9:30am. Refreshments will be available in the hall. Tables can be booked by telephoning Don or Carole on 01989 562742.

The ever popular Tea Dances have been arranged for Sundays 11<sup>th</sup> March, and 27<sup>th</sup> May with more to follow during the rest of the year.

Plans are underway for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in June - but more of that another time!

If there any activities you would like to see at the hall, please let us know and we'll investigate the possibilities.

Over 120 people gathered at Bishopswood Village Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> December for the Community Christmas Lunch, homemade Turkey Dinner followed by a fabulous selection of desserts.

Derene Cansdale won the Hamper in the annual Christmas Draw; and the inaugural draw of the Bishopswood 100 club was held – winners were Heather Roberts, Sheila Trezona and Jan Sheldon.



There are still a few vacancies for the 100 Club – with three cash prizes every month and membership of just £12.00 per year. Details can be found in the foyer of the Village Hall.

## **PUSS IN BOOTS – AT BISHOPSWOOD VILLAGE HALL**

Following the sell-out success of **Sleeping Beauty**, Bishopswood is back after a break with another rip-roaring panto.

With only four performances: Thursday – Saturday **23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> February** (with a matinee on Saturday afternoon) reserve your tickets now at Wyeside Stores, Bishopswood, or by telephone 01594861493.

**(Please note that strobe lighting will be used briefly during the production.)**

# Walford Village Hall

**"What's cooking at the Village Hall"** was the heading of one section of the last edition of the Parish Newsletter.

It described the functioning of one of the Social entertainment activities that the committee like to put on to bring in people from the village that do not attend as a regular, the dancing, martial arts, dog training, Scouts and Beavers and parents of pre-school children's activities. That's quite a lot of people but we look to provide for the remaining 'quite a lot of people" of the village who do not feature in these pastimes.

- Finding the time for functions in an already full programme is one of the problems and the other is the thinking up an entertaining evening that's different and novel enough to get folks out of their houses and down to the Hall to give it a whirl.
- Perhaps one idea that might do the trick is run a General Quiz for the first part of the evening followed by refreshments and then a small Quiz about what the Villagers really want from the new Hall Committee as entertainment.
- For those with ideas it represents chance to give us your views for or against whatever we have been doing, or much better offer some further suggestions of what could meet the needs of our village. Could be fun. We certainly will note what you say. **Wishful thinking?**

Do let me know, email [terry.snow@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:terry.snow@dsl.pipex.com) or a note to the Willows (opposite the school) but not please by phone as this would take up too much time and would not be easy to handle especially if I had visitors, grandchildren etc galloping around at the time. **Over to you public...**

*Councillor Terry Snow*

## Bishopswood Women's Institute

We do not have a formal meeting in January but we did meet for lunch on January 13th at Pengethley Garden Centre where we caught up with all the news!

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10th. at 2-30pm.**

This will be a Members' Afternoon, to socialise & hear from our talented colleagues.

**FRIDAY MARCH 9th.at 2-30pm.**

Milliner Judith Mills-Howarth will teach how to trim our hats. A hat & trimmings you wish to add to it should be brought to the meeting.

**FRIDAY MARCH 30th. at 2-30pm.**

This afternoon we will enjoy a cream tea & the Linton Choir will entertain us. This meeting is a special one to celebrate the 93rd anniversary of our founding & provide an event to wear our newly trimmed hats!

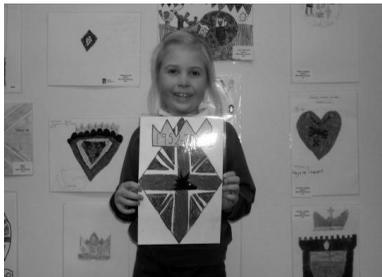
**FRIDAY APRIL 13th. at 6-30pm**

Tim Howson will talk about the work of S.S.A.F.A. *Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association*  
Visitors are always welcome to come to our friendly meetings held in Bishopswood Village Hall.

*Information supplied by: Ann Jones*

# Royal Celebrations at Walford Primary School

The children and staff at Walford Primary School have been celebrating this week. They were thrilled to hear that Lucy Davies (Y3) had produced the overall winning design for the Ross-on-Wye Queen's Diamond Jubilee Logo competition. Lucy's impressive design, which was on display in Ross Library, will be used on all celebration paperwork, souvenirs and publicity during the Queen's Diamond Jubilee this year.



There were many winners at the school, the results follow: **1st and Overall Winner:** Lucy Davies (Y3).

**Year 3 - 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Oliver Roberts. **Joint 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Jaime-Lee Parry, Megan Walton, Jed Sargent, Matilda Hopkins. **Highly Commended:** Hattie Caulfield, Jack Hall, Annie Salter. **Commended:** Ivor Harrington.

**Year 4 - 1<sup>st</sup>:** Adam Parkes, **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Phoebe Walker. **3<sup>rd</sup>:** Rhianna Whitbourne.

**Highly Commended:** Amy Burford, Emily Dolloway, Adam Davies, Amber Sykes. **Commended:** Alistair Cooke.

**Year 5 - 1<sup>st</sup>:** Billy Sargent. **Joint 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Lewis Fowler, Rosie Prosser. **3<sup>rd</sup>:** Bethany Hopcraft.

**Highly Commended:** Rosie H. **Commended:** Joseph Cotton, Ruta Grinberga.

**Year 6 - 1<sup>st</sup>:** Ellis Mason. **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Nisha Buckley. **Joint 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Adam Middlecote, Lydia Ellis.

**Highly Commended:** Rosie Boiling. **Commended:** Elliot Walker.

**A huge CONGRATULATIONS and WELL DONE to everyone!**

*Information supplied by Louise George – Headmistress Walford Primary School*

## All Saints Church - Bishopswood

Church Breakfasts at Bishopswood Village Hall resume on Sunday 5 February 09.30 - 10.45. A delicious full English breakfast is available at £5. Breakfast is always followed by a short service of Morning Worship at 11.15.

As Sunday 29 January is a fifth Sunday there will be only one event in the Benefice. This month's event will be "Christian Question Time" at "Old Court Hotel", Whitchurch, when a panel of distinguished guests will discuss questions posed by the audience.

### All Saints Church – Service Times

Date	Service and time	Other Information
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	11.15 am Morning Worship	Bishopswood Village Hall
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	11 am Holy Communion	All Saints Church
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	3 pm Evensong	All Saints Church
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	11 am Holy Communion	All Saints Church

**A warm welcome is extended to all.**

*Information supplied by Derek Jones*

# Walford Scout Group

We started very recently, in September, but have already recruited 14 Scouts (boys and girls) from the local area. Last term we went climbing, learnt how to light a fire and cook on it and carried out a very wet night hike from the village hall to the Scout hut in Ross. Our exciting plans for this term include a night hike around Symonds Yat, investiture on Coppet Hill, pioneering projects (where we will hopefully be building bridges and catapults) and our first overnight camp.

- Walford Scouts meet at 7:30-9:00 on Friday nights in the village hall and would welcome any new members.

**Contact Dave Wood (01989 770412) for further details.**

## Parish Precept for 2012/13

The Parish Council have approved next year's precept. In arriving at a figure for the precept the council considers its budgeted expenditure for the year ahead, income from Herefordshire Council for the devolved services, Rights of Way upkeep and Lengthsman, and the maintenance of reserves.

Budgeted expenditure for WPC has been kept at approximately the same level as this year, and Herefordshire Council has confirmed they will also keep Rights of Way and Lengthsman payments the same. WPC maintains reserves of £13,000, partly to cover normal operations, but most of this is so the council will be in a position to support community projects during the year, particularly those arising from the Parish Plan.

Timely seed funding can make a huge difference to a project being able to access further grants, and WPC wants to be in the position to assist in a timely fashion. Approximately £5,000 is earmarked for two separate Parish Plan projects. Reserves for these are therefore adequate.

This year a new scheme has been proposed, the Village Warden, which WPC strongly support. The Warden will be shared among the parishes in the Kern Bridge ward, and Walford's share of the costs are approximately £3,500, and could be partially via the NHS Trust, but this is not certain. WPC have therefore created an additional reserve of £3,500 to cover the full cost, and this has been added to this year's precept.

While the rise in precept from £12,500 to £16,000 is a large percentage, it should be viewed against the low base that Walford started from, and that this additional potential expenditure is for a new service, and not to pay for increases in cost. At this stage the money is just a reserve and no final decision has been made to spend it.

# St Michaels and All Angels Church Walford

- We are delighted to announce that Rev. Laurence Mathew has been appointed by the diocese as a House for Duty Priest for the united Ross and Walford Benefice. He and his wife will be living in Walford Vicarage and he will be licensed at a special service in Ross church on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6.00pm, at which everyone is welcome.
- A very big thank you to all who contributed to our Gift Day in September which considerably helped our financial position and will enable us to balance our books for 2011.
- The events organised for the Autumn were all much enjoyed. The Oxford trip, on a glorious autumn day was a particular highlight of the extra activities. The special services for Harvest and Carol Service were well attended and the refreshments appreciated but the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve was a 'show stopper' when the church really was full to the rafters and as usual had a special atmosphere all of its own.
- We have yet to plan events for 2012, but the first Special service will be for families on Mothering Sunday on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March at which flowers will be provided for all children to give to their Mothers.

**For more details please contact Wendy Alston on: Tel: 0198956295 or e mail: [wendy\\_alston@btinternet.com](mailto:wendy_alston@btinternet.com).**

- Easter Sunday Service on April 8<sup>th</sup> is followed by an Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard. We also make an Easter Garden in the church on Saturday April 7<sup>th</sup>; if you would like to help with this please contact Wendy Alston as above.
- **Flower arrangers** – As well as decorating the church for festivals we try to keep fresh flowers in the church all year round except for Lent and Advent. Are there any flower arrangers in the village who would be willing to do this for a week or two during the year? It doesn't need to be anything grand or fancy but any help would be appreciated!
- **Please contact Gay Chinn 01989 563128, [gay@cobrey.co.uk](mailto:gay@cobrey.co.uk)**

## St Michael and All Angels - Church Services

Date	Service Time	Other Information
5 <sup>th</sup> February	9.30 am	Matins
12 <sup>th</sup> February	9.30am	Parish Communion
19 <sup>th</sup> February	3.30 pm	Evensong
26 <sup>th</sup> February	11.15 am	All Age
4 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am	Matins

11 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am	Parish Communion
18 <sup>th</sup> March	3.30 pm	Mothering Sunday
25 <sup>th</sup> March	11.15 am	All Age
1 <sup>st</sup> April	9.30 am	Matins
8 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am	Easter Sunday Communion

*Information supplied by - Gay Chinn*

## Walford Parish Council meetings schedule for 2012

TIME / TYPE OF MEETING:	DATE :	LOCATION:
<b>6.30pm</b> Finance Committee <b>7.30pm</b> Full Council	11/01/12	<b>Bishopswood Village Hall</b>
<b>7.00pm</b> Recreational Field Committee	25/01/12	<b>Fowbridge Gardens</b>
<b>7.30pm Meeting Cancelled</b>	08/02/12	<b>Walford Village Hall</b>
<b>6.30pm</b> Finance Committee <b>7.30pm</b> Full Council	14/03/12	<b>Bishopswood Village Hall</b>
<b>7.00pm</b> Annual Parish Meeting <b>7.45pm</b> Full Council	11/04/12	<b>Walford Village Hall</b>
<b>7.30pm</b> Annual Council Meeting	09/05/12	<b>Bishopswood Village Hall</b>
<b>6.30pm</b> Finance Committee <b>7.30pm</b> Full Council	13/06/12	<b>Walford Village Hall</b>
<b>7.30pm</b> Full Council	11/07/12	<b>Bishopswood Village Hall</b>
<b>No Meeting in August</b>		
<b>6.30pm</b> Finance Committee <b>7.30pm</b> Full Council	12/09/12	<b>Walford Village Hall</b>
<b>7.30pm</b> Full Council	10/10/12	<b>Bishopswood Village Hall</b>
<b>6.30pm</b> Finance Committee <b>7.30pm</b> Full Council	14/11/12	<b>Walford Village Hall</b>
<b>7.30pm</b> Full Council	12/12/12	<b>Bishopswood Village Hall</b>

The Clerk is usually available from 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday. (Lunch hour 1pm-2pm)

**Clerk to the Parish Council:** Catherine Murray.

Rose Cottage, Coughton, Ross on Wye, HR9 5SF. E mail: [clerk@walford-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@walford-pc.org.uk) Tel: 01989 562476

**Parish Website:** <http://www.walford-pc.org.uk>