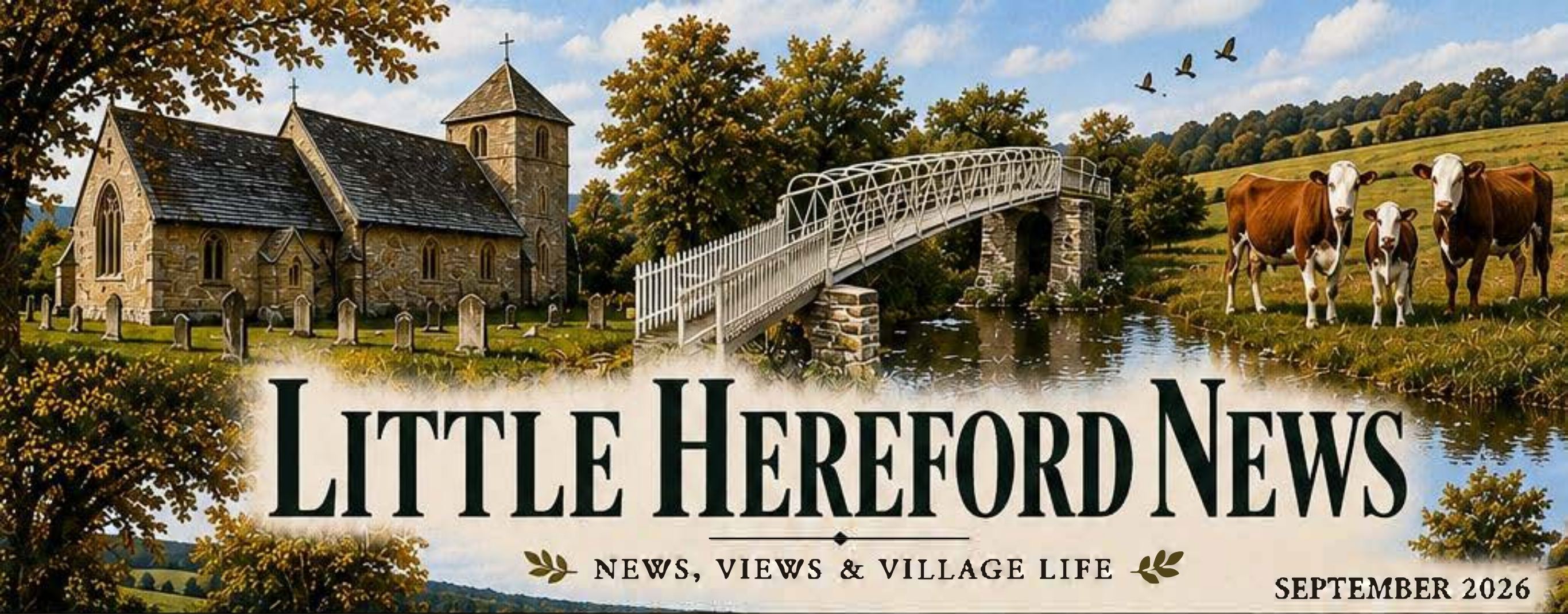




LITTLE HEREFORD NEWS

NEWS, VIEWS & VILLAGE LIFE

SEPTEMBER 2026

Your monthly update from Little Hereford Parish Hall, Brimfield & Little Hereford Sports Club, Brimfield Village Hall
Local stories • Community news • Events • Parish life

SAVING OUR FOOTBRIDGE – A BRIDGE TOO IMPORTANT TO LOSE

Our historic cast iron footbridge across the River Teme is more than just a crossing – it's part of our heritage. That's why we're campaigning to have it recognised with Listed Status.



IN THIS EDITION – SPECIAL FEATURE – THE MASEFIELD COMPANY – A HISTORY OF ACHIEVEMENT

A look at the remarkable work of R. Masefield & Co Engineers, Chelsea – the company behind our bridge and so much more around the world.

**SPECIAL EDITION
NOW AVAILABLE FROM**
evathomas1@gmail.com

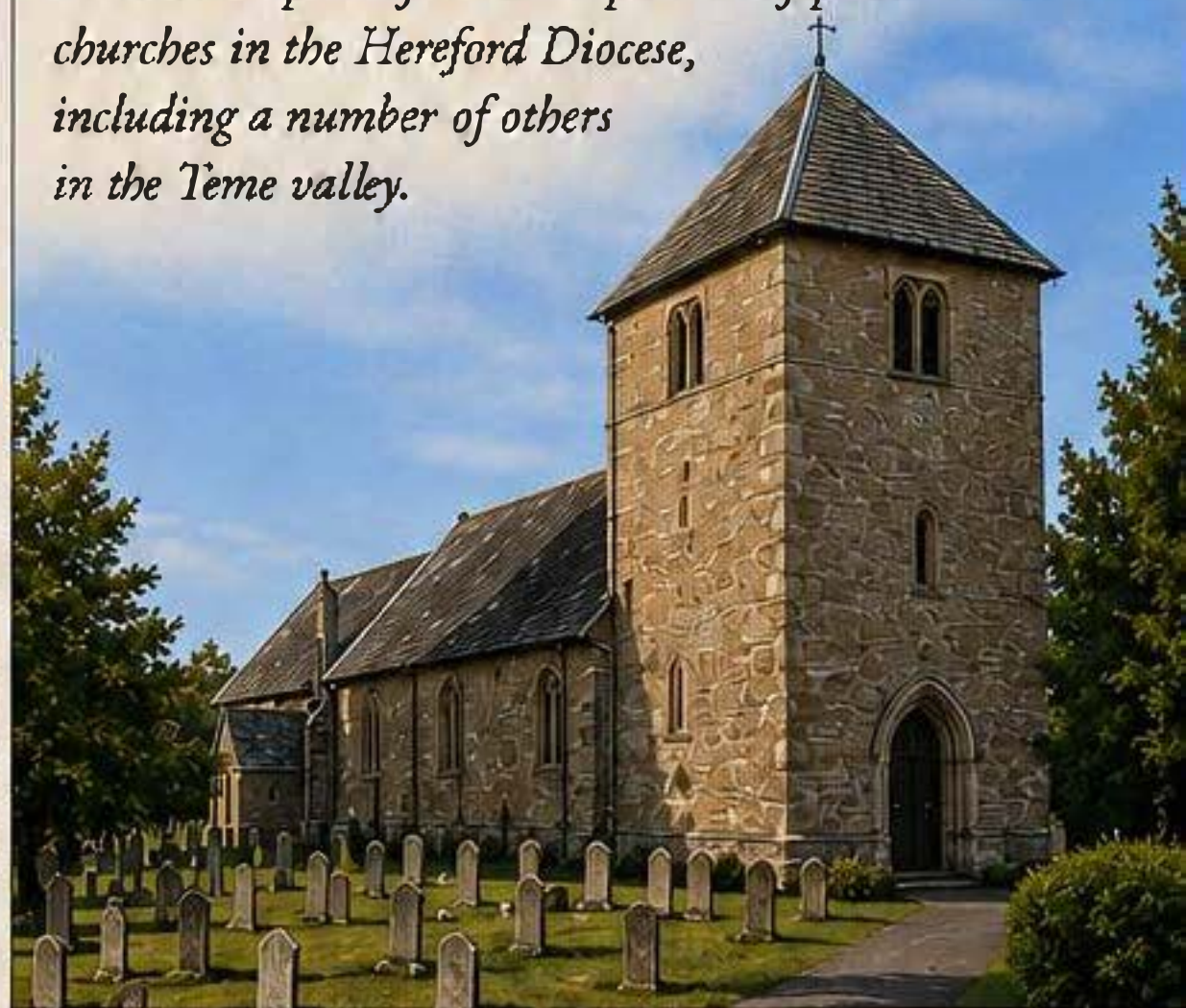
Our LHN Special Edition covers the full story of the bridge – why it matters and what's at stake.
Don't miss it.

BISHOP OF HEREFORD VISITS LITTLE HEREFORD

Tuesday 8 September
6:30pm – 7:00pm
at St Mary Magdalene Church

The Bishop will conduct a short service (approx. 20 minutes).
Everyone is welcome.

This visit is part of the Bishop's tour of parish churches in the Hereford Diocese, including a number of others in the Teme valley.



VILLAGE MEETING – LET'S GET TOGETHER

We're holding a village meeting to discuss our plans to get the Little Hereford Footbridge Listed Status and how everyone can help make it happen.

 **WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER**  **7:00PM**  **LITTLE HEREFORD PARISH HALL**

Bring your memories, photographs, documents and local knowledge.
Everything you can share could strengthen our application and help protect this important piece of our heritage for future generations.



WHAT'S ON
DIARIES FOR THE
PARISH HALL, SPORTS CLUB
AND BRIMFIELD VILLAGE HALL



**LOCAL STORIES
& ISSUES**
NEWS FROM AROUND
OUR VILLAGES



**COMMUNITY
LIFE**
GROUPS, CLUBS,
EVENTS & MORE



**LET'S WORK
TOGETHER**
OUR HERITAGE,
OUR FUTURE



PEWS NEWS

St Mary Magdalene, Little Hereford

KEY ROTA

30/8 – 6/9	Andrew
7/9 – 13/9	Eva
14/9 – 20/9	Marg
21/9 – 27/9	Christine
28/9 – 4/10	Denise

FLOWER ROTA

30/8 & 6/9	Jane
13/9 & 20/9	Vicky
27/9 & 1/10	Kay



CLEANING

Vicky Jones

FAMILY SERVICE

Next Family Service: This will be on September 13th at 9.30 when we welcome everyone back after their summer holidays. John Stone has promised something light-hearted to get us back into the 'new school year'!

THE 100 CLUB

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their subscription to the 100 Club which contributes to the upkeep of the church. It's never too late to join, so if you are interested you can contact Simon Lloyd on lloydswb1008@gmail.com.

Winners!

Jan and Brian Davies 55
Julia Grayling 33
Mandy Wood 24



THE BISHOP OF HEREFORD



The Rt Revd Richard Jackson is the 106th Bishop of Hereford, taking up the role in Jan 2020.

Born in West London and educated at Latymer Upper School, Richard was not brought up in a churchgoing family and describes himself as an atheist in his teenage years. He became a Christian at the age of 17.

He studied Agriculture and Forest Sciences at Christ Church, Oxford, and after a year working in development in Pakistan, completed an MSc in Soil and Water Engineering at Cranfield University. He went on to work as a senior agronomist, advising arable farmers on crop production.

After theology training at Trinity College, Bristol, he began ministry in Sussex, serving in a number of rural parishes and diocesan roles. In 2014 he was consecrated Bishop of Lewes and in 2020 became Bishop of Hereford.

Bishop Richard is passionate about growing healthy churches, helping people discover the Christian faith and supporting rural communities. With a strong rural background himself, he has spoken in the House of Lords about rural poverty and the impact it has on farming and village life.

He sits in the House of Lords and is Clerk of the Closet to King Charles III, heading the King's Ecclesiastical Household.

He is married to Deborah, a learning-support teacher, and they have three grown-up children.

His interests include walking, gardening, spending time with his grandchildren—and riding his motorbike.

We are blessed to have Bishop Richard as our pastor and look forward to welcoming him to Little Hereford.

Little Hereford News

Our village • Our people • Our river • Our heritage

THE MASEFIELD NAME

From Little Hereford to the World

The small cast plate fixed to Little Hereford's footbridge reads R. MASEFIELD & CO. ENGINEERS, CHELSEA.

It is an easily overlooked detail. But research into the company behind that name reveals a remarkable story – and places our modest bridge alongside the work of one of Victorian Britain's significant engineering and bronze-founding businesses



The maker's plate on Little Hereford footbridge LH19

FROM HEREFORDSHIRE TO CHELSEA

Robert Masefield was born in Ledbury in 1845, into the same prominent Herefordshire family that would later produce the poet John Masefield.

Robert was the younger brother of John's father, George Edward Masefield — making the engineer John Masefield's uncle.

While John would eventually make the Masefield name famous through literature, Robert had already taken it from Herefordshire to London through engineering.

By 1871 he was working as an iron founder in Chelsea. Ten years later he described himself as a civil and mechanical engineer employing 99 men.

His firm, R. Masefield & Co, operated from the Manor Iron Works in Chelsea and worked in iron, steel and bronze.

A FAMILY CONNECTION

Robert Masefield (1845–1926) was the brother of George Edward Masefield (1842–1905), the solicitor. George's son, born in Ledbury in 1878, was John Masefield — the poet.

ENGINEERING – AND ART

During the 1870s R. Masefield & Co became one of the specialist British foundries capable of turning the work of leading sculptors into monumental bronze.

Among the many important works cast by the company were:

- **THE ALBERT MEMORIAL – LONDON, c.1871**
Four bronze figures by John Birnie Philip – Geometry, Geology, Physiology and Philosophy – cast by Masefield's foundry for one of Britain's great Victorian monuments.
- **SIR JAMES OUTRAM – CALCUTTA, 1872–73**
John Henry Foley's equestrian monument to the soldier Sir James Outram was cast by the company and shipped to India.
- **STONEWALL JACKSON – CHARLESTON, 1874**
Another Foley work cast in Chelsea travelled across the Atlantic to South Carolina.
- **HENRY GRATTAN – DUBLIN, 1875**
The statue in College Green bears the foundry mark of R. Masefield & Co.
- **LORD PALMERSTON – PARLIAMENT SQUARE, 1876**
Thomas Woolner's great bronze statue of the former Prime Minister still stands opposite the Houses of Parliament. On its base are the words: R. MASEFIELD & CO. FOUNDERS CHELSEA.
- **DAVID LIVINGSTONE – EDINBURGH, 1876**
Amelia Hill's statue of the famous explorer was another Masefield casting.
- **SIR JAMES SIMPSON – EDINBURGH, 1877**
The seated bronze monument to the pioneering doctor was cast by the firm.
- **JOHN LAIRD – BIRKENHEAD, 1877**
The imposing monument to the shipbuilder and MP was produced at Masefield's Chelsea works.
- **LORD GOUGH – DUBLIN, 1878**
Another monumental equestrian bronze followed – further evidence of the scale and technical ambition of the Chelsea foundry.

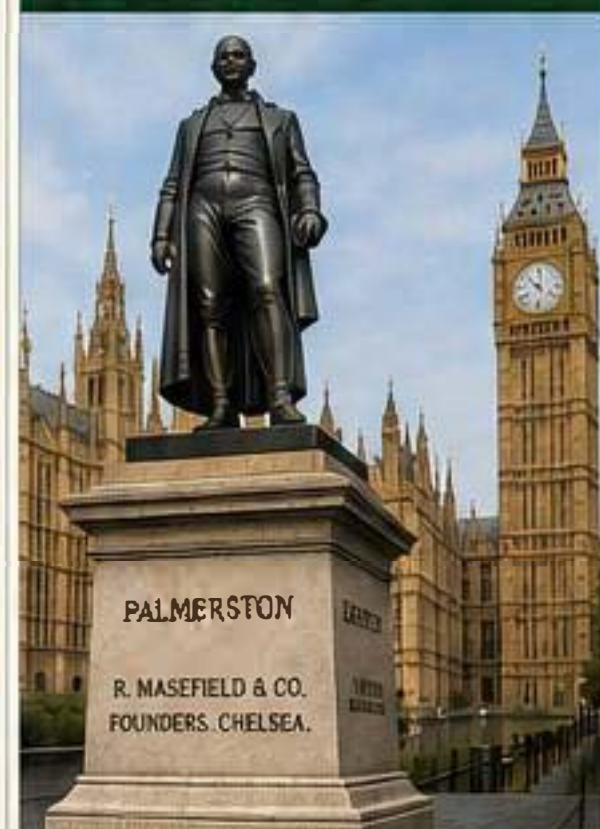
And Masefield's work was not confined to statues. The company also produced architectural ironwork and engineering work, including the distinctive dolphin lamp standards for London's Victoria and Albert Embankments.

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL, LONDON
Four bronze figures cast by
R. Masefield & Co.



Geometry (left) and Physiology (right)

LORD PALMERSTON, PARLIAMENT SQUARE, LONDON



DAVID LIVINGSTONE, EDINBURGH
Cast in 1876 by R. Masefield & Co.



AND THEN THERE IS LITTLE HEREFORD...

London. Dublin. Edinburgh. India. America.

And, quietly spanning the River Teme in a small Herefordshire village, LH19.

Our bridge is obviously a very different object from the monumental bronzes for which the Chelsea foundry became known. But the name attached to it is the same.

That little maker's plate connects Little Hereford directly with a substantial Victorian engineering firm whose surviving work can still be seen in some of Britain's most important public spaces.

“ Robert Masefield left Herefordshire and made his name through engineering. His nephew John left the same county and made the Masefield name famous through words. ”

A NAME WORTH NOTICING

The next time you look at the small plaque on LH19, it is worth remembering what it represents.

It isn't simply the name of the company that supplied a village footbridge.

It is the signature of a Herefordshire-born Victorian engineer whose foundry's work travelled around Britain – and around the world.

Sunshine, Community & A FEW SURPRISES!

Eva Thomas reflects on another fantastic
Little Hereford Summer Fete

Held in the beautiful setting of Easton Court, this year's fete brought the village together for a glorious afternoon of fun, tradition and fundraising – raising approximately **£4,740** for our church and local causes.



**£4,740
RAISED**

Thank you to everyone
who gave their time,
donations and support
to make it happen!



Sweet treats



Music in the air



A favourite tombola

A day the village looks forward to

The fete brings people together – old friends, new faces and visitors too. It's a treasured tradition and a big part of why village life in Herefordshire is so special.

“People come every year for a good afternoon out, to meet up with friends and neighbours. That's what village life is all about.”

Stalls, teas and tradition

Every stall played a massive part in making our fete a success, it's impossible to call one out and I know just how hard everyone worked, it was so important!

- ♥ Mammoth bric-a-brac & popular teas
- ♥ Crowds at the tombola & clothes stall
- ♥ Books, cakes, plants and more...

Band, dogs and a dash of wildlife!

The Tenbury Town Band provided the perfect soundtrack, the dog show kept everyone smiling, and just after the fete began, a small muntjac deer – the size of a dog – galloped through the fete and vanished into the bushes!



A huge effort behind the scenes

A fete of this scale doesn't just happen – it takes hundreds of hours of hard work from so many people. From collectors and bakers to stall teams and grand draw ticket sellers – every contribution, however small, makes a big difference.

“Every contribution, however small, adds up to the whole.”

Looking ahead

Will it be the same next year? That's uncertain. The venue isn't guaranteed and a few tweaks might be needed. But whatever the format, one thing is certain – something will happen, and it will be something to look forward to.

“The honest answer is I don't know.”

Thanks, Little Hereford!

To everyone who turned up, helped out, baked, donated, collected, set up, served, ran a stall, played in the band, entered the dog show – or simply supported in any way... thank you. You made it a day to remember.

See you next year! ♥

LITTLE HEREFORD NEWS

NEWS, VIEWS & VILLAGE LIFE

SEPTEMBER 2026

NEWS

from the

CLUB

— SEPTEMBER —



★ **SEPTEMBER** ★

FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

VILLAGE PUB NIGHT

Come to our Village Pub Night.
Try out our dartboard and
skittles alley.
Play on our two football pitches,
or just relax in our beautiful
grounds.

**FOOD BY ANDREW FRANCIS
BUTCHERS – BBQ**

All welcome!



SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

COFFEE MORNING

10AM – 12PM

Proceeds in aid of
Macmillan Cancer Support

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

For further information
contact Sandra Allen on
01584 711 875

FUTURE VILLAGE PUB NIGHTS

 **FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER**

Brimfield & Little Hereford Sports Club is a friendly, welcoming club for everyone.
We offer a great range of activities and social events for all ages.

Join in, get involved and be part of your local club!



ARCHERY

Club sessions are
Sundays 2pm–5pm
and Wednesdays
4.30pm til dusk.



For further information
and beginners courses
contact
www.archersofteame.org.uk



BOWLING

Sessions every Monday
and Thursday
2pm–4.30pm.

First 3 sessions are free
and include a cup of tea
and coaching if required.



For further information contact
Susan Northwood on
07739 231 936



SKITTLES

Our winter skittles
league (usually starts
in October) currently
has space for
one more team.



For further information contact
Adrian Allen on
07980 028629

CLUBHOUSE BOOKINGS

The Clubhouse is available to hire for private functions, lunches, celebration dinners, weddings and fund raising events and meetings. There is seating for 80–100, dependent on layout, a well stocked bar, disabled access and plenty of parking. The floor is partially carpeted with a wooden dance floor. There is also the option for a skittles alley.

For further information on availability and hire charges
please contact our Booking Secretary:

 **Laura Skidmore**
Bookings Secretary
 Email: laura@borderscattolding.co.uk
 Mobile: 07968 768746

Spotlight on...

BRIMFIELD & LITTLE HEREFORD SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

At the heart of our community - past, present and future

For readers who may never have visited, could you tell us a little about the Sports & Social Club and what makes it such a special place?

B&LH Sports Club has a long and proud history. Many years ago, Woolferton Football Club players dug out the foundations for what was once just an idea, guided by the vision of George Giles, Richard Chadd, Phil Desborough, Keith Parker, Hubert Wall and Boris Edwards.

That spirit of coming together is still at the heart of the club today. It's a welcoming place for all ages to enjoy sport, socialise and celebrate. We host a wide range of activities including bowls, skittles, junior football, archery and quoits, plus regular events like bingos, quizzes, parties and our popular monthly pub nights - a great local evening out since our village pub closed.

The club offers far more than many people probably realise. Which activities are thriving at the moment, and are there any hidden gems you'd encourage people to discover?

Junior Football is really thriving at the sports club at the moment, having the highest membership. We also have a strong mix of other activities including bowls, skittles, archery and quoits, all of which are an important part of what makes the club so diverse. One of our biggest aims is to encourage more people to discover these activities and get involved. Some of them are hidden gems and offer a great opportunity to try something different and meet people. We would love to see more people using the facilities and help these activities continue to grow. Once we have upgraded the tennis courts we can add tennis to the list.

Bowls: The bowls season runs from April-September & proves extremely popular. On a Monday & Thursday afternoon from 2pm-4.30pm people can come along and have a go.

Archery: Played here from April-October. On Wednesday, Friday & Sunday afternoons. During the winter from November-March it's played indoors at Tenbury High School. Anyone from the age of 10 upwards is welcome to have a go. If interested please contact Mark North.

Football: Tenbury youngsters teams play at the sports club on Saturday & Sundays. Plus this year we welcome Shrewsbury Town U16s.

The Tenbury Colts adult team also play at the sports club.

Skittles: Played from October-April on a Tuesday & Wednesday evening. This is a fun night out. Anyone interested in entering a team, please contact Ade Allen 01584 711950.

Quoits: We also have a quoits team who play in the Friday night league from May-October.

Looking back over the past year, what achievement are you and your fellow volunteers most proud of?

Over the past 2 years, through hard fundraising, we have transformed the club house, we have new chairs, new blinds, new tables and we are currently giving the bar a face lift, painting throughout including the changing rooms. The room looks so much smarter and brighter and has helped attract new hires.

“Our club is much more than just sports, it is where community comes together. We want to protect and build on what we have, making sure it remains a welcoming place for all ages for many years to come. Come and see what we're about - everyone is welcome!”

Your recent newsletter talks about restoring the tennis courts. What's the vision for the project, and how can people get involved?

Our vision is to restore the tennis courts and bring them back to life as a safe, welcoming and well used facility for the whole community and surrounding areas to enjoy. By working together we can bring the courts back into use, generate much needed income for the club and create a facility that will benefit the community for years to come.

Volunteers are at the heart of so many community organisations. What sort of help is the club looking for, and what would you say to someone thinking of lending a hand?

There is plenty to be done at the Sports Club and we are lucky to have a handful of volunteers who attend the club every Monday morning 9.30-12.00, giving up their valuable free time to help with hedge cutting, weeding, repair work, etc.

We could always do with more help, as with every club it always left to the same few. I would say to anyone interested in volunteering don't be afraid to get involved. You don't have to commit to lots of hours or have any particular experience or skill. Even giving a little bit of your time can make a real difference. It is also a great way to meet people and be part of the community and help keep the club going for everyone to enjoy.

If someone has never visited the Sports Club before, what's the best way for them to get involved or come along for the first time?

If you've never visited B&LH Sports Club before, the best thing to do is simply come along - everyone is welcome. You don't have to be a member of the Sports Club or even sporty to get involved. There are lots of ways to enjoy what the club has to offer, whether that's coming along to one of our fundraising events or one of our monthly pub nights that run from April-October with local butcher Andrew Francis doing the catering. A lovely relaxing evening for everyone, there is plenty for younger children to do there too, from playing football, skittles, bar football, pool, etc.

The club also has a great venue for the wider community, hosting weddings, christenings and other celebrations. We would love people who haven't visited before to come and see what we have to offer. Most importantly, don't be afraid to walk through the door and say hello. We're a community club, and the more people who use and support it the stronger it becomes.

Every club has its memorable moments. Is there a story or memory from the club's history that always brings a smile?

When George Giles one of the original club founders, went to apply for the club's first bar license he went to the court, the judge walked in and said hello. George hadn't seen you since school. Fair to say we got our license.

the community can play a huge part by becoming members, volunteering at fundraising events or simply by spreading the word about what the club has to offer.

What do you see as the biggest challenge facing the club over the next few years, and how can the local community help?

The biggest challenge facing the club over the next 5 years will be making sure we remain financially sustainable while continuing to maintain and improve our facility. Like most community clubs we rely heavily on volunteers. The local community can play a huge part by becoming members, volunteering at fundraising events or simply by spreading the word about what the club has to offer.

Through our fundraising projects we have been able to support Breast Cancer, Prostate Cancer, Farming Minds, Air Ambulance & Wyson Chapel to name but a few.



From football pitches to pub nights, bowls greens to skittles alleys, the Brimfield & Little Hereford Sports & Social Club is more than just a club - it's a place where our community comes together.



DOINGS AT LITTLE HEREFORD PARISH HALL

SEPTEMBER

≡ Something for everyone! ≡



★ HIGHLIGHT EVENT ★

SOUND BATH TASTER SESSION

WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

6.45PM – 7.30PM

A relaxing introduction to
sound therapy.
All welcome.



YOUR HALL – FULL OF LIFE ALL MONTH LONG!

From dance and art to social nights and tea dances,
there's always something going on at your Parish Hall.
Pop along, join in and feel part of our village community!



DANCE FIT

TUESDAYS
2.00PM – 2.50PM

Every Tuesday

Fun, friendly
and great for
body and mind.



INTERMEDIATE TAP

TUESDAYS
3.00PM – 4.00PM

Every Tuesday

For those with
some tap
experience.



TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

TUESDAYS
7.00PM – 9.00PM

Every Tuesday
All abilities
welcome.
Friendly
competition!



TABLE TENNIS

THURSDAYS
FROM 3RD SEPTEMBER
10.00AM – 12.30PM

Every Thursday
All welcome for
friendly play.



LITTLE HEREFORD VOICES

FRIDAYS
FROM 4TH SEPTEMBER
7.30PM – 9.15PM

A friendly choir for
all who love to sing.
All welcome.



ART GROUP

MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER
10.30AM – 1.00PM

Every other Monday
Bring your ideas
and enjoy creative
company.



TEA DANCE

WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER
2.00PM – 4.00PM

Music, movement
and a cuppa!
Everyone
welcome.



LH WI

WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER
7.30PM – 9.30PM

All welcome to our
Women's Institute
meeting.
Come along
and join in.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

CRAFTY LADIES

MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER
10.30AM – 12.30PM

Every other Monday
Bring along your
craft project and
enjoy a natter,
a cuppa and
friendship.



COFFEE MORNING

TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER
10.30AM – 12.00NOON

Pop in for coffee,
chat and a warm
welcome.



CPR & BLS EVENT

SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER
10.30AM – 12.30PM

Learn vital skills that
could save a life.
Everyone welcome.



BOOK CAFE

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER
10.30AM – 12.00NOON

Love books and a good chat?
Join us for coffee and a
friendly discussion.



OUR PARISH HALL IS YOUR SPACE

Whether you come along to join in or just
for a cuppa and a chat, you'll be very welcome!

For more information or to get involved
please email us at
littleherefordnh@gmail.com

Check the
Noticeboard
and Facebook
for updates! ❤️

NEW
FACES
ALWAYS
WELCOME

COME ALONG, GET INVOLVED
AND BE PART OF OUR COMMUNITY



LITTLE HEREFORD PARISH HALL
1 Church Walk, Little Hereford
Tenbury Wells, SY8 4LL



Crafty Ladies Take Gold at *Brimfield!*

Little Hereford’s Crafty Ladies have done it – taking First Prize at the 2026 Brimfield Show with a wonderfully imaginative portrayal of the four seasons.

After narrowly missing out on the top prize last year, the ladies returned to Brimfield this year determined to go one better.

The competition brief was simply “Seasons”, and the group responded by creating an extraordinarily detailed miniature garden showing the changing character of all four seasons.

- 

SPRING sees the garden coming back to life, with planting underway and flowers appearing.
- 

SUMMER brings sunshine, colourful borders and the rather enviable sight of someone relaxing in a hammock.
- 

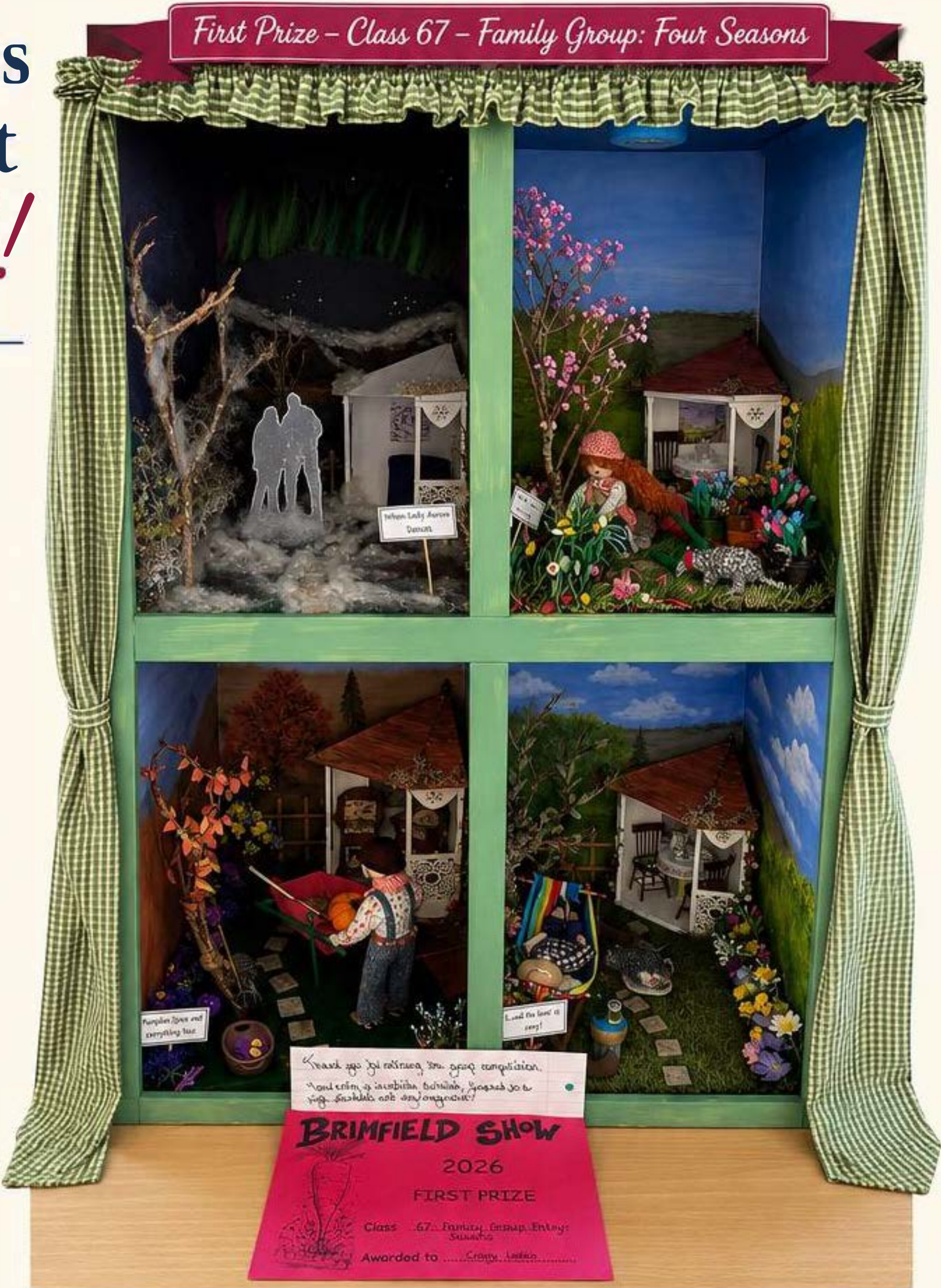
AUTUMN arrives with falling leaves, pumpkins and the garden being tidied for the colder months.
- 

WINTER transforms the scene completely, with snow, bare trees and the Northern Lights glowing overhead.

Look closely and there are delightful details everywhere – tiny flowers and garden tools, furniture, trees, stepping stones, a wheelbarrow, watering can and even some four-legged garden visitors.

It clearly caught the judges’ eye too. The Crafty Ladies were awarded First Prize in Class 67 – Family Group: Four Seasons, bringing the coveted Gold back to Little Hereford.

A huge amount of work, imagination and patience went into the entry, making the award thoroughly deserved.





Come and see it!

The winning Four Seasons display is currently on show at Little Hereford Parish Hall, so anyone wanting to appreciate just how much detail has gone into it can see the real thing.

Join the Crafty Ladies

The Crafty Ladies meet on the second and fourth Monday morning of each month at Little Hereford Parish Hall.

All sorts of crafts are welcome – knitting, sewing, felting, straw dummies, wire modelling, paper crafts, spinning and plenty more.



Bring your craft along and enjoy coffee, biscuits, laughter, chit and chatter!



LITTLE HEREFORD news

news, views & village life

Love Books? Share the Joy!

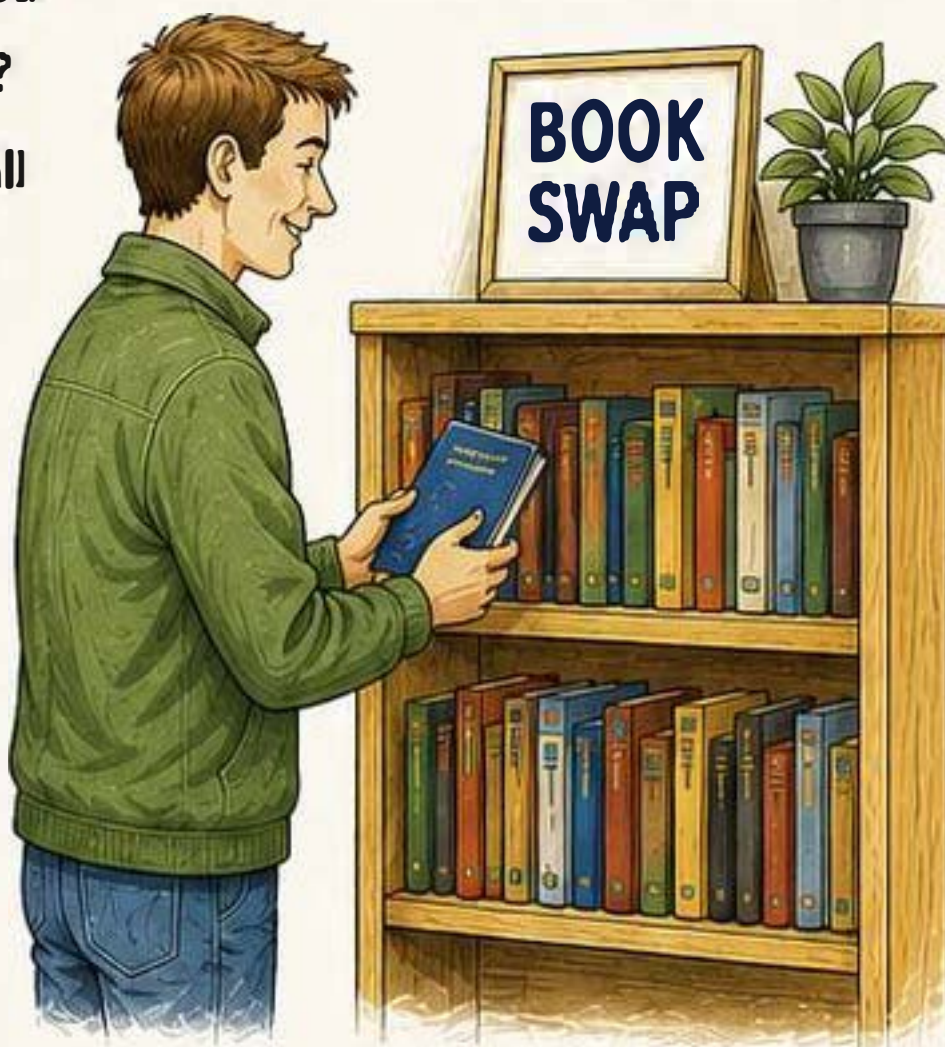
USE THE BOOK SWAP AT THE PARISH HALL

Do you have books at home that you've read and loved? Or are you looking for your next great read? Our Book Swap in the Parish Hall bar area is here for everyone in the village to enjoy.

IT'S SIMPLE:

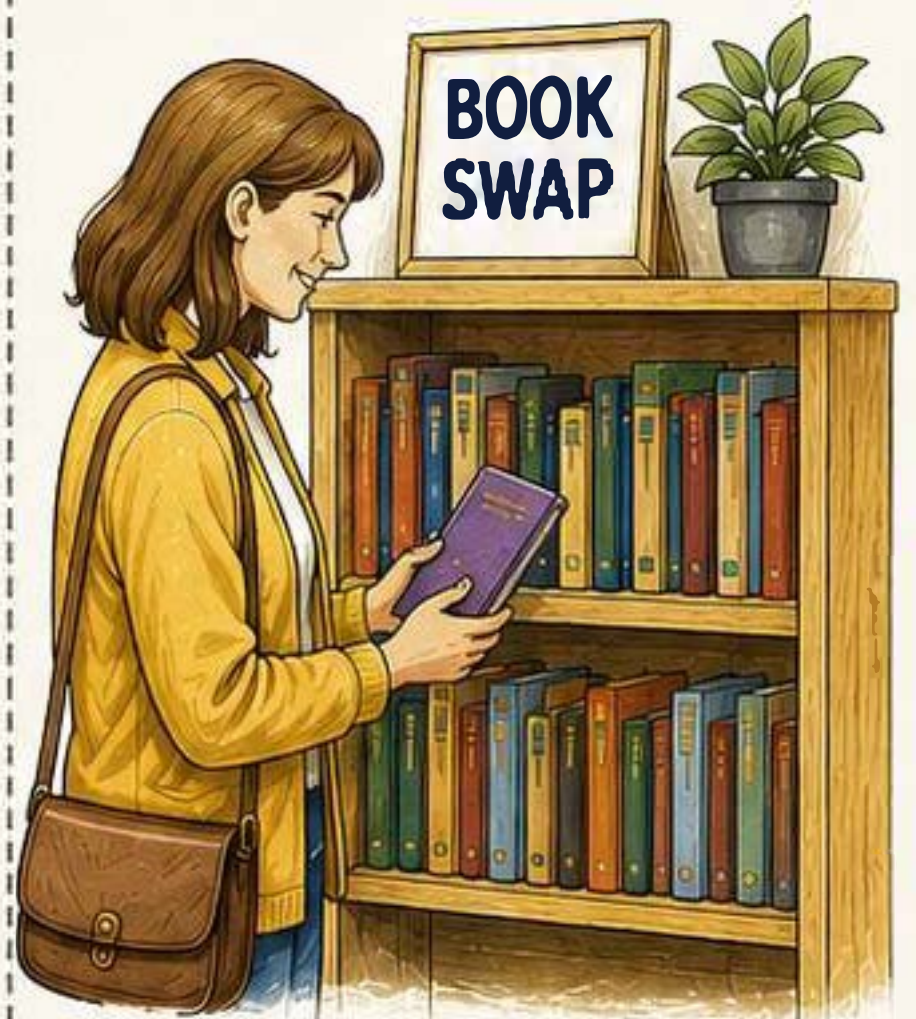
- 1 Bring a book you've enjoyed and leave it on the bookshelf.
- 2 Take a book that takes your fancy.
- 3 Read, enjoy, and if you like, return it or pass it on!

BRING A BOOK...



Leave a book for someone else to discover and enjoy.

TAKE A BOOK...



Choose a new read and take it home for your next adventure.

Why Book Swap?

-  It's good for our community – sharing stories, ideas and great reads.
-  It's good for your wallet – free books mean more for other things!
-  It's good for the planet – reusing books keeps them out of landfill.

Small swaps, big joy!

A FEW TIPS...

- Please keep books in good condition.
- All genres welcome – fiction, non-fiction, biographies, children's books and more.
- No textbooks or out-of-date reference books, please.
- Help keep the shelf tidy and full of lovely reads!



A book shared is a story passed on.

Pop into the Parish Hall and see what new adventure is waiting for you on our Book Swap shelf.

Happy reading, Little Hereford!





★ WORLD CUP WINNER! ★

Well done Eddie!

**LITTLE HEREFORD LAD SCORES
BIG IN TESCO COMPETITION**



We are delighted to celebrate Eddie Duke from Little Hereford, who has won the **Design a Flag for FIFA World Cup 2026** competition run by Tesco Superstore, Tenbury Wells!

Young Eddie's brilliant and colourful flag design stood out from lots of other fantastic entries to be chosen as the winning one – a fantastic achievement!

His prize? A very well-earned tub of Cadbury Heroes (lucky Eddie!) and, most importantly, the chance to see his design celebrated as part of Tesco's World Cup displays.

The competition invited young creatives to design a flag that captured the spirit of the world's biggest football tournament, bringing together colours, symbols and pride from all over the globe.

Eddie's design – featuring flags from the United Kingdom, Scotland, Ireland and Wales – showed real imagination and heart. **Well done, Eddie!**



**CREATIVE
TALENT
RIGHT HERE
AT HOME!**

ALL 48 NATIONS. ONE BIG CELEBRATION.

During the World Cup 2026, Tesco stores are flying the flags of all 48 participating nations – keeping the tournament spirit alive in our community.



A HUGE WELL DONE
to Eddie for his amazing win.
You've done Little Hereford proud!

*Keep dreaming, keep creating
and keep scoring big!*

TESCO



Tenbury Wells



PROUD OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



SUPPORTING LOCAL TALENT



LITTLE HEREFORD AT ITS BEST



LITTLE HEREFORD NEWS



BOOK CLUB

AT LITTLE HEREFORD PARISH HALL

There are two regular ways to enjoy books, coffee and good company at the Parish Hall.

BOOK CAFÉ

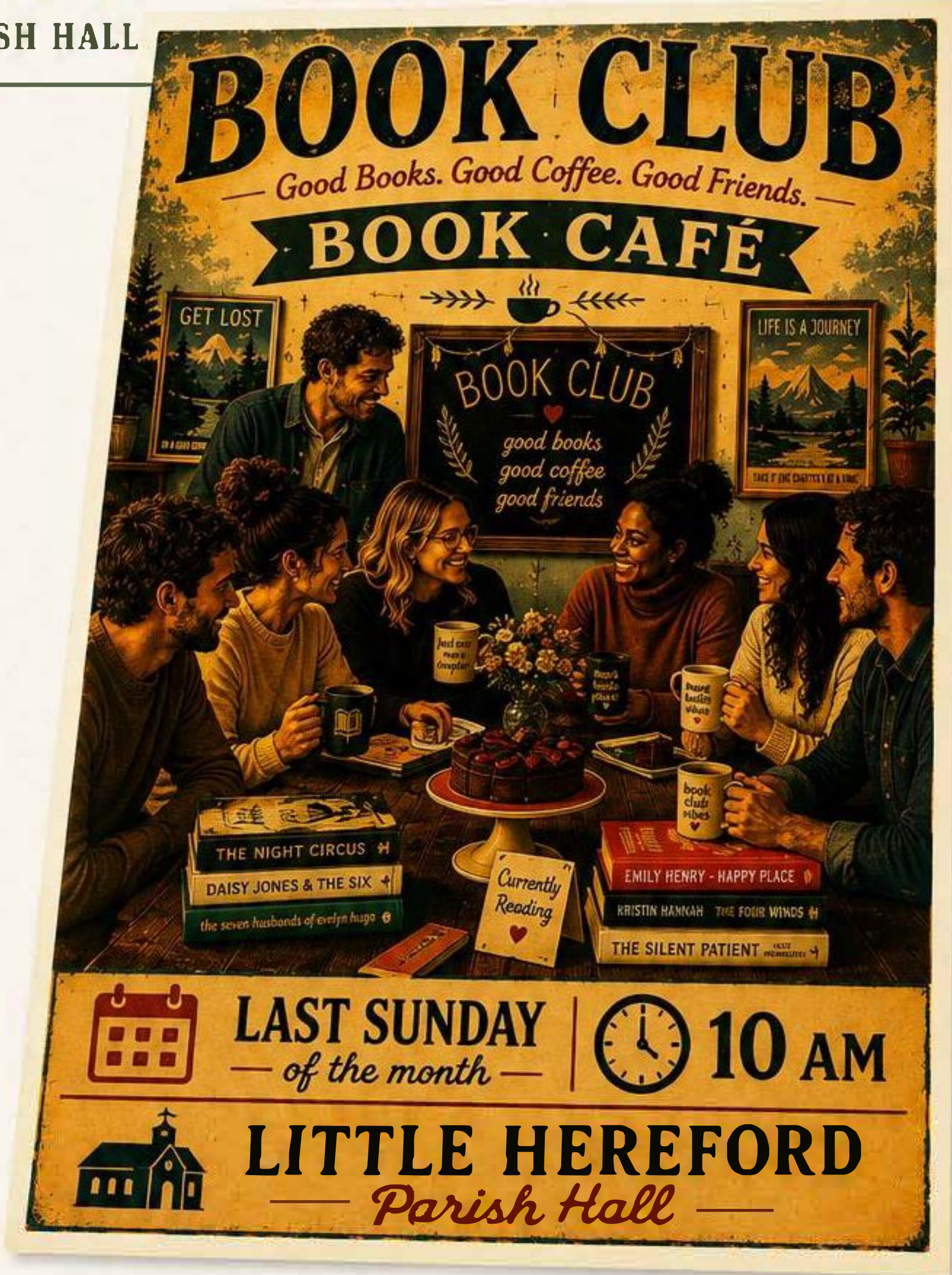
Last Sunday of the month at 10am

An informal get-together for anyone who enjoys reading. No set reading list or pressure to finish a book. Just good books, good coffee and good conversation.

BOOK CLUB

First Monday of the month at 2pm

A friendly book group for those who enjoy reading and sharing thoughts in a more structured way. Each month the group reads a chosen book together and meets to chat about it. A mix of genres and plenty of great recommendations.



WHY BE PART OF A BOOK GROUP?



Reading regularly is shown to improve mental wellbeing and can help reduce stress.



Talking about books with others brings new ideas and perspectives and keeps the mind active.



It's a great way to meet people in the village and build friendships.



Enjoy good conversation, recommendations and (of course) good coffee!

BOOK CAFÉ

When: Last Sunday of the month at 10am

BOOK CLUB

When: First Monday of the month at 2pm

Where: Little Hereford Parish Hall

Everyone is welcome – just come along.



For more information contact Alex at the Parish Hall:
littleherefordph@gmail.com

Good company — Local groups — Village life — Make the most of where we live

What's on in Brimfield and Wyson

Catch up, get involved and help
keep our villages thriving.

From coffee mornings to
photography clubs, fetes to
folk music, there's always
something happening at
the Village Hall and in
our local groups.

Everyone welcome!

ALL EVENTS ARE
HELD AT BRIMFIELD
VILLAGE HALL
UNLESS STATED
OTHERWISE

The **BRIMFIELD** **DIARY**

WHAT'S ON IN BRIMFIELD AND WYSON

COMING UP.... (All events are in Brimfield Village Hall unless stated otherwise)

- Mon Aug 3 BRIMFIELD FOLK CLUB 7.30pm £3 entry Bring own drinks and glasses.
- Wed Aug 5 TENBURY PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB 7.30pm See website link below.
- Sat Aug 8 ST.MICHAEL'S COFFEE MORNING See ad for details
- Sun Aug 9 BRIMFIELD VILLAGE SHOW See ad for details
- Mon Aug 10 GARDENING CLUB 10.30am Visit to Ashwood Nurseries
- Mon Aug 17 SUMMER SPACE Social Lunch 11.00am-2.00pm Wyson Chapel. All welcome.
- Mon Aug 17 BRIMFIELD W.I. Summer Party
- Wed Aug 19 TENBURY PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB 7.30pm See website link below.
- Fri Sep 5 BRIMFIELD VILLAGE FETE See ad for details.

The REGULARS

- Bingo Every Tuesday. Doors open 7pm. Eyes down 7.30pm
- Brimfield + Little Hereford Bowls Club Strollers Sessions Every Mon & Thurs 2 - 4pm. All welcome
- Brimfield Cuppa Every Thursday 10.30 - 12.00 Coffee morning
- Brimfield Folk Club 1st Monday of the month 7.30pm £3 Bring own drinks and glasses
- Brimfield Gardening Club 2nd Monday of the month. New members always welcome
- Brimfield Post Office Every Thursday 9.00am - 5.00pm Blewitt Room
- Brimfield Toddlers Every Wednesday during term time 10 - 11.30am
- Brimfield W.I. 3rd Monday of the month. New members always welcome.
- Tenbury Photographic Club Alternate Wednesdays 7.30pm New members welcome. See www.tenburyphotographicclub.co.uk for programme
- Summer Space Social lunch. Third Monday of the month 11.00am-2.00pm Wyson Chapel. All welcome
- Yoga Every Thursday from 6pm Wyson Chapel.

To include your event or amend an entry in the Diary for please
email roger@penwill.com by the 12th of the month.

To book Brimfield Village Hall please email booking@brimfieldvillagehall.org.uk
or call Amanda Heathcote 07837 862208

All entries are, as far as we know, correct at the time of going to print.

Support local,
make a difference.



Every event makes a difference

Support local

Stay active

Keep traditions alive

Lend a hand

Build strong connections

Learn something new

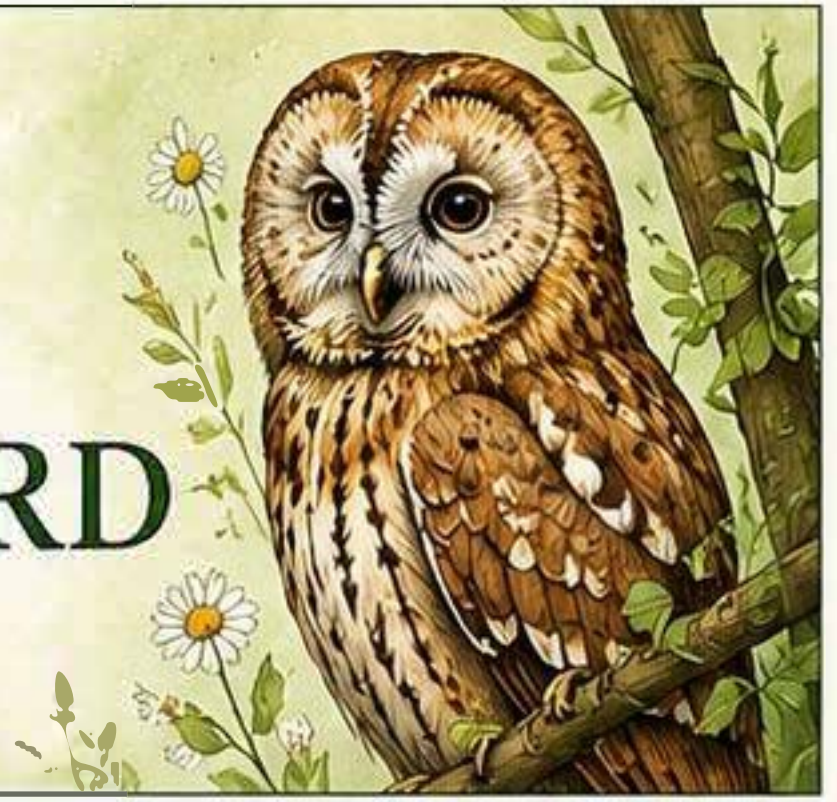




Wild

LITTLE HEREFORD

*Sharing the wonderful wildlife
that makes our parish so special*



One of the greatest pleasures of living in Little Hereford is sharing our surroundings with an astonishing variety of wildlife. Whether it's a fox padding quietly through the garden at dawn, a family of tawny owls learning to fend for themselves, or a kingfisher flashing along the river, there's always something worth looking out for.

To launch what we hope will become a regular feature in Little Hereford News, we're delighted to share these wonderful photographs from local residents **Jen and Eva**.

During this summer's prolonged hot, dry spell, both thoughtfully left fresh water out in their gardens for wildlife. Their kindness was rewarded with some remarkable visitors.



*Two juvenile tawny owls enjoying a drink.
Photographs by Jen.*



*A fox stopping for a drink
at the bird bath.
Photograph by Eva.*



Eva captured this beautiful fox stopping to quench its thirst at a bird bath before quietly disappearing back into the undergrowth. Meanwhile, Jen photographed two recently fledged juvenile tawny owls enjoying a drink as they explored the garden together.

These photographs are a lovely reminder that even the simplest acts of kindness—such as leaving out a shallow bowl or bird bath filled with clean water—can make a real difference during periods of hot weather, while also giving us the privilege of witnessing nature at close quarters.

CAN YOU HELP GROW WILD LITTLE HEREFORD?

We'd love this page to become a regular celebration of the wildlife that shares our parish with us. If you've photographed anything wild in or around Little Hereford—birds, mammals, butterflies, insects, reptiles, wildflowers or fungi—we'd love to see it.



PLEASE SEND YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS,
TOGETHER WITH:

- Your name
- What you've photographed
- Where it was taken
(a general location is fine)
- A sentence or two about the sighting



EMAIL YOUR ENTRIES TO:

littleherefordnews@icloud.com



Who knows what we'll discover together? With your help, Wild Little Hereford could become a wonderful record of the rich wildlife that makes our corner of Herefordshire such a special place to live.

Nature Notes

September

North Herefordshire –
what to look out for this month

September is a month of change. Summer lingers, but autumn is on the way. Watch for wildlife preparing for the colder months as the countryside turns golden and the nights begin to draw in. Get out and enjoy!



SPECIAL SIGHTING!

Red Squirrel

More often seen in late summer as young disperse from the nest. Look for them high in conifers, especially in pinewoods and on the Malvern hills. A flash of red is a real treat!



WILD ANIMALS



Roe Deer

More active at dawn and dusk. Keep your eyes open in fields and along woodland edges.



Badger

Cubs are now born above ground in setts. Look for fresh digging and snuffle paths.



Rabbit

Young kittens are now seeing more of the world – often in fields and gardens.



Brown Hare

You may spot 'boxing' displays in fields – autumn is mating season.



BIRDS TO WATCH



Swallows

Gathering in big numbers on wires and rooftops before their journey south.



House Martin

Watch for flocks building up before departure to Africa.



Song Thrush

Listen for their beautiful, fluting song as they feed on berries and worms.



Goldfinch

Look for groups feeding on thistles and seed heads.



Great Spotted Woodpecker

Listen for their distinctive drumming as they claim territory.



TREES



Conkers (Horse Chestnut)

The shiny conkers are ready to collect from the ground.



Acorns (Oak)

Plentiful this year? A good sign for wildlife as the weather turns colder.



Sweet Chestnut

Look for spiky husks beginning to open, revealing shiny nuts.



Rowan (Mountain Ash)

Bright red berries are abundant and a vital food source for birds in winter.



Willows

Seed heads (disguised as growing leaves) float on the breeze.



HEDGEROW PLANTS



Hawthorn

Red haws ready for picking by birds – a key winter food source.



Blackberry

Last of the berries still ripening. Great for jams and juices!



Elder

Dark berries developing – used by birds and for homemade cordial.



Hips (Wild Rose)

Bright orange-red hips add colour and provide vitamin-rich food.



Rosebay Willowherb

Tall spikes of pink flowers brighten hedgerows and clearings.



INSECTS



Peacock Butterfly

Still common in September, feeding on late flowers like asters and sedum.



Comma Butterfly

Look for the notched wings and golden-brown colour.



Common Wasp

Nests are now at their busiest – be cautious around food and drinks!



Dragonflies

Look for Migrant Hawker and Common Darter around ponds and streams.



Bumblebees

Queens are preparing to hibernate; workers are still busy.



Honeybee

Foraging on the last nectar of the season before winter sets in.



UNUSUAL & RARE TO LOOK OUT FOR



Autumn Gentian (Gentianella amarella)

A delicate purple flower that grows in damp grasslands. It's uncommon but beautiful – look for it in old meadows and unimproved pasture.



GET INVOLVED!

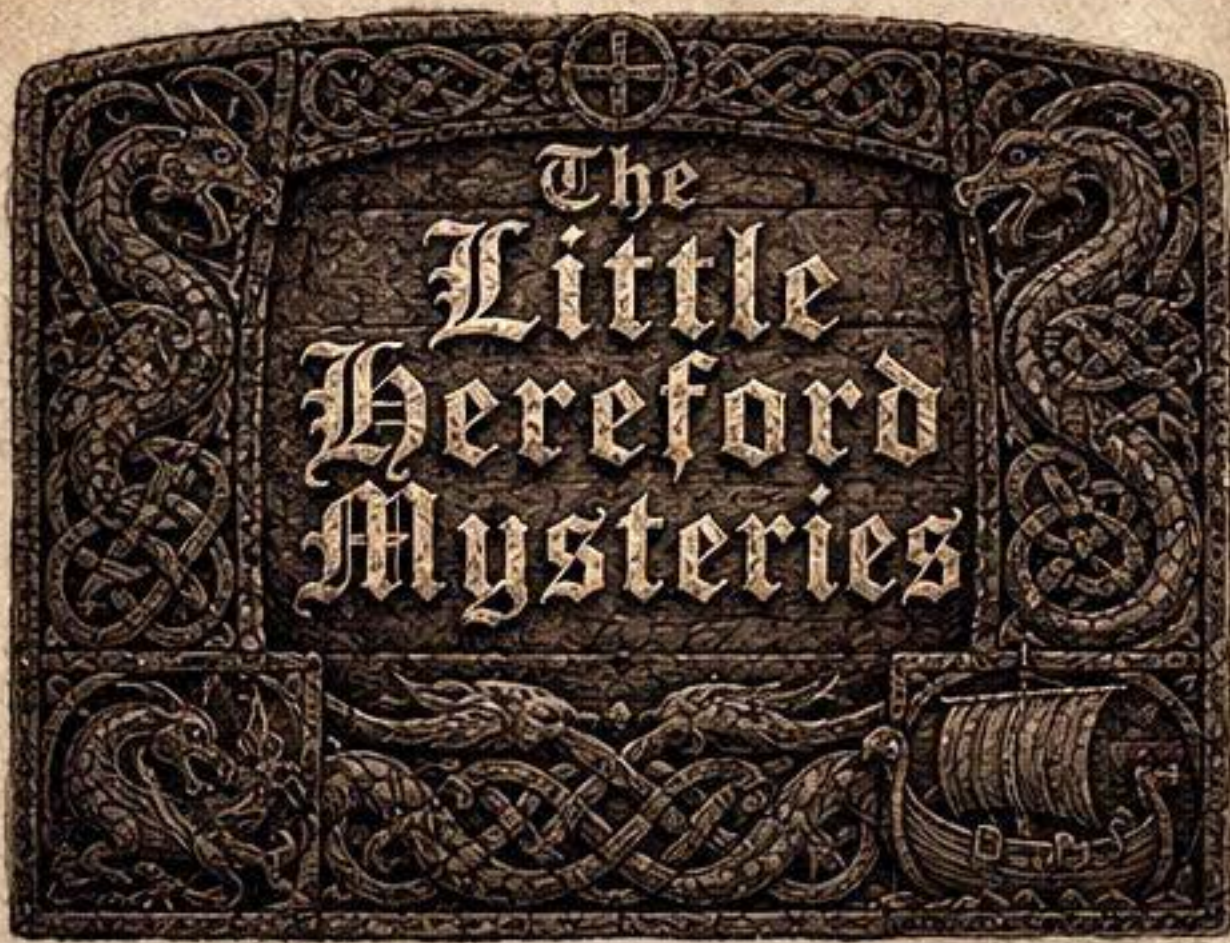
Take a walk, make a note of what you see and hear, and help keep our wonderful wildlife thriving. Share your sightings with friends, family or local wildlife groups.

Every sighting counts!

TOP TIP:

Late afternoon to early evening is a great time for spotting wildlife. Take binoculars, a camera and a notebook and enjoy the beauty of North Herefordshire in September.





The Priest, the Waif and the Alewife

By Candlemas, Osric had become part of Little Hereford, though Little Hereford had not yet decided whether it approved.

He slept in the lean-to beside Father Wulfstan's house, swept the church floor, carried water, chased hens from the graveyard, and stole apples only when he thought no one was watching.

Unfortunately for Osric, Edith the alewife was always watching.

"He's too thin," she told Wulfstan one morning, placing a covered bowl on his table. "And too quiet."

"He talks."

"To you, perhaps. To me he looks like a fox deciding which hen to take."

"Then you had better hide your hens."

Edith gave him the sort of look that had humbled stronger men than priests.

She was a widow, brewer of ale, keeper of secrets, and unofficial chronicler of every foolish thing done between Brimfield and the Teme. If a traveller passed through Little Hereford, Edith knew his business before his horse had finished drinking.

It was she who first said the boy was being looked for.

"Two men came last night," she said. "Norman by their tongues. Asked after a dark-haired child. Paid with silver. Too much silver."

Wulfstan looked toward the churchyard, where Osric was pretending not to listen.

"What did you tell them?"

"That Little Hereford has many children and none worth buying."

"And did they believe you?"

"No," said Edith. "But they believed my husband's axe, which I keep above the door."

That afternoon Wulfstan took Osric with him to gather herbs from the edge of the wood, where Brother Bran lived in a hut so hidden by ivy and smoke that most villagers claimed it moved when no one watched.

Brother Bran was not a monk, though everyone called him one. He was Welsh by birth, a healer by skill, and a wizard according to people who thought foxgloves grew by magic.

He studied Osric for a long time.

"Where did you get that brooch?"

Osric's hand flew to his neck.

"It is mine."

"I did not ask whose it was."

The boy stared back fiercely.

Wulfstan stepped between them. "Bran."

The Welshman said nothing, but later, when Osric was gathering sticks, he spoke quietly.

"That mark is old."

"How old?"

"Older than the Normans."

Wulfstan felt the unease he had been trying to ignore.

That evening, as the bell rang for prayer, Osric slipped into the church ahead of him. Wulfstan found him standing by the north wall, one hand pressed to the stone.

"What are you doing?"

Osric frowned.

"I don't know," he said. "I thought I heard someone knocking."

Wulfstan listened.

For a moment there was nothing.

Then, from somewhere deep within the wall, came three soft taps.



HISTORICAL NOTE

Medieval churches often contained blocked doorways, hidden stairs, reused stones and altered walls from earlier phases of building.

Key Contacts

Useful people and organisations
for Little Hereford and Brimfield



Little Hereford Parish Hall

✉ littleherefordph@gmail.com
(including hall bookings)



St Mary Magdalene Church Little Hereford

🌐 www.achurchnearyou.com
(Also on Facebook)



Little Hereford Art Group

🌐 evathomas1@gmail.com



Tenbury Transport Trust

🌐 ttrust.org.uk
☎ 01584 810491



Little Hereford Voices Community Choir

🌐 lhvoices.wixsite.com/home
(Also on Facebook)

👤 Contact John Leaman

✉ leamanjohn3@gmail.com

☎ 07771 513683



Brimfield & Little Hereford Parish Council

🌐 brimfieldandlittleherefordgroup-pc.gov.uk

✉ derk@brimfieldandlittleherefordgroup-pc.gov.uk



Councillor

John Stone – 01584 711227

Know someone who would like to receive the Newsletter?

Invite them to contact Eva on ☎ 01584 711513 or ✉ eva.tob@btinternet.com



Edited by Bill Baxter

✉ littleherefordnews@icloud.com

