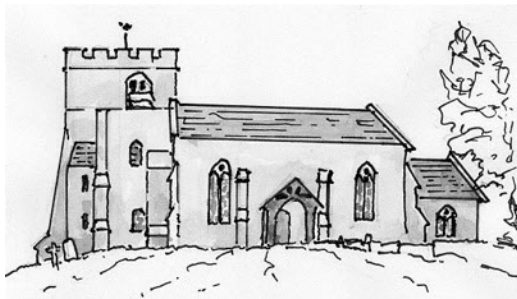


Frome Valley News

The Parish Magazine for Acton Beauchamp, Bishops Frome, Castle Frome, Evesbatch, Fromes Hill, Much Cowarne, Ocle Pychard & Stanford Bishop.



Newsletter
July/August 25



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FROME VALLEY NEWS ADVERTISING

The Frome Valley Group of Churches
The Rosary, Bishops Frome. WR6 5AP

RENEWAL NOTICE JUNE 2025 I would like to thank you for your

Support. As you know the advertisements are important to us as they offer an information service to over 500 homes in the area.

Thank you for advertising with us. The fee for your advert is based on the table above.

The Newsletter year now runs from Mid June to Mid June and has 10 editions.

From your FVN Team, Sarah, Steve & Steven

Please pay with a cheque made payable to **Frome Valley Group of Churches** and post to us as above. **

Please note the new payment details **

Or by BACS Sort code: **30-94-99**, Account No. **01138390**, please reference your name / Organisation.

Please email me to confirm your BACS Payment.
fromenews@gmail.com

If you would like to update your advert please contact me and we can arrange this.

Many Thanks Sarah

Editorial:

If you lose your paper copy of the newsletter It's always available on the new facebook page: **Frome Valley Churches**

Or website of **the village centre**
<http://www.bishopsfromecentre.co.uk/>

where it can be seen in full colour. It can also be emailed to you, contact the parish office for this service and you will be added to the list of recipients.

We no longer have our own website, we have a facebook page instead.

Sarah's email

fromenews@gmail.com

**OR contact the Parish Office
for more information.**

Fromevalley@icloud.com

Editor's Letter

When I started to do the Frome Valley News 10 years ago, I didn't think it would be such a long term commitment. The previous editor was leaving the area and as a newbie to Bishops Cleeve, I asked Wendy in the shop if anyone could do it!! So after an interview with the vicar my 1st edition was in April 2016 - and even though I now live in Worcester I am still creating the FVN 10 times a year. Thanks to Steven, Eleanor and now Steve for their support.

The advertisers have been brilliant in supporting the magazine, as have the contributors. So a

BIG THANK YOU TO YOU ALL

I am just about to send out the renewal notices, which everyone will receive before they get this, but with an increasing readership I hope they stay with us.

If anyone out there would like my job, then contact Steven (Vicar) if not I will continue.

Wishing everyone a super Summer. Sarah

God's Green Acre

Q: Where would you find a Hebrew Character, a Camomile Shark and a Striped Wainscote?

A: In a churchyard!

In the UK we have 59 species of butterfly, many of them familiar to us all, but did you know that we also have over 2,500 species of moth? Many moths have fabulous names. Some give a clue to their markings including Hebrew Character, China Mark, Garden Tiger or Orange Underwing. Others suggest possible frustration at identifying them, Uncertain or Clouded Drab for instance! Others give a clue to the food plant of the caterpillar, Appletree Skeletoniser or Bird-Cherry Ermine. And then there are names to let your imagination fly; Hoary Footman, Snout, Dusky Brocade, Scarce Dagger and Clifden Nonpareil for starters.

Most moths have evolved to fly at night in order to avoid predation, although they are the main food of bats, who have also evolved to fly at night. To avoid bats, some moth species can hear the eco-location used by bats and will zig-zag away or drop to the ground from mid-air when bats are close, to 'play dead' until the threat has passed. Whilst daytime predation of night-flying moths is reduced, moths and also their caterpillars are an important food item for creatures active in the day including small mammals, amphibians, spiders, lizards and many birds. Small moth caterpillars are fed in great number to the chicks of many of our common birds including blue tit, great tit, robin, wren and blackbird.

As with so much of our wildlife, moths are in trouble, down 28% in overall numbers since 1968. This is likely to be due to a combination of factors; agricultural change, increased use of garden and farming chemicals, development and also light pollution which has a profound effect on the lifecycle of moths. Churchyards, chapel yards and cemeteries can be a moth haven however. Many contain a mix of grassland, mature trees, scrub and flowerbeds, lots of different habitats, used by a wide range of moth species. Churchyards and other burial grounds are usually free of herbicides and pesticides which benefits all insects, including moths.

There are also small management changes that will encourage and support moths; similar to gardening for wildlife, be a little untidy! How about leaving areas with leaf litter, dead plant stems and tussocks for overwintering caterpillars and eggs. If you have flowerbeds or planters, how about introducing some night-scented flowers including honey suckle, tobacco plant, evening primrose and stocks. Is there an area of turf that can be allowed to grow long for 3 to 4 spring and summer months, providing meadow flowers and flowering native grasses for pollinators including moths? A particularly helpful change might be to reduce light pollution by keeping any outdoor lights low, pointing downwards and not on all night long.

Running a moth light trap overnight makes an interesting public event, the trap is opened in the morning, moths admired, identified and then released, but even if you do not manage to see these spectacular nighttime visitors, remember that our blue tit population need an estimated 35 million moth caterpillars every year and many people enjoy watching bluetits!

N.B If you are starting to identify moths, take a look at Moths Flying Tonight on the Butterfly Conservation website and put in your postcode to narrow down the moths you are likely to find.

All the best, [Harriet Carty](#) Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor



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bishopsfromecentre.co.uk

for much more information & hiring charges



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on 01885 490327 or email bishfromecentre@aol.com

WHAT'S ON WEEKLY

JULY & AUG 2025

Please contact group leaders before attending

Monday

- **Pilates** with Sally, 9.30, 07909 754 039
- **Internet Café**, 10am to 12, not August 01531 640 981
- **Board Games**, 2- 4pm, first Mondays, 7 July, 4 Aug. Susanna 01885 490 440
- **Tae Kwon Do**, White Phoenix 6.30pm, 07814 778 112

Tuesday

- **Pilates** with Sally, 9.30, 07909 754 039
- **B Fit for Life**, stretch & mobility class, 2.30-3.30pm, Angie Box, 07530 420 554
- **Zumba** with Laura, 7.30pm, 07411 765272

Wednesday

- **Needlecraft**, 2-4pm, not during August Judy 01531 640 358
- **Kazuko Kick Boxing**, 7pm, 07495 427993

Thursday

Coffee morning,

10 – 12, 3 July, 7 Aug

First Thursdays, just turn up

- **Valley Voices**, James, altern Thursdays, 10 & 24 July, 7 & 21 August 07963 754 873
- **Bingo** with Jo, for various good causes. 3, 17, 31 July & 14, 28 Aug, start 7.30pm 07804 045 366
- **Ward Councillor Surgery**, Rebecca Tully, First Thursdays, 3 July, 7 Aug, 10-12. 07792 882 052



Friday

- **Pilates** with Sally, 9.30, 07909 754 039
- **Shanties**, 2 – 4 pm first Fridays usually, (back 10 Oct) Richard 01531 640 768
- **Tae Kwon Do**, White Phoenix 6.30pm, 07814 778 112

There are lots of jobs, big and small, that contribute to running the village hall for the benefit of this community – from a bit of gardening, to publicity, helping with events etc

*- and you know what they say
**many hands make
light work***

Please email us or talk to a trustee if you could join the team of trustees and volunteers and help

Online Booking

simple for you and us! Start at the bishopsfromecentre.co.uk

BOOK HERE button or tab.

At the bottom of the page, you will find the schedule. Click the + next to the date you would like.

It's simple and full instructions are there.
Please email or call if you have a special event in mind or need help to book.



Don't forget, you can check whether you class is on, or whether the Post Office is open, by looking at the always up-to-date list of current activities on our home page



Mon	13.45 to 16.45
Tues	13.00 to 14.30
Wed	9.00 to 12.00
Thurs	9.00 to 12.00

Conquest Theatre

Films

July 4 Bridget Jones Mad About the Boy (15) 7.30pm

July 11 Wicked (PG) 7.30pm

Aug 15 The Brutalist (18) 7pm

Live on Stage

July 10 QE School A Midsummer Nights Dream 7pm

July 25/26 One Vision - Come Alive & Disney's Frozen Jr 2pm 7pm

Coming soon.....

August 8th **Belle Voix Trio** present - A Night of Motown & Northern Soul, if you enjoyed Sandy Smith as Cilla Black you will love this

August 29th Folk in the Foyer **Little Rumba** 7.30 back by popular demand!

Booking now open for **Sister Act** (Oct 16-25) and Panto (Dec 5-14) **Snow White the Fairest Panto of them All**

Join us on a Saturday morning for coffee and a chat or call the ticket office 01885 488575
www.conquest-theatre.co.uk

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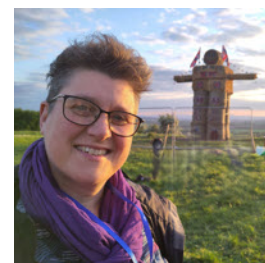
mathew.roberts08@btinternet.com

Hello there,

A short update from me this month, I've had many residents contact and keep me busy! (And I'm glad you are!)

And I'll be away for a couple of weeks too this month.

I'll share a story that shows how brilliant it is when residents get in touch, share both their concerns and their knowledge, and when I get the right department working for us all here!



This pic may look like just a drain - it's FAR more than that! It's made me very happy this month and here's why...

Steve at The Red Lion contacted me a while ago about the frustrations around flooding down on the A4103. It took a while to get the right people out, but when they did, they listened and did some serious work to fix drainage to stop surface water coming right down the hill.

It was only when I popped into the Evergreen club in Storridge that another resident told me that despite all the work she'd seen clearing, there was ANOTHER drain that was completely covered over, she's lived here over 70 years and knew where it was - and showed me...

I let the drainage team know, they investigated and a few days later I drove past what had been -seriously- a patch of gravel, you'd never have known there was a drain underneath.

And there was this drain!!

So thanks to the Evergreen club and the lovely Chris Orford for meeting every 2 weeks so I could bump into Jean, and to Steve for alerting me in the first place, and Jean for collaring me with the extra info, and Jason and his drainage team, there is now a heap of unblocked drains and - fingers crossed - there will be less surface water in future.

So please:

Tell everyone you know that littering blocks drains - and pick up anything you see if it's safe so it doesn't get in our drains!

And if you know something that you think others don't - tell me, it might be worth it!

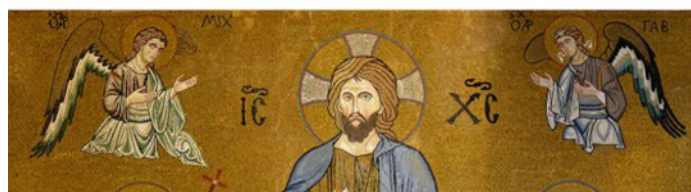
I'll be away for a couple of weeks in June, thanks to those that came to my two early June surgeries and I'll have two again in July – First Monday in Cradley, First Thursday in Bishops Frome.

You can email anytime – rebecca.tully@herefordshire.gov.uk

Cllr Rebecca Tully

Bishops Frome and Cradley Ward

**Frome Valley Group
Service at St James the
Great, Ocle Pychard
Sunday 29th June 10.00
Holy Communion led by
Rev Richard Allaway**



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email: fromenews@gmail.com**

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£3.00 eighth page,
£6.00 quarter page,
£10.00 half page,
£20.00 whole page**

ACTON BEAUCHAMP ST GILES

DOG SHOW AND FETE SATURDAY 28 JUNE

6:30pm

AT

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By kind permission of
Jock and Caroline Queen

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BINGO

In aid of The Chace Residential Home Residents

BINGO


!!!! RESCHEDULE DATE !!!!!

 Date:

Thursday, 31st July 2025


 Venue:

**Bishops Frome Village Centre
1 Summerpool, Worcester
WR6 5AR**

 Doors Open: 18:30

 Eyes Down: 19:30

All proceeds will go towards:

- ★ Theatre trips for residents of The Chace and
-  The Digital rainbow a 14inch touch screen to enhance the emotional, physical and social well-being of our residents especially those with Dementia. It has proven to positively enhance mood, behaviour and quality of life.

What to Expect

- ♦ Multiple bingo rounds with lovely prizes to be won
- ☕ Refreshments (tea, coffee, squash) and light snacks available to purchase
- 🎟 Raffle prizes between rounds
- 👨👩👦 Bring family and friends – everyone is welcome!

**If you require any further details please contact Lucy
01684 561813**





Castle Frome July & August 2025 News, Views & Muse

Nature Diary

Orchids and other summer flowers

Once again, the common spotted orchids are doing well on the low bank just beyond the churchyard. Do wander up there if you can. There is an electric fence to keep the sheep focused elsewhere! You should also be able to see the purple/pink flower spikes of the pyramidal orchids on the verge opposite the road to Moorend.

There is also our very own wildflower mini-meadow in the churchyard - a place to test your wildflower knowledge or to simply sit and soak up the peace and quiet. Engaging with nature can have so many benefits as we all know so well.

Hilary



Quiet Morning

We held our very first Quiet Morning on Saturday May 31st at Castle Frome Church. It was such a beautiful morning we were able to start our Quiet Morning off in the Churchyard. We had 6 parishioners attend. It started with a small service and a lovely poem, whilst the poem was being read, we moved into the Porch and then finished at the fabulous Font. Tea and biscuits were served afterwards in the porch of the Church.

The Quiet Morning is a chance to meet up with our friends from our Church Family and sit and marvel at the wonderful countryside we have around us. We sat in the churchyard, listening to and watching the birds. Two magnificent Buzzards were flying overhead keeping an eye out. After the very informal service we had the opportunity to sit and have a chat, to catch up with everyone, about what is going on in our lives. It was lovely to see Betty, who is not always able to attend Church. We are so very very, very lucky to have such a lovely Church and even lovelier Church Family. We hope to have a Quiet Morning once a month during the Summer Months. Next date TBA.



Communion Service

Sunday 13th July
Sunday 10th August
10.00am



Family Service
(Lay Led)

Sunday 27th July
Sunday 24th August
10.00am



This is a reverent and informal service for the family of the Church. All are welcome. Coffee, tea and squash served at the close of the service, offering a time to socialise.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

This month's item is taken from the August 1985 edition of 'The Quintet'

"The Bishop's Visit to Fromes Hill

On Sunday July 7th, the Bishop of Hereford came to consecrate the extension to Fromes Hill Churchyard. The newly decorate Church was gay with great bowls of roses and other flowers and bright with sunshine streaming through windows and the open door. Mr Slater was coaxing quiet music from the harmonium. Among the large congregation I noticed representatives from Bishop's Frome choir, from Castle Frome and from Evesbatch."

P.R.

'From the Archives' is taken from the back-issues of the various magazines that have been produced over the years, copies of which are held in the Parish Office. Steve is the Parish Administrator, and selects the article each month.

As always, what memories does the article bring back to you?

Do drop Steve an email with your memories and recollections: fromevalley@icloud.com

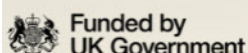
HELP IS STILL AT HAND

There is a Bromyard Support Group
number - 07824 660480

is there to help anyone who is isolating
or just feel like some support

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& Money Advice Centre

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St Mary's Bishops Frome – Music Recital Series 2025

All the following recitals will be performed in

St Mary's Church, Bishops Frome.

These recitals are free, but please do give generously to help cover the costs. Tea & cake served after the recitals

Saturday 19th July 4pm

Peter Shepherd, organ (Director of Music at Chesterfield Parish Church)

Saturday 23rd August 1.15pm

Roger Judd. (Director of Music at St. Michael's Tenbury)

Saturday 6th September 1.15pm

Andrew Caskie, organ (Managing Director of Nicholson Organs)

Saturday 18th October 1.15pm

A Taste of Tudor Tunes

St. James, Stanford Bishop

Celebrate St. James Day at St. James church, Stanford Bishop

'St James the Greater, one of Jesus' twelve apostles, is the patron saint of pilgrims and travellers. He is often symbolised by the scallop shell and the pilgrim's staff, reflecting his association with the famous pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, where tradition holds his remains are buried. A fisherman by trade and brother to John the Evangelist, James was among the first disciples to follow Jesus and is remembered for his deep faith and willingness to act.

We celebrate St James's Day not only to honour his life and witness, but also to reflect on our own journeys of faith.

Join us at the Church of St James on Sunday, 27th July at 11.30 am for a special service and celebration in honour of our patron saint. All are warmly welcome.

You Are Warmly Invited!

St James' Church, Stanford Bishop, invites you to a Celebratory Service of Holy Communion for St James' Day

Sunday, 27th July at 11:30am

Coffee and cake will be served from 11:00am

Everyone is very welcome—whether you wish to receive communion, a blessing, or simply join us for the fellowship (and cake!).

We look forward to celebrating together.

This uplifting event marks a promising start for the new Parish Council and a renewed sense of community at St. James. We look forward to welcoming everyone to our next service on Sunday **Sunday 27th July 11.30am Holy Communion, St James Day.**

Sunday 31st August, Holy Communion Group Service for the Benefice.

Friday 3rd October 7pm Harvest Festival and supper

Sunday 9th November 11.45am Remembrance Service

Wednesday 24th December 7pm Carol Service by candlelight

St Peter's Bromyard Holiday Club



presents

23rd - 25th July
9:30am - 12:30 pm
Ages 4-10



To book, email: revdavidhall24@gmail.com.

ACTON BEAUCHAMP PCC and St. GILES' CHURCH

AN EVENT TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

**ACTON BEAUCHAMP FUN DOG SHOW
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SATURDAY, THE 28th JUNE, at 6.30pm.
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MUCH MORE.**

An evening for all the family.

**St James the Great at Ocle Pychard
invites one and all to**



BURLEY GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ON Saturday 28th June

At 7.00pm

**in aid of
St James, Ocle Pychard roof repair**

ST. MARY'S CHURCH MUCH COWARNE

Although the weather forecast was gloomy for our coffee morning on Saturday June 7th it stayed mainly dry and a good number of people joined us for a really enjoyable morning with a friendly and cheerful atmosphere. The attractive selection of cakes and biscuits ensured that it was almost impossible to resist tasting at least one and we thank all those who produced the spread as well as those who came and enjoyed it. The event was held in aid of the Midlands Air Ambulance and we were delighted that the excellent amount of £205 was raised. These occasions always seem to run smoothly but, like all such events, they have to be organised and manned and we sincerely thank all who baked cakes etc, made and served drinks, washed and cleared up afterwards and, of course those who came to enjoy the company and support a cause which does such a wonderful job saving lives and transporting the injured in our rural area.

Our **next coffee morning** is on Saturday August 9th; from 10.00am to 12noon. Called "A Cup of Kindness" it will be in aid of the Red Cross.

PLANTS

Although there was no plant sale at Panks Bridge Farm this year a table of plants set up at the farm gate brought in donations totalling £94 which have gone to Much Cowarne church. Marlene would like to thank all those who took advantage of the chance to take plants and support the church in this way.

HYMNS & PIMM'S

We shall be holding another Hymns & Pimm's afternoon on Sunday July 20th at 3.00pm when a glass of Pimm's and light refreshments will be offered in the churchyard, followed inside the church by a selection of poetry and prose readings and music with the general theme of Love and Friendship

COMMUNITY "FETE AT THE GATE" Saturday 5TH JULY

Much Cowarne church will have its usual marquee at the Community Fete with Tombola, Plants and Bric a Brac . Please bring any donations to the roadside barn at Panksbridge Farm on Thursday or Friday 5th and 6th, or to the field on the day.

Following the success of this joint venture in the past two years.

St Mary's will be playing its usual part by manning stalls: cakes, produce and bric a brac, as well as several sidshows: Tombola, Skittles, welly wanging and splat the rat.

All suggestions for other stalls and offers of help to run them will be very welcome.

FINALLY – anyone looking to the heavens may have noticed that the weather vane and cockerel on the church tower have been painted and regilded and now positively gleams in the sunshine.

The work, required by the quinquennial review, was carried out by Dawson Steeplejacks.

Future dates:

September- PRODUCE FAIR & HARVEST HOME at St Marys Church, Much Cowarne , (a portion of the proceeds donates to Farming Minds).

Friday 26 th September 7pm,

HORIZIONS- a choral concert by QUAEAMUS, at St Marys church



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www.localonlinetherapy.co.uk,

for information

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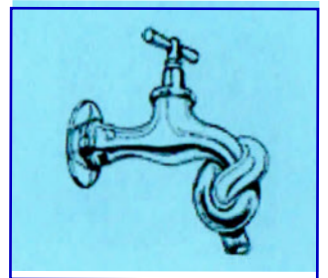
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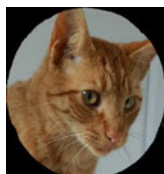
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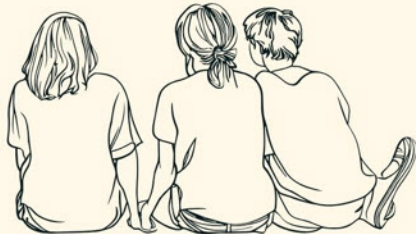
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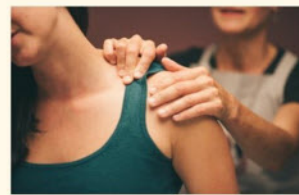
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THE FROME VALLEY GROUP					
July 2025					
	6 th	13 th	20 th	27 th	3 rd August
Acton Beauchamp	11.30am Holy Communion SB				11.30am Holy Communion SB
Bishops Frome	10.00am High Mass SB	10.00am Holy Communion Fr David West	10.00am High Mass SB	10.00am Holy Communion SB	10.00am High Mass SB
Castle Frome		10.00am Holy Communion SB		10.00am Family Service Lay Led	
Evesbatch		4.00pm Choral Evensong			
Much Cowarne		10.00am Matins Lay Led	3.00pm Hymns and Pimms RA	10.00am Holy Communion RA	
Ocle Pychard				4.00pm Patronal Evensong SB	
Stanford Bishop				11.30am Holy Communion SB	
	Trinity 3 Green Galatians 6.7-16 Psalm 66.1-8 Luke 10.1-11,16-20	Trinity 4 Green Colossians 1.1-14 Psalm 25.1-10 Luke 10.25-37	Trinity 5 Green Colossians 1.15-28 Psalm 15 Like 10.38-42	St James Red Acts 11.27-12.2 Psalm 126 Matthew 20.20-28	Trinity 7 Green Colossians 3.1-11 Psalm 49.1-12 Luke 12.13-21

09/06/25

Frome Valley Group of Parishes – Safeguarding

Please could anyone who takes part in organising, leading and/or helping with any church activity involving children, young people or vulnerable adults, ensure that they have a valid DBS check i.e. one carried out by the Frome Valley Benefice within the last 3 years.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser is now Carl Steventon 07593 817717
or carl.steventon@hereford.anglican.org Parish Safeguarding: Reverend Steven Baggs.

THE FROME VALLEY GROUP					
August 2025					
	3 rd	10 th	17 th	24 th	31 st
Acton Beauchamp	11.30am Holy Communion SB				
Bishops Frome	10.00am High Mass SB	10.00am Holy Communion SB Friday 15 th Midweek Mass in the Lady Chapel – Feast of the Assumption of St Mary	10.00am High Mass SB 6.00pm Evensong celebrating Our Lady of the Wye SB	10.00am Holy Communion SB	
Castle Frome		10.00am Holy Communion TBC		11.30am Agape Service Louise	
Evesbatch					
Much Cowarne		10.00am Matins Lay Led		10.00am Holy Communion RA	
Ocle Pychard					
Stanford Bishop					10.00am Group Service SB
	Trinity 7 Green Colossians 3.1-11 Psalm 49.1-12 Luke 12.13-21	Trinity 8 Green Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16 Psalm 33.12-22 Luke 12.32-40	Trinity 9 Green Hebrews 11.29-12.2 Psalm 82 Luke 12.49-56	Trinity 10 Green Hebrews 12.18-29 Psalm 103.18-29 Luke 13.10-17	Trinity 11 Green Hebrews 13.1-8, 15, 16 Psalm 81.1, 10-16 Luke 14. 7-14

09/06/25

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BISHOPS FROME

DATE	READER	PRAYERS	COFFEE
July 6 th	Sarah	Susie	Lyn and Sarah
July 13 th	Maureen	TBA	Chris and Sue
July 20 th	Susie	Lucy	Romey and David
July 27 th	Joan	Maureen	Jan and Joan
Aug 3 rd	Sarah	Susie	Lyn and Sarah
Aug 10 th	Martin	TBA	Chris and Sue
Aug 17 th	Susie	Lucy	Romey and David
Aug 24 th	Lucy	Maureen	Jan and Joan

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

The Baptism of Stanford Beau Essex Morgan Potter took place on Sunday 8th June 2025 at St James the Greater, Stanford Bishop.

Funerals

The Funeral of Maisie Dorothy Holland, who died on 29th March 2025, took place on 11th April 2025 at St Mary the Virgin, Much Cowarne.

The Funeral of Edith Katherine Angela Lloyd, who died on 19th May 2025, took place on 5th June 2025 at St Mary the Virgin, Much Cowarne.

May they Rest in Peace.

Frome Valley Pastoral Group

Childline: 0800 1111

Samaritans 116 123

Domestic Violence Hotline: 0808 2000 247

Mind 0300 123 3393

Age UK 0800 169 6565

Careline team on 01432 384100.

Herefordshire Careline is run by the Independence Trust, part of the Herefordshire Housing Group.

The Pastoral Group are all very actively engaged in emailing and telephoning people through out this difficult time. If you have any concerns or would just like to speak to someone please call one of the group;

Rev'd Steven Baggs 07490 533720
stevenbaggs@me.com

Rev'd Richard Allaway 07969 699270
rja5204572fco@gmail.com

Mrs Judy Orgee 01531 640525

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Acton Beauchamp Group of Parishes held 21st May 2025 at 7.30pm at Stanford Bishop Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs D. Best (Chairman), D. Holly, G. Baynham, Clerk M. Alexander and x2 members of the public, Isobel Aitken & Alison Blank.

Apologies: Cllrs D. Reynolds (Vice Chairman), A. Elliot, County Cllr R. Tully, J & R Taylor and K. Smith.

Report of the Parish Council Chairman by Cllr D. Best:

Work being undertaken by the Parish Council to update Title Deeds and transfer the Trusteeship of Stanford Bishop Village Hall and Wooferswood Common from current Trustees to the Parish Council as a Corporate Trustee. This is being done in conjunction with legal advice and advice taken from Hfds Assoc. of Local Councils.

Stanford Bishop Village Hall – a structural survey has been undertaken which show that some remedial works are needed to the front elevation, rear elevation, ground levels and drainage system. Boundaries need to be clarified plus some investigative work to where it joins adjacent buildings. Electric meters and fuse boards need to be upgraded and kitchen equipment needs to be tested and /or replaced.

Neighbourhood Development Planning – a draft Plan has been commissioned working with a Planning Consultant and receiving funding from Groundworks UK.

Draft documents are currently being prepared, and a Steering Group of Parish Cllrs and residents has been formed (next meeting 27th May) to progress matters.

Parish Council notice boards have now been replaced with more modern and structurally sound oak ones.

County Councillor Report: The report received from Cllr Tully by email was read out to the meeting re Hfds Council matters.

Matters raised by the Public:

A new PCC is now in place for Stanford Bishop St James Church following a meeting held in January this year. There are now 7 people on the new PCC who were voted in at the AGM held on 27th March.

Details and key contacts can be found on the rear of the Frome Valley News. The church is a ‘festival church’ and will hold a minimum of 6 services a year. The first service held was very well attended and was a choral evensong.

The temporary bridge at St Giles church looked almost permanent but Hfds Council have now agreed to put a new permanent bridge in place.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50pm

Michelle Alexander, Clerk

Acton Beauchamp Group Parish Council - Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 8.00pm at Stanford Bishop Village Hall

Present: Councillors D. Best (Chairman), D. Reynolds (Vice Chairman), D. Holly, G. Baynham and Clerk, M. Alexander, plus x2 members of the Public.

Election of Chairman: It was proposed by Cllr Reynolds, seconded by Cllr Holly that Cllr Best remain as Chairman. All agreed. Cllr Best duly signed the Declaration of Office.

Election of Vice Chairman: It was proposed by Cllr Best, seconded by Cllr Baynham that Cllr Reynolds remain as Vice Chairman. All agreed.

Appointment of bank account signatories: It was unanimously agreed that Cllrs Baynham, Elliot and Best remain as bank signatories.

Appointment of Urgent Business Committee: It was unanimously agreed that Cllrs Best, Reynolds, and Baynham remain in this role.

Acceptance of apologies for absence: Councillor A. Elliot, County Councillor R. Tully. Apologies were unanimously accepted and duly noted.

Declarations of personal or prejudicial interests – Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Registers of Interests.

Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held 24th March 2025: The minutes were proposed by Cllr Reynolds, seconded Cllr Best. All agreed.

Any matters arising from the minutes not itemised on this agenda: None.

Democratic Public Time: The meeting was suspended at this point to allow members of the public to address the Council on local matters: No matters were raised.

County Councillors report – Cllr R. Tully: A report had been circulated by email and had also been read out to the Annual Parish Meeting prior to this meeting.

Financial & Governance Matters:

Payments - proposed by Cllr Best, seconded Cllr Reynolds and agreed by all as follows:

M. Alexander - Clerk's salary and reimbursements April & May – salary £832.00 / mileage £32.40 / BT phone & internet £40.00 - Total £904.40

P. Mansell Lengthsman fees £400.00 x2 = £800.00 (April (paid 1/5/25) & May now due)

P. Mansell – staining of village hall fencing £140.00 – paid 7/4/25

Payroll services end of year £235.00 – paid 1/4/25

Herefordshire Fire Protection Services – village hall fire extinguisher annual safety checks £86.32 – paid 24/4/25

Money received: £5500.00 precept Hfds Council (15/4/25) – noted.

Planning matters considered / submissions made: 241738 – Cross House Acton Green (additional information) – objection submitted as agreed. 250736 – Rockley Cottage, Stanford Bishop – no objections but with a comment re access to be considered. 250721 – Land at New Tynnings, Frome Manor, Acton Beauchamp – no objections raised. 250827 – Brook House, Bishops Frome – no objections raised.

Neighbourhood Development Plan updates: Cllr Best reported on work done to date and draft documents being prepared. A Steering Group meeting is to be held on 27th May to consider drafts. Funding received from Groundworks UK and which has not been used during the year to end

March 2025, has been returned to the Funder as per the contract (£2748.00). Further funding will hopefully be released in due course and will be applied for by the Clerk.

Highways Matters to be considered: P3 Parish Paths scheme – the footpath matters opposite Cllr Reynolds remain ongoing. The landowner may wish to apply for a diversion.

Parish Lengthsman scheme – work is ongoing, and Paul Mansell was thanked for doing a good job across our parishes. Action: the sign to Stanford Bishop Church needs to be repositioned and fixed in place please.

Hfds Council matters: No matters raised.

Stanford Bishop Village Hall & Wooferswood Common update: Cllr Holly reported on work that he had been asked to do regarding progressing the resignation of existing Trustees and was thanked for what he had done. The Clerk confirmed that following a recent meeting with the PC Solicitor, it appears that the trusteeships may have lapsed following a period of 4 years unless they can be shown to have been officially renewed. This means that we may now have two Trusts, neither of which have existing Trustees. The Clerk is to speak to the Charities Commission asap re how best to progress things if this is indeed the case, and how to appoint the PC as the new Corporate Trustee. It was noted that there may have to also be a number of named individuals, so this is also to be clarified. Further legal advice will also be needed, and it is now urgent to confirm resignations by letter from our Solicitor. The matter remains ongoing.

SABRE updates: K. Smith sent an email to the meeting but there are currently no actions ongoing.

Correspondence Received: A letter had been received raising concern about the possible burning of a Union Flag on the straw man at the recent VE Day event at Bishops Frome. It has now been confirmed that these were in fact VE Day flags and that it had been a genuine mistake. The Clerk and the Chairman had contacted Bishops Frome PC and the person concerned and no further action is required.

Councillor Reports & Items for Future Agendas: None.

Date of next meeting: 28th July 2025

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Michelle Alexander, Clerk.

Footpaths within Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill Parish

Within the parish of Bishops Frome and Fromes Hill there is a network of public footpaths. The Parish Council has a volunteer Footpaths Officer – Paul Keswick, who works with landowners and Herefordshire Council to ensure they remain in good condition for walkers.

Paul is unable to monitor all footpaths regularly and is asking for support from residents who use the footpaths on a regular basis, such as for dog walking, to let him know if any of the following is missing or needs attention

-Is the footpath accessible?

-Are way markers missing ?

-Fingers posts missing or damaged ?

-Monitor the condition of the stiles, should a stile be replaced with a kissing gate

If you would like to ‘adopt’ a footpath please email the clerk –

clerk@bishopsfromeparishcouncil.gov.uk, along with the relevant footpath number.

Many thanks

Nicky Carless – clerk, Paul Keswick – footpaths officer

VICAR Rev. Steven Baggs tel: - 01885 490582
e-mail: stevenbaggs@me.com

PLEASE NOTE: Friday is now Steven's day off.

ASSOCIATE PRIEST Rev. Richard Allaway tel:07969 699270
email: rja5204572fco@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE The Rosary, Bishops Frome, Worcester, WR6 5AP
tel and fax 01885 490229
e-mail: fromevalley@icloud.com

PARISH SECRETARY Steve Curtis

CHURCH WARDENS

ACTON BEAUCHAMP	Sally Wall	01886 884727
	Jane Allan	01531 640227

BISHOPS FROME

CASTLE FROME	Charles Pudge	01531640309
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EVEBATCH	Richard Kuehn	01886 880259
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	Diana Harrison	01531 805058
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MUCH COWARNE	Jean Parkes	01432 820402
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	Martin Hewitt	01432 820282
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OCLE PYCHARD	Janet Bartlett	01432 320485.
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STANFORD BISHOP	Chris Coombes	
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FROME VALLEY GROUP OF CHURCHES

The Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser is now Carl Steventon 07593 817717

or carl.steventon@hereford.anglican.org

Safeguarding: Reverend Steven Baggs.

Editor & Advertising: Sarah Sevastopulo e-mail: fromenews@gmail.com

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**LAST COPY DAY for the September'25 issue of
THE FROME VALLEY NEWS is: Monday 10th August
And the collection date will be : From August 29th**