

Twynning Bulletin



The Newsletter of Twynning Parish Council

No. 137, June 2019



Above: Poplars against the sky (Photo by Lisa Holmyard)

Cow and calf (Photo by Bob Walton)

Front cover: Spring lambs (Photo by Roy Thomas)

Editor's Introduction

Welcome to the June edition of the Twyning Bulletin, and thanks to all the contributors. I was pleased to get a couple of phone calls regarding the history item in the last issue – the one about the pubs! Thank you to the two gentlemen who called to share further memories – including the information (as one chap remembered it) that the Thatch burnt down due to a fire at the house next door.

If you have any memories or old photographs, please do get in touch. You don't need to write anything lengthy – snippets of village history are equally welcome, and to echo what Ron Hesketh says in this issue (p16), it's always good to connect to our past and those who came before us.

Fiona Thornton, editor

(see p30 for contact details)

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Keeping in Touch with Your Village

Twyning Parish Council Website

www.twyningvillage.co.uk

All sorts of useful information on the village and its amenities – everything from councillors to footpaths.

Facebook

Twyning Community on Facebook is a great way to keep in touch with up-to-date information on events, get advice or share any security concerns.

Twyning Bulletin

Published three times a year by the Parish Council, and delivered to your door.

Village Noticeboards

The Parish Council has noticeboards outside the shop, at the bottom of Lynworth Lane, at TRAC, at Stratford Bridge and at Shuthonger. The Village Hall and church have their own too. There's also a noticeboard on the side of the school, and one in the shop which will display adverts for a small fee. **Event organisers are encouraged to use the boards to reach village residents who aren't on Facebook!**

Parish Council

Twyning Parish Council meets on the second Monday of every month (excluding the August recess, and December when the meeting is on the second Wednesday) at Twyning Village Hall or occasionally at the Ann Townend Hall. Meetings commence at 7.30pm and members of the public are welcome to attend. Agendas are normally posted on Parish Council notice boards one week prior to the meeting. Minutes can be viewed on the village website and are also displayed at the Village Hall and on the notice board outside Twyning shop.

Quick Contacts

Parish Council Chairman: Jeremy Horsfall – 275059

Parish Council Vice-Chairman: Peter Hadley – 07950 046951

Tewkesbury Borough Councillors for Twyning: Mike Sztymiak 01684 299743,
Philip Workman 07885 931772

Gloucestershire County Councillor: Kevin Cromwell – 07860 230711

MP for Tewkesbury Constituency: Laurence Robertson – 291640

A full list of parish councillors, along with email contacts for local representatives, can be found on the Twyning Village website (see above).

Chairman's Report

Welcome to the June edition of the Twyning Parish Bulletin. Firstly, I am delighted to welcome Cllr Ben Nottage, a new member to the Parish Council. Ben lives in the heart of the village and I look forward to his future contributions.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mike Sztymiak and Phil Workman on their recent election as Independents to Borough Council. Twyning Parish Council looks forward to working with them on schemes that will provide benefits that will enhance the quality of life for our Parishioners.

Finance – We are pleased to confirm that the Council's reserves remain healthy with regular external and internal audit checks ensuring correct financial procedures are followed.

Highways & Footpaths – We continue to monitor and report on road/footpath maintenance issues that arise from time to time, such as potholes and overgrown vegetation. In July we had a meeting with Highways to discuss additional traffic calming measures and we await their recommendations.

Playing Pitches – Parishioners might be wondering what is happening on Kilmore field at the rear of the TRAC site. Kilmore Field, along with the adjoining TRAC facility, was given to the Parish by the Warner Family Trust for the purpose of providing a sports amenity ground. TRAC have successfully managed their facility under a 28-year lease from TPC, dated 2003 and expiring 2031. Kilmore Fields, being set at the rear of the TRAC facility, is now subject to the S106 funding to level this site and provide additional sports facilities for the benefit of the Parish. [See full TRAC report on pp26-7 – ed.]

Denis Murray, Parish Council Chairman

Note from Parish Council:

“Denis Murray has been Chairman of the Parish Council for some 6 years and in that time has devoted his time to public service and steered the Council through some difficult and testing times: production of a Neighbourhood Development Plan, two housing developments, and two Sand and Gravel applications, to name five. He always remained cheerful in his role and even in the most excited meetings, he remained a calm and steadying influence on us all. This last election sees Denis retiring from the Chair, but he will be continuing as a Parish Councillor. We all wish Jeremy Horsfall well in taking the Chair for the third time and he will be ably supported by Peter Hadley as Vice Chair. All councillors will wish to thank Denis for his hard work and will be supportive of Jeremy in the coming year.”

WHAT IS A PARISH COUNCIL?

There are 9,000 parish and town councils in England. Over 16 million people live in communities served by these local councils, which is around 25% of the population, and about 80,000 councillors serve on these councils. It is calculated that £1 billion is invested in these communities every year.

Their activities fall into three main categories: representing the local community, delivering services to meet local needs, and improving quality of life and community wellbeing.

Local councils can provide a whole host of things, such as maintaining a variety of local services including allotments, bridleways, burial grounds, bus shelters, car parks, commons and open spaces, community transport schemes, community safety and crime reduction measures, events and festivals, footpaths, leisure and sports facilities, litter bins, public toilets, planning, street cleaning and lighting, tourism activities, traffic calming measures, village greens and youth projects. Existing powers were strengthened by the 2011 Localism Act, including the extension of the 'General Power of Competence' to eligible local councils.

Not every civil parish has a parish council: smaller ones, typically those with an electorate of fewer than 200, have regular Parish Meetings instead. A parish with a small number of electors may share a council with one or more neighbouring parishes; such an arrangement is known as a *grouped parish council*, or a *joint parish council*, *common parish council* or *combined parish council*.

Parish councils are funded by levying a 'precept' collected from within the council tax, paid by the residents of the parish. Parish councils are made up of unpaid councillors who are elected to serve for four years. A casual vacancy may be filled at by-election or under co-option.

TODDLERS & TOYS - BABIES & BOOKS

STAY & PLAY CAFE
FOR BABIES & CHILDREN
FROM 0-5
AND PARENTS & CARERS

BOTTLE & BREASTFEEDING
WELCOME

**TWYNING
TOTS**

EVERY THURSDAY
1.30-3PM
TERM TIME ONLY

TWYNING
VILLAGE HALL

SINGING & SNACKS - COFFEE & CHAT

Twyning Short Mat Bowls

Egg-citing times!

This thriving club continues to make life interesting for its members. A special bowls session was held near Easter, with chocolate eggs replacing the 'jack', i.e. the important yellow ball which is the target for all the bowls delivered. A good fun session was had by all, with extra energy provided by consuming the prize of the chocolate eggs on the day.

The club meets in the Village Hall on Monday afternoons throughout the year. Contact Fred 592175, Neil 593429, or Malcolm 295512.



Mike Teale measuring a Cadbury's Creme Egg; Fred Stephens with 'Smarties' egg.

TWYNING VILLAGE PLAYGROUP Learning & growing through play

VISIT US www.twyningplaygroup.org.uk OR  Twyning Village Playgroup FOR DETAILS

**From
Gloucestershire Constabulary**



**STALKING
and harassment**

Stalking is one of the most frequently experienced forms of abuse and it can terrify and destroy the lives of victims. It's often misinterpreted and misunderstood to be romantic and complimentary but it's not.

Both stalking and harassment are crimes. Stalking differs from harassment as it relates to a fixation and obsession of a person rather than a nuisance normally resulting from some kind of dispute. Harassment can however turn into stalking.

Around 1 in 5 women and 1 in 12 men have experienced stalking in their lifetime. (Suzy Lamplugh Trust 2016)

Stalkers are most likely to target someone they already know, with the largest proportion of stalkers being ex-partners. People working in public-facing roles can also be more likely to experience stalking.

Cyberstalking through mobile apps and social media is also a common part of stalking nowadays. You can find out how to secure your devices on the Gloucestershire Constabulary website.

Put a stop to stalking by remembering **STOP**.

Say no to the person once and then stop responding. Mute digital messages from them rather than blocking them. You can then monitor any escalations in behaviour.

Take notes by keeping a diary of every single time they contact you. Time, date, location and witnesses should be recorded. Any gifts should also be safely stored and digital messages screenshotted.

Options. Find out what your options are by contacting the free and confidential National Stalking Helpline on 0808 802 0300.

Police. Tell us about the stalking or the harassment as early as possible. You can do this online or over the phone by calling 101.

To download a stalking diary, find out more and to tell us about stalking please visit: gloucestershire.police.uk/stalking

Twyning Village Hall



Our regular users of the Village hall facilities will now be aware that improvements to the fabric and equipment in the hall have been completed.

All of the forecast changes have been made and they include:

- a) Central heating units in the body of the hall have been replaced with radiators.
- b) A projector and screen have been installed.
- c) A new dishwasher for the kitchen has been provided.
- d) The replacement of the four main ceiling lights and all fire exit and emergency lighting units.
- e) The replacement of the consumer unit so that each individual circuit has its own RCD.
- f) The replacement of motors on the roof mounted central heating fans.

In addition a full test and inspection of the whole electrical installation has been completed and a report received.

A Fire Risk Assessment and Compliance Audit has been completed by Mr Gary Packer GFireE, to bring our documentation up to date. We are grateful that this was free of charge. One outcome of his report is for us to secure the seating for major events such that the chairs cannot be tipped over.

I am pleased to announce that we have engaged the services of Mr Andy Jones, an independent bar operator who will support both private functions (subject to numbers attending) and all our major productions.

Internal redecoration of the hall is being planned for the summer holidays.

Booking of the hall and its facilities can be made through the Clerk: please contact Jan Houlan at: bookings@twyningvillagehall.org.uk

D J Lockett, Chairman

French Group

French Group meets once a month at Whites Cottage, High St at 7.30pm. The next meetings are June 5th and July 3rd. If you would like to improve your French conversation, come and join us for a glass of wine or cup of tea and a chat about almost anything.

Recently we have been fortunate to have two young native speakers join us, who have given us the chance to learn new expressions and find out about life in France. We said goodbye to them last month and look forward to seeing some new faces, possibly next month. If you would like to know more, please get in touch.

Hilary Davies, 01684 299350

Twynning Over-60s Lunch Club

The Club meets at the Village Hall on Fridays, during term times. Lunches are served at 12.30pm, many members arriving early to have a chat and to compare notes. The excellent meals are prepared by four teams of cooks who work hard to provide the lunches. We are a self-funding organisation run entirely by volunteers. Attendance is running at approximately 30 on a regular basis, but we were sorry to lose Mrs Joyce Turner who has recently emigrated to Australia. We wish her well for the future. She had been a regular member for many years and been a great help serving drinks at Christmas and meals. We always welcome newcomers to our weekly gatherings when two courses are served, plus tea or coffee, at a low cost of £3 each. We are now planning our summer outing and August lunch.

We would like to thank everyone for their continued support. However, as usual, we are still in need of people (male or female!) to step in occasionally when cooks and helpers are ill or on holiday. If anyone has time free on a Friday either early to help set up tables or between 10am and 2pm (not necessarily for the whole four hours, e.g. dads or mums with children at the village school who don't work), please let us know, either Sam Haycock on 293890 or Judith Allen on 292123.

Why not come along and give us a try!

Fundraising for Acorns Children's Hospice



Due to the concerted efforts of our knitters, stitcher-uppers, sellers and donators of chocolate eggs, we have managed to raise this magnificent sum for the Children's Hospice at Worcester. Easter being almost as late as it can be this year helped, as it meant there was more time to sell, and also more time to knit and sew. I think we were all flagging towards the end but we soldiered on and everyone involved is delighted with the amount raised for this very worthwhile charity.

We were so fortunate this year that we didn't have to buy any chocolate eggs. They were all donated, and gratefully received, from the smallest gift to the largest. A big thank you to all, and especially to Mel, the fundraiser at Acorns, who worked tirelessly to obtain eggs and to sell many Easter animals.

Our knitters produced a total of 2,955 animals this year. We used to be able to say just 'Easter chicks', but now we have so many species, including chicks with hats, bears, rabbits, ducks on the water, owls, sheep, cockerels and even one dinosaur! I wonder what we will get next year?!

Thank you for all the donations of wool and thank you to Louise from Tewkesbury Cards and Gifts and to *Tewkesbury Direct* for organising this. We always need wool, so if you are having a spring clean and come across some, either full balls or oddments, please drop them in to Louise or to Kerry at M&Co. As well as wool, we're always on the lookout for more knitters and stitchers, so if you think you can help, do get in touch. A special thank you to the knitting group who meet every Wednesday morning at the Roses Theatre, for their continuing support.

Peacocks Stores joined our sellers this year, and they came out top, just pipping Tewkesbury Garden Centre. Well done and thank you for being so helpful.

Sam and Anita Haycock, tel. 293890, 15 Paxhill Lane, Twyning

Twyning Tennis Club

The summer season is well under way and hopefully by the time you read this we will be fortunate enough to be playing on newly resurfaced courts. The Tennis Committee and TRAC committee put a good deal of effort into maintaining the whole site, raising funds annually through the village fete and other events. Now is the time to enjoy!

If you have been thinking of having a go at tennis but don't feel ready to join a club, there are opportunities you can take up. **Every Saturday from 2.00 till 4.00pm Twyning Tennis Club invites you to come and have a go for free.** No need to bring a racquet, just your trainers. A member of the Club will be there to encourage you! Already we have had some people take advantage of this who have gone on to join the Club. **The other way you can try us out is by joining for one month only for just £10.** During this time you can come to Club sessions or use the courts at other times with other members. If you decide you want full membership the £10 will be deducted from the full price. It's a great way to get going.

The Club would really like to increase its membership and welcomes people at all levels. The coaching programme through Malvern Tennis Academy has been successful. Children's coaching is on a Monday. This is followed by cardio tennis, which is open to non-members for a small fee. After that is team training open to members. So, no excuse! Come and see the new courts and find out what's going on. If you would like more details, don't hesitate to contact us.

Hilary Davies, 01684 299350; Peter Gold, 01684 292586

Children's Society

With a couple more Children's Society boxes yet to be emptied, at the time of writing I am delighted to report that over the past 12 months the box-holders so far have raised **over £350, which is fantastic!** There are currently 36 box-holders in the village but if anyone else feels that they can help by having a box, please call me.

Thank you to all of you who choose to support this charity. In doing so the money you help raise makes a real, tangible difference to the lives of so many children and young people.

Lorna Herold, 294292

About us



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Day	Hours
Monday	9.00am - 7.00pm
Tuesday	9.00am - 7.00pm
Wednesday	9.00am - 7.00pm
Thursday	9.00am - 7.00pm
Friday	9.00am - 7.00pm
Saturday	9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday	Closed

Unit 1, The Threshing Barn, Puckrup Hall Farm,
Tewkesbury. GL20 6EL
teresa@beautyatthebarn.com
www.beautyatthebarn.com

■

BeautyattheBarnPuckrup
01684 275569

Twyning Tots

It has been a great year for Twyning Tots and it has been lovely to see so many people from inside and outside of the village. For those of you who haven't heard of us, we run a stay and play session for pre-schoolers in the village hall on Thursday afternoons from 1.30pm-3.00pm. We have lots of toys for the children to play with as well as putting on different activities each week. So far this year we have celebrated world book day with a book swap, storytelling and craft activities; we have baked cakes and decorated biscuits; got very messy during the messy play session and made cards to celebrate different festivals.

We are a charity run by volunteers and rely on fundraising to make ends meet. If you are interested in getting involved with Twyning Tots either by fundraising for us or helping at the sessions then we would be delighted to hear from you.

Twyning Tots is a great place for children to make new friends and for carers to relax and enjoy a cup of tea. We are a very friendly group, so if you look after an under five during the week please do come along, or visit our Facebook page to find out more about us. We charge just £1.50 per family which includes a hot drink for the adults and snack for the little ones. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Anna Rudgley

Builder – Guide Dog Ambassador

This is my mum's fourteenth year of Puppy Walking for Guide Dogs and having had a puppy for each of those years and also boarded over 60 other Guide Dogs, I think it is safe to say she enjoys her job.

I enjoy having lots of different puppies come to stay. Since Christmas we have had 8 Guide Dog puppies stay with us, so it's never a dull moment. It certainly wasn't when we had 12-month-old Stratford, a German Shepherd/Retriever cross for 8 days. He's bigger than me and weighs over 35 kilograms. When he went charging upstairs, following me, the family thought nothing of it. Guide Dog puppies in training are not encouraged to go in the bedroom, so although Stratford had done stairs in shops etc, these were very different and scary, especially on the



descent, as Mum was to discover. She tried to call him down but he just sat there looking at her. She used his toy, shaking it, throwing it down the stairs hoping he would follow. She put a treat on each stair tread and whistled him to get his dinner (would have worked for me!). Mum thought Dad might have to give him a 'fireman's lift' (which I would like to have seen). But what was needed was a Super Dog, so they sent me up. I danced round him a few times, to tell him that the food in his bowl was mine and then dashed down the stairs with Stratford hard on my heels. I got the job done, so my training of that puppy was over for the day.

Mum also supports Guide Dogs by doing her Christmas and Easter knitting. She started in 2005 and it has grown in popularity ever since. Five years ago Jo Davis started helping and since then four others – Pam Page, Linda Harris, Lesley Smith and Jane Graham – have joined in. Many thanks to these helpers as between them they have raised over £2000 in knitted decorations. Their knitting has helped raise funds for other charities too. Sandra and Gary from the Village Inn give Mum and Jo a different challenge each year. This year's theme, 'The Showman', with the Bearded Lady, was great! Helping each other out in different ways can only be a good thing. So Mum and her friends will continue with their knitting. And me? Well, I will continue just being perfect In Every Way. Signing off for now,

Builder – Super Dog.

If you are interested in Puppy Walking (1st Year Guide Dog Puppy Training), boarding Guide Dogs or helping in other ways, see the Guide Dogs website or give me a call. Brenda Mead, 01684 297540

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Twynning School



In the last bulletin we told you about our campaign to raise funds for the improvement of the playground and outdoor areas of the school. Work has now started on refurbishment and extension of the Secret Garden to create a safe and stimulating area where children can be peaceful and enjoy nature.

We have a plan and, via one of our governors, we have the offer of 'manpower' from a corporate volunteer team. However, there is quite a lot to do before we can get into action. Perhaps you can help? We need wood, paint, storage boxes and tough plants such as herbs and succulents.

There are also a number of discrete mini-projects that need to be completed over the next few months, including making a bird table, creating a little greenhouse from plastic bottles, and building a dramatic entrance gate. We also have a wish-list of items needed to make the garden really special. If you would like to help with any of these, or sponsor a part of the transformation, please contact Liz O'Dell, 291866 (eaogreenfarm@gmail.com) or Carol Chapman, 293527.

Twyning Parish Church & Twyning Chapel

The Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene

Last week I read a Twyning burial record for 1656 to 1775. I realised of course that our village has a long history, but suddenly you get a glimpse of lives shared on the same piece of England. A child drowned, we don't know where (in the river or one of the ponds?), but it was just as much a tragedy as it would be today. The Church cared and it was recorded. Whether you have faith or not there is something rather awe-inspiring about touching on lives lived in the year when the pendulum clock was invented and doing so through a record maintained digitally on a 21st-century laptop. But as you might expect I do have a reason for musing thus! The Parish Church is yours. It is part of a shared heritage of all of us who live here in Twyning. Some of us choose to see it as the focus of our faith but others feel a rather different connection, one rooted in shared community. Whatever your perspective, I hope you feel that Twyning would be the less without its Parish Church. Wait for it, you say... here comes the appeal for money. Well yes, that's always helpful and we are grateful to all who help us so generously. But there are always many different ways you can help us.... a bit of time helping us maintain the Churchyard....cleaning in the Church... it all saves us money and you will find yourself in touch with village history, literally. If you think you can give just a little time contact Ron Hesketh, Chris Cole, Margaret Bailey or any of the current Parish Church team. Ron Hesketh – Associate Priest

The **regular services** each month in Church are:

On the 1st, 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month **Parish Communion** is at 9.30am.

On the 3rd Sunday **Morning Praise** is at 9.30am – a non-communion service for all the family with tea/coffee and biscuits served from 10.40am and a stall selling goods to support Acorns Children's Hospice.

On the 5th Sunday in a month **Holy Communion** is at 9.30am from the Book of Common Prayer.

Each Thursday **Morning Prayer** is said at 9.00am.

See facing page for further events. Everyone is always welcome.

For more information, please give the Churchwardens a ring or look at:

www.achurchnearyou.com/twyning-st-mary-magdalene

Ven. Ron Hesketh, 01684 299 773; mobile 077 11 09 69 21

Parish Lay Minister, Angela Cole, 01684 294 325

Churchwarden, Chris Cole, 01684 294 325

Churchwarden Emeritus, Margaret Bailey, 01684 298 268

				MIDSUMMER MOMENTS IN SUPPORT OF ACORNS CHILDREN'S HOSPICE:	
June	22nd /23rd	Sat/ Sun			
June	22nd	Sat	From 10.30am	FLOWERS, MUSIC, REFRESHMENTS	Church
June	23rd	Sun	2.30pm	STRAWBERRY TEA IN THE GARDEN	Bird's Farm
June	28th	Fri	7pm	BELLS AND BELLRINGING: A TALK BY MALCOLM TAYLOR	Ann Townend Hall
Aug	25th	Sun	10am	BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY SERVICE	Marquee, Village Green

Twyning Chapel

At the Good Friday Coffee Morning with hot cross buns, it was fantastic to see the chapel full of people. A lovely time was had by children doing the Easter Egg Hunt and people catching up with friends. Many of you will know Jan Millett, who proudly walked from Kingsholm Stadium in Gloucester to Sixways in Worcester over three days (in the face of Storm Hannah) to raise money for her three favourite charities – The Motor Neurone Disease Association; Tewkesbury Refugee Support Group and St Richard's Hospice. An incredible achievement – well done Jan!

Our regular activities continue as follows:

Sunday Morning Worship – 10.30am. You would be very welcome to come and try us out – we are a friendly group and enjoy lively music and a variety of speakers.

Dinkies – fortnightly group on Friday mornings (usually advertised on the Twyning Facebook page) from 10–11.30am for all children from birth upwards. Lovely opportunity for children to play and parents/carers to meet up over a cuppa.

Bible Study and Home Groups – run on alternate Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm either at the chapel or in someone's home.

Friendship Group – meets on alternate Fridays at chapel at 10.30am – for coffee, chat and outings/lunch out at times.

Some services which may be of interest:

Sun 11th Aug – speaker from the organisation Christians against Poverty

Sun 18th Aug – Gloucester City Mission

Sun 25th Aug – joint service with the Parish Church in the marquee on the Green

For more information about us or any of our activities, please contact Tom Brown, 01684 276578; Clive Porter, 01386 750400 or David Kendrick, 01684 438261

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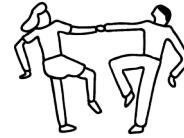
THE social event of the year is back!
Put on your checked shirts, grab your partners by the hand and come along
to our

FAMILY BARN DANCE

With music from Hetty Pegler's Tump



Saturday 24th August 2019
The Marquee on the Green
7.30pm–11.30pm



Licensed bar applied for
It really will be an evening for the whole family so please put the date in
your diary NOW! Ticket prices held:

Adult £13.00 Child 12 yrs and under £5.00

Tickets available from Lorna: 01684 294292

Food for Thought

If only we could walk a day in someone else's shoes...

Am I alone in thinking that I wish we lived in a time where the default response to our fellow man was to give them the benefit of doubt rather than assume the worst? Most ordinary people are not trying to make our lives difficult on purpose. There appears to be a negative mind-set amongst so many; often quick to judge and quicker still to draw conclusions.

On occasion I have been assumed drunk when my Parkinson's Disease symptoms fluctuate and I have been ignored rather than offered help. The intolerance between generations is ever more palpable; are we forgetting that we were all young once and, with luck on our side, we will all reach our senior years? So much road rage over minor incidents; all drivers occasionally forget to indicate or are indecisive on an unknown road. The offending driver in front of us today isn't necessarily a bad driver every day. It's just bad luck that we are behind them at that moment in time. These relatively small intolerances impact our lives and it saddens me that I am increasingly witnessing this in our own village.

I have lived in Twynning for 18 years and I think much of this attitudinal change is linked to social media. Now, I love Facebook, when it works well, but the negative side of social media is pernicious. Intolerance in communities isn't new, but before social media, such views were mainly aired within the home or at small social gatherings. Now we can broadcast our thoughts, in seconds, to a wide public audience. This can be damaging and divisive to communities. Not wishing to be hypocritical, if I have posted anything that has caused offence, I apologise. I urge us all to take a moment before we type a negative, offensive or provocative post on any Facebook community page. We should just type what we could comfortably say to each other, face to face.

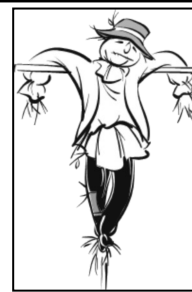
If we could walk a day in someone else's shoes and look beyond the moment... take a breath, think better of our fellow man, we could foster a more harmonious community for ALL, both on-line and off-line...

Nici Khor



Village Scarecrow Competition

Everyone is invited to enter this year's Village Scarecrow Competition being held on August Bank Holiday Monday.



The theme this year is:
LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Entry is just £2 per scarecrow and forms will be available from the village shop.

All entries are to be received on or before Saturday 24th August 2019. The scarecrows must be in full view by 09.00 on Monday 26th August 2019, so that judging can take place in time for the Village Fete, when the winner will be announced.

Let's see if we can get the most scarecrows ever!

Shopper Bus Service 481

****MONDAYS ONLY****

Outward Journey

10.10 am	Twyning Green Shop
10.14 am	Shuthonger, Crown Inn
10.18 am	Tewkesbury High Street, Boots
10.20 am	Tewkesbury Crescent
10.35 am	Kingsditch Retail Park
10.45 am	Royal Well Bus Station Cheltenham

Return Journey

13.30 pm	Royal Well Bus Station Cheltenham
13.37 pm	Kingsditch Retail Park
13.52 pm	Tewkesbury Crescent
13.54 pm	Tewkesbury High Street, Anchor Inn
13.58 pm	Shuthonger, Crown Inn
14.04 pm	Twyning Green Shop

A copy timetable is on the Twyning notice board, outside the school. Full timetables are available from the tourist information office in Tewkesbury.

Twyning Players



In May 2000, Twyning Players presented 'The Ghost Train' by Arnold Ridley – and, we've just done it again! Thanks to everyone who came along to see the production and we hope that you enjoyed the thrills, chills and the spectral locomotive.

The play was written in 1923 by the actor and playwright Arnold Ridley whom many of you will remember as the Home Guard platoon member Private Godfrey, in the BBC series Dad's Army. Ridley was inspired to write the play after becoming stranded overnight at Mangotsfield railway station (now closed) on the defunct Midland Railway Company's main line during a rail journey through the Gloucestershire countryside. The deserted station's atmosphere, combined with hearing the non-stop Bath to Gloucester express using an adjacent curved diversionary main line to by-pass Mangotsfield, which created the illusion of a train approaching, passing through and departing, but not being seen, impressed itself upon Ridley's senses.

The play has certainly stood the test of time and we were very pleased to see Neil Broadhead, a member of the original cast, making his directorial debut. Rick Haines, who directed in 2000, also took part, as did Nici Khor, Nigel Guilding and Ian Southall, all also in that earlier production – Twyning Players wear well!

A rest for the thespians over the summer, although our social calendar continues with a variety of activities. Planning will soon begin for our winter production taking place in December; we'll keep you posted on that as things develop.

If you would like to be involved in any way, on-stage or behind the scenes, talk to any Twyning Player or give me a call. New members are always most welcome.

Carol Chapman, Secretary, 293527

Twyning WI

Some may think WI is all about Jam and Jerusalem but here in Twyning we try to follow the WI's more modern approach of inspiring women to do and be the best they can be. Yes, we start our monthly meetings by singing Jerusalem – who isn't moved by those glorious words and stirring chords – but we don't make jam nor spend our meetings knitting, though we are partial to a good cake or two!!

Instead we have a different speaker each month talking to us about a huge variety of topics; we discuss the national resolutions; we take part in county and national initiatives and competitions; but most of all we enjoy the friendship and support of a diverse group of amazing women, young and old, who live in and around Twyning.

Our 2019 membership year started in January with a fascinating talk by Chris O'Grady on 'Fakes and Fortunes, Art & Antiques'. He talked us through many of his, and other famous, purchases and how to investigate their true meaning and value. February's speaker, Jacky Robertson, tackled some tricky subjects in a heart-warming way, regaling us with tales of her life dealing with divorce, breast cancer, turning 50 and how she started her own charity. March was a more relaxed evening watching a demonstration of willow basket making. Norah Kennedy's fingers worked nimbly away creating a lovely bowl whilst she told us all about the array of baskets she brought along and the techniques she was using.

In April we hosted the Group Spring Meeting, with members from Beckford, Bredon, Kemerton, Mitton and Newtown WIs coming along to join us. Sixty-six women enjoyed a wonderful buffet laid on by our ladies; bought books and plants from our sales table; and generously donated to our raffle and floral competition. Our guest speaker, Duncan Coombs, gave an illuminating talk on his spring visit to Japan's gardens and countryside making us all wish we could go there too.

Numbers for this year have settled at 38, but we always welcome visitors and hope they like what we do and want to come back for more. Our June meeting will include a talk on the peregrine falcons at Tewkesbury Abbey. We hold a summer garden party in July (any excuse for a round of croquet, a glass of Pimm's and a cake or two) and hope to visit Beckford Silk for our August outing.

In addition to our monthly meetings, various members host a book club; a make and bake group; a Scrabble group; and organise theatre trips and craft workshops. Forthcoming workshops include Modern Calligraphy and Indian Block Printing.

Anyone interested in coming to visit us can join us on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in Twyning Village Hall or can check out what we are up to by searching for Twyning WI on Facebook. We'd love to meet you!

Longdon District Probus Club

Although Longdon sounds fairly remote, this Probus Club has a significant number of Twyning residents as members.

Recently, a small group, including guests, from Longdon District Probus Club visited the Much Markle cider mill of H. Weston & Sons, and was favoured by a very pleasant Spring-like day. This visit included an introductory talk and video, followed by a tour of the mill. It was surprising to learn that the process of making cider (and perry) is a year-long one, starting with the Autumn intake of local apples from Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. Following the tour, our group visited the shop, to sample (and purchase) some of the wide variety of ciders and perries made by Westons.

The AGM for the Club was recently held at the at the Hunters Inn, Buckbury. It is an important meeting where, amongst other things, Club matters (including finances) are discussed, reports are presented, and officials are elected for 2019/20. This tried and tested process is a necessary one, since it ensures that the Club is in good hands and continues to run smoothly and efficiently during the coming year.



Perhaps the 'highlight' of the AGM is the handing-over of the Chain of Office. The photograph shows the retiring Chairman, Nigel Thompson (left) congratulating Graham Francis, the incoming Chairman. However, Nigel isn't quite 'let off the hook', since he automatically remains on the Committee. Toward the end of the AGM, Graham outlined his ambitions and plans for the Club.

Longdon District Probus Club meets on most Monday mornings at the Hunters Inn, Buckbury (together with occasional trips out, such as the one mentioned above, and social events) and talks on a variety of topics are planned to take place throughout the year. If you would like to join the Club, or perhaps come along as a guest, please contact the Club Secretary, John, at johnlridley@hotmail.com.

2nd Twyning Scout Group

Now we are in the summer term, outdoor activities and camps are taking place across all sections and we very much plan to use the new tents kindly paid for by Twyning Parish Council.

All sections were represented at a very windy but successful St George's Day parade and fun day held at Tewkesbury School with activities as varied as coracle building in the swimming pool to archery, all culminating in an impromptu camp fire rendition of a number of camp song favourites.

Welcome to Liz Sydenham who is joining the Beaver Section as a leader this term.

Ian Palmer, theianpalmer@gmail.com

Beavers – Age 6 to 7 (Thursday) – Anne Green, thefamilygreens@btinternet.com

The Spring term saw four Beavers achieving their personal challenge badge as they ran a noisy but fun games evening. The Beavers were very creative with their junk modelling and model making and made up some interesting stories about the models.

In February, 13 Beavers slept over in the village hall and learnt about space, studied the night sky on our hike, had a mini camp fire, did lots of craft and most Beavers got 8 hours' sleep! As the evenings got lighter the Beavers successfully navigated their way around the village and were awarded their navigator badge. Beatrice achieved her Chief scout bronze award and we wish her and Luke all the best as they move on to Cubs.

Beavers meet on a Thursday 6–7 at Twyning School. Please contact Anne Green (Piglet) if you have a child who would like to attend or you are an adult who would like to help on a regular basis. We are currently full and have a waiting list.

Cubs – Age 8 to 10 (Thursday) – Julie Catchpole, jdcatchpole@yahoo.com

The highlight of this term will see us gearing up towards a new adventure, our first camp at Blackwell Adventure near Bromsgrove. With the wonderful support of parents and team scouting, some of the Cubs will be having their first camp away in tents. This is a big milestone and achievement for the pack as it is still less than a year since we got it up and running with the new team, and it will I am sure set the foundation for more camps in the future.

Some of the Cubs attended the Tewkesbury District St George's Activity Day event at Tewkesbury School. Fun was had by all participating in laser tag, superslides, archery and creative activities involving skill and teamwork .

Scouts – Age 10 ½ to 14 (Thursday) – Lorna Herold, l.herold@btinternet.com

Last term the Scouts worked hard towards their Skills Challenge Badge. The badge involved each of them learning 5 new lifestyle skills such as ironing a shirt, changing a plug fuse, fixing a puncture or cleaning a toilet! They also had to take part in a physical activity over a period 6 weeks. The Challenge badges are an important part of Scouting: you have to gain 9 to complete your Chief Gold Scout, which is the highest award you can get. It takes a lot of effort, but it also gives the young people a chance to try new experiences along the way. Huge congratulations to Toby, Imogen and Daisy for gaining their CGSA award last term. We ended the term turning the Village Hall into a cinema with a video and pizza night. We were fortunate to be one of the first to use the new projector in the Village Hall and the sound quality was excellent!

This term we will be making the most of the lighter evenings and will be out an about as much as possible. We have plans for Open Rock Climbing at Symonds Yat (kindly offered by Liz Orchard), pitching tents, map reading, route planning, community planting and much more. In order to provide fun-packed and exciting things for the Scouts to do, we are always looking for volunteers to join our team. If you think you might be able to spare some time, please do get in touch.

Explorer Scouts

Since the last bulletin, the Explorers have been doing archery, climbing, bowling, self-defence and a 'horse of the year show'-themed event. Last month we travelled down to London for the Monopoly Run event, when 168 Explorer teams attempted to photograph themselves in 38 locations, answering questions and getting back to 'Go' within the allocated time. On the Sunday we visited the Imperial War Museum where we had a sobering time, reflecting on past conflicts.

On St George's Day weekend, 5 of our ex-Explorers, who moved on from the unit when they turned 18, were at Windsor Castle for the official presentation of their Queen's Scout Awards by HRH the Duke of Kent and Chief Scout, Bear Grylls.

We have just started coaching sessions again for canoeing and air rifle shooting and will be entering the National Scout Rifle Championships in October. Expedition preparation is well under way: team meetings have taken place, as have Skype conversations with Scouters in Canada who are helping one of our teams organise their expedition in Algonquin Provincial Park in Canada

As always, a big thank you to all the leaders and everyone else who supports us. We are fairly full, but if you are aged between 13 ½ and 18 and interested in joining Explorers, give us a call and join us for an evening to see what it is all about.

Dan Orchard, Explorer Scout Leader, 01684 298788, dan@twyning.net

TRAC

TRAC is run by a committee of volunteers trying to provide a facility that the community can be proud of.

When TRAC was granted use of the site there were restrictions put in place by Tewkesbury Borough Council. One of these restrictions was the opening hours, which many of you may not even realise exist (they can be found on the sign as you enter the site). Outside of these hours the site has to be locked. This is also a condition set down by our insurance. Another restriction was that NO DOGS are allowed on site.

As a committee of volunteers we have to ensure that these restrictions are adhered to in order to ensure we are not in breach of the Terms and Conditions of our lease. We hope that you will work with us in these matters.

Opening times are:

8.30am–9.30pm (or dusk) Monday–Friday

9.00am–9.30pm (or dusk) Saturdays

10.00am–8.30pm (or dusk) Sundays and Bank Holidays

By the time you read this hopefully our 106 projects will be near completion.

Top Site

A little behind schedule due to the inclement weather we had, but hopefully as you are reading this the groundwork will nearly be complete. Once the grass is established we hope to have a facility which is much sought after. Whilst the grass is establishing we would ask for your co operation and patience. We hope that people will follow the guidelines and adhere to the signs that will be in place in order to ensure we get the best possible result intended.

Once the facility is up and running, we will be looking for anyone who would like to start a village football team to come forward. Whether this is for adults, children, men or women, we would love to see the area being used as much as possible.

On completion there will also be a small running track alongside the right-hand edge and some outdoor gym equipment will also be installed.

Play Area Refurbishment:

The gentleman who carried this out virtually did it all single-handed and it was refreshing to see someone take so much pride in their work. The end result looks fantastic and I hope the children will have lots of fun playing on it for another 10–12 years.

Court Resurfacing

The two lower tennis courts and the MUGA court have been resurfaced and painted and the third court has been pressure washed and the lines renewed. There was a little delay to complete this project too, due to the weather, but once again the end result looks great.

However, following the work we have been given a lot of maintenance guidelines that we must now follow to ensure that we do not jeopardise the longevity of the work carried out. One of the guidelines is that BIKES ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE COURTS.

This may seem strange to some, but it is due to the different surfacing used, which is more porous and prone to damage. The courts will therefore remain locked at all times in order to avoid anyone unwittingly causing any damage.

This does not mean that we want to prevent people being able to use the courts for the intended purpose of tennis, football and netball though... FAR FROM IT... we would actually encourage as much use as possible.

Users will just have to ensure that they are members. Membership is just £12.50 a year for an adult or £5 for a child 12 years and under. Full information can be found on the website: tracsports.org or call Hilary on 01 684 293860.

Members will then be given access to a key when they want to hire the courts. Eventually we have plans to install a key card system to make access easier.

Why should we have to pay to use the courts?

TRAC is one of the few village sports facilities in the area not funded by the local council, so we have to raise all the funds ourselves and these funds come from membership fees, court hire, grants and fundraising events.

We need to work together as a community to ensure that the facilities are well maintained and we hope that you will openly support us with this.

Although our play area is open to the general public and does not require membership we would welcome regular users becoming members too, in order to help us raise funds needed to maintain the site and equipment.

Lastly, if anyone has any future concerns regarding TRAC please contact one of the committee directly rather than using the village Facebook page to raise your issues. Hopefully we can then resolve them swiftly and clarify why certain decisions are being made. People are often quick to criticise but don't fully understand what goes on behind the scenes. If you would like to join us to find out more why not join the committee and help with the future developments of the site.

Lorna Herold, Chair, TRAC, tracsports.org, l.herold@btinternet.com

August Bank Holiday Weekend and Fete

The weekend festivities will start on **Saturday evening** with our popular Family Barn Dance and barbecue. So dust off your boots and put on your check shirts and come and join the fun. Barbecue provided by Halfords Butchers.

Tickets £13.00 an adult; £5.00 child 12 and under.

On **Sunday** the Church and Chapel will be holding their service in the marquee from 10.00am and on the Green we will see the return of the Twyning Motor Show where classic cars and bikes will be on display. Why not come and join us for breakfast and enjoy a delicious bacon bap whilst looking at the vehicles?

On **Bank Holiday Monday 26th August, from 1–4pm** we will have the village fete.

A whole array of entertainment is planned for the afternoon so why not come early – enjoy a BBQ lunch and afternoon tea or something stronger at the bar amid a host of stalls, sideshows and arena events. Not forgetting the chance to grab a bargain at our popular Car Boot Sale.

In the marquee, along with the refreshments, we shall have our competition entries on display. They provide a real focal point for visitors to the fete to enjoy and there are plenty of categories to choose from, so hopefully something will catch your eye. Entry forms available from the Village Shop. Wouldn't it be amazing if we had at least one entry per household!

Raffle tickets will be on sale in the run-up to the fete and on the day so don't miss out as there are always many fantastic prizes to be won.

The Village Scarecrow competition will also be returning and we hope that lots of you will enter. This year the theme is 'LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!' (see separate advert on p20 for further information) so put on your thinking caps and come up with your favourite film or film star!

If you would like to hold a stall at the fete please contact us and let us know your ideas so that we can avoid double-ups and allocate an area for you. The fete is a great opportunity for you to raise funds for your cause; all we ask is that 10% of your takings are given to TRAC, as the fete organisers, and all money raised will go towards maintaining the excellent sports and play area facilities that we are lucky to have in Twyning.

Finally, if you would like to get more involved in the run-up to the fete or you can spare an hour or two to help out on the day we would love to hear from you. We are a very small committee at the moment and none of us are getting any younger so please do help if you can. Many hands make light work!

For further information please contact Lorna Herold, 01684 294292

Fete Competition Categories

UNDER 6 YEARS

DECORATED PAPER PLATE

6-12 YEARS

FLOWERS IN A TIN CAN

VEGETABLE VEHICLE – must travel over 30cm

HANDMADE CRAFT ITEM USING RECYCLABLE MATERIALS ONLY

TEENAGER

4 VEGETABLE TARTLETS – Homemade pastry must be used

OPEN

PHOTOGRAPH – Title: 'MOVEMENT'

This year's theme has been set by and will be judged on the day by local photographer Jack Boskett **Challenge Cup for First Place**

PRESERVE – SWEET

PRESERVE – SAVOURY

HOMEMADE BEVERAGE

DAIRY FREE CAKE

4 MERINGUE NESTS – **Made by a man** – *Topping of own choice*

4 HOMEGROWN TOMATOES

MEDLEY of 3 HOMEGROWN VEGETABLES (min 2 of each)

GREAT TWYNING BAKE-OFF: BEST SWISS ROLL

Only made from the following ingredients:

50g caster sugar (+ 2tbsp for dusting), 50g self-raising flour, 2 eggs, jam

SPECIAL FLORAL ARRANGEMENT CLASS – ENTRY £2.00

Challenge Cup for First Place. Set and judged by local florist Hans Haverkamp.

CREATE A FENCE – it can be made of any material and be decorative, natural, falling apart etc etc.

Using flowers and greenery, show that this 'barrier' has two sides to it.

Style can be any from formal (garden fence) to natural (field fence) – think carefully about the container!

Space allowed: 24" (61cm) width, 12" (30.5cm) depth, height unlimited.

Bulletin admin

Submissions of articles and photographs relating to Twyning are always welcome for the Bulletin. If you run a club or stage an event in the area let us know! You don't have to be part of a club or organisation to contribute, though – the Bulletin is truly a community effort for everyone to share in.

If you'd like to advertise in the Bulletin please contact the editor (see below for contact details).

Deadlines for the year's Bulletins are:

15th January

15th May

15th September

If you'd like to be added to the email contact list for reminders, please let the editor know.

Back cover: Twyning wildlife!

(Top: Photo by Fiona Thornton; Bottom: Photo by Roy Thomas)

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