

The Dilwynner



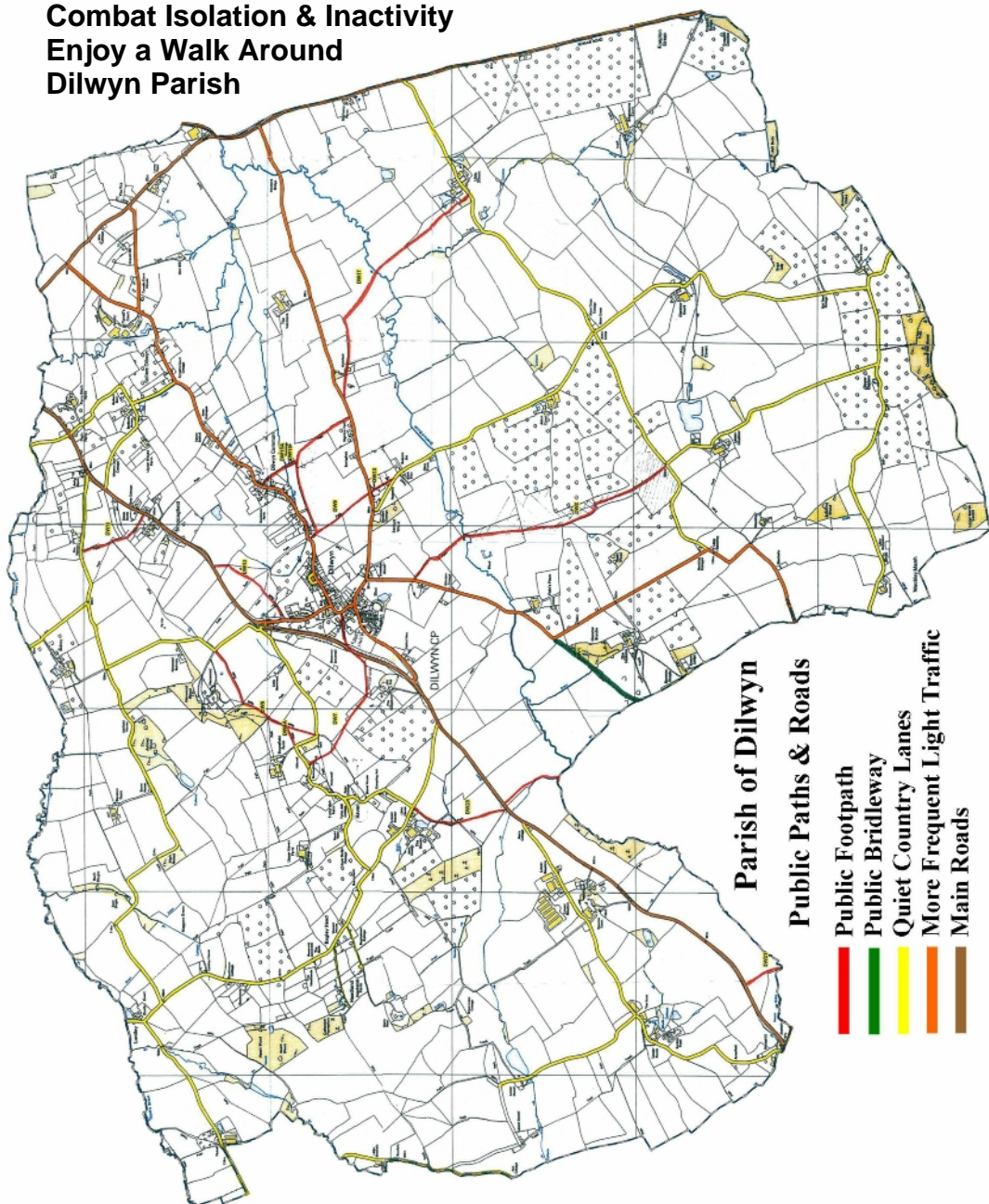
Sally the Springer Spaniel

April 2020

Dilwyn's Independent Parish Magazine

Free only to Dilwyn parish households

**Combat Isolation & Inactivity
Enjoy a Walk Around
Dilwyn Parish**



Cover photo kindly supplied by Lucy Hall

Sally is a Springer Spaniel and Lucy got this photo in The Farmers Weekly in the Christmas special. She's an absolute nutter and it was a rare occasion to capture her in a clean condition!

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All emailed copy for the magazine should be sent ONLY to the dilwynner@dilwyn.com address. We cannot guarantee publication for copy sent to any other address or to individual editors' private email addresses. Emails addressed to dilwynner@dilwyn.com are received by ALL the editorial team, thus ensuring copy will always reach the appropriate editor(s).

Conditions of Publication

The conditions of publication are published on the independent **dilwyn.com** website, <http://dilwyn.com/index.php/dilwynner/publishing-notes>.

Items in this magazine are normally published as received provided they meet the above conditions and, as such, may not reflect the individual views of the editorial team. If you have any objection to any item published in this magazine, please take it up, in the first instance, with the originating organisation or individual.

Remember, this is Dilwyn's magazine and it relies largely on the residents of Dilwyn to provide articles and information. So if you have something of interest to share, please send it in to the editors (email to dilwynner@dilwyn.com) or pass by hand to any of the team. Dilwyn's Coronavirus Support effort on the Dilwyn.com front page.



St Mary's Church

From the Diocese of Hereford:

'In the face of the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the health and wellbeing of everyone connected to our churches and schools is a priority. Following the announcement from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, we will be suspending all acts of worship and gatherings across the Diocese. This does not mean we are shutting up shop but adapting to the changing situation. We are becoming a radically different kind of church rooted in prayer and serving others.

It is important that our churches continue to be places open to the public where individuals can safely pray and our clergy can provide pastoral support. This should be undertaken whilst maintaining safe social distances and practising good hygiene.

The current guidance from the Church of England states that funerals and weddings can still proceed. However, these events must respect the latest public health advice and each service should limit the number of people attending, respecting recommended guidelines on safe social distancing and good hygiene. The national teams are working on more detailed advice and information regarding bands of marriage, safeguarding training, convening APCMs and guidance on Children/Youth work but have confirmed that non-essential meetings and training should be cancelled.'

Please be assured that St Mary's will continue to be open as normal, and that Matthew will provide support as needed.

Revd Matthew Burns.

Come and visit our beautiful church

The planned wedding dress festival will now take place in 2021

CLERGY CONTACTS: Revd. Matthew Burns: 07817 747470

Gill Okell-Price, Churchwarden: 319378

Anthea Alexander, Diary: 318168; Tim Block, Fabric: 388939

Leominster Priory Office: 01568 612124

Baptist Church, Leominster: 01568 708247

Methodist Church, Weobley & Leominster: 01568 612406

Roman Catholic Church, Weobley: 01544 318325

Easter Lily



Would you like to sponsor a lily in memory of a loved one or to mark a special event? The flowers will decorate our church from Easter Day and there will be a Record of Remembrance in the Church. Please let us know if you would like to contribute as soon as possible and no later than Wednesday 8th April.

Please be generous.

If you wish to donate a lily this Easter in St. Mary's Church, Dilwyn - please contact Hilary Herdman tel. 01544 319256 or Anthea Alexander tel. 07747025077.

VE Day Veterans Invitation

Victory in Europe Day 2020

VE Day 2020 is on Friday, 8th May, the 75th Anniversary of the day that the German High Command surrendered to Allied Forces.

The Royal British Legion wants to mark this momentous occasion by inviting the entire nation to take part in thanking all those who made Victory in Europe possible and to celebrate the end of the conflict 75 years ago.

We will remember the 5 million British Armed Forces who came home after WWII and the million Holocaust victims who never saw home again.

A **Battle O'Er Service** will be held at **Hereford Cathedral** at **3pm** on **Friday, 8th May** and we would like to invite all veterans of all nationalities to come along to the service.

If you would like to come, or know of anyone in our community who would like to come (including Home Guard, Voluntary Aid Detachment, Land Girls, Bevan Boys, etc), please forward name and contact details to:
herefordshire.chairman@rbl.community.

Michelle Ward, Chairman, Weobley Branch, Royal British Legion

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Parish Council Matters

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of Dilwyn Parish Council held in St Mary's School, Dilwyn on Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 7.30 pm

The full, approved minutes as prepared by the Parish Clerk, are published on the parish council website. (dilwynparishcouncil.gov.uk).

There were 11 Councillors present with one apology from Cllr Julian Lewis, in attendance was Gwilym Rippon (Clerk) there was no Police presence and traffic issues were discussed. The ward Councillor gave his apology and there were no members of the public.

The minutes of the December 2019 were approved and there was no information arising.

Correspondence: The clerk reported that he had received an email in relation to gas pipelines which are running across land in Dilwyn.

Finance:

a) To note the bank balances for December 2019. The Clerk reported the following: Current Account £14761.92. Deposit Account £ 25015.84. Hub Account £ 4538.59 Crown Account £ 1311.98. **Total £ 45628.33.**

b) To discuss and decide invoices for payment as per schedule (below). **RESOLVED**

c) The Clerk was instructed to pay all invoices, PAYABLE TO - FOR - AMOUNT:
HMRC - Salary - £207.00. **G.J.Rippon** - Expenses - £92.40. **Harry Ray** - Asset register - £945.60. **P. Stilwell** - Battery for Sleigh - £13.32. **Total £1258.32.**

Highway matters.

a) Balfour Beatty. To ensure grips (drain covers) are opened up regularly. Watery Lane: both sides are potholed.

b) To discuss the footpaths. A full update was given in relation to the footpaths.

c) Work for Lengthsman. There was nothing under this heading.

Planning matters.

1. 194120. Application for an extension and incidental building works at Sollers Cottage, Dilwyn, Herefordshire HR4 8JJ. The Council supported this application; it was good example of upgrading existing stock. This was an ideal property for a young family.

The issue of 'County Lines'.

Cllr. Fellows stated that he was in conversation with an officer to give a presentation in January; in the Cedar Hall.

Update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr. Kyles gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan, stating that it was still in abeyance.

Carols on the Green.

The Council wished to place on record, thanks to Jo Stirling Brown and Lesley Hay for all their hard work. The total raised by all events was £1583.05 , with £500 from YFC.

To discuss the Crown Inn.

Cllr. Gerrish gave an update with regards to improvements suggested. It was agreed that a public meeting should be held in due course.

Items for the next agenda:- Neighbourhood Plan - The Crown Inn.

Date of the next meeting: 4th February 2020, in St. Mary's School at 7.30pm.

The meeting Concluded 21.30.

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of Dilwyn Parish Council held in St Mary's School, Dilwyn on Tuesday 4th February 2020 at 7.30pm

The full, approved minutes as prepared by the Parish Clerk, are published on the parish council website. (dilwynparishcouncil.gov.uk).

There were 11 Councillors present with 1 apology from Cllr J Booth. In Attendance: Parish Clerk, Mr Gwilym Rippon, Michael Jones (ward member), Police & one member of the public.

Public Participation:

- a).** To receive the Police report. The Police gave a full report. There were items that didn't specifically concern Dilwyn, except some Traffic Issues to be addressed. To receive the Ward Councillor's report. The Ward Councillor gave his report; he stated that he had been around the village with an officer from Balfour Beatty, inspecting roads and ditches.
- b).** Questions from members of the public. The member of the public present asked a question in relation to a budget heading concerning the Crown.

Minutes: The minutes of the Regular Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7th January 2020 were approved.

Information arising from the minutes: It was again mentioned that a vote of thanks be recorded of the exceptional total raised for the Dilwyn Charity.

Correspondence: The Clerk reported that he had received information in relation to gas pipelines which are running across land in Dilwyn. Also an email in relation to a gate at Watery Lane Cottage.

Finance:

- a)** To note the bank balances for January 2020. The Clerk reported the following:
Current Account £14761.92. Deposit Account £25015.84. Hub Account £ 4538.59.
Crown Account £ 1311.98. **Total £ 45628.33.**
- b)** To discuss and decide invoices for payment as per schedule (below).
- c)** The Clerk was instructed to pay all invoices, PAYABLE TO - FOR - AMOUNT:
HMRC - Salary - £207.00. **G.J.Rippon** - Expenses - £92.40. **Oak Buildings** - New windows - £1872.00. **Fran White** - Playground inspection - £57.00. **Glen White** - Lengthsman - £52.50. **Glen White** - Lengthsman - £90.00. **Total Expenditure** £2370.90.

Highway matters.

- a)** Balfour Beatty. To ensure grips (drain covers) are opened up regularly. Watery Lane: both sides are potholed. Pot holes near Tyrells junction to Boxers Castle. Roman road section also has potholes.
- b)** To discuss the footpaths. It was reported that the Lengthsman had strimmed the footpaths.
- c)** Work for Lengthsman. Weeds around the village; trimming back near the Haven, bus stop sign needs cleaning.

Planning matters.

1. 194120. Application for an extension & incidental building works at Sollars Cottage, Dilwyn, Hereford, Herefordshire HR4 8JJ. **RESOLVED.** The Council supported this application: it was a good example of upgrading existing stock & is an ideal property for a young family. The Parish Council agrees that the development is subservient to the original building. However, that said, it is in keeping with all the large dwellings surrounding this property.

The issue of 'County Lines'.

Cllr. Fellows stated that there was a good attendance at the recent meeting.

Update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr. Kyles gave an update stating that the plan had been withdrawn and would be resubmitted following the submission of a planning application relating to the Plan.

Carols on the Green.

Thanks for all the work involved were once again expressed. And the Council wished to place on record, thanks to Graham Dyer for the use of his cherry picker to put up and remove the Christmas lights.

To discuss the Crown Inn.

Update and detail of the planned Friends meeting on 24th February; Review of draft plan for development of the Crown. The process by which the plans had been submitted was discussed.
RESOLVED.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should give permission for the Friends of the Crown to submit the plans being discussed for pre-planning approval. In general, the Parish Council welcomed the submission by members of the community of any plans and ideas, but no later than 24th February 2020.

Reintroduction of the Crown Liaison group, to provide a simple link between the Council and the Crown, should there be a need. It was agreed that the group should consist of Cllr. P. Stilwell, Cllr. S. Thomas, Cllr. J. Stirling Brown and Cllr J. Gerrish.

Items for the next agenda:- Neighbourhood Plan - The Crown Inn.

Date of the next meeting: 3rd March 2020, in St. Mary's School at 7.30pm.

Meeting was concluded at 21.30hrs.

No Parish Council Meetings for the Foreseeable Future. Coronavirus, see Website.

Weobley Bowling Club

Due to the outbreak of the coronavirus we cancelled the Easter Bingo and the last sessions of "short mat". The opening of the green on Saturday 11th April, start of the outdoor season, has also been cancelled until further notice. We are all disappointed but "better safe than sorry".

Diane Rice

DILWYN YOUNG FARMERS CLUB



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Personal tribute to John Gerrish

Just like many others in Dilwyn, I am very sad at the passing of John Gerrish, who did a lot for our community. I first met John when I came to live in the village some 13 years ago and he soon introduced me to Sunday School in The Crown. This took place soon after mid-day each Sunday lunch time and involved a group of like-minded drinkers standing near the bar, putting the world to rights over a pint or two of best bitter. It was here I met many of the locals and several other recent imports like myself (I remember John Spackman, Graham Rees, Ivan Dillon, Chris Davies, Tim Block, John Jones, Len Beach, Harvey, Tony Price, Tim Ford, Tom Russ, plus John and myself – with Bidney occasionally popping in – sorry, Richard Hall, and probably others who may have slipped my mind).

Having recently retired from teaching in Hull, I got some supply work at Dilwyn Primary School. When the local authority decided that the school must close, John was one who stepped forward and volunteered his time as a temporary headmaster in an effort to keep the school going. Together with John Spackman and others, they lobbied Whitehall and eventually succeeded in getting free school status. I worked as a classroom teacher, under John as Head, together with other volunteers and gradually the recovery began. Now it is a successful and happy primary school.

John was also a member of Neighbourhood Watch and suggested this was another area where I could make myself useful. Twelve years later and I find myself Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator.

Yvonne and I got married in 2011, and as we had become firm friends, I asked John to be my best man – a job he was pleased and (he said) proud to carry out. He also organised that the school children attend the wedding in St Mary's church and we were delighted when they formed an arch as we left the church and threw rose petals. A special moment!

John also set up a newspaper delivery syndicate down The Common. Each morning we took it in turns to go to Weobley to collect a bundle of papers for delivery and for the rest of the week a newspaper would appear through the door (this is still running today, with different people involved). I always had the Saturday morning delivery and would welcome the 5-10 minutes each week when John and I would chat about things happening around the village.

You will probably be reading this in The Dilwynner. John asked me to help with distribution of our local magazine about 12 years ago. He had organised a team of people to deliver to every home in the parish (and one or two of the original team are still doing it!). It works so well because we have many caring people giving up their time to ensure you have this magazine to read each month. I now run the distribution (with help from Geoffrey) but I am mindful that without John, this would never have happened. 17 people hand deliver 340 magazines every month, from Headlands to Little Dilwyn, from Sollars Dilwyn to Knapton. Quite an achievement! I shall miss him as a friend. The village community will miss his many talents and patient good humour.

Alan Rudland

Farewell to John

John retired to Dilwyn at the age of 55. He was never a man for sitting around and within a short time he was busying himself with the Village Hall, Church, Choir (Master) and Village Show. It was a goldilocks era in our village and a nucleus of like-minded people wanted to develop a thriving community. The millennium was fast approaching and the group worked hard to put on a programme which to this day is remembered fondly by all that were there. The John's and Edward Jones with many others were instrumental and set to the task. The year was a wonderful celebration and the group were able to fund 24 events, a play area and the millennium stone/time capsule as legacy.



In 2002 John became Chair of the Parish Council but for John shining glory was still to come. In 2010 the council had earmarked Dilwyn Primary school for closure. The magnificent six or was it seven set to task. In August 2011 the school closed and we should have opened as an Academy, however Hereford Council skulduggery resulted in the Department for Education pulling the plug on the funding. The group took a gamble to open as an Independent School with unpaid volunteers. John used his skill of extracting money for good causes and raised enough to keep us going.

There was no Chair of Governors and no Head Teacher. I became Chair and John at the ripe old age of 75 became the new Head Teacher to 16 pupils. He worked tirelessly at a time when there was a great resistance to our very existence. John had filled the gap for well over a year before we finally gained funding and opened as a Free School in January 2013.

Unpaid volunteers Sally, Alan, Alex, Jane, Sandy, Sue, Elaine and me were co-opted and the future of the school was secured. Thanks to these efforts we now have 68 pupils on roll for next September. A 'British Empire Medal' performance.

The village then moved its focus to the Crown Inn and John was publicity man in the task force. The Crown was secured and the village heart was once again restored.

In the last few years the council moved its efforts to housing (NDP Plan) so that families could grow in a village environment. The school and pub would become more secure.

We will all miss John, his wisdom, friendship, hard work and his organisational skill will stand forever in the memory. Farewell John, rest in peace and a big Dilwyn thank you.

Peter Kyles on behalf of Dilwyn PC



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Messages



Independent Information

In challenging times, trusted independent information empowers the citizen. I have found the independent radio station LBC most informative. Just tune your Digital Radio (DAB) to LBC. If LBC is not appearing on your Digital Radio, press the Autotune button & it should be listed. Also available through your computer, live streaming, <https://www.lbc.co.uk/>. Also podcasts etc.

I find that ex BBC radio4 PM presenter, Eddie Mair, weekdays 4 – 7pm, can challenge in interview, a government minister, to reveal important truths on policy that the BBC never manage to obtain.

Ian Dale's, weekdays 7 – 10pm, interviews of respected independent experts have consistently provided advice that has proved significantly ahead of the curve compared to gov.uk.

Jim McGeown (submitted personally, not as Dilwynner editor).

Weobley & District Gardening Society Cancelled Events

Due to the spreading coronavirus, we have decided to cancel the following events: Spring Show and Plant Sale on Sunday, 5th April, and the talk by Michael Marriott of David Austin Roses at the Hopelands on Thursday, 9th April, have been CANCELLED.

We are hoping to re-arrange for Michael Marriott to be included in our 2021/2022 programme and that our Summer Show will still go ahead on Sunday, 16th August, 2020, as will as our outing to Hidcote/Kiftsgate on Wednesday, 8th July. For further information on membership, please contact Joyce Jacobs, Secretary of the Society, on 01544-318446.

Eleanor Jacobs, Secretary, 01544 318446

VE75 Anniversary 2020

VE75 Anniversary 8th May 2020 Update

Sadly, it now looks as if our plans to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE day will have to be cancelled or as a minimum downscaled significantly. As I write this the situation is changing daily but all forms of community gathering are now being cancelled or postponed and we will need to do likewise.

It seems ironic that 75 years after a world war that caused worldwide chaos, suffering and loss of life we are back there again, albeit with a threat that we cannot see.

We are still committed to celebrating VE day though and of remembering those who lost their lives during that period. Today I am not sure what we can do on the actual weekend in May, but I will work with others to try and put on an appropriate event later in the year. Please keep safe.

Richard Kelly, 01544 319288. yewtreemob@gmail.com

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Dilwyn WI

New members are always welcome

Almost every woman has a broken bracelet, a snapped necklace or a single earring in her treasure box, so WI members were really pleasantly surprised when Joanna demonstrated how to up-cycle these still-loved items of jewellery at our meeting in March. Buttons, beads and bits of wire were amazingly transformed into items which we will once again be pleased to stylishly wear.

Due to the potential spread of the Coronavirus all WI activities in the County have been put on hold, so we won't be meeting for the next few months. Naturally our priority is to keep our older members safe, but we're on hand to assist in any practical way if required.

Dilwyn Weather for February 2020

Not much winter but plenty of wind and rain. The wet theme of the last five months continued, with a further 6.5 inches (160mm) of rain adding to already saturated ground. A fraction short of 10 inches (250mm) is the running total for the year so far.

Strong winds have also been a feature of our weather for February, with at least 8 gales blowing through (3 of them were named storm systems – Ciara, Dennis and Jorge).

Only 5 nights had a frost so it was certainly not a cold month. The average night time temperature was 2.5 degrees, with day time averaging 12 degrees (highest 15, lowest minus 4). There were a few pleasantly sunny days, mostly towards month-end.

AR

Cedar Club

Sadly our meeting scheduled for Thursday 19th March had to be cancelled due to the corona virus outbreak. Hopefully some pleasant spring weather is on its way and our members can relax in their gardens whilst singing along to, "How Many Kinds of Sweet Flowers Grow, in an English Country Garden?" and other such jolly tunes. Let's hope we can all get back together very soon. Probably not until June or July but keep the fingers crossed.

Remember – smiling is such good medicine!

Alan Rudland (leader)



Neighbourhood Watch



Our Neighbourhood Watch group has now joined the national network (look on the site www.ourwatch.org.uk).

Patrols will continue, as long as they do not put those who are on patrol in jeopardy. Going for a walk should be fine and you can keep an eye open for anything suspicious - similarly a bicycle ride. It is to be hoped that neighbours will look out for and help one another in these difficult times.

AR

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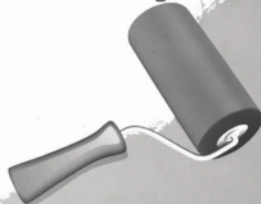
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Email: gareth_higgs@hotmail.co.uk

Dilwyn Coronavirus Support

Submitted by Richard Kelly & Maddy Spinks on behalf of, in their words, “a voluntary group supported by the Parish council. We are one of a number of such groups now emerging across the county and our status may change to something more official if and when Herefordshire Council catches up with the gravity of the current situation. The Covid Mutual Aid UK is a national movement of community-led groups setting up across the country”.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information & Advice for Dilwynners

As of 18th March 2020, these are the government guidelines. For up to date advice, please refer to www.gov.uk

Symptoms and Self-Isolation

If you live alone and develop a new persistent cough **OR** a high temperature, you should isolate at home for 7 days (from when the symptoms started).

If you live with others and one of you develops symptoms, the entire household should isolate for 14 days, starting from when the first person in the house became ill. Wherever possible, vulnerable people should stay somewhere else for 14 days. If you are unable to do this, try to:

- Keep at least 2 metres apart wherever possible.
- Use a separate bathroom, separate towels and toiletries.
- Sleep alone.
- Regularly wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use the kitchen at a different time and use separate cutlery and crockery.

Remember, if you have Coronavirus symptoms:

- Do **not** go to a GP Surgery, pharmacy or hospital
- You do **not** need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying home
- Testing is **not** required if you are staying at home

If you feel you cannot cope with the symptoms at home, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the NHS 111 online service. If you do not have Internet access, call NHS 111. For an emergency call 999.

Social Distancing

Social distancing reduces the social interaction between people. Whilst we should all now practice these measures, it is **particularly important for those deemed vulnerable** which includes the over 70s, anyone with an underlying health condition and anyone with a weakened immune system. It now also applies to those who are pregnant. Practice social distancing by:

- Working from home.
- Cancelling all non-essential public transport trips & gatherings.
- Limiting visitors.

Working as a Community

We are incredibly lucky to live in the wonderful community of Dilwyn which has pulled together many times in the past to achieve great things. We now need, and **will**, pull together once again to get through this difficult time.

As a general rule, we need to look out for our neighbours, especially those who are vulnerable and live alone. Being mindful of social distancing, putting a note through your neighbour's letterbox offering your contact details and support is a great way to help. Never underestimate the power of reaching out to reassure and dampen loneliness or anxiety.

Dilwyn Coronavirus Taskforce

This has been set up to help anyone get supplies and support.

Alan Rudland has kindly agreed to act as coordinator for the taskforce.

Tel: 01544 319262 Email: arudland@hotmail.com

If you are isolating or avoiding social contact and need help, please contact Alan with your name, address and other contact details. All personal and sensitive information will be kept confidential. If you would prefer to speak to a woman, Alan won't be offended, just let him know and he'll ensure this happens.

You can seek help for:

- Getting shopping and other essential supplies.
- Other essential things (e.g. dog-walking, a friendly chat, help with technology to stay in touch with friends and family).

We already have a group of volunteers willing to help those isolating in the village, but we will always need more. If you would like to volunteer, please contact **Richard Kelly Tel: 01544 319288 Email: yewtreemob@gmail.com**

There will be teething problems and issues that this volunteer service will need to address. With his links to HVOSS (Herefordshire's support to the community and voluntary sector) and Healthwatch Herefordshire, Richard Kelly is keeping abreast of county wide plans and is lobbying with supermarkets to obtain formal agreement where volunteers are recognised and therefore immune to ration restraints currently in place. It will inevitably be a 'learn as we go' process. As the situation changes, we will adapt and improve the system to make it as efficient as possible.

A Facebook group has also been set up:

<https://www.facebook.com/dilwynCOVID19Support/> This is an additional way we can share information. Please join and invite others in the village to do the same.

Top Tips to help you through isolation or social distancing

- Keep a routine - get up, get dressed and stick to your normal eating times.
- Limit media coverage, particularly social media as this can add to anxiety.
- Get news from the BBC and facts from www.gov.uk to avoid false/inaccurate information.
- Keep yourself busy with books, games, gardening, movies or other hobbies.
- Go outside several times a day to get some natural light.
- Do those jobs that you never have the time for . . . no excuse now!
- Keep in touch with your friends and family through phone calls, messages,
video calls (Facetime, WhatsApp, Facebook) and social media.

Meal Information

- The Crown in Dilwyn is available for takeaway and delivery. You can order by calling Tel: 01544 318063
- Jules restaurant in Weobley is extending normal takeaway hours to lunchtimes Tues -Friday. It also offers free delivery for those isolating within a 3 mile radius. Tel: 01544 318206
- Jo from Weobley JP Catering is offering a free hot meal delivery to anyone in Weobley and Dilwyn. The meals cost £4 and consists of a hot meal plus a pudding. Jo can be contacted on Tel: 07557362600, between the hours of 8am-2pm or Tel: 01544 318983 between 3pm-7pm

These are naturally unsettling times but as a community we are well prepared and doing all we can to minimise the impact.



Crown Inn News



We hope everyone is safe and well through these difficult times. We want to help as much as we can.

Our menu will now be available to takeaway. For anyone who must be isolated, we can offer to deliver your meals, which will be a free service within the Dilwyn Parish. Please see our menu and note that there may be some changes per week. Let us know if you have any dietary requirements or food intolerances. We can also provide you with takeout booze! You can call us to order or if you want more information. We can assure you that extra precautions have been put into place.

One of our suppliers have put together a "community box" which costs £20 and contains;

2ltr Milk, 5 baking potatoes, 500g grapes, 1 savoy cabbage, 1 medium sliced bread, 1kg clementines, 250g mushrooms, 2 onions, 1 red onion, 1 cucumber, 1kg apples, 1kg bananas, 250g cherry tomatoes, 1kg carrots, 500g pasta, 6 free range eggs.

You just need to call the pub to order yours and it should arrive the next day, and we will deliver it to you. This will be whilst stocks last at the suppliers.

Telephone; 01544 318063 email; info@thecrowninndilwyn.com

If there is absolutely anything else that we can do for anyone, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us, even if it's just to have a bit of a chat!

Take care everyone,

Maria & Max

THE CROWN INN

Whitebait, Tartare Sauce £5.50

Scampi, Chips, Peas, Salad, Tartare Sauce £8.50

Ham & Eggs, Chips, Peas £8.50

Tagliata Di Manzo (sliced steak, balsamic onion, sunblushed tomato, parmesan shavings), Chips £17.50

Sausage & Mash, Onion Gravy £8.50

Fish & Chips, Peas, Tartare Sauce £10.00

Homemade Lasagne, Chips, Salad £11.50

Beef Burger, Chips, Salad £8.50

Beetroot & Goats Cheese Burger, Chip, Salad (V) £8.50

Gnocchi with Tomato & Mozzarella, Side Salad (V) £9.50

Kids Meals – Fishfingers/Chicken goujons with chips, peas/beans £5.50

Ciabatta's £5.95

Bacon, Brie & Cranberry / Fishfinger & Tartare Sauce / Chicken Goujon

Ham & Chutney / Cheese & Chutney

Our menu is also available for takeaway

Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements or food intolerances.

Please note that some dishes may change per week.

Menu available Tuesday-Saturday

(A different menu to include Roast Lunch will be available on Sunday)

Tel; 01544 318063 Email; info@thecrowninndilwyn.com

Parish Walking with Social Distancing

In these challenging times isolation & inactivity are an issue of concern. Fortunately a number of respected health experts are recommending country walking groups, practicing social distancing, as an ideal answer. So your editor, along with his children, plans to lead a walk each Wednesday.

Starting from the green, 10.00am, planned duration 1½ hours, along surfaced lanes for first walk, dogs on leads welcome.

Let's all set out, two good strides apart, to enjoy healthy air & stimulating conversation, along Dilwyn's roads less travelled.

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Heating Oil Syndicate

Hi everyone, firstly can I say that I hope you are all keeping yourself safe at this catastrophic moment in time, please do keep to the advice that is given from the Government. We are a determined nation, we will get through this, February was bad enough with the storms and now March is even worse.

We had a great turn around in February and managed a quantity of 19,100 litres with some fill ups which probably took us to not far off 20,000 litres. The price was excellent too at 38.95p per litre and again very prompt delivery in three days.

With the global market as it is there was some bargaining power which did make a difference. The prices were, 41.50p, 39.50p, 39.40p, 38.95p and 38.00p, Watsons being slightly lower than Beacon Fuels who first started at the price of 39.40p and with some competition dropped to 38.95p.

We had some members that were nearly running on fresh air, and as Watson could not deliver for 10 days and Beacon could deliver in 3 days the order went to Beacon again for the slight difference in the price.

The price trend has been going down as you would all expect, and starting at where it left of on 21st February at £385 per 900 litres has been falling over the entire month to £338 on 15th March, it rose slightly on 16th to £342, dropped again slightly on 17th and has risen very slightly to £344 today 20th.

Rain seems to dominate the weather again, but we now have Coronavirus COVID-19 to contend with, so please please be safe and take care, help your neighbours who are in need, if you can. (See the update in this months issue, volunteers are needed). Thank you all again for your orders.

Pete

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Nature Notes April - Spring Has Sprung!

Daffodils beam across the garden bringing some cheer to the soul in such worrying times. On Friday 13th March, the first bumblebee was seen feeding on our willow tree, then on to the winter flowering cherry and then it dashed onto the winter flowering honeysuckle. A sparrowhawk swooped down but the sparrows got away in the nick of time! Then I was dive-bombed and called at by a buzzard. I realised that a pair of buzzards was nesting in the woods below!

Taking a walk down the lane on the 16th March we found a pink heather buzzing with honey bees and either a buff or white tailed bumblebee. We saw sweet violet, dog violet, lesser celandine, primrose –(prima rosa means first rose), ground ivy, dogs mercury (an ancient woodland indicator plant & highly poisonous), herb robert, lords and ladies, wood anemone and then growing on a patch of wasteland, a bright yellow flowering plant (with no leaves emerging yet). It was tussilago farfara (Coltsfoot) –used to drive away a cough. It was the apothecary's best herb for the lungs. Maybe this plant will be handy in the months to come? The binoculars were applied and we saw in the mature alders, a rookery in full nest mode!

I went to Herefordshire Wildlife Trust's talk in Weobley by David Griffith (Lyonshall Tree Warden) and Tony Norman (Pembridge Tree Warden) regarding *Populus nigra* subsp. *betulifolia* (Black Poplar) which is the UK's rarest timber tree with only 600 mature female trees left in the UK. They face a bleak future due to their reproductive requirements of damp wet mud for the seeds to germinate. They are dioecious (separate female/male trees) so you need a pair within a minimum of 10 miles of each other. With hybrid poplars nearby, the chances of getting a true black poplar is highly unlikely. The female tree produces a lot of white fluffy seeds everywhere so they were often removed- hence there are more males than females. The male has red catkins and you will not find mistletoe growing on a black poplar. The tree had a number of uses, from building timber, hedge laying stakes (hence some trees are found in hedgerows), floor boards (not easy to ignite), cartwheel brakes (good in damp places) etc. The trees were sometimes pollarded very high up, so the middle suckers would be cut back in summer when in full growth to store and feed to animals in the winter. The top poles were cut on a 3-8 year rotation for either stakes or logs or depending on what was required. Tony and David have set out a plan: 1. Identify and record. 2. Care of existing trees 3. Propagation and planting new trees.

There are only 20 trees between Kington and Leominster and only 2 females in all of Herefordshire, but the good news is, they have planted 500 cuttings in the past 3 years. What truly inspiring work!

Emma

Nature sightings from Jo Stirling-Brown's end of the village.

Red legged partridges about near Boxers Castle Fields, first migrant birds coming in chaff chaffs heard on 14th and a great crested newt spotted! Just after the floods we also noted the return of the Kingfishers at Tyrells bridge over Tippetts Brook; hopefully the brook bank tidy up has not disturbed them too much.



Primrose
(prima rosa means first rose).



Pink Heather buzzing with buff
or white tailed bumblebee

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“Vicky will be there with no

ies”

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Village Vintage

Ailments and Alehouses

With our current nationwide pandemic in mind I thought it might be interesting to look for articles regarding epidemics in the village and how we dealt with them. There were a number of little articles throughout the 19th and early 20th Century, mainly notices of event cancellations, farm sales and football match postponements or results despite epidemics, with headlines such as - 'FLU AND INJURIES COMPEL TOWN TO LOOSEN GRIP Leominster Town 2, Dilwyn 2.' and a few School closures due to diphtheria, scarlet fever, the measles and of course influenza but below is a more recent one and within some parishioners' living memory, hopefully it might cheer the spirits:-

February 1935 – DILWYN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday. and in spite of the influenza epidemic there was a good attendance of members. Miss Evill presided, and Mrs Lushington conducted community singing and gave many helpful hints on chorus singing. She also gave a demonstration of reed pipe playing, which was much enjoyed by the members. A competition for "Appetising dishes for an invalid" was judged by Mrs Lushington and the prizes were awarded to Miss Turbott and Mrs Ricketts. After tea, for which the hostesses were Mrs Nicholls, Mrs J. Preece, Mrs Russell and Mrs Yorke, another competition. "Tune guessing," with the President at the piano, was won by Mrs. Patrick.

– I'm sure some of the older residents will recognise a few of the people mentioned and will appreciate the 'keep calm and carry on' attitude demonstrated!

It must be noted however that even then Dilwyn was obviously quite a bustling community; as it is now, and despite all the poverty and illness, there must've also been a fair amount of merriment! Many of the farm sales mention cider houses, gallons of cider and malt bushells for sale for brewing and in our village alone in the 19th Century the parish boasted four Inns/Public Houses that I can find records for. Namely, in the village itself we had The Crown Inn; of course, The Prince of Wales, The Dukes Head and towards the outskirts The Bridge Inn, Stretford, which we assume is where the previous Stretford Farm House was as it did appear to have a sizeable cellar for a farmhouse. The local newspapers have plenty of auction entries held at the Crown, The Dukes Head and the Bridge Inn but so far I have only found census entries for the Prince of Wales so one would assume therefore that this one was just a tiny alehouse unsuitable for such events. Many alehouses at this time were just a few barrels propped up in someone's front room so it is likely that this is how many of the pubs and inns across the country began, there is certainly evidence of this where The Crown is concerned if you look at how the original parts of the building fit together. There are also some rumours of another alehouse of this kind in the Stockingfield area but I have yet to find any solid evidence.

If you know of any other alehouses or pot or tap rooms in the village by all means let me know and I will see if I can dig up some documents, it simply amazes me to think that the parish drinkers were numerous enough during this period to support five or even six establishments at any one time?!

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Sudoku

The aim of Sudoku is to complete the entire grid using the numbers 1-9. Each number can only be used once in each row, once in each column, & once in each of the 3 x 3 boxes. Good luck! *The solutions can be found on page 33.*

Easy

7								4
2		8		3				
	6		9	8	7		2	
3			7	2				
		4	3		6	7		
				4	5			8
	7		4	5	3		9	
				1		4		2
9								3

Hard

			4					1
5			1		3	6	7	
		1	6			2		
	8			6		9		3
		3				7		
6	2		9				8	
		9			8	3		
	6	5	7		4			9
7					6			

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7	3	9	2	6	1	5	8	4
2	1	8	5	3	4	9	6	7
4	6	5	9	8	7	3	2	1
3	5	1	7	2	8	6	4	9
8	2	4	3	9	6	7	1	5
6	9	7	1	4	5	2	3	8
1	7	2	4	5	3	8	9	6
5	8	3	6	1	9	4	7	2
9	4	6	8	7	2	1	5	3

Sudoku Solutions

Easy

Hard

8	2	6	4	7	9	5	3	1
5	9	4	1	2	3	6	7	8
3	7	1	6	8	5	2	9	4
1	8	7	5	6	2	9	4	3
9	5	3	8	4	1	7	2	6
6	4	2	3	9	7	1	8	5
4	1	9	2	5	8	3	6	7
2	6	5	7	3	4	8	1	9
7	3	8	9	1	6	4	5	2

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Dilwyn Royal British Legion

RBL Annual Social @ The Crown

Postponed to a Later Date

“Grand Prize Raffle”

The Government's recommendation that non-essential gatherings are avoided has lead to the postponement of the drawing of the winning tickets in our Annual Raffle due to take place on Wednesday 1st April and our final speaker meeting on Tuesday April 21st when Dave Seeney was to talk of the "Women of the Easter Uprising".

David's talk will now form part of next year's programme. The draw will take place a couple of weeks following the easing of current restrictions requiring self isolation of the over 70's allowing a little further time for you to purchase tickets (see a committee member or from promoter Gillian Thomas, but only after the current Coronavirus restrictions have been lifted). The date will be advertised in advance.

Great prizes generously donated by members and supporters. First prize this year is a double magnum of Tanner's Douro Red 2015 (300cl); 2nd prize an "all line Severn Valley Railway Family Day Ticket" + many, many more (last year there were a total of sixty!). Raffle proceeds stay in the village supporting the branch and our local welfare work.

RBL Speaker Meeting @ The Crown

Postponed to a Later Date

“Women of the Easter Uprising” *Speaker: Dave Seeney*

Everyone Welcome, Free Admission, Optional Food Platter £2

Dave Seeney will talk of the "Women of the Easter Uprising". Dave has spoken to us before on the events that took place in Dublin over Easter 1916, but now he tells the remarkable story of how women from both sides, played an important and prominent part.

The meeting takes place at The Crown Inn. We recommend you arrive a few minutes before 7.30pm

to get your order in and find a seat. The meeting ends at 9.00pm. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to be a member, nor is it obligatory for you to join. There is no charge for visitors.



David Fowler, Secretary RBL Dilwyn, 01981 541058

Organisations & Contacts

Cedar Club	Alan Rudland	Leader	319262
Cedar Hall	Bookings Richard Thomas	Bookings Chair	07772 796718 318541
Community First Responder	Gerry Duncan		318504
Crown Inn	Maria Franzen & Max Evilio	Tenants	318063
Friends of The Crown (FOTC)	TBA	Chair	TBA
Dilwyn RBL	David Fowler	Secretary	01981 541058
Dilwyn Support Group for St Michael's Hospice	Anna Wellings Carol Lewis	Chairperson Secretary	318329 318255
Dilwyn WI	Pat Isaacs	Secretary	388744
Dilwyn YFC	Beth Mills	Chairperson	07917 616457
Neighbourhood Development Plan	Peter Kyles	Committee Manager	318277
Neighbourhood Watch	John Abley Alan Rudland	Coordinator Chair	318670 319262
Playgroup	Laura Scrivens Louise Lewis	Chairperson Playgroup Leader	07779 729876 07975 994309
Police Community Support Officer	Emma Dunne		07971 051474
St Mary's Church	Rev'd M Burns Gill Okell-Price Anthea Alexander Tim Block	Vicar Churchwarden Diary Fabric	07817 747470 319378 318168 388939
St Mary's School	Peter Kyles	School Head	318277
Friends of the School	Steph Kyles Beth Richards	Joint Chairpersons	07779 279705 07973 664684

Where no code is shown, use 01544

Dilwyn Parish Council

Parish Clerk:
Gwilym Rippon

email:

clerk@dilwynparishcouncil.gov.uk

James Booth
Ian Brown
Cole Fellows
Raymond Fellows
Julia Hall (Vice-chair)

Peter Kyles
Julian Lewis
Peter Stilwell (Chair)
David Stirling-Brown
Joanne Stirling-Brown
Stephen Thomas

Parish council website: www.dilwynparishcouncil.gov.uk

Weobley Ward Councillor

Michael Jones
Phone: 01981 590418

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Any errors or omissions, please contact the editors



Community website: Dilwyn.com

You can read this magazine and back issues online.

www.dilwyn.com/dilwynner

Pet Pin-Ups of the Month



Here is Tiny Okell our miniature Schnauzer At 12 years old she acts like a 2 year old, dancing around, especially at feeding time. She is going a little deaf and has cataracts, old age doesn't come alone, but all her family and friends love her so much.

Woof

Gill Okell, Church Warden.

My name is Abby and I was born on Christmas day with six sisters and a brother. My mum is a cocker spaniel and my dad a poodle, which makes me a cockapoo!

I am the new addition to Gaynor and Geoff's household in Dilwyn.

I can't yet leave my garden until that nice man Johnno at the Marches says so but I have already seen lots of future new friends walking past the gate and I am so looking forward to meeting with them and walking to the lovely village green. Mum is very keen that I should socialise with new friends very quickly and I can't wait!

more photos please. Not just dogs n cats. Let's hear it for bunnies, budgies etc.



April Events Diary

Date	Event	Time	Place
Wed 1 st	RBL Social & Annual Prize Draw, Postponed to a Later Date,		The Crown
Wed 1 st	Parish Walk with Social Distancing	10.00am	Village Green
Sat 4 th	Village Market and Café, Postponed to a Later Date,		Cedar Hall
Wed 8 th	Parish Walk with Social Distancing	10.00am	Village Green
Wed 15 th	Parish Walk with Social Distancing	10.00am	Village Green
Tue 21 st	RBL Speaker Meeting, Postponed to a Later Date		The Crown
Wed 22 nd	Parish Walk with Social Distancing	10.00am	Village Green
Wed 29 th	Parish Walk with Social Distancing	10.00am	Village Green

May

Sat 2 nd	Village Market and Café, Postponed to a Later Date,		Cedar Hall
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No St Mary's Church services, see page 4

Cedar Hall 100 Club Draw

March 1st Pat Colling £20.
2nd Tony Hobbs £10. 3rd Denise Powell £10.

Absolute deadlines for May Dilwynner copy are:

20th April for very small items and also regular items

18th April for new and non-regular large items

Normally we expect to receive copy much earlier than these dates.

If you wish your event to be published in more than one issue, please send in a reminder for each month it is to appear.



To report anything or anyone behaving suspiciously in or around the village, please ring in confidence PC Dean Wall 07773053846,

PCSO Emma Dunne 07971051474 & PCSO Felix Rawlinson 07971051480

(or to report non-urgency crime, ring 101)

John Abley Neighbourhood Watch 01544 318670

Alan Rudland Neighbourhood Watch 01544 319262