

Alfrick with Lulsley

St Mary Magdalene, Alfrick

Church Cleaning Rota



April	3	Mrs Davies & Mrs Fishwick	May	1	Mrs Crisp & Mrs Crockford
	10	Mrs Mansell & Mrs Collins		8	Mrs Morpuss & Mrs Sirrell
	17	Mrs Jeffery		15	Mrs Fowler & Mrs Agnew
	24	Mrs Cooke		22	Mrs Hood & Mrs Skyrme
				29	Mrs Davies & Mrs Fishwick

Guidance for the prevention of Coronavirus at Communion Services

Intinction (partly dipping the wafer in the wine) is no longer practised as it is a possible infection transmission route, as well as a risk to those with certain allergies. It was apparently recommended by the Archbishop of York during the foot and mouth outbreak, but is no longer acceptable. If people wish to take in bread/wafer only this is totally permissible in the Church of England Canon Law.

Community Choir

The Community Choir is taking a break during the Corona virus pandemic to keep our choir members safe. At the time of writing we don't know when rehearsals will resume, but please see our website for the latest information. We plan to resume Tuesday evening rehearsals at *The Fox and Hounds* as soon as it is safe to do that.



If you'd like to join us when we resume, please note that there's no need to read music, and our sessions are fun and varied.

For further information: www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com or 07771 600 776

Keith Bramich

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Alfrick Thursday Club

We would like to thank Rev Anne Potter for coming and telling us the fascinating story of her time running a Post Office and Shop. It was so interesting to hear all about the trials and triumphs of that part of her life. We also thank Janet Ashton for leading us in a wonderful afternoon of singing and laughter. Everyone enjoyed the musical songs we sang, and her superb accompaniment on the piano.



We always welcome new faces, so if you are over 60 please come along to our next meeting on **Thursday 9 April**, Alfrick Village Hall @ 2.00pm.

Alfrick & Lulsley Horticultural Show and Fete

Saturday 5 September 2020, 12.30pm

Alfrick Playing Field



Monthly meetings have now started in preparation for another bumper Show. New members wishing to join this friendly team are always welcome. If you are interested, please contact the Show Secretary, Linda Fishwick on lindafishwick285@gmail.com Meetings are usually held at 8.00pm on the third Monday of the month at Alfrick Village Hall, and only last about an hour.

The preliminary Schedule will be available soon to help you decide what to grow, paint, photograph, make and bake. Do check the website for full details of the Dog Show, Horticultural Show Schedule, recipes, entry form and rules, which will soon be online at www.alfrickandlulsley.org/show

Alfrick & Lulsley Community Car Scheme: This voluntary service covers all residents of Alfrick & Lulsley who need transport to local medical appointments, or to take or collect prescriptions to or from Knightwick Surgery. Drivers are:

Heaton Goff/Ann Bird: 884411; Pam Lowe: 833362; Ro Morpuss: 832622; Hilary Simmons: 832611
Please start telephoning from the left and give as much time as possible.

Our drivers reserve the right to refuse any request that they consider inappropriate.





For more information on booking the Village Hall please visit our website at: www.alfrickandlulsley.org/hall-make-booking/

Please send your queries by email to info@timesaversconcierge.co.uk

Table Tennis in the Hall: Mondays and Thursdays

6.00pm start to 9.00pm; £1.50 each per session. New players always welcome; please bring suitable foot-wear. For information contact: Richard Steele 821777 or Sue Adams 830190.

Worcestershire Oval Race Club (WORC): 3 & 17 April

We are a family friendly club entertaining people racing 1/12 scale radio control cars on an oval raceway. Friday nights in Alfrick & Lulsley Village Hall 6.30pm to 10.30pm. If you have any questions, please call **Eric Knight**: 01886 833924



Slowly Round the World – Again! Saturday 4 April, 7.00pm

A second chance to hear Alan Soper's talk on his Round the World Trip in Alfrick Village Hall. Bar available; donations to the Family Support Charity: **CHARGE Syndrome UK** Alan



Come and Sing in the Village Hall: Tuesdays at 2.30pm - 3.30pm

- Singing for pleasure in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere
- Any age, ability, experience – all welcome

Further information from Janet Ashton: jeashton56@gmail.com Phone: 01886 821340



Alfrick Players: Thursday, Friday, Saturday 14, 15 & 16 May at 7.30pm in Alfrick Village Hall *The Noble Spaniard* by W. Somerset Maugham

An incredibly funny period comedy in 3 acts. Tickets £12 (£5 for under 16s) from Alfrick Community Shop or Jean Colley on 01886 832964 or jean_colley@btinternet.com





Mobile Fish and Chip Van on the Village Hall Car Park Tuesdays from 4.30pm to 7.30pm Tel: 07528 360328



Time for a Smile: Puzzled by his first lesson on evolution, young Johnny arrived home from school and said, "Mum is it really true that I am a descendant of apes, monkeys and gorillas." She replied, "I don't really know darling, I never knew any of your father's family."

Bridges Stone Mill: Sunday 19 April: 2.00 to 5.30pm National Garden Scheme Open Garden

An all-year-round garden with trees, shrubs, and mixed borders now includes a mature Japanese garden and a colourful parterre of roses. There is wheelchair access to the Mill's courtyard. Teas provided courtesy volunteers from St Richard's hospice. Admission £6.00



Elaine Kite is the **Citizens Advice** Community Liaison Volunteer for Alfrick, contact 01886 884435, or email: elainekite@btinternet.com Elaine can discuss your enquiry, clarify your concerns and refer on to CAB for specific advice. So do please get in touch.

Alfrick & Lulsley Community Shop & Café

The arrival of spring is very much tainted by the arrival of the corona virus, sadly, but here at the shop we've been meeting regularly to ensure that we continue to meet the needs of our volunteers and customers as much as possible.

We're trying to keep the shop and café safely open and available to the community as a resource and meeting place during any outbreak and we're also considering how we can provide a shop delivery service to local people who become isolated in their own homes. This is the situation at the time of writing in mid March of course, as I'm sure readers will appreciate. If, by the time you read this, such a service would be useful for you, please contact the shop on 01886 832862 to find out if and how we could help.

The shop is well stocked and intends to continue that way with Mother's Day and Easter coming soon! There are no social or foodie events planned for the moment given the unknown progression of the epidemic, but hopefully we'll be back getting people together again as soon as we possibly can.

Meanwhile, keep an eye on our Facebook page *Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop* for updates and news, as always.

We are fortunate to live in a community where so many people look out for each other so wish everyone well and hope we can play our part in taking care of our most vulnerable villagers and helping to keep life as normal as possible for us all.

Vicky Gatley, volunteer



Monthly Public Meetings at the Community Shop

Meet your local policing team to air your views about policing the local area and to discuss any issues or concerns in informal surroundings: **Thursday 23 April 2.00 - 3.00pm.**





March business was led by President Carol and Secretary Rosemary.

Mention was made of next year being the 75th anniversary of Alfrick

WI which was founded on 13 December 1946.

There were apologies from members who did not attend, with reminders of the VE celebrations at Hanley Swan WI, as well as the trip to Ashbourne WI to see the *well dressing*.

A decision was made to continue with the current order for the WI Worcestershire News magazine.

We have two more skittles matches (coronavirus permitting) and the semi finals are on **13 May**, with the finals on **19 May**. I understand that

neither of these events will be of any consequence for Alfrick!

There were enough members to enjoy our visitor Janice Waldron and her abilities with making necklaces and earrings from a variety of beads and accessories. She had quite a few samples to show us, together with the tools which were advisable to make life easier. She also had samples of the type of needles and threads that can be used. She told us that a light glue or even nail varnish was useful. She was thanked by Anne and some members engaged her in discussion afterwards to check on details.

Anne Martin

RIP: Mary Brooke, 1939 – 2020

Mary was born in Mathon, near Malvern, one of six children. After school she spent many happy and fulfilling years working for Schweppes at Colwall and whilst there she met Gilbert, a young farmer. They married in 1963 moving to Barley Farm in Alfrick Pound in 1970. Together they were always keen on ballroom dancing and Mary was particularly fond of Country and Western music. She was also a keen gardener and a perfectionist in keeping the farmyard spotless and tidy. This pride and attention to detail also extended into the farmhouse where her kindness, generosity and especially hospitality, was legendary.

Mary was Gilbert's 'co-pilot' when it came to agricultural shows – loading up packed lunches and goodies to last the day, taking great interest in the judging, and on returning home attending to

all the halters, white coats and anything else needing to be washed, then making supper for all present, before even thinking of sitting down.

Family was Mary's great passion, and she was immensely proud of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mary was caring, honest, hardworking and loving. She was a valued blood donor, giving over 60 pints, underlining her selfless attitude. Mary handled her illness with dignity, never making a fuss, never looking for sympathy, always positive, with a smile and good humour. She was truly a lady of strong character, high integrity and with an enviable reputation.

Mary Brooke will be greatly missed by her family and those who knew her.

Clive Roads

From the Alfrick & Lulsley Parish Council Meeting 27 February 2020

Planning and Environmental Matters:

Jubilee Spinney: Access paths are now mostly covered in mulch/wood chippings provided by Nick Denley. This has helped a lot with soaking up the lying water, but more applications are needed. Digging up brambles, saplings and unwanted scrub is going well so the space now looks well cleared. The creation/design of a perimeter path has started, to be covered in mulch and with planting of snowdrops, but this really needs to be done when they have died down. Promises of more snowdrops, small native-like daffodils and primroses have been received.

Next jobs: ivy to be cut at pollard height or at a minimum of head height on the tall trees; more bramble root, ash sapling clearance. There is an increasing number of enthusiastic working party volunteers to whom many thanks.

It was agreed to go ahead with the previously discussed and agreed fence and gate into the adjacent field.

Alfrick Pound: Good progress has been made clearing unwanted scrub and digging up dogwood roots; the snowdrops are free from scrub and are flowering. More working parties are needed for more clearance and digging. There was a good number of volunteers for the last working party and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Forty Years On -- Garth Lowe

It was in the early eighties that we were offered the post of wardens of the *Knapp and Papermill Reserve*, exchanging homes with Mr. and Mrs Doncaster, who had made a generous gift of the house and land to the Trust. Their gift and the further addition of old meadows and woodland has ensured that this lovely part of the Leigh Brook valley will stay unchanged for the foreseeable future.

Although the landscape is unaltered, the flora and fauna have mainly changed, for the worse unfortunately. Some plants like wood sorrel and butterfly orchid seem to have gone, but the addition of transplanted green winged orchids proved a success in Big Meadow, which also now has marsh orchids that arrived on their own a few years ago. During my stay I also started the butterfly monitoring, which still continues on a weekly basis from April to September and this has shown up a general decline in sightings even though the management has altered very little. Gone now are the small heath, and the dingy skipper looks likely to follow it. Marbled whites, silver washed fritillary and white admiral do appear to be doing better though, and the latter is a lovely butterfly to look for in the first two

More people are volunteering to help with both of these working parties and they are now seeing the results of the work.

Committee on New Public Facilities: A discussion on the costs, locations and timings of projects resolved into a view that a preference was for a Multi-Games Area (MUGA) containing an LTA approved-size tennis court. Discussions on its best site are still taking place. A Children's Play Area would then take over the existing Tennis Court space. The MUGA and Play Area projects are possible for completion over the autumn/ winter of 2020-21.

Celebrating VE Day 75th Anniversary:

Friday 8 May 2020 has been designated by the Government as a Bank Holiday, with licensing hours extended to enable parishes, along with individuals, voluntary organisations, pubs, restaurants and hotels etc., to join in the celebrations over the VE Day weekend of **8-10 May 2020**. Residents' suggestions are requested.

Highways and Footpaths: War Memorial surrounds. A WCC Highways engineer had visited and concluded the over-running of the boundary curbstones was not sufficient to justify their costs, but could be considered if the parish would meet them. A detailed quotation has now been requested.

weeks of July. With birds it is the dipper that is sorely missed, now the quality of the stream has dropped slightly, and there is not enough life in the stream to sustain a breeding pair. In 2019 a pair nested in the northern section, but just one chick hatched from four eggs!

Thank goodness there are enough fish to keep our resident pair of kingfishers; elusive, but seen more often in May and July while feeding their young. The arrival of pied flycatchers was good news; they are noted in my nest records for 1983 with 1999 their last year until 2009, and then in 2019 when a pair nested on Trust woodland near my bungalow.

On a final note, technology has also finally caught up in the reserve and there is now a solar panel providing energy to pump water into a trough for the occasional winter grazing stock, necessary to keep the grassland in order. Unfortunately a few things were overlooked namely the water level in the well drops at the end of summer, and in cold weather the trough has frozen solid so the cattle have to use the brook again. The derelict cottage in Papermill Meadow now has new tenants. It has been adopted as a summer roost for a colony of lesser horseshoe bats.