

The Grapevine

No. 319

August / September 2022



Printed copies of *The Grapevine* are available on request to the editor.
The Grapevine can be found online in full colour

Parish Organisations

Parochial Church Council:

Rector: Rev. Gary Crellin 01905 830270 E: revgarycrellin@gmail.com
Vice Chairman: Mrs Liz Palmer 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914
Secretary: Liz Edwards, 07726 927 046 E: oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com

Parish Website: www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

Churchwardens:

Guarlford -

Madresfield - Mr Christopher Bennett, Hayswood Farm, Madresfield, 01684 891047; Mrs Liz Palmer, 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914

Secretary: Wendy Palmer 01684 899223 E: wendy.palmer@outlook.com

Treasurer: Mr Peter Hughes, Holly Lodge, Madresfield 01684 572649

The Parish Councils:

Newland Clerk: Jacqui Barker, 114 Fruitlands, Malvern WR14 4XB 01684 567674
E: newlandpc1@gmail.com

Guarlford Clerk: Mrs Gill Hollick, 2 Bamford Close, Guarlford WR13 6PF
07816 533 251 E: parishclerkguarlford@gmail.com

Madresfield Clerk: Mr David Sharp, 20 Farley Road, Malvern Link
01684 573213 E: mrdasharp@btinternet.com

Guarlford Website: www.guarlfordparish.uk

County & District Councillor: Tom Wells, 27 Upton Road, Callow End WR2 4TY 01905 831752 07702 996203 E: talwells@btinternet.com

Guarlford Women's Institute: 7.30, Guarlford Village Hall, second Tuesday in the month.
President: Di Rivers Tel ; 01684 572381
E: wifolk@guarlfordparish.uk

Sport:

Madresfield Cricket Club Secretary: Peter Hughes, Holly Lodge, Madresfield 01684 572649

Madresfield Movement Club

Children's gym, dance, drama and ballet 01684 574378

The Grapevine Magazine

Editor: Ms Cora Weaver, 4 Hall Green WR14 3QX E: cora.weaver@talktalk.net

Postal Distribution: Janet Lomas 07827 970 600

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Account	The Grapevine Magazine
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What's On in the Parish

Meditation Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 2pm 01905 831048

Tower Bell Ringers every Monday at 7.30 in Madresfield Church.

Guarlford W.I every second Tuesday in the month at Guarlford Village Hall.

Movement Club Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at Madresfield Early Years Centre 01684 574378.

Parent & Toddler Groups run daily in term time at Madresfield Early Years Centre 01684 574378 or Mrs Elaine Ward 01684 565714.

Newland Parish Council bi-monthly on Mondays in the Boardroom, Beauchamp Community, 7.30.

Church Services

Each church notice board will have a list of services but you can visit the online calendar at <https://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk>

**If you have to dial 999 or 112 and cannot speak Dial 55
You can be found from your dialling location.**

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Saturday 15th Barn dance, Guarlford - tickets available from September

For more details about what's on in Guarlford and where to get tickets:

Email:- guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com

website:- <http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/halltrustees.htm>

Edition	Deadline date	Collation date (Tuesday)
October / November	8th September	20th September
December / January	8th November	22nd November
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WHERE TO FIND THE GRAPEVINE ONLINE

- * http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/vill_mag.htm This site also displays past editions.
- * <http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/news.htm>
- * <https://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk/>
- * www.madresfieldschool.net
- * <https://www.beauchampstleonard.org>
- * Google Guarlford in Worcestershire County Council's website.

PLEASE NOTE that, like hairdressers, butchers and European museums, Rev Gary's normal day off is **Monday**.



A new QR Code for the Old Hills Malvern Churches

Chances are, you will have already seen these little boxes with strange looking black markings. They are quite out there at the moment. If you have a phone or a tablet, you can use it to scan this box - and if you do, it will take you directly to the Churches' website. No need to remember the www. address - scan and be teleported (or something) straight to the website. Give it a go.

Financial Help for Those in Need

The **Madresfield Relief in Need Charity** is an ancient charity for the benefit of those living in the ancient parish of Madresfield with Newland. The charity is overseen by the **Charity Commission** and managed by local trustees including Rev Gary Crellin.

The Covid pandemic has made life very tough for many. The trustees would like to help anyone within our parishes who needs support during this very challenging time. If you would like to apply for financial support, please contact Rev Gary Crellin through the contact details below.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

To make an application please contact:

Rev Gary Crellin, The Vicarage, 31 The Greenway
Colletts Green, Powick WR2 4RZ
Email: revgarycrellin@gmail.com



The Grapevine editor retiring

It's been fun putting the *Grapevine* together; adding colour and shapes at will and random; selecting pictures; choosing something for the front cover and liaising with local contributors. It all started because I wanted to give something to my community for five years - but forgot to stop.

All good things come to an end and 20 years and 120 editions is enough. It's not a job for life, after all. The next *Grapevine* (October / November) will be my last and the new editor is welcome to sit with me to see how it might be done - or not done, depending on one's point of view. I'll probably make a start on that edition on Friday 9th September.

I've had some delightful comments from those who have already learned of my retirement and thank you all for that. Thank you also to those who have supplied me with articles, stories, poems, reports, photographs, comments and observations over all these years.

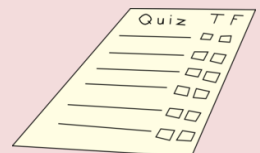
Don't all rush at once but please contact me, Cora Weaver, at cora.weaver@talktalk.net if you fancy gurgling the *Grapevine*.

'A three to five year commitment would be fine; but if no one steps forward there'll be no *Grapevine*.'

The members of Guarlford W I warmly invite you to our

FUN QUIZ EVENING

in Guarlford Village Hall
on Saturday 24th September at 7 pm



This popular **Quiz Evening** is open to all. You can come as a team of four or as individuals - we will find a team for you.

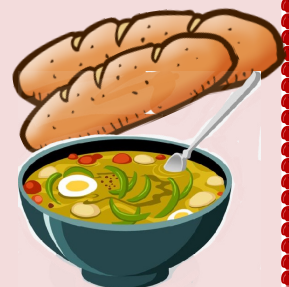
Tickets (in advance, please) **£7.50** per person includes a supper of **homemade soup with bread & a choice of delicious W I puddings.**

Bring your own drinks.

There will be prizes for the winning team
plus a table quiz sheet and a raffle.

For tickets, please telephone 01684 565118

*and come along for a fun evening, with good food,
in our interesting village hall*



GUARLFORD CELEBRATES THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE



In June, we saw the wonderful occasion of **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**. The parish council and trustees of the village hall worked together to organise a street party in Penny Close on Saturday 4th June for all the residents of Guarlford and surrounding areas.

So many people helped to make this event a success from baking cakes and putting up bunting to erecting the many gazebos; Guarlford was alive with community spirit as everyone joined in.

Mike Huskinson, Chairman of Guarlford Parish Council, opened the celebrations with reminiscences of The Queen's coronation 75 years earlier and thanks to everyone for their efforts in organising the Platinum Party

One hundred and twenty people joined in the fun with a bring and share picnic. Long tables were erected on the grass in Penny Close and every chair available was brought out so that everyone could come together to celebrate. Although it had rained a little in the morning, gazebos kept everyone dry and the sun came out just in time for lunch and the afternoon's activities.



So Xsighted Morris (visually impaired)
dancing in the sunshine



Appleyard Dancers entertained
the crowd in Penny Close



Music made the event go with a swing





Even the young enjoyed playing the traditional games, including Splat the Rat, Fishing for Ducks and Trace the Malvern Hills (avoiding the buzzer).



... or join in the dancing



L to R: Guarlford WI members Rosemary McCulloch, Linda Smith and Judith Knott and Linda's husband Max.



Time to relax with friends and family



Mrs Mercer from Clevelode won the best crown competition



Right: a toast to The Queen was raised by Rosemary McCulloch; Jenny Cameron, Chairman of Guarlford Village Hall Trustees, cut the celebration cake made by Ann Winter.



Is this the biggest picnic ever seen in Penny Close ?

As well as all that, every child was given a medal made by **Phil Thomas**; raffle prizes were donated by **The Green Dragon**, the **Plough and Harrow** and Guarlford residents. The scavenger hunt was won by **Omar from Penny Close** and the village quiz was won by **the Medcalf family**



A reflection on the Jubilee weekend



The Platinum Jubilee celebrations in Guarlford began with a **street party on Saturday 4th June**, when a hardworking team of volunteers organised a wonderful event. Penny Lane was closed to traffic, bunting and flags adorned the hedges, trees and fences, and tables and chairs were put out on the grass in Penny Close. Fortunately, gazebos were set up to cover them as the rain was drizzling down when **Michael Huskinson**, Chairman of the Parish Council, warmly welcomed the many residents from all over the village who had come to join the **Bring and Share Picnic**. But the rain didn't dampen the spirits of the crowd, happily meeting friends old and new. Many thanks to the Guarlford team for all their efforts over months to make such a happy time.

Sunday 5th June was also a special day during the Jubilee weekend. St Mary's Church was full for the baptism of **Martha Kathleen Bott**, one-year-old daughter of Edward and Clare of Whitehouse Farm. Wonderful to have a baptism again in Guarlford church, and for a family so long established in the village. Congratulations and best wishes to them all.

Revd Gary Crellin was back in church again in the afternoon for the *Jubilee Songs of Praise*, a selection of hymns, Bible readings and memories about the Queen and even '**The Queen Quiz**'. The church had been decorated with flowers and works of art, and members of the congregation were given commemorative Orders of Service, beautifully created by Gary, and slices of the village's Jubilee cake to take home.

It was a memorable Platinum Jubilee weekend in Guarlford; the village certainly 'did Her Majesty proud'."

There will be another Songs of Praise in St Mary's church, Guarlford, at 3 pm on **Sunday 11th September**, followed by afternoon tea in the village hall, as part of Heritage Open Days 2022. The day before, **Saturday 10th September**, the church and village hall will be open from 10am to 4pm, entry free, with exhibitions, '**Through all the Changing Scenes of Life**', showing the history of the two buildings and their place in the community then and now. Look out for the benefice 'Caterpillars' posters with more details of that and other opening times, and come & visit us.

Rosemary McCulloch



Report from Guarlford Parish Council and Guarlford Village Hall

It has been another busy couple of months in Guarlford with the parish council and village hall trustees working together to arrange events for the residents of Guarlford.

In May, twenty four residents attended a very informative evening at the village hall with the charity **Heartstart**. This had been arranged by the parish council following the installation of the defibrillator which had been funded by Malvern Hills Lions Club before the pandemic. The village hall trustees provided refreshments and everyone had the opportunity to practice lifesaving CPR. This was a very enjoyable evening and afterwards everyone said that they felt more confident to respond to an emergency should one arise.



Guarlford Village Hall

At the Annual General Meeting at the end of June, three more residents were elected to the role of trustee of the village hall. **Heather Clarke, Phil Thomas and Andrea Candlish** were all unanimously voted in, bringing the trustees now up to full strength with eight members. **Jenny Cameron** was re-elected as chairman; **Gill Hollick** continues as secretary and **Judith Knott** continues as treasurer.

The trustees will continue with fundraising activities as they work towards raising the £150,000 target needed for the regeneration of the village hall. So far, £30,000 has been raised. Come and join in some of the future events in the village hall. They are great fun and with everyone's help we can raise enough money to update our village hall for the 21st century.



TARGET 150

Your village hall needs insulating, heating, new toilets and a new kitchen.

**To help us reach our target of £150,000,
why not join us for one or all of the events planned for this year?**

August 20th 10 am - noon	.....	Coffee morning in the village hall- free to attend
September 10th, 11th, 13th-15th	.....	Open days for National Heritage week. The hall and St Mary's church will be open; check website for times. Refreshments available. Free to attend.
September 10th – 18th	.....	Scarecrow festival - check website for details
October 15th	.....	Barn dance - tickets available from September
November 25th	.....	Christmas crafts workshop mince pies and mulled wine - tickets available from October
December 3rd	.....	Christmas Fayre - free to attend

E: guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com

website:-<http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/halltrustees.htm>

NEWLAND NEWS



We were away during the Jubilee celebrations at the Beauchamp, but we when got back we were given a souvenir mug specially made for the Beauchamp.



Everyone enjoyed themselves at the celebrations despite the weather and it is nice to think that everyone was united in celebrating this fantastic milestone for our Queen of 70 years. Though some of the people living at the Beauchamp can remember the coronation in 1953, others, like myself have never known a different monarch.



I attended the NHS big tea held in the Quadrangle to celebrate the **74th birthday of the NHS**. It was in aid of Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust, which provides a range of physical and mental health services across the two counties from the community hospitals, mental health recovery units and within patients' homes. The afternoon was a success with most residents and lots of visitors coming out to enjoy tea and homemade cake in the almost sunshine. It did not rain on us so that was a blessing. Many of residents here at the Beauchamp have cause to be grateful to the NHS for their care over the years and wished to express their support. We raised £811.75.

Our new chaplain has been licenced with a service conducted in St Leonards by the Bishop of Dudley and is now living with us in the community. **Fr Iain Forbes** has come from Surrey to take over our pastoral care. He has already become a valued member of the community and presence in all our lives.

The mobile library is running again and visits the first Thursday in the month at 2.25pm, parked outside the Beauchamp Community. The van is packed full of books including the latest releases.

With the reduction in bus services and the rising cost of petrol, I reflect that two years ago this month I was returning to work after furlough and petrol was 99p a litre. What a change in the last few weeks.

We await the blooming of the **catalpa tree**, which is always spectacular and worth seeing - about two weeks to go. St Leonard's church was open to the public as part of the **Midsummer Malvern** celebration organised by Malvern Civic Society, an opportunity for others to enjoy this unusual and beautiful building. We visited Colwall Church on a wet and rainy Thursday evening, which I thoroughly enjoyed, having not been inside Colwall Church before.

It is with sadness that I note that Cora, the editor of the *Grapevine*, is retiring. She will be missed as the editor, and I wait with baited breath to see who will be taking over running the Grapevine.

Details of events at the Beauchamp can be found at www.beauchampstleonards.org

Jane Tinklin



National Heritage Open Days in Guarlford

From 10th - 15th September the village of Guarlford, with its lovely views of the Malvern Hills, will be celebrating "**National Heritage Open Days 2022**". As has been said before, Guarlford is not just 'a bend in the road'.

The Grade II listed **St Mary's Church**, opened in 1844, and the **Village Hall**, built in 1870, will be open to all, entry free, for our Exhibitions "**Through All The Changing Scenes Of Life**".

Learn about all the many historical connections in our lovely country church and admire the seasonal floral decorations. Follow a Trail round the church and churchyard.

Visit the Village Hall, once a Malthouse, now celebrating the Centenary of it becoming a meeting place for the Village. Find out about Village Life in Guarlford, past and present, and hear about the ongoing Regeneration Project. Here, you will also find Refreshments, Toilets, Secondhand Books Stall. A Stair lift is available to the upstairs Hall.

Call in at the award-winning Grange Farm Nursery, originally set up in the traditional farm buildings.

Admire the Scarecrows placed around the village centre and vote for the ones you like the best - ready for the "Scarecrow Festival" and Harvest celebrations at the Great Worcester Maize Maze on Sunday 18th September.

Opening Times

Saturday 10th September: 10 am – 4pm St Mary's Church and Village Hall open

Sunday 11th September: St Mary's Church will be open from 2 pm for people to see the Exhibition before a special "Songs of Praise" at 3 pm.

Tuesday 13th September 2 pm – 4pm

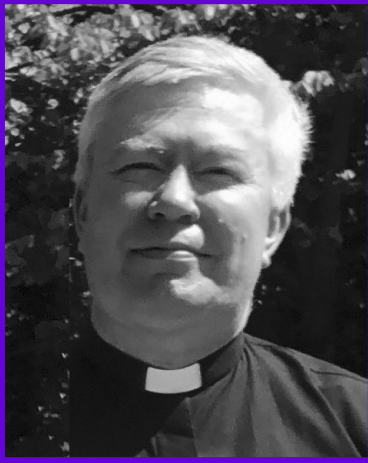
Wednesday 14th September 2 pm – 4pm

Thursday 15th September 2pm – 4pm

(Visits at other times may be possible by arrangement, please contact 01684 565118)

Nearby there are two public houses with excellent restaurants, The Green Dragon and The Plough & Harrow.

So, why not make a day of it, and come and see us in Guarlford? You will be made very welcome.



Vicar's Blog

I have been getting to grips with the **Book of Ezra** over the last few days. It has been a bit of a struggle, especially with all the wonderfully sounding names of tribes and countries. The more I delve into the Book, the more I see parallels with modern society. See what I mean when I preach on the Parable of the Good Samaritan on Sunday:

When the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the returned exiles were building a temple to the Lord, the God of Israel, they approached Zerubbabel and the heads of families and said to them,

'Let us build with you, for we worship your God as you do, and we have been sacrificing to him ever since the days of King Esar-haddon of Assyria who brought us here.' But Zerubbabel, Jeshua, and the rest of the heads of families in Israel said to them, 'You shall have no part with us in building a house to our God; but we alone will build to the Lord, the God of Israel, as King Cyrus of Persia has commanded us.'

Then the people of the land discouraged the people of Judah, and made them afraid to build, and they bribed officials to frustrate their plan throughout the reign of King Cyrus of Persia and until the reign of King Darius of Persia....

In the reign of Ahasuerus, in his accession year, they wrote an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem.....and again in the days of Artaxerxes....who made an order that the people be made to cease, and that this city be not rebuilt..... At that time the work on the house of God in Jerusalem stopped and was discontinued until the second year of the reign of King Darius of Persia. (Verses from the Book of Ezra Chapter 4, New Revised Standard Version)

Heavenly Father,
You take the long view
whereas we only see the short-term.
Help us to listen to You
and take up the challenge
to do Your work,
and to say "No!" when an offer
does not seem right.
Teach us also to know
that there will be others
to pick up the baton and run with it
if we falter or fail.
Amen

God stirred up the pagan king Cyrus to send the Jews who had originally been taken to Babylon back to their own land to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem. Although only a remnant returned, he also arranged to send back the silver and gold that had been ransacked some 70 years earlier. However, those returning were not particularly welcomed by those who had stayed. It was mostly the elite of the country that had been taken captive to Babylon. Those who were left were the poorest and lowliest of society. Over the years others had drifted in from Samaria - outsiders who were brought in by the Assyrians when the kingdom of Israel was captured. These people were very unhappy to see the people of Judah and Benjamin back in their ancestral lands.

Their first action was to offer to help rebuild the Temple, but those returning saw that for the Samaritans, Jehovah (God) was only one of a number of gods that they worshipped, and they refused the offer, despite what seemed like a good offer, and the fact they were vastly outnumbered. For the rest of Cyrus' reign and for two kings afterwards, they were opponents

causing Zerubbabel and Jeshua great difficulties, and it wasn't until the Persian king Darius came to the throne that God's plans continued.

When we answer God's call to action, it may not always succeed in the short term, but ultimately if we have faith in him and persevere all will be well. Every blessing to you all,

Rev Gary

Lifepath 2022

Taking part in **Lifepath 2022** was a wonderful experience. The top classes from three or four local primary schools arrived at Malvern Priory each morning with their teachers; some started their 'pilgrimage' by coming on foot. During the week, over 500 children were welcomed to the priory by **Pilgrim Guides** and flag-waving members of the team. In whole-group sessions, we all sang wonderful action songs, learned about the history of the priory, and watched a play based on the parable of the talents and the TV show, *The Apprentice*. Everyone loved it and laughed at the comedy, but also learned to recognise that we all have talents to be used and not buried.

On some days, we acted as Pilgrim Guides, taking a group of children and their teacher from one activity to another, and on other days as Activity Helpers. Each morning the whole team met together to get instructions for the day, and then one member shared a favourite passage of scripture and its impact on their path of life. These devotional talks were most encouraging.

The children enthusiastically took part in various activities relating to how life in the priory was in medieval times. This included the *Prayer Journey*, which we both helped with on different days. It was amazing to see how all the children were engaged in this activity, writing prayers of thanks, sorry and please, and learning about God's love through different mediums. This was such a peaceful place. At the debrief, after we had waved goodbye to the children, the children's prayers posted in boxes were anonymously offered up to God. We were also told about prayers brought during the day and challenges that had been faced and overcome.

We had such a great time, interacting with members of many churches in and around Malvern, all contributing to bringing the message of the love of God to the children. We both warmly applaud all the organisers - and without hesitation we recommend the experience to others.

Helen and Geoff Richardson

Flowers in St Mary's, Guarlford

We would very much like to have some more volunteers to help with arranging flowers for services. Even if you could offer to do just the occasional week, that would be very helpful. You wouldn't need to create pedestal arrangements, unless you want to; just provide flowers for the two small altar vases and the jug in the porch. We like to work in pairs, for security and companionship.

Also, you will see elsewhere in this issue, that there are to be some Heritage Open Days in Guarlford in September. We are planning to enhance the exhibition in church with appropriate flowers, and it would be good to use as many locally grown flowers as possible. So, if you think you would be able to provide flowers from your garden, or would like to volunteer to help, do please get in touch, telephone 01684 565118. Many thanks.

Rosemary McCulloch





Old Hills Malvern Churches invite you to take part in

THE GREAT VILLAGE SCARECROW FESTIVAL



10-18 SEPTEMBER 2022



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www.OLDHILLSMALVERN.CO.UK/USEFUL-LINKS/

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THE GREAT VILLAGE SCARECROW FESTIVAL

10-18 SEPTEMBER 2022



How to register



Scan the QR code

OR

Go to www.OLDHILLSMALVERN.CO.UK/USEFUL-LINKS/

OR

Collect a Registration form from one of the following locations:

Callow End: Shop at the Top or 3 Pole Elm Close, WR2 4UW

Guarford: 2 Bamford Close, WR13 6PF or Grange Farm Nursery (during opening hours)

Madresfield: Hayswood Farm or MEYC (during opening hours)

Powick: Murco Service Station or 24 King Charles Avenue, WR2 4QF or The Vicarage (31 The Greenway, Powick, WR2 4RZ)



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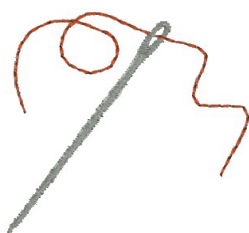
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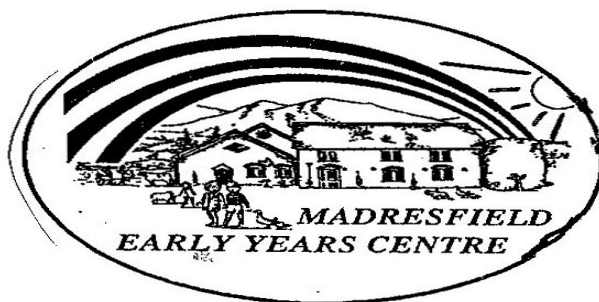


For all those little sewing jobs:

- Skirt/trousers too long?
- Fit not quite right?
- Buttons falling off?
- Jeans zip broken?
- Seams splitting?

**Just ring Tessa on 01684 567438 to see if I can help.
I can collect from homes within the Grapevine area.**

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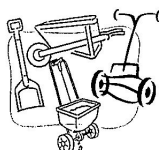
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To advertise in **The Grapevine** contact the editor, Cora Weaver E: cora.weaver@talktalk.net

Copy for the next **Grapevine** should be with the editor by **8th September 2022**.

Education

Madresfield C E Primary School

Head of School: Michelle Waits Tel:01684 573620

Email: office@madresfield.worcs.sch.uk

Friends of Madresfield School

Chairman: Angela Pountney

Vice Chairman: Pippa Rose East

Secretary: Milly Fleming

Treasurer: Hannah Hollick

Press Officer: Tracy Williams

Madresfield Early Years Centre www.meyc.co.uk 01684 574378 (9am-2pm)

Mrs Alice Bennett 01684 574378

* Madresfield Parent & Toddler Club; Tuesdays 11-12; Gymini classes throughout

Wednesdays * Holiday Play Schemes * After School Collection & Care

•Babies to PreSchool Care 8am-6pm daily

Social

Madresfield Club : Secretary, Mrs Jo Morgan 01684 573363

Bell Ringing: Practice Mondays, 7.30 at Madresfield Church

Geoff Titmuss 01684 572495

Countryside Matters

Tree Wardens: Rev. Peter Hughes (Guarlford)

Parish Path Wardens:

Newland - VACANT

Madresfield - VACANT

Guarlford - David Fellows, Green Fields, Rectory Lane, Guarlford 01684 574243

Malvern Hub: for reporting abandoned cars and flytipping 01684 862151

Malvern Hills Trust

Chase representative: Graeme Crisp 01684 560476

Newland representative: Tom Yapp 01886 833122

Guarlford representative: David Fellows

Community Support Officer: PCSO Martin Butcher

The cover picture shows Jenny Cameron, Chairman of Guarlford Village Hall Trustees, cutting the Queen's Platinum Jubilee cake at Guarlford's celebrations on Saturday 4th June 2022.