

The Grapevine online

No. 321

November / December 2023



*Your news about your community -
Guarlford, Madresfield, Newland*

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WHAT'S ON

November

24th	Guarlford Village Hall: Advent Event
25th	Guarlford Quiz

December

2nd	Guarlford Christmas Fayre
8th - 10th	St Mary's Guarlford : The Guarlford Collection of Crib Scenes
9th - 10th	Madresfield: Walk of Wonder & Christmas Tree Festival
10th	Madresfield: Walk of Wonder Carols and Christmas Story service & village trail
12th	Pres-Schoolers' Service, St Mary's, Madresfield

Editor: Cora Weaver E: cora.weaver@talktalk.net

The Grapevine will be posted online in mid- January; March, May, July, September and November.

Articles for inclusion need to be with the editor by 1st day of those months.

Donations and payments to:

Account	The Grapevine Magazine
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GUARLFORD

Guarlford Parish Website: www.guarlfordparish.uk

Churchwarden: David Fellowes

Vergers: Vacant

Malvern Hills Trust representative: David Fellowes

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

Parish Path Warden: David Fellowes, Green Fields, Rectory Lane, Guarlford
Tel: 01684 574243

Tree Warden: Rev. Peter Hughes

Village Hall: E: guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com

Village Hall Website: <http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/halltrustees.htm>

W.I : meets 7.30, Guarlford Village Hall, second Tuesday in the month. All welcome.
President: Di Rivers Tel ; 01684 572381 E: wifolk@guarlfordparish.uk



MADRESFIELD

Bell Ringing: Practice Mondays 7.30 at Madresfield Church; contact Geoff Titmuss
01684 572495

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

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

Treasurer: Situation vacant from Spring 2024 - church finance's enquiries to The Vicar.

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

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

Movement Club: Children's gym, dance, drama and ballet 01684 574378

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

Madresfield C E Primary School: Head of School: Emma Rose Tel:01684 573620
E: office@madresfield.dowmat.education

Friends of Madresfield School : Chairman: Helen Morgan;
Vice Chairman: Hannah Willey; Secretary, Christine Warner ; Treasurer, Hannah Hollick ;
Press Officer, Tracy Williams

Madresfield Club : Secretary, Mrs Jo Morgan 01684 573363

Madresfield *contd.*

Parent & Toddler Club: Tuesdays 11-12; Gymini classes throughout Wednesdays;
Holiday Play Schemes; After School Collection & Care
Babies to PreSchool Care 8am-6pm daily

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

Malvern Hills Trust representative: Duncan Westbury

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

Newland Parish Council meets bi-monthly at 7pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at The Beauchamp Community (January, March, May, July, September, November)

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Community Support Officer: PCSO Martin Butcher

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

Malvern Hills Trust: Chase representative: Richard Fowler

Malvern Hub: for reporting abandoned cars and flytipping 01684 862151

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

Parochial Church Council: Rector- Rev. Gary Crellin 01905 830270
E: revgarycrellin@gmail.com

Vice Chairman: Mrs Elizabeth Palmer 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914

Parishes' Administrator: Liz Edwards, 07726 927 046 E: oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com

PCC Secretary: Ginny Pavey E: virginiapavey@btinternet.com

Parish Website: www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

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.

DOMESTIC RECYCLING AND WASTE

YOUR CHRISTMAS COLLECTION CHANGES

Scheduled Day of Collection	Actual Collection Day	Waste Type
Monday 25 December	Saturday 23 December	Recycling
Tuesday 26 December	Wednesday 27 December	Recycling
Wednesday 27 December	Thursday 28 December	Recycling
Thursday 28 December	Friday 29 December	Recycling
Friday 29 December	Saturday 30 December	Recycling
Monday 1 January	Tuesday 2 January	General Waste
Tuesday 2 January	Wednesday 3 January	General Waste
Wednesday 3 January	Thursday 4 January	General Waste
Thursday 4 January	Friday 5 January	General Waste
Friday 5 January	Saturday 6 January	General Waste
Monday 8 January	Collections return to normal	Recycling

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New
Year!



We will collect up to 2 additional black sacks on W/C 1 January.



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Upton upon Severn

Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 - 4.30
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Tel: 07989 407748
shirley@upton-stitchery.co.uk
www.upton-stitchery.com

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY

Everyone is welcome to advertise their services in our Grapevine.

In return, we would like a donation to be paid to the Grapevine account.

Shirley has started the ball rolling with her advertisement on the left.

Many thanks Shirley.

When there is enough money to be useful, a small team will decide which community project is supported with *Grapevine* funds. It might be new curtains for a village hall, prefect badges for a school or the hire of a digger to clear a pond.

THE GUARLFORD COLLECTION OF CRIB SCENES

St Mary's Church, Guarlford, December 8th to 10th

Eight hundred years ago, in 1223, St Francis of Assisi recreated the scene of Jesus's birth by setting up an empty manger inside a cave in Greccio, Italy, with a live ox and donkey standing by. He is reported to have told a friend that he wanted to do something that would "recall the memory of that Child who was born in Bethlehem, for people to see with their own eyes the inconveniences of his infancy, how he lay in the manger, and how the ox and ass stood by."



The word crib comes from the Old English *cribbe*, 'the manger of a cattle stable, a fodder bin in cowsheds and fields'. Often, families have a tradition of setting up a crib scene in their own homes, using nativity sets.

In the run-up to Christmas, why not take time out to visit **The Guarlford Collection of Crib Scenes**, an exhibition of nativity sets from around the world? There will be nativity sets large and small, including some, like these, which are just a few inches high.



The exhibition in St Mary's Church, Guarlford, will be open on :

Friday 8th December 10 am to 3 pm
Saturday 9th December 10 am to 3 pm
Sunday 10th December 12.30 to 3 pm

We will have sets crafted in all kinds of materials, like the Fairtrade wooden nativity set shown below, and some made by local crafts people and children. St Mary's will be decorated ready for Christmas, and there will be activities for children.

Entry to the exhibition is free.

Refreshments and accessible toilets will be available in Guarlford Village Hall, which also has a stair-lift.



On Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December you can also follow the **Walk of Wonder** around Madresfield and visit the **Christmas Tree Festival** in Madresfield Church.

So, do come and visit our villages and remember
the very first Christmas.

Advent Event

Come and make a festive garland for your front door

At:- Guarlford Village Hall

On:- Friday 24th November 2023 7pm

£20

Bring your own secateurs/scissors if you have them
*ticket includes mulled wine and festive nibbles,
tea and coffee, and all the resources and guidance
needed to make your beautiful garland*

Booking essential



Contact the secretary guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com
or 07816 533251



YOUR CHURCHES

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>



QR Code for the Old Hills Malvern Churches

If you have a phone or a tablet, you can use it to scan this QR code, which will take you directly to the churches' website. No need to remember the www. address - scan and be teleported as if by magic straight to the website. Give it a go.



SCAN ME

A Special Service for pre-schoolers, their parents & carers

You are warmly invited to join us at the

PreSchoolers' Service

in St Mary's Church, Madresfield
on **Tuesday 12th December** from 1.30 - 2 pm

when the theme will be *Christmas*
and the story *Good King Wenceslas*

Do come along, sit on the carpet, sing songs and listen to a story.

Everyone is welcome.



**If you have to dial 999 or 112 and cannot speak
Dial 55**

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

WALK OF WONDER IN MADRESFIELD

In a small, quiet village you can hear the faint sound of designs being produced, mdf being cut, materials being measured and sewn, tinsel coming down from lofts, children practising Christmas carols - all in preparation for the parishes' Christmas offering. Yes, once again, *Walk of Wonder* is returning to Madresfield village.

Organised by Children and Youth Ministers for Old Hills Malvern Churches together with Madresfield Court, Madresfield Primary School, Madresfield Early Years Centre, Madresfield Working Men's Club and St Mary's Church congregation, this is a community coming together to offer a truly Christmas-y event at this wonderful time of the year.

The nativity trail starts at Madresfield Early Years Centre where you'll discover Mary and Elizabeth exclaiming at their amazing news; from there, walk up the long drive of Madresfield Court to experience the journey taken by Mary and Joseph before arriving at the inn in Bethlehem which has no room. Make your way round to the church where you'll find baby Jesus, wrapped in swaddling cloths lying in a manger. Be amazed by the shepherds as they listen to the angels and follow the kings as they make their journey guided by the star.

Inside St Mary's Church, you will be enchanted by the twinkling lights of the Christmas Tree Festival, a showcase of trees decorated by local village organisations including schools, local Cubs and Guides, WIs and local businesses. The smell of mulled wine and mince pies will radiate out from the church tower and there will be crafts for the children.



congregation carols.

On Sunday 10th at 10.30am there will be a **Walk of Wonder Carols and Christmas Story** service as we follow the trail around the village.

So please do come and join us, bring the whole family, everyone welcome including the dog! Experience the magic of the true Christ-mas at this most wonderful time of the year.

Vicky Whitehouse and Kay Shuard
Old Hills Malvern Churches
ALM Children and Youth Ministers



This **FREE** event is open on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th of December from 12 midday to 4pm, with parking available at Madresfield Early Years Centre.

On Saturday 9th at 4pm in St Mary's Church a 'Christmas Reflection' will take place, a short celebration including Madresfield School choir, readings from a 'shepherd' and a 'king' on their experience of seeing baby Jesus and a chance for you to sing out loud and join in with the



Walk of Wonder

*Follow the Nativity trail and see the
Christmas Story unfold*



Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December 2023

*Follow the Trail around Madresfield Village including a
Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary's Church*

12 midday to 4pm

Free entry & parking at MEYC (WR14 5AA)

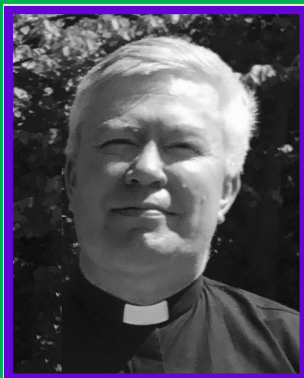
Refreshments in Church

Plus

*'Christmas Reflection' at 4pm on Saturday 9th with
Madresfield Primary School choir*

*'Walk of Wonder Carols and Christmas Story around the village'
at 10.30am on Sunday 10th*

*Both in St Mary's Church serving
mulled wine and mince pies*



Vicar's Pastoral Letter - November 2023

Dear Friends,

November is a month to remember. And we remember not to take things for granted. Not taking things for granted helps us have better focus, and promotes better priorities in our life.

On **Remembrance Sunday 12th November 2023 at 10.50am**, for the first time in the time I have been your priest, church services at Guarlford, Madresfield & Powick worship together at the same time for the national silence at 11am (I hope with the clock changes, everyone remembers!).

Remembrance Sunday is a good opportunity to express publicly the much-needed intention not to take peace for granted. Next year, we commemorate 80 years since D-Day and in 2025, the ending of the Second World War. Psychologically, many of the younger generations might well be thinking such war will never visit us. We can all too easily take peace for granted.

The **Gaza/Israeli conflict** and resultant humanitarian crisis, and the war resulting from the **Russian invasion of Ukraine**, remind us not to take peace for granted. Devastating war is closer than we think: in the case of the current conflicts - less than four hours' flying time separate our peace from armed conflict and humanitarian strife. Remembrance Sunday helps us remember.

Jesus taught very clearly that this age, in which we live, will see wars. He was not the sort of humanist who believes that humankind is getting better in all ways, and such bad things are going away. Not at all. Jesus said 'there will be wars and rumours of wars' right up to the time of his second coming. He warned us so that we can be ready to face up to the challenges of our times, and to work for peace, and to be ready for war. Many of the Ukrainians are Christians and this has helped them to be resilient in the face of terrible warmongering. We need to remember the civilian casualties in Gaza and Israel too and the aid agencies trying to help in hard circumstances. We want to be resilient. Being resilient is helped by good remembering.

On Sunday 29th October 2023, we had our annual **Parish Memorial Services**. The services on that afternoon brought back to church many family members that your village churches have supported over the past two years with funeral ministry. We gathered together to remember loved ones who are no longer with us and to give thanks. I hope that this annual gathering was indeed helpful, as we all come to terms with our own loss, and it also helps us to value our close friends and family. A shared experience of expressing our family grief reminds us how much we value our loved one's memory, and helps us not to take our remaining family and friends for granted. Remembering helps us value people and cherish people.

Whilst we remember or hold deep rooted remembrances, we need to give thanks too. We remember that all we have comes from God's generosity. As we approach the end of the Church's year at the end of the November, we do need to anticipate and look forward to God's plan for us as a group of churches, moving forward. We mustn't dwell, too much, on the Diocese's Transformation and Change agenda, in the purely organisational and church bureaucracy way, but look for the signs for how Gods is transforming us. Being thankful for our parishes' presence, prayer and persistence to help others in spite of the challenges we face is important. Offering thanksgiving is a marvellous antidote to taking things for granted.

November is a month to help us remember and give thanks for all have achieved. Come and remember and so be ready and focused on the things that really matter.

Every blessing

Rev Gary

INVITATION TO TENDER

Guarlford Village Hall, 4 Penny Lane, Guarlford, Malvern WR13 6PG

07816 533251

guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com

The project includes:-

Roof Works

Repairs to the roof structure and replacement of slates, valleys, roof lights etc. as required.

Other Works

Exterior brick work repairs including renovation of brick fire escape

Installation of new security doors

Interior damp-proofing/tanking

Insulation and screeding of floors, walls and ceilings.

Removal and refitting of staircase

Insulating, boarding and plastering throughout

Fitting of replacement kitchen with alterations to serving hatch to reduce size and install a roller shutter

All associated plumbing and electrical work, including provision for future heating system

Contractors with relevant knowledge and experience are invited to tender for a **refurbishment project at Guarlford Village Hall**

It will be preferable for one contractor to complete all works. However, it will be acceptable to tender for the **Roof Works** separately from **Other Works**. **NOTE** that Other Works must all be managed by one contractor, whether or not he/she is also doing the Roof Works.

Interested parties should in the first instance contact The Secretary at guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com for more information and to arrange a site visit. The deadline for site visits is 5pm on 13th November 2023

Tenders must be submitted to the Secretary by 5pm on 13th December 2023.

If you have any questions about the tendering procedure, please contact The Secretary by e-mail.

The Trustees, Guarlford Village Hall



FOR SALE AND WANTS

Gardener required for a local attractive holiday let, to include regular mowing, strimming and upkeep of hedges.

Please contact Rosemary Boaz 01643 703761

E: roseyboaz@gmail.com



Guarlford Village Hall is available for hire for small gatherings.

For more information contact

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

To advertise in *The Grapevine* : email cora.weaver@talktalk.net

Please send donations for advertising to :

Account	The Grapevine Magazine
Sort Code	30-95-41
Account No.	00519819

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE USED FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS.

GUARLFORD CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Saturday 2nd December 2023

2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Guarlford Village Hall



**STALLS, CRAFTS, CAKES, RAFFLE
GAMES & REFRESHMENTS**

**SHOP FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS AT A TRADITIONAL
VILLAGE CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

All proceeds to Guarlford Village Hall restoration project



GUARLFORD VILLAGE HALL

Bring your own bottle



Christmas Quiz

In support of the village hall regeneration fund

Saturday

25th November 2023



7.00 pm for a prompt 7.15pm start

Bring a team of 4 or
come on your own and join a team

Tickets include supper of soup, crusty bread
and delicious homemade puds

Prizes

£8.00 per person

Prizes



To book a place email guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com



Or telephone the secretary on 07816 533251

Thanks to the tremendous support we have received, we can now repair the roof and fit a new kitchen. Now are raising funds for phase 3 of our regeneration programme, to insulate the main hall. Come and help us reach our target for a brighter future for Guarlford's community hub.



OLD HILLS MALVERN CHURCHES DECEMBER & CHRISTMAS SERVICES



Sunday 3rd December

9.30am *ACE Communion at Guarlford

11am *ACE Communion at Powick

*(*Advent, Christmas & Epiphany Seasonal Liturgies – ACE)*

4pm Service of Light 'Make Way' at Callow End

Sunday 10th December

10.30am Benefice Service 'Walk of Wonder' at Madresfield

6.00pm Community Carols & Charity Christmas Lights with Chase Brass Band
at Guarlford Village Hall and Penny Close

Sunday 17th December

8am BCP Communion at Powick

9.30am BCP Communion at Guarlford

6.00pm Readings, Music & Carols with a Christmas Gospel Edge at Powick
(Featuring the VoxRox Community Choir from Upton)

Christmas Eve

2.30pm Crib Service at Madresfield

4.00pm Crib Service at Callow End

8.30pm First Communion of Christmas at Guarlford

10.30pm First Communion of Christmas at Powick

Christmas Day

11am Christmas Holy Communion at Madresfield

11am Christmas Holy Communion at Powick

Sunday 31st December 2023

10am New Year Commitment and Reflection at Callow End



www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk





Church Services and Online Worshipping Opportunities for Your Church in the Old Hills Malvern Churches

JANUARY 2024

Sunday 7th January

Epiphany/Baptism of Christ

9.30am *ACE Communion at GUARLFORD

11.00am *ACE Communion at POWICK

Sunday 14th January

Epiphany 2

9.30am *ACE Communion at CALLOW END

11.00am *ACE Communion at MADRESFIELD

Sunday 21st January

Epiphany 3

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at POWICK

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at GUARLFORD

11.00am Christingle Service at POWICK (*with Powick School Choir*)

5.30pm BCP Evening Prayer via ZOOM

Thursday 25th January

Conversion of Paul

8.00pm Prayers for Paul via ZOOM

Sunday 28th January

Epiphany 4/Candlemas

9.30am *ACE Communion at CALLOW END

11.00am *ACE Communion at MADRESFIELD

*(*Advent, Christmas & Epiphany Seasonal Liturgies)*

Midweek Communion at The Orchard Room in Colletts Green
Fortnightly on Thursdays from 10.30-11.30am



01905 830270 www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

For Zoom Access codes and links, please contact us via
revgarycrellin@gmail.com or oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com



SCAN ME

NEWLAND NEWS 22



Well, here we are again 12 months later, and the *Grapevine* is back. You cannot keep a good publication down as far as I can see.

Much has happened here at the Beauchamp: one warden has retired and a new one has arrived; with all things this has created a difference to the community. Welcome to **Duncan** our new warden and long may he enjoy living and working at the Beauchamp.

My life has changed greatly. I made the momentous decision to take early retirement and no longer go out to work. Have had to face 12 weeks of a garage repairing my car and driving some very different vehicles while waiting. This has given me an opportunity to see that a hybrid vehicle is not the thing for me. It was great for long journeys using almost no petrol to travel from here to Weston super Mare and back, but of no use for short local journeys (the majority of my driving). The lack of electric charging points mean that I would be very dubious of buying an all-electric car. Yet climate change needs us to move away from the petrol engine, so what to do? What's best for the environment and deal with the difficulties this will bring? Or go with my gut and stay with petrol and risk the pollution this will cause.

On the theme of climate change I have been taking advantage of the central government scheme where all bus journeys are £2. So I have been able to travel to Worcester and Great Malvern using the bus, but due to the timetable changes it will have to be mornings or early afternoon. There are no buses after about 5.30pm.

I have also reconnected with my cousin while away in Bournemouth and it has been great to see her and discuss many family things with her.

We had the gentleman of St John's sing *a capella* in St Leonards and the acoustics were lovely and we thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment.

We have survived a nice big storm, the felling of one of our trees due to disease, though the grass has grown back and from a distance you be hard pressed to tell anything had happened. A massive heat wave (a rather hot few days in September): we are English, so that much heat should be accompanied by drinks with umbrellas, air con set to freeze and loungers by the pool - not at home.

We have welcomed new residents and said goodbye to others who have moved on to pastures new.

What has not changed is the rhythm of the church, the services and patterns that pass through the year. We find ourselves approaching Advent, full of hope for the future, grateful for the good bits of the past, and the good memories. Looking forward to the celebration of the birth of our saviour, though maybe not the continuous Christmas music in the shops.

Events and news for the Beauchamp community can be found at www.beauchampstleonards.org

Jane Tinklin

Left: Autumn at the Beauchamp



Over the past year so much has taken place at Guarlford Village Hall. There have been some big changes with still more to come. During a cold January, the builders moved in and out came all the damp timber from the downstairs area of the hall. The walls, floor and ceiling were damp-proofed and insulated and by March brand new toilets had been installed together with accessible facilities for visitors with mobility difficulties. While the work was underway a **time capsule** was placed in the space between the ceiling over the entrance door and the floor of the upstairs function room. This will give a real flavour of Guarlford in 2023 to any future generations who may come across it. Thank you to our builders, **Paul and Mark Mucke**, for such fantastic work on phase 1 of our project. Finally on 15th April, **Councillor Nick Houghton** who was town mayor at the time, officially opened our toilets at the start of the spring village quiz



Councillor Houghton cutting the ribbon on the accessible toilet

The quiz was a huge success with questions set by our quizmaster **Richard Edwards**, and a delicious supper provided by the Committee. This event started our fund-raising efforts for phase 2 of the village hall renovations, to **insulate the stairs, main hall and kitchen**. In March the Trustees commissioned a survey of the building and were delighted to learn that the building is structurally sound and with a bit of care and attention will be able to serve the community for generations to come. Unfortunately, some roof repairs are needed as well as a bit of brickwork pointing in addition to all internal works the Trustees already have planned. Undaunted, the Trustees have continued throughout the year to encourage more people to enjoy using the hall and this has seen a huge increase in the footfall.

In April, a pre-loved sale and coffee morning organised by Jean **Embelin and Brenda White** raised nearly £300 for the hall which was a fantastic achievement.

In May, the Trustees joined with Guarlford Parish Council to organise a street party to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. Penny Lane was brought to life with music and laughter as people joined in with tug-o-war, space hopper races and other fun games. Everyone enjoyed the barbeque and hot pork rolls as well as sharing their picnics with cakes and treats.



At the Coronation Street Party



The Coronation Street Party was a great success

May saw the village hall open up for a **Taster Day sponsored by 'Our Community Can'** funded by the National Lottery to encourage everyone to get fit and active. We had a huge response to this day with people joining in with Dance, Tai Chi, arts and crafts as well as singing. Everyone felt in high spirits helped along by lots of tea and cake. Dance and Tai Chi were so popular that now both these sessions run every week in the village hall and continue to be extremely well attended.

On a very hot Sunday at the start of June, Guarlford Village Hall played host to 'The Guarlford Gallop'. This was a fun run sponsored by **A J Removals of Worcester**. Twenty one brave souls took part in a 5k fun event running (or walking) around the beautiful area surrounding the village. All the runners were rewarded with a medal and piece of cake while in the hall lunches, games and stalls helped to keep everyone entertained.



Mel and Bob Newport with their medals

Another very popular event this year has been the return of Andy Malliphant and the Plump Hill Band for our Barn Dance in July. The hall was packed with eager dancers and with much enjoyment everyone joined in, often getting it wrong, but this only added to the fun of the evening.

Our quiz master Richard put on the Summer Quiz in August which continues to be popular and has now built a regular following.

During September it was National Heritage week, this year the theme was 'creativity' Guarlford Village Hall opened up to local arts and crafters to come and display their work. A wonderful display of paintings, macrame, embroidery, patchwork, photography, card making and wood turning attracted visitors from far and wide. We even had a demonstration of wool spinning on Sunday. Some visitors took the opportunity to purchase early Christmas presents but nearly everyone bought tea and cake which all contributed to our fund raising goal.

As well as all these fund raising activities the Trustees have been busy all year applying for grant funding and finally in September they reached their goal of **£140,000 !!**

This means that in January 2024 the builders will be back in the village hall working on phase 2 and phase 3 of our regeneration. Next year will see more huge improvements for Guarlford Village Hall in what continues to be an exciting time for our community.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us over the past 2 years. Without you none of this would have been possible. Look for **Guarlford Village Hall on Facebook** to keep up to date with what is going on over the next few months.

Gill Hollick, Secretary

Guarlford Village Hall

