

The Grapevine online

No 336

June / July 2026



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

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*** LANDLINES IN THE U.K ARE GOING DIGITAL IN *
JANUARY 2027. IF YOU USE A LANDLINE, DON'T BE
CAUGHT OUT - READ PAGE 12.**

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

You are warmly invited to join us at the

Pre-Schoolers' Service Tuesdays 1.45 - 2.15 pm

in St Mary's Church, Madresfield

on **7th July** for ***The Prodigal Son***

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



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

The Grapevine will be posted online in the last week of January; March, May, July,
September and November.

Articles for inclusion need to be with the editor by 15th day of those months.

GUARLFORD

Churchwarden: David Fellows

Verger: Vacant

Malvern Hills Trust representative: David Fellows

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

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

Tree Warden: Rev. Peter Hughes

Chairman, Village Hall Committee: Phil Thomas

Village Hall: E: guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com

Village Hall Website:- <https://guarlfordvillagehall.co.uk/> - look in here for *The Grapevine* online

W.I : meets 7.30, Guarlford Village Hall, second Tuesday in the month. All welcome.
President: Caroll Murphy 07812 153872 Secretary: Ann Johnson
E: guarlfordsec@wfedwi.org.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: Mrs Rebecca Hibell 01684 573620
E: office@madresfield.dowmat.education

Friends of Madresfield School : Chairman: Rebecca Perkins; Secretary, Helena Barley;
Treasurer, Lavinia Macdonald

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: David Reynolds

Parish Council: Clerk: J. Barker 07539 605 118 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)



Community Support Officer: PC Dee Stanley

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: virginiaipavey@btinternet.com

Parish Website: www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

WHERE TO FIND THE GRAPEVINE ONLINE

- * <https://guarlfordvillagehall.co.uk/>
- * Google 'The Grapevine parish Magazine' then look out for Old Hills Malvern
- * www.madresfieldschool.net
- * <https://www.beauchampstleonard.org>
- * <https://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish/Publications.aspx?ParishID=94>



Get involved

Have your say on the Government's plans to merge police forces across England and Wales.

This is your chance to share your views - whether you support the proposals or not.

The PCC will share your views with the Government to form part of their review.



www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk

The consultation closes on Monday 15 June.



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

JUNE 2026

Sunday 7th June

Trinity 1

9.30am Living Communion at GUARLFORD

11.00am Living Communion at POWICK

2-4pm Sunday Fun in the Churchyard at POWICK

With Pet Service/Blessings to start in Church at 4pm

(See poster/website for more details)

Sunday 14th June

Trinity 2

9.30am Living Communion at CALLOW END

NO SERVICE AT MADRESFIELD TODAY

Sunday 21st June

Trinity 3

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at POWICK

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at GUARLFORD

11.00am Morning Praise at POWICK

Sunday 28th June

Trinity 4/St Peter's Day (29th)

9.30am Living Communion at CALLOW END

11.00am Living Communion at MADRESFIELD

12.45pm Baptism at POWICK

There is also a weekly service at CHRIST CHURCH every Sunday at 11am.

Midweek Communion at The Orchard Room in Colletts Green

Thursdays 4th & 18th June 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



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

JULY 2026

Sunday 5th July

Trinity 5

9.30am Living Communion at GUARLFORD

11.00am Living Communion at POWICK

12.45pm Baptism at POWICK

Sunday 12th July

Trinity 6

9.30am Living Communion at CALLOW END

NO SERVICE AT MADRESFIELD TODAY

Sunday 19th July

Trinity 7

NO 8.00AM SERVICE AT POWICK

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at GUARLFORD

11.00am Morning Praise at POWICK

Sunday 26th July

Trinity 8

9.30am Living Communion at CALLOW END

11.00am Living Communion at MADRESFIELD

There is also a weekly service at CHRIST CHURCH every Sunday at 11am.

Midweek Communion at The Orchard Room in Colletts Green

Thursdays 2nd, 16th & 30th July 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



GUARLFORD WI News

Over the last few weeks, I have been able to spend many happy hours crafting at home and in the village hall. In April, members of Guarlford WI were treated to a workshop learning **Iris folding**, led by Barbie Elliot. (Iris folding is a paper crafting technique, where folded strips of paper are layered in a spiraling pattern on a numbered chart to make a design like a camera iris within a pre-cut shape.) We WI members were surprised by and pleased with the lovely greetings cards we achieved under Barbie's expert guidance. In April we had a craft evening, when Barbie Elliot came to guide us through the art of iris folding, which is a papercraft technique, composing pictures from strips of coloured paper on a pre marked template. The name is derived from the fact that the strips are applied to the backing from the outside, working inward to the 'iris', as in an eye. It was good fun learning how to do it, and I think everyone ended up with a successful picture.



In May, we had a treat when Phil Downing, the manager, came to share his enthusiasm for Harvington Hall, near Kidderminster. Dressed as an elegant 16th century gentleman, Phil told us about the history of the hall, part of which dates from medieval times, and what happened in the beautiful Elizabethan moated manor house when Catholicism was outlawed.

Families that continued to be practising Catholics created hiding places for priests, known as priest hides or holes. There are seven such hiding places in Harvington Hall, some very difficult to find, for example an ingenious priest hide, which is revealed only when panelling is removed and a swinging beam exposes the narrow doorway into the refuge. Another was built a few feet above the bread oven.

It was Humphrey Pakington who owned Harvington House at this time. He was a recusant, ie he refused to go to services in the local Church of England, but, probably because of his connections at Queen Elizabeth's court, he avoided being punished. No priest was ever caught in the hall, and Phil was not sure if this was because of Humphrey's influential friends, or because the hiding places were so well concealed. Phil described how he spent time in one of these priest hides as a sponsored event to raise funds for the hall - it sounded horrendous.

It was an excellent, well-illustrated talk, which we all enjoyed.

Paula Parsonage

W I meetings are held at 7.30 pm in the village hall, second Tuesday of the month. All ladies are welcome.

New Craft Group, Guarlford Village Hall

There is a new Village Hall Craft Group which is proving to be very popular. Members bring all kinds of crafts, for example lots of stitching, crochet, knitting, crystal art and decoupage. Some exquisite work is produced, but you don't have to be an expert. Beginners are very welcome, and several ladies have started to learn how to crochet, knit and decoupage - Pam also provides materials for other new ideas that members can try. And of course we enjoy the conversation.

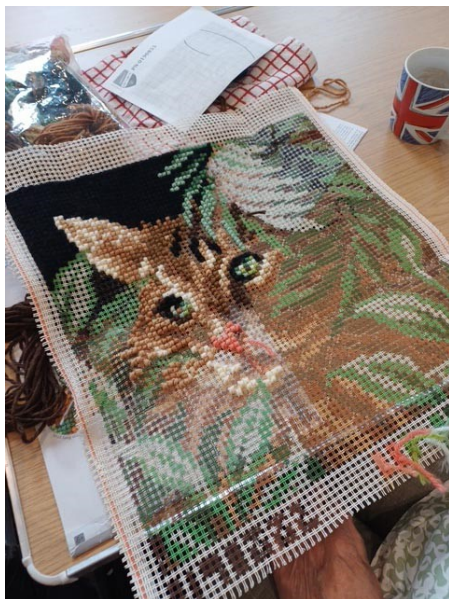
The Craft group meets in Guarlford Village Hall on Friday afternoons from 2 to 4.30 pm; you can come at any time and stay as long as you like. You can bring anything you are working on, or just come to enjoy the company. Please let us know if there is a new Craft you would like to learn, or even to demonstrate to the rest of us. First meeting is free and then £2 per session, to include a drink and biscuits/cake. Come and join us, we're a very friendly group (with lots of chat!)

Rosemary McCulloch

[Go on! Try something new, or renew your acquaintance with something you did when your children were small and have lost the skill. Ed]



Decoupage



Canvas work



Knitting practice



NEWLAND NEWS NUMBER 30

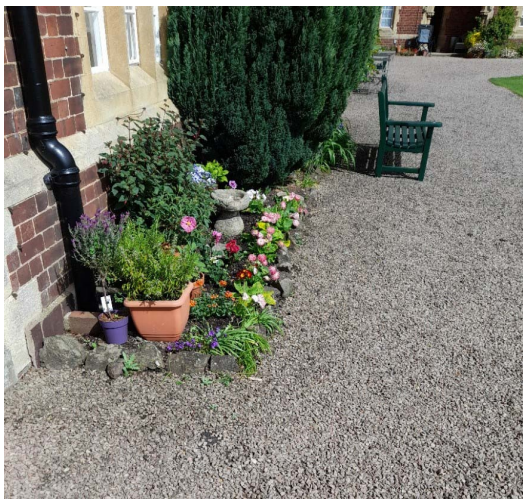
Do you ever feel it's all change and remains the same: ever felt that? In some ways, like the death of a friend leaves a gap in your life but the world around you remains the same, it's barely a blip on their radar and huge loss in your world but, as they say, life goes on.

Recently, the full fibre broadband - the much-advertised replacement for the old copper phone line-based internet - failed.

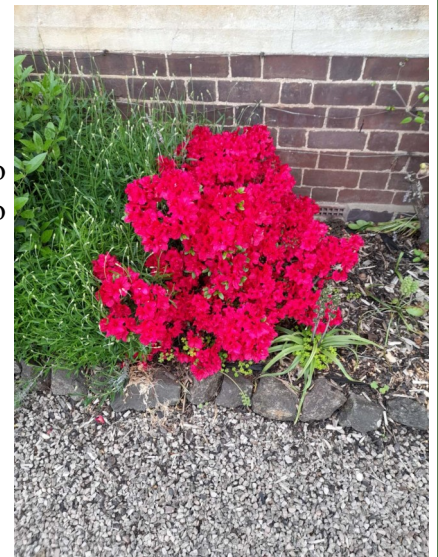
This left my mum without a landline to call for help. So much for the so-called safeguards that are supposed to exist to protect the vulnerable. I could not get her supplier to help report the fault. You need to be online, apparently, to report a fault, so we ended up in a chicken and egg situation. "We do not have online," was my cry and still I was told to check the fault online. As a society, we have truly made a rod for our own backs by moving everything online and leaving behind those who are not tech savvy.

After 12 days without internet (apparently it was caused by squirrels) we are back online but I now remember years ago I always kept a backup for the important files. Back to basics I reckon if I am to survive the digital age. This entire thing has left me with an abiding dislike of chatbots and their automated replies; where are the people? Finding someone to talk to about a situation was difficult.

Watching the paddock from Mum's window we have squirrels running along the top of the wall, birds calling for a mate from the top of the tree opposite. And lush greenery where just a few weeks ago there were skeleton trees.



The gardens are coming to life and colour is returning to the flower beds.



I thought you would like to see this picture of the Quadrangle (left); it shows that the Beauchamp Community is as beautiful as any of the many houses I have visited. I am so lucky to be able to open the blinds to this view every day.

There was a bit of excitement: the air ambulance landed in the field behind the paddock. Alerted by the noise I watched it manoeuvre into place. Helicopters are very noisy machines.

Good news - the date has been set for the replacement bus shelters to be end of May. We await the outcome with bated breath.

Date for your diary: organ recital in St Leonard's 5th July at 4pm, free entry.

Jane Tinklin

Landlines in the UK are going digital.



Are you ready?

The UK's landlines are getting an upgrade and soon most phone calls will be made over a broadband line. Don't worry, your landline is here to stay. Your phone number won't change, and over 99% of handsets work with the new system.

For most customers, the move to Digital Voice, BT's new home phone service is as simple as plugging your phone into a router rather than the phone socket on the wall.

If you don't have broadband

Don't worry, BT will be offering a dedicated landline service, allowing customers to use their landline in the same way they do today.

Supporting customers every step of the way

If you identify as vulnerable or need additional support, please contact your phone company. BT customers can call **0330 1234 150**.

If you use a healthcare alarm or medical pendant which allows you to press for help in an emergency, or a burglar alarm, inform your phone company and check with your equipment provider about any needed upgrades before the switch.



For more information about Digital Voice, visit:
bt.com/digitalvoice



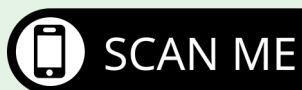
The PSTN Switch-Off Checklist

The UK's 40-year-old analogue landline network is set to close at the end of January 2027.

If you have not done so already, it is **VITAL** you act now.

- ☐ **STEP 01 Don't wait. Start planning now**
Your provider should write to you before your line is switched, but letters can come late, get missed, or not arrive at all.
- ☐ **STEP 02 Ask your provider when your area is scheduled**
The switch-off is rolling out area by area across the UK. Be proactive, call your provider and ask directly. Don't wait for a letter. Knowing your date helps you sort everything else in good time.
- ☐ **STEP 03 Check if your home phone will still work**
Older corded phones that plug directly into the wall socket will not work on the new digital network without an adapter. Check with your provider, many will supply one replacement free of charge.
- ☐ **STEP 04 Check any personal or medical alarm**
If you or someone in your home uses a telecare device, such as a lifeline pendant alarm, fall detector, or emergency call button, contact the alarm provider before anything changes. These devices often rely on the phone line and may need replacing or reconfiguring.
- ☐ **STEP 05 Check your home burglar alarm**
Many home alarm systems use the phone line to contact a monitoring centre if they're triggered. Contact your alarm company to ask if your system is switch-off ready.
- ☐ **STEP 06 Know what happens if the power or internet goes down**
Unlike a traditional landline, your new digital phone needs your broadband router switched on and working. If the power goes out or your internet drops, it won't work. A charged mobile phone can be used in the unlikely event that power is offline.
- ☐ **STEP 07 Ask your broadband provider about emergency call backup**
Your broadband provider is required by Ofcom to offer you a way to call 999 during a power cut, usually a battery backup unit for your router, free of charge if you rely on your landline and don't have another device, such as a mobile phone. Contact them directly to find out more about battery backups.
- ☐ **STEP 08 Write down your key phone numbers today**
In case of any disruption during the switch, keep a few important numbers written down somewhere easy to find: your doctor's surgery, family members, and your provider's customer service number.
- ☐ **STEP 09 Ask for help, sooner rather than later**
You don't have to figure this out alone. Your provider **must** offer assisted migration support, and charities like Age UK can help. The earlier you ask, the more time there is to get it right.
- ☐ **STEP 10 You have switched**
You don't have to wait until January 2027 to switch. Over 85% of people have already switched and are using the service now. So, once you have switched you can simply sit back and relax.

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



QR Code for the Old Hills Malvern Churches

If you have a phone or 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.

Guarlford Village Hall is available for hire for small gatherings.

For more information contact
Gill Hollick on 07816 533 251

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



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