

Footprints

Issue No. CCXXII

February 2021.

Edited by Peter Walker, Norton Hse., Broad Green, Broadwas on Teme. (01886 822137)
E-mail : peter43walker@gmail.com Copy by 15th of month, please.

Community Fibre Partnership - bringing full fibre gigabyte broadband to the parish.

Some good news !

A big thank you to all who responded to the recent invitation to take part. We are however still some way from reaching the targets for each of the 4 schemes. Cotheridge and Little Green have had sufficient people sign up that they have qualified for Government support. This means on completion 97 local households and businesses will have fibre to premises connections.

Not so good news? - More sign ups needed in Broadwas village

However, Broadwas village has not yet had enough sign ups for this part of the scheme to proceed. So far out of the possible 121 premises 30 have signed up (5 businesses and 25 residential premises). We do not need everyone to sign up but if we can generate vouchers to the value of about £20000 (Residential = £1500 Business = £3500) with the Worcester County Council Top Up Fund we should be able to proceed.

So, if you live in Broadwas village please consider signing up and either download the form: <https://www.broadwas-cotheridge.com/projects>

or contact Richard Burrows :

richardlkburrows@gmail.com 01886821678

Bringing faster broadband to Cotheridge and Broadwas - some background information

Thanks to a government funding scheme the Parish Council are working with Worcestershire County Council Superfast Broadband Team and BT Openreach to help all businesses and homes in the parish have a better internet connection.

Presently most of us benefit from the fibre network that links local cabinets to exchanges, however the connection between local cabinets still relies on copper wires, which depending on where you live or work can mean that connection speeds are slow and or can't keep up with demand. The scheme means that subject to there being enough local commitment that a fibre connection can be installed to most addresses in the parish. As a result, there will be a faster and more reliable connection, which as the use of the internet continues to expand, we all will stand more chance of keeping up.

There may not be another chance for some time.

Recently the government announced that it was cutting funding and targets for the roll out of fibre to premises broadband, this means especially for rural areas it is less likely that there will be similar funding schemes in the foreseeable future

Some key information

A fibre connection replaces the copper one that links premises to the nearest green cabinet box. This box links into the Superfast fibre network. A full fibre connection means you can have faster speeds, greater capacity and more reliability, especially important if there are lots of people using the internet.

- Many premises in Broadwas are not far from the green cabinet which means they get good speeds now, but the further you live from the cabinet the slower and less reliable copper connections become, and even then they cannot carry the volume or higher speeds that fibre can.

- There is growing evidence that a full fibre connection can add value to property and benefits the long term prosperity of a community.

- If you were to pay for full fibre installation then the cost could be depending on where you live anything from £1500+ to £10,000+

- By signing up you attract the government voucher but have to agree to take up from your service provider a full fibre package for 12 months, after then you can step down to a lesser package. Costs vary but it is a very competitive market so roughly depending on your service provider it can be as little as £10 extra a month for 12 months. A small price to pay for the future benefits and potential of a full fibre connection.

Richard Burrows

Impartial Outcomes(UK)Ltd, Broadwater, Broadwas.

Worcester WR6 5NE. 01886 821678 07753 834845

richardlkburrows@gmail.com

Church Words by Rev. Canon David Sherwin

Watching the news at the moment is quite an assault on our senses. We may range from compassion and tears to anger and rage at what we see happening in our world and in particular our country. There is Good news, but equally there is Bad news, sadly so often too much bad news.

It is important that we know what is going on, that we follow advice, yet in this day and age we are bombarded with information from so many sources. It can be a little overwhelming, but what I do not want to do with my short thought is overwhelm you nor cause you more stress rather I want to BLESS YOU.

It's a phrase we often use to infer upon someone we love, maybe if you see a baby the words 'bless' might flow from your lips, or you hear of someone doing something unselfish or achieve a goal, you want to say, 'Bless'.

But what do we mean and how can it help us at this moment? A blessing does indeed have its root in religion and as a Christian there is a specific reason for passing on a blessing, we want you to know God by your side in all you do and whatever you may face.

A blessing is often seen as a prayer given to an individual or group that they might prosper, not just in a material way, but in ways that benefit their whole being and others around them.

I am privileged to be in a position to be asked from time to time to pray with someone, when I do I always finish with a word of blessing, for me there is an added extra to the words 'Bless You'. I want to identify where the blessing comes from, for me that is God. So it is 'God Bless You', letting the persons know the source of that blessing. When Jesus walked the earth people sought him out to bless them, with healing and wholeness so that their situation and lot in life might improve. We may not be one who has material or financial needs at the moment, although I know there are those for whom the situation has caused great distress in these areas, yet all of us need hope and blessing at this time.

Just like the hope and blessing of that Vaccine Jab might bring to us to enable us to live a life of freedom once again, my prayer of Blessing for us all is one that will bring us a life of freedom both now and always as Jesus promised.

During a previous pandemic when Europe was engulfed by the

plague of AD 590 the Church through Pope Gregory 1 ordered unceasing Prayer for divine intercession. Part of his command was that anyone sneezing should be blessed immediately, with the words, 'God Bless You', hence even to this day we hear people say 'Bless you' when someone sneezes. Maybe at this point in time lets not wait for a sneeze to bless one another, lets use it as a prayer for the well being of each other whether ill or not, whether a key worker or not, whoever we are we all need to know God's blessing.

As I finish there are two blessings below for us to ponder.

The Biblical blessing; Numbers 6:24-26

24 - May the Lord bless you and take care of you;

25 - May the Lord be kind and gracious to you;

26 - May the Lord look on you with favour and give you peace.

And a modern popular blessing;

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

The rains fall soft upon your fields

and until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Bob Whyatt

Barbara Whyatt would like to thank everyone for the much appreciated letters, cards, flowers and messages which she received after her husband Bob sadly passed away on New Year's Day, having contracted coronavirus. His funeral will be held at St. Laurence Church, Wichenford on Thursday, 21st January at 12.00pm.

Bob and his family have spent sixteen happy years living at Cedar House, Broadwas . He was always ready ,when asked to give help and advice to the community and enjoyed participating in many of the local activities.

He was a gentleman who will be sadly missed.

Church Services

As I write this article we are in the midst of the third Lockdown, and though churches are allowed to open for services of public worship we along with many have chosen to suspend such services until the numbers of cases decrease and it is once again safer to meet. However, this does not mean the church buildings are closed, they are not and each Parish offers certain times during the week and Sundays when the building is open for private prayer. You are welcome to use the building and will find guidance to help keep you and others safe.

For further information concerning your parish church opening you might like to go to : **achurchnearyou.com** and find your own parish where information about opening and when services will start again.

Proposed services for **February** (- regulations allowing !)

7 th	10.30am	Morning Worship - Broadwas Church
14 th	10.30am	Zoom Service from Martley Church
17 th		Ash Wednesday - Zoom Service
21 st		WWRT Zoom Service
28 th	10.30am	Morning Worship - Broadwas Church



The WI, ever mindful of its members continues to try and reach all of them. We recently had a survey of members trying to record how each WI keeps in contact. In Broadwas we are managing to meet via Zoom. A year ago I had not heard of Zoom and now I am setting up the meetings. It is rewarding and lovely to be able to see each other and chat. We do also try and keep in touch with members who are unable to use Zoom.

This month we reviewed books and each member spoke a little about a good book which they had recently read. So we now have a list of books to try out. It was an interesting meeting and we made plans for February's meeting on 20th at 2pm. Stella is producing a quiz and we will show a heart shaped item which has been hand-made with love. (Valentine's Day Theme) It can be anything. I will send out the invites

a few days beforehand and will also send out invites for a casual coffee morning chat on February 6th.

It will be lovely to see everyone who can manage either meeting

If anyone has an interest in finding out more about the WI please contact our Secretary Barbara Lloyd or myself. Phone numbers on the back page.

Susan Reeve.

Some **Local History**, you probably didn't know about ?

Spotted whilst reseaching something completely different !!. It's amazing how these things jump out at you, to distract from the job in hand.

The last reference I can find to a Fitzer in Broadwas is in 1748. But I believe the family name is still about in other parishes in the area.

About the year 1600 was born at **Broadwas**, in this county, William Fitzer. Mr. Macdonald has traced his entry as a scholar at Worcester King's School in 1610 under the famous headmaster, Henry Bright. By the courtesy of Mr. E. Weil of London I have learnt that Fitzer settled at Frankfort-on-Main as a book-factor, and with his brother-in-law brought up the famous publishing-house of De Bry in 1625. He published a great many books between 1626 and 1638, the most celebrated being William Harvey's *Exercitatio Anatamico de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus*, describing his great discovery, in 1628. Mr. Weil was generous enough to give me a copy of Fitzer's "Heliodor", edited by Daniel Parcus, published probably for the English market. He remarks that the preface in Latin by Fitzer proves that he learnt his Latin well when at school.

[Ref: Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society
Vol 21 (New Series), 1944]

Parish Path Warden report 4th January 2021

It has been noted that several of the stiles in the 2 parishes have deteriorated and need attention. There is a legal requirement for both walkers and dogs to have access over or through the stiles. Also, if a walker sustains an injury on a wonky stile or stile step, the landowner will be liable for any compensation required for this injury. It is, therefore, in the landowners' interests to change for a more suitable gate or keep the stiles in good order. County now prefers to offer kits of kissing gates for installation by the landowner to replace deteriorated stiles and gates.

It depends if the definitive statement on the OS map describes a gate at each location, (as long as the installations are not in new or unauthorised fences, these need to have a gate provided by the fence owner). County always work with 'goodwill' and offer the benefits of a suitable gate or kissing gate in metal or timber that self-close and last many decades in the ground, keeping stock secure and allowing decent access.

I have small signs 100mm x 100mm that read 'Please Keep Dogs on Leads. Thank you', but there is no legal requirement to display these signs, except when dogs are mixing with livestock, such as sheep and cows. Trespass by humans or their dogs is ultimately a private matter.

Contact for information about replacement gates can be made to:

Jonathan White
Senior Public Rights of Way Officer
The Countryside Centre, Worcester Woods Country Park,
Wildwood Drive, Worcester, WR52LG
01905 843436

JLWhite@worcestershire.gov.uk

I do not know the contact details of many landowners and tenants in the 2 parishes. If parishioners (especially walkers) do have this information I would be grateful if they could forward such information to me; heathersusandale@gmail.com

Heather Dale
PPW Broadwas and Cotheridge

4th January 2021

Village Information

Church Officials:

Priest in Charge - Rev David Sherwin 01886 888664
Assistant Priest - Rev Jennifer Whittaker 01886 833897
Churchwardens – Lower Teme Valley Parish
Rob Pearce 01886 821959
Peter Walker 01886 822137

Parish Councils

Broadwas & Cotheridge : **www.broadwas-cotheridge.com**
Chairman – Eric Dale
Clerk – Carole Hirst tel: 07903 377066 (Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm)
Email : parishclerk@broadwas-cotheridge.com

Knightwick & Doddenham

Clerk – Geoffrey Brewin 01886 821386

Clubs and Societies

Broadwas Sports Assoc. Sec. - Gill Brooks 01886 821292
Croquet Club – John Guy 01905 748192
Royal British Legion – Sue Ganderton 01905 422711
W.I. – Barbara Lloyd 01905 333635

Schools:

Broadwas C of E Primary School - Secretary 01886 821347
Bumblebees : Pre-school/Out-of-School Care 07817637241

Footprints Production Team

Editor: Peter Walker 01886 822137 ; peter43walker@gmail.com
Treasurer & Distribution Organisers: Paul Reeve 01886 821322
Green Pages Entries : through Adrian at:
info@timesaversconciierge.co.uk