

Delivered to 3000 Households

Catshill & North Marlbrook

Parish Council

Newsletter Autumn 2014

Remembrance Sunday Road Closures

THIS year's Remembrance Sunday service will take place on Sunday 9th November.

The service, open to all irrespective of denomination, will start at Catshill Social Club at 10.00am then gather at the War Memorial at 10.45am for the reading of the names of the Fallen and 2 minutes silence at 11.00am.

To ensure the safety of all those taking part the roads surrounding the War Memorial will be closed to vehicular traffic for a short period.

This may affect you if you intend to use your vehicle between 10.30am and 11.20am on this date, Sunday 9th November.

It is hoped that this advance notice will help you to plan ahead and make alternative arrangements if you are likely to be affected by the road closure. For example residents of the roads that will be closed may want to consider parking outside the closure zone prior to the event, or delay setting off on their journey for a short while.

The roads affected by the event are as follows:

- **Stourbridge Road between Rocky Lane to the south of the War Memorial and Church Road to the north, to include Westfields, Churchstone Close, Crownhill Meadow and Brookside Drive.**
- **Meadow Road, full length between Stourbridge Road and Gibb Lane to include Poplar Close, Tall Trees Close, Woodbank Drive, and The Meadows.**

Diversion signs will be in place.

Please accept the parish council's thanks for your understanding and tolerance.

***Bonfire &
Firework Display***
on the Meadow
Saturday 1st November 2014

***Annual
Remembrance
Service***
Sunday 9th November 2014

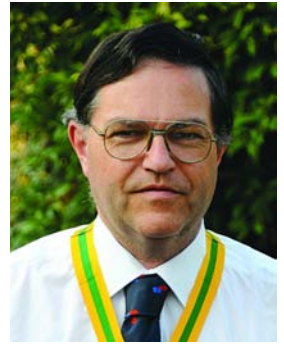
www.catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk

A Message from the Chair

AT the end of the July Full Parish Council meeting the Chair, Cllr Alan Kelly announced that he wished to resign as a parish councillor, and at the start of the September Full Parish Council meeting Cllr Gordon Witcombe was elected Chair with Cllr Frank Cook being voted as Vice Chair...

I would like to say how privileged I was to have served as Chairman of Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council; however, due to other commitments it has been necessary for me to stand down as a Councillor. I really enjoyed the years I served on the parish council, working alongside other groups and organisations, and the parishioners of this parish. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the clerk to the parish council and my fellow councillors for their support over those years and also to all of the parishioners I have met during that time.

Alan Kelly.



WE have had a quiet summer and now look forward to the winter months when we shall be hosting the annual bonfire and fireworks in Catshill Meadow on 1st November and then the Remembrance Sunday service on 9th November at Catshill War Memorial. We do hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Members of the Parish Council remain busy behind the scenes looking into planning and development issues that will affect us all. We are following the progress of the Bromsgrove District local plan with interest and wait to hear if Birmingham City Council's plans will impact on our area. As a way of helping the town planners to decide which parts of the district may be better than others to develop or to protect, the Parish Council is hoping to produce a Neighbourhood Plan and will include more information in the next newsletter in early 2015. We are keen to hear from you what you think about the development of land in Catshill and North Marlbrook.



We continue to be concerned about the number of cars in the area at the start and end of each school day. With three schools sited along Gibb Lane and Meadow Road there will always be an increase in traffic at 8.30am and 3.00pm whilst parents seek somewhere suitable to offload and pick up their children.

We know the Head Teachers and Governing Bodies are working to ease the situation but in the meantime the Parish Council would issue a plea to everyone on the roads at that time – whether driving or walking - to please be tolerant and mindful of others.

Set off early to avoid being late, and if you are running late then accept it will be better to arrive late than not to arrive at all! The Parish Council would be very grateful to hear of any sensible suggestions for avoiding traffic congestion along Gibb Lane and Meadow Road at these times.

I wish you all a happy end to the year.
Cllr Gordon Witcomb.



We begin with coffee and biscuits and then there is an opportunity to join in various games e.g. scrabble etc. We break for lunch at 12.30pm which consists of a two course meal from a local restaurant.

The club finishes at approx 1.30pm when people are returned to their homes.

We believe the club provides the chance for people to share stories, food, company and laughter. So why not give it a try.

If you would like your club or society to be featured in a future edition of this newsletter, then please let the clerk know.

THE Autumn Club is a social group which has been meeting on a Monday at Catshill Baptist church for over 25 years.

It is an opportunity to meet new people and share a meal together, and as we are able to collect people from their homes it enables less able bodied people to have a morning out.



Christmas Waste & Recycling Collections 2014

- There are no collections 25th, 26th December or 1st January, please see below for changes to your collection.
- Please make sure all bins are out and ready for collection by **7.00am at the latest** on the day of collection. We will not return where residents have not presented their bin for this time.
- We will continue to collect your grey and green bins on alternate weeks throughout the Christmas period.

Normal Collection Day	Revised Collection Day
Tues 23rd Dec	NO CHANGE
Wed 24th Dec	NO CHANGE
Thurs 25th Dec	Mon 22nd Dec
Fri 26th Dec	Mon 29th Dec
Tues 30th Dec	NO CHANGE
Wed 31st Dec	NO CHANGE
Thurs 1st Jan	Sat 3rd Jan
Fri 2nd Jan	NO CHANGE
NORMAL SERVICE RESUMES 6th JAN 2015	

If we experience snow and icy weather and cannot get to you on collection day, please leave your bin out and we will return as soon as we can.

Please contact 01527 881188 for any queries



 **recycle**
for Bromsgrove



Bromsgrove
District Council
www.bromsgrove.gov.uk

Road Works

FROM time to time the roads around Catshill and Marlbrook become congested due to road works. Usually these are short-lived and in most cases are just about bearable if we know why they are taking place and how long they are likely to last.

The County Council's website carries information about our local roads and a real-time map showing all the sites where road works are taking place.

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/roadworks-and-road-closures.aspx>

For updates on the motorway road works then take a look at the highways website - <http://www.highways.gov.uk/traffic-information>



Catshill Library Update

CATSHILL'S library is located on site with Catshill Middle School, Meadow Road. The permanent library staff share their time between Catshill and Rubery Libraries, and they are helped throughout the week in Catshill by a dedicated team of local volunteers which is why we are now known as Catshill Community Library. Anyone thinking of volunteering to help in the library would be welcomed on board – please call in and talk to any of the staff or volunteers, or contact the manager Katie Stanton via email: kstanton@worcestershire.gov.uk, or by telephone: **01905 822722** (ask to be put through to Rubery Library).

The library is open on Monday and Saturday mornings, Thursday and Friday afternoons and Tuesday afternoon and evening, and is also open during school holidays. Find us on the county council's website at <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/library-services/local-library-details/catshill.aspx>

Real Poppies to Commemorate the First World War

EARLIER in the year, as part of a national campaign by the Royal British Legion supported by B&Q your parish council purchased some poppy seeds which were then distributed free of charge to people who wished to plant them to help commemorate 100 years since the start of WWI. Many individuals planted these seeds in their gardens and others were planted by the children of Catshill First School and Nursery, Catshill Middle School and



Chadsgrove School.

You may already have noticed some of them growing locally, but since poppies can take a few years to get fully established, look out for them over the next few years as we move through the four year commemoration of WWI.

These few poppies were planted in the parish council maintained garden at top of Barley Mow Lane on the A38.

ONCE again we feature a photograph from our past, and this time we have a football team made up of mostly 13 year olds from 1943, who played for Catshill Modern School which we now call Catshill Middle School.

Back L to R: Bob Jones, Harry Perks, John Burns, Ron Bott, Ron Hodgetts, Dennis Preece, Mr Ireson (PE Teacher).

Front L to R: Dennis Poyner, Brian Tilsley, Geoff Collins, Rex Read, Frank Millership.

We are always pleased to publish photographs from our past, so if you have one which you would like us to share in a future edition, then please let us know.

Cllr. Paul Masters.



Get your licence the easy way

Practise the Highway Code online for free for car, motorbike, lorry or bus



www.rightdriver.co.uk

All the official DVSA revision questions that you can practise for free. Works on your phone, computer or tablet.

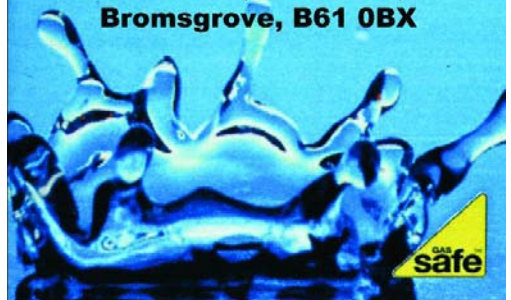
BP Services (UK) Ltd

Commercial & Domestic
Plumbing and Heating



01527 870600

**Unit 21 Wildmoor Mill Farm
Mill Lane, Wildmoor,
Bromsgrove, B61 0BX**



gas safe



THREE years ago the North West Ward Association (NWWA) the charity that maintains the Meadow on behalf of Catshill residents decided to investigate the possibility of replacing the existing changing rooms with a facility that would meet modern day standards and better meet the needs of the community.



Many funding avenues were investigated and a forest of grant applications completed until finally we managed to secure funding from 4 different organisations.

95% of the cost has been met by Sport England and Veolia Environmental. The

remaining 5% has been reached thanks to donations from West Mercia Police and the County Council via Councillor Sheila Blagg. The building is a modular design that was built off site by our approved contractor McAvoy's and dropped in from a crane onto a slightly modified plinth.

As can be seen from the pictures there are modern toilet and kitchen facilities as well as a room that can be used for a wide range of activities.

This multi use facility is available for hire. If you are interested then call Ian on **01527 873066**.



We're the Stroke Association, and we need you!

Are you energised by helping people in need?

Would you like to help a national charity reach more people and deliver a vital information service?

Do you have or would like to learn a range of skills and knowledge that can benefit others?

At the Stroke Information Service, we offer help and support to all those affected by stroke. We respond to approximately 20,000 telephone, email, letter and social media enquiries each year, and we are hoping to reach out to more people across the UK.

We are looking for warm and dedicated volunteers who can help us expand our Information and Helpline Service, based in Bromsgrove. We have a number of opportunities available, which can include helping to sort our enquiries, responding to letters, emails and social media posts, or even taking calls on our helpline.

So, whether you are a retired professional with skills to offer; or you're looking for an opportunity that could enhance your CV, we're keen to hear from you.

If you would like to find out more about the roles, or to request an application pack, please feel free to contact us:

Stroke
association

Email: helpline.volunteer@stroke.org.uk Telephone: 01527 903 903

You can help us help more people affected by stroke



'Constantly in the Pursuit of Excellence'

Join us on the journey

DUNCOMBES

01527 874526

Master Butchers

149 Golden Cross Lane, Catshill, Bromsgrove. B61 0JZ

Open: Tuesday - Friday 8.30am - 5pm - Saturday 8.30am - 4pm

October 2014

Dear All,

My name is Anne Smith and in July I moved from Worcester to the village to become the Minister of Catshill Methodist Church. I began on September 1st. We, my husband Jim and my mother Beatrice, have been made very welcome and we look forward to living among you.

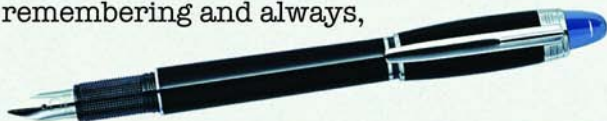
This issue of the Newsletter covers an important part of the year. Already the shops are tempting us to buy things for Christmas but before we get there we have the season of remembering. November begins with All Saints Day when we think about the people who have gone before us. Then there is November 5th, remembered on the 1st in the village with the bonfire and Firework display – I wonder if Guy Fawkes and his friends ever thought what fun they would give to us nearly 400 years later. The 9th finds us at the War Memorial to stand in silence as we remember those who have died in war as they served their country. (In the evening we shall have a service of Prayers for Peace at the Methodist Church at 6.00pm)

November 30th is St Andrew's Day and then it is December and Christmas is upon us when we remember God's gift of Jesus Christ, His Son.

Remembering is good yet it is only really worthwhile if it prompts us to action now. We remember the great loss in wartime to prompt us to work for peace. And we remember Christmas so that we might hear Jesus' invitation, "Follow me".

May God bless you in your remembering and always,

Anne Smith



There is an open invitation to all who wish to attend any of the Christmas Services at Catshill Methodist Church Centre:

10.30am December 7th Gift Service and All Age Communion

6.00pm December 21st Candlelight Carol Service

4.30pm December 24th Christingle

11.30pm December 24th Midnight Communion

11.00am December 25th All Age Service (bring an opened present to show)



Your local Scout Group

Providing fun and adventure for young people in Catshill

Monday 7.00pm - 8.30 Cubs for young people age 8 to 10½

Tuesday 6.30pm - 7.30 Beavers for young people age 6 to 8 (from Jan 2015)

Thursday 7.00pm - 9.00 Scouts for young people age 10½ to 14



Scouting gives children more confidence, responsibility and a broader set of friends. It can help to develop social skills and encourage self-sufficiency and give them access to activities and opportunities that may have been otherwise unavailable to them.

Can **You** help us to provide this in our Catshill Scout Group.

We are looking for leaders and helpers for our Cub and new Beaver unit to supplement our existing teams.

If you are interested or would like some more information please contact

Rubin Howdle mobile: **07805 197549** e-mail: rubin.howdle@gmail.com

Ian Jones **01527 876679** e-mail: t.ianjones70@gmail.com



GOLDEN PLAICE

Fish & Chips

139 Golden Cross Lane, Catshill

FRESH FISH Delivered DAILY

01527 876318

LUNCHTIME SPECIALS

Pies Kebabs & much more

Card Payments accepted

West Mercia Police modernises public contact and front counter services

A stakeholder update from West Mercia Police

Introduction

As a major stakeholder to West Mercia Police, we would like to inform you that we are introducing a more modern and effective way of operating our public counter services in North Worcestershire to reflect how the public are choosing to access the police.

Kidderminster and Redditch

Kidderminster and Redditch Police Station front counters will continue to open to the public from 8am-8pm Monday to Saturday and 10am-4pm on Sundays and bank holidays.

North Worcestershire Police Stations

From 1 September 2014, Bromsgrove, Rubery and Stourport Police Stations will have no front counter provision but contact points installed to connect the visitor to a police call taker 24/7 via telephone intercom.

Why make these changes?

Public attendance at front counters has reduced significantly, with some having just one visitor per day as other ways of engaging with police services have developed. This provided the opportunity to look at how we deliver front counter services by making it easier for the public to contact the police when they need to whilst meeting the demands of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review.

Improving public contact

Communities will notice no difference in local or reactive policing.

Where front counters are being replaced, local Safer Neighbourhood Teams will be increasing their visibility and accessibility to offer support, reassurance and advice through increased patrols, drop in surgeries, community meetings and forums, and meetings with police officers or staff by appointment as well as via email and Twitter.

Mobile police stations, monthly newsletters and local notice boards also help police and communities to stay in touch.

Clear consistent signage will be installed around police stations advising visitors of available methods of contact. Websites will be also be updated.

Safer Neighbourhood Teams

For SNT details and dates of local meetings please visit

www.westmercia.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods/

Next steps

If you need more information please contact North Worcestershire Police Commander Superintendent Kevin Purcell.

SOMETIMES residents ask the question – What's the purpose of the Parish Council? With the council elections looming – they will be held on 7th May 2015 – this is a question that is particularly relevant. Basically the parish council fits into the local government structure of County, District/Borough, Town/Parish and is the level that's closest to the electorate. Most of the parish councillors will live in the parish and they may well be neighbours and friends.

The purpose of the Parish Councils can be threefold as they:

- **Represent their area**
- **Provide and deliver appropriate services**
- **Improve the quality of life for residents of their area**

Here in Catshill and North Marlbrook, the Parish Council consists of 13 members who meet in public at least ten times each year at Catshill Village Hall to agree the way forward. For example the Parish Council has recently made representations on planning issues and on local government consultations relating to boundary changes and local policing; has provided a new bus shelter and is seeking to replace others that are past their best; has installed dispensers for dog-poo bags at two of the playing fields.

There is no party political element to the Parish Council – all members attend irrespective of political preferences and members work together to improve residents' quality of life where appropriate and are open to suggestions for further progress. This matters because you matter!

Please do get in touch to let the parish council know how you would like your area to improve and go forward. Even better you may like to consider standing for election next May. The parish council's clerk will be happy to answer any questions you may have on the subject.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information relating to what the parish council is doing on behalf of its residents and businesses. The newsletter's content relates to anything that goes on or affects the people who live and work in the community and not all of it will lie within the parish council's remit.

Useful Numbers

Bromsgrove District Council: **01527 881288**

Out of hours emergency: **01527 871565**

Catshill and Marlbrook Local Policing Team

01527 583733 / 0300 333 3000

Crimestoppers: **0800 555 111**

Contact Us

Gill Lungle, Clerk to the Council,
Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council,
Catshill Village Hall, Golden Cross Lane,
Catshill, BROMSGROVE. B61 0JZ.

Tel: **01527 873266** - Mob: **07813 671899**

e-mail: clerk@catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk

www.catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk



The Parish Council does not accept responsibility for any errors or claims made by advertisers which are incorrect. Statements and opinions expressed may not necessarily represent those of the Parish Council.

Published by Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council

Catshill Bonfire

The Meadow
Meadow Road
Catshill

Win

a chance to set
off the fireworks

Get your Free Raffle
ticket at the gate

Saturday
1st

November

Adults £2 Children £1
Under 5's FREE

Free
Parking
at Catshill
Middle School

In association with



Gates open **6.00pm** Bonfire lit **6.30pm**
Fireworks **7.15pm**

Any person carrying alcohol or appearing to be intoxicated will not be allowed entry.
No personal fireworks or sparklers are allowed to be brought onto site.