

NEWS MAGAZINE



AUTUMN 2022

CATSHILL & NORTH MARLBROOK

Parish Council

www.catshillandnorthmarlbroom-pc.gov.uk



**WARM SPACES
IN CATSHILL**



See Page Six

Remembrance Sunday

At Catshill War Memorial

Sunday 13th November

See Page 10 for details

AFTER a three year absence, Scouts 6th Bromsgrove and Catshill Village Meadow are pleased to announce the Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Display is back with a bang. Sponsored by Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council, the event is set to be bigger and better than ever before.

November the 5th really is bonfire night in Catshill with Gates opening at 6pm, tickets £3 per Adult and £2 per Child, on the gate.

We have **Betty's Waffles**, **Jacky's Kitchen** and **Bromsgrove Hog Roast** joining us.

We are asking for donations of wood to be delivered to the Meadow on Saturday 5th November between 9am and 12pm.

Meet Your New Parish Councillors



HELLO. My name is Jessica Parry and I'm really happy to have been given a position on the *Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council*.

I've lived in Catshill for 18 years and have two young children at Catshill First School.

I work locally and love living in a village which has such a community spirit.

I am really looking forward to being involved in continuing to help make the Parish a great place to live and an environment we are all proud of.

HI. I'm Karl Burgess one of the new parish councillors for *Catshill and North Marlbrook* I have been a resident of Catshill since 2010.

Both my children have worked their way through Catshill First School and now attend the Middle School. My main aim is to put some time into the local community and try and help others.

I have participated and enjoyed work in the local community prior to this, helping my wife who is the Catshill Community Builder in her duties and at local events etc which has been the catalyst in me becoming a councillor.

I hope to be able to help the Parish connect with even more of the community and look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming village events.



Cover Photograph

OUR Cover photograph shows a recent colourful sunset taken from the Ivy Gardens by Jocy Masters of Marlbrook. It fittingly represents the setting of the sun not only on what was a hot summer that included the joy of the Queens Platinum Jubilee in June, but also the sad ending of her reign with her death in September.



WELCOME to the Autumn edition of our Parish magazine.

In the Summer edition of the magazine, I gave an update on the reduced number of councillors on the Parish Council. I am pleased to report, that at our Full Parish Council meeting in September, we were able to co-opt two new councillors onto the council. We welcome our new colleagues Jessica Parry and Karl Burgess onto the Parish Council.

There are still several vacancies for councillors, and we would welcome expressions of interest from residents. There may be some of you who have a specific project which you would like the Parish Council to consider undertaking and you might be willing to consider being

co-opted onto the Parish Council to assist us with jointly progressing that project. If any of you have any ideas of projects, you would like us to progress please contact our parish clerk.

We are now approaching one of the busier periods for the Parish Council. We will be working with the 'North West Ward Association' (The Meadow Committee) and 6th Bromsgrove Scouts, who have jointly taken the lead role for organising the forthcoming Bonfire & Fireworks event on Saturday 5th November. We will also be coordinating the Remembrance Service which will be held on the 13th November, and the Christmas Lights Switch on Saturday 26th November 2022. We have also agreed that we would again hold our Christmas dinner, which we have had to cancel for the last few years, due to Covid.

I attended a meeting on the 12th September at Catshill Methodist Church, with representatives of local churches, local schools, local councillors, the Local Policing Team, Community Builder Katie Burgess, and other members of the local community, which was called to discuss our collective response to the climate crisis and the of cost of living crisis. Further meetings are planned.

As a result of that first meeting a list has been compiled of warm and welcoming spaces and places where hot food is available in Catshill during the Winter period. More details are included in this magazine.

Councillor Bernard McEldowney

Where in the Parish?

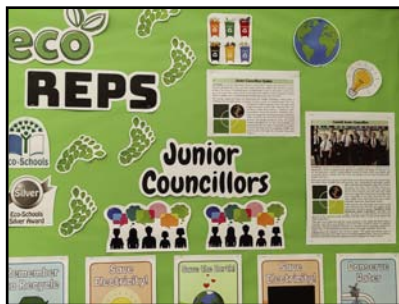
AS a little bit of fun, we are going to start a series of "Where in the Parish" photographs for your entertainment. Take a look at this photograph... do you know where and what it is within the parish?

Check if you are right, by looking at the Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council Facebook page, where once all copies of this edition have been delivered, we will post the answer.

Cllr. Paul Masters



Junior Councillors



COUNCILLOR Brett Laniosh and Parish Clerk Carol Blake met with the Catshill and North Marlbrook Junior Councillors in October at Catshill Middle School. Also present at the meeting was Deputy Head Teacher Danielle McCrory.

Amongst the items discussed were the Remembrance Day event on 13th November, ideas for a commemoration to Queen Elizabeth, the planned local skate park, litter in the village and a project to encourage hedgehogs in gardens. The Junior Councillors will be attending the November Parish Council meeting to introduce themselves and present their ideas.

Catshill Footpath Work Party



THE volunteer group has erected its first gate. The metal gate replaced a broken stile and leaning fence on a footpath that connects Wildmoor Lane and Mill Lane.

In addition, vegetation has been cleared from the path behind the Crown pub and the path that links Woodrow Lane and Halesowen Road (A38).

For more information on the Footpath Work Party, email:

b.laniosh@catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk

Catshill Christmas Lights Switch On

Sat 26th November

Entertainment from 3pm - Lights on at 5pm



Outside the Village Hall.



CATSHILL and North Marlbrook Parish Council are taking part in this amazing project! With Hedgehog numbers in decline and Hedgehog awareness on the rise, there has never been a better time to get involved in Hedgehog conservation.

A Hedgehog Highway is a 5 inch gap in a fence and is essential in the battle to prevent the extinction of our endangered spiky friends. This gap allows them access to forage for food and meet mates. A Highway surround raises awareness to their plight and encourages others to take part.

We have been asked to use a small portion of our funds to purchase a box of hedgehog highway surrounds and will make them available to our residents.

Each box of 50 is £150 and includes:

** 50 Hedgehog Highway surrounds & 50 information leaflets*

**A display box & window sticker showing that we are part of the project.*

Ideas of how to benefit our community include:

**Donate the Highways and leaflets to our local schools to educate in wildlife conservation*

**Swap the Highways for a donation of Hedgehog food which can then be given to our local Hedgehog Rescue Centre*

The project will be receiving a lot of publicity in the coming months via Social Media.

Money is donated to Hedgehog Conservation for every box sold too!



The National Moment of Reflection

MEMBERS of our community quietly gathered in the car park opposite the village hall on the evening of Sunday 18th September to take part in a national vigil for Queen Elizabeth II.

Just before 8pm, prayers were led by Baptist Minister Rev. Simon Gudger, and then at exactly 8pm, just as in towns and

villages across the country, a minutes silence was observed as part of The National Moment of Reflection. This was then followed by the singing of the National Anthem.



Community Warm Spaces Questionnaire

AT a recent meeting of several Community Organisations it was decided there was a need to have Community Warm Spaces to meet the challenges the recent Cost of Living & Energy Price Rises have created for everyone in the Catshill and surrounding areas. At a follow up meeting at Catshill Methodist Church we decided that for us and other organisations to provide the best possible venues, times and activities it would be advantageous to ask you the members of the community and possible users of these Warm Spaces a few pertinent questions.

We would welcome your considered opinions and any additional suggestions on the questions below and the Warm Spaces initiative in general.

Please post your answers into the letterbox of either Catshill Methodist Church or the Parish Office in Golden Cross Lane. You can email your reply if you wish to parishclerk@catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk

Would you use a Warm Space or do you know someone who would?

.....

What Day/s of the week would you/they look to use a warm space?

.....

What time/s of the day would you/they look to use a warm space?

.....

What would you/they like to see offered in a Warm Space?

.....

.....

Would you volunteer to help in one of the Warm Spaces being offered?

If so what help could you offer?

.....

.....

From the accompanying Warm Space venues/offerrings please note those that attract you and indicate why.

.....

.....

WARM SPACES IN CATSHILL 2022



Monday

Library 9.15-12.15pm

Baby bounce 10-10.30am
at Catshill library

Tuesday

Welcome Hall 10.30-11.30am

Hot beverages available

Christ Church 2-3.30pm

Hot beverages available

Catshill Library 3-5.50pm

Wednesday

Cozy Cuppa 10-2.30pm

At Catshill Meadows

Starts 2nd Nov

Hot beverages available

Thursday

Time-Out @ Baptist Church 11-2pm

Hot beverages available

Rendezvous @ Catshill Methodist

Church 10-12pm

Hot beverages available

Catshill Library 3-7

Friday

Catshill Methodist Church 10-12pm

Hot beverages available

Catshill Library 9.30-12pm

Saturday

Catshill Methodist Church 10-12pm

Hot beverages available

Catshill Baptist Church 10-12pm

Hot beverages and light refreshments
available (First Saturday of the month)

Catshill Library 9.30-12.30pm

Sunday

All churches AM Open for worship

(Catshill Baptist, Catshill Methodist,
Welcome Hall and Christ Church)

Little Bengal Takeaway 5-7pm

Offering free meals to families and senior citizens
in need (Please contact via their Facebook page
or contact via 07506677506)

In all these spaces people are
welcome to come to for
warmth and a safe environment

**WiFi and charging
points available at
some locations.**



MY thanks go in this edition to Dave Webb, who has supplied a photograph of Meadow Road and its junction with Wildmoor Lane from over 100 years ago.

It really is an actual photo, not a printed postcard, and was probably produced by a local photographer and sold within the village, and therefore it's quite possible that this is the only copy.

The Photograph was posted with a note written on the back, and is postmarked as 1919. However, looking at the photograph we believe that it may pre-date WW1.

In the image, Meadow Road appears as a dirt lane, with a rut running right along its length which may have been caused by a farm vehicle, or perhaps it was for drainage.

The distinctive house to the left still survives, and looks pretty much the same, though what appears to be nailer's cottages at the top of the road, have long since disappeared. Thank you Dave!

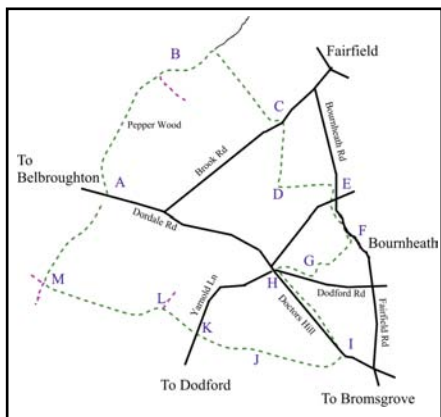


Remember, if you have any old photographs of the parish that you would like to share, please let me know – they don't have to be as old as this one!

Cllr. Paul Masters – p.masters@catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk

THIS is a 3½ mile walk that starts and finishes at Pepper Wood car park, Dordale Rd, B61 9JT. It can be found on the road between Bournheath and Belbroughton. Alternatively you can walk from Catshill and join the walk at point I, by the New Inn. The terrain is generally good, through woodlands and fields, some of which can be muddy. Short distances on minor roads. All footpaths followed are clearly marked or signposted.

Follow the path (Monarch's Way) from Pepper Wood car park **(A)** up the hill through the woods which are managed by the Woodland Trust and used to be part of the Forest of Feckenham. The path then continues out of the woods, turning



right along a track that turns into a small lane **(B)**. Turn right onto the path by the side of the house. Follow the path down and across the field until you reach the stile and road. Follow the road left a short distance until you meet path **(C)** on the opposite side. The path veers to the right and is often muddy here. Go over the stile and follow the path along the field in a straight line until it changes direction by ninety degrees to the left **(D)**. The path then leads to Bournheath Road **(E)** where you turn right.

This is Bournheath where the poet A E Housman was born. Many of the small dwellings in the village are former nailers' cottages.

Walk along the road, straight over the crossroads, until you meet the narrow footpath on the right by the side of a gate **(F)** and a house. The narrow path traces a route behind the Gate pub **(G)** and comes out on the road alongside the pub. Turn right and walk a few yards to a small path **(H)** beside the Nailers Arms. Turn left and follow Doctors Hill downhill. Follow the footpath to the right **(I)** just before you meet the New Inn. The path follows a line through fields across a number of metal gates and by the side of a pond **(J)** before it meets Yarnold Lane **(K)** where you cross directly over.

The path then continues along a field used by horses (it can get muddy) until it intersects another path **(L)**. Our route takes us to the left through a gate and then right into a large field where you will go straight on, keeping the slope on your right. Go through another gate and up an incline and past another field used by horses. The path crosses the Monarch's Way where you will turn right **(M)**. A short walk past some modern dwellings takes you back to Pepper Wood.

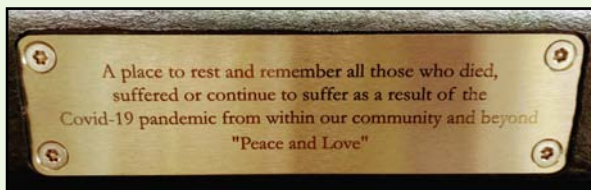
Walks In and Around Catshill

A new website (sponsored by Catshill Design) has been launched that has a number of circular walks (with maps) in and around Catshill and Bromsgrove. The walks are categorised as short (less than three miles), medium (3 to 6 miles), or long (more than 7 miles) and these can be viewed on interactive maps. More walks will be added to the site soon; it can be found at walks.catshill.com

Covid-19 Memorial Bench



FOR some time now there has been a temporary Covid Memorial in the car park of Catshill Methodist Church in Golden Cross Lane. People often stop, look at the cross, the flowers and decorated stones as they think of all those who died, suffered and continue to suffer as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

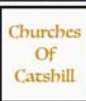


Now, with the help of a grant from Cllr. Shirley Webb's Worcestershire County Council divisional funding, a bench has been purchased, that will become a permanent memorial. Once the bench is installed, there are also plans to create a small garden around it, to further enhance the area.

Remembrance Sunday

*Sunday
13th November
'22*

*Service, 10am
@
Catshill Social Club
Followed by Service
@
Catshill Memorial
@ 10:50
Tea / Coffee + Bar
Open
After
All proceeds to
Poppy Appeal '22*



Cozy Cuppa
Chadsgrove School
Every Wednesday
10am-2.30pm
Catshill Meadow at the Pavillion
Starts Wednesday 2nd November
2022

Efficiency!
Everyone Welcome

GRANTS for funding support can be requested from the Parish Council. If you would like your group to be considered for support, please complete and return the Grant Application Form which is available on the Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council website. The Donations policy, also on the website, outlines the criteria for consideration and should be read in conjunction with completing the application form.

Below are a list of grants that the Parish Council have made in the past four years:

2018-19

£14 for Catshill Online Initiative Trial – payment of the hire of the village hall

£500.00 Bromsgrove and Redditch Citizens Advice Bureau

In addition, in 2018-19, half of the Bonfire Event gate takings were donated to 6th Bromsgrove Scouts to a value of £2592.00

2019-20

Citizens Advice Bureau £500.00

Bluwave £500.00 Grant for Community Transport Service

Catshill Village Hall £2500.00 Grant for Village Hall work

In addition, in 2019-20, half of the Bonfire Event gate takings were donated to 6th Bromsgrove Scouts to a value of £2621.19

2020-21

Citizens Advice Bureau £500.00

Catshill Baptist Church Foodbank £1000.00

Catshill Baptist Church Foodbank Christmas Donation £600.00

2021-22

Citizens Advice Bureau £1000.00

Catshill Village Hall £5600.00 Grant for Village Hall maintenance

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

Carol Blake, 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: parishclerk@catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk

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Published by Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council

Hosted By 6th Bromsgrove Scouts and Catshill Village Meadow

Catshill Village Bonfire is BACK

Saturday 5th November

Catshill Village Meadow

£3 per Adult

£2 per Child

Gates Open 6pm

Bromsgrove Hog Roast - Jackie's Kitchen - Betty's Waffles



Sponsored by Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council