

NEWS MAGAZINE



AUTUMN 2025

# CATSHILL & NORTH MARLBROOK

*Parish Council*

[www.catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk](http://www.catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk)



**HAY FESTIVAL AND SCARECROW TRAIL**

See Page Five

**SUPER WINTER EVENTS ISSUE**

YOU'RE INVITED TO A  
**HALLOWEEN**  
  
**PARTY**

OCT  
FRIDAY **31** 3PM TIL 5PM

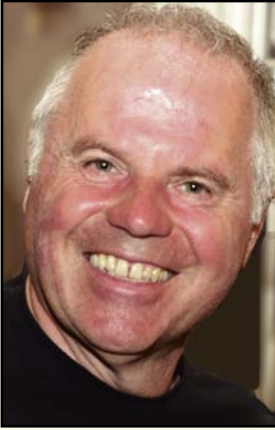
**CVH CATSHILL VILLAGE HALL**

SPOOKY CHARACTERS  
FANGTASTIC TREATS  
SNACKS  
DANCING AND GAMES



**FREE ENTRY**





**WELCOME** to the autumn edition of the Parish Magazine, delivered to every home in Catshill and North Marlbrook.

Life feels challenging for many of us at the moment, for reasons that can be personal, local, national, or even global. While some of these pressures are beyond our control, there are small, positive steps we can all take to restore some balance. Physical activity, for example, brings multiple benefits—especially for older people. Trying something new, attending a local event, or simply spending time outdoors in nature can lift both body and mind. Fresh air and regular movement can reduce stress, improve sleep, and help us build stronger social connections—contributing to longer, healthier lives.

There are plenty of opportunities to do this within our parish. September's Hay Festival and Scarecrow Trail brought people together, and more community events are planned in the coming months thanks to our willing volunteers and community partners—you'll find details in the following pages.

If you'd like to combine exercise with helping the community, why not take a circular or "there and back" walk from your home and pick up a little litter along the way? It's a simple, rewarding activity, and even more fun if the family joins in. If you find yourself wanting to make it a regular habit, the Parish Council can provide a litter picker and bags to make it easier. Sadly, fly-tipping is also an issue in some of our more rural spots. If you come across it, please take a photo and

report it to [bromsgrove.gov.uk/residents/my-place/street-cleaning/fly-tipping](https://bromsgrove.gov.uk/residents/my-place/street-cleaning/fly-tipping), or use the QR code included below.



We also continue to hear concerns about speeding, poor parking, and future building developments due to the Draft Development Strategy we featured in the last magazine—matters that affect us all. On a more positive note, we installed three *Chatty Benches* during 2024, one of which we have recently moved to Millennium Way near Catshill Fields on Milton Road, as it has proved such a popular spot. These benches are a simple way to reduce loneliness and isolation by encouraging conversation and community spirit.

Finally, I warmly invite you to consider becoming more involved with your Parish Council. You are very welcome to attend one of our monthly meetings at Catshill Village Hall, Golden Cross Lane (B61 0JZ). We meet at 7pm on the last Thursday of each month, except in August and December. Do come along, see what we do, and find out how you could play a part in shaping our parish for the future.

*Cllr Brett Laniosh*

CATSHILL

COMMUNITY  
EVENTS

Presents

# CATSHILL FIREWORKS 2025

1st November 2025

Lingfield Park, Catshill

Gates Open 5pm

Adults £3. Children £2

Raising funds for Scouts 6th Bromsgrove

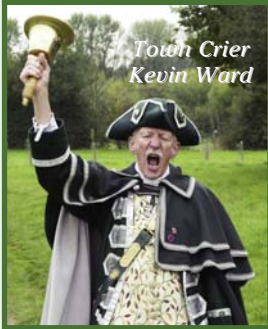
  
**Scouts**  
6th Bromsgrove

Sponsored by



**WELL** done *Catshill Community Events* for organising the inaugural **Hay Festival and Scarecrow Trail** in Catshill sponsored by *Catshill in Bloom*.

Saturday 27th saw the Hay Festival take place in Catshill Fields by the recently planted Community Orchard at the bottom of Milton Road.



Town Crier  
Kevin Ward

Bromsgrove Town Crier Kevin Ward loudly announced the start of the festival with Bromsgrove MP Bradley Thomas, Bromsgrove District Councillor Shirley Webb and Parish Chairman Brett Laniosh in attendance.

There were stalls and refreshments and plenty of hay for the youngsters to play with and make scarecrows. You may have noticed the many colourful and funny scarecrows around the village during the week that followed the festival; all based on Disney Pixar characters... well done everyone that made one.



There was an excellent turnout



There certainly seems to be a public appetite for this new event, so let's hope it continues to grow in future years.

# Catshill Together Remembers

**SERVICE OF MEMORIAL**  
9TH NOVEMBER, 2025

**Service at Catshill Social Club - 10am**  
**Service at Memorial 10:45am**

**Tea, Coffee & Bar**  
**Open at Catshill Social Club**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO POPPY APPEAL 2025**



**IF** you enjoy walking, a site featuring nearly 30 walks of different lengths can be found at [walks.catshill.com](http://walks.catshill.com) and if you come across a problem with a public right of way, report it to Worcestershire County Council at [bit.ly/wcc-prow](http://bit.ly/wcc-prow)

### Footpath Work Party



North Bromsgrove Public Rights of Way Work Party are a group of local volunteers who carry out activities in the parishes of Catshill and North Marlbrook, Lickey and Blackwell and Bournheath. We meet at 10am on the third Tuesday of the month. The pictures below show the work we have been recently carrying out including clearing paths and replacing broken stiles with gates.

Find out more by going to [walks.catshill.com/footpath-work-party](http://walks.catshill.com/footpath-work-party)

Or visit our Facebook page at [facebook.com/groups/northbromsgroveprow](https://facebook.com/groups/northbromsgroveprow) (QR code below)

**Brett Laniosh** (*Footpath Warden and Work Party Coordinator*)

### Where in the Parish?



**PAGE 4** of our summer edition posed the usual where in the parish question with an interesting photograph of some flower designs pressed into the mortar of a wall. Did you correctly identify it as part of the wall in the alley between Golden Cross Lane and Barley Mow Lane by the Ivy Gardens? Well done if you did!



Now have go at what I believe is a slightly easier challenge... Do you recognise where/what this is? Once all copies of this magazine have been delivered, the answer will be published on our Facebook page and in the next edition of this magazine.

### Cover Photograph

**JUST** one of the many wonderful scarecrows placed around Catshill as part of Catshill Community Events Hay Festival and Scarecrow Trail. This photo was taken outside Catshill First School and depicts characters from Disney and Pixar's movie "Cars."





THIS  
WINTER

*You are invited to*

# CATSHILL CHRISTMAS MARKET & LIGHT SWITCH ON

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**22ND NOVEMBER 25 | 3PM - 6PM**

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CVH CATSHILL, GOLDEN CROSS  
LANE, CATSHILL

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FESTIVE EATS AND  
DRINKS FOR EVERYONE



ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS &  
CHILDREN



PERFECT CHRISTMAS  
GIFTS FOR FAMILY



MUSIC, FESTIVE RAFFLE  
AND SO MUCH MORE



FB CATSHILL COMMUNITY EVENTS



IN the Spring edition we had an old photograph of the Crown Hotel (as it was known in around 1905) by the War memorial. But what many people may not be aware of is that there used to be another public house just across the road from the Crown called the Vine.



The Vine was situated where the entrance to Westfields is now (by the mini roundabout next to the War Memorial). The actual building has been long since demolished. This photograph taken in 1905 has been kindly supplied by Michael Wagstaff from his late father Roy's collection – thank you!

Catshill used to have several other pubs that are no longer in existence; so many that the authorities at one time forced the closure of some, the Vine being one. The actual building was not demolished immediately and was used by a merchant for many years until it was eventually demolished to make way for the Westfields development.

If you have any old photographs of the parish that you would like to share, then please let me know [p.masters@catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk](mailto:p.masters@catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk)

## BDHT Community Fun Day

**FRIDAY** 15th August saw Bromsgrove Districts Housing Trust's Community Fun Day arrive in Catshill from 12 noon till 3pm.

There were lots of free activities for all local residents to enjoy in Lingfield Park with BDHT encouraging people to bring their own picnics. The good weather helped ensure an excellent turnout, with children especially enjoying the fun. Two exotic guests at the successful event were a very large tortoise and an extremely colourful snake called Dave.



# Catshill Community Christmas Lunch

Are you Spending Christmas Alone  
\* know someone who is?  
Then you're invited to join us for our  
Community Christmas Party

19th December 2025

12:30pm til 4pm

CVH Catshill Village Hall

FOOD, DRINKS  
ENTERTAINMENT  
SCHOOL VISITS  
GIFT

FREE ENTRY



**I'M** delighted to have been asked to contribute to this edition of the Parish Council news magazine.

My name is **Ruth Fry** and I'm the newly appointed Methodist Minister for Catshill.

I also have responsibility for four other churches at Lickey End, Crabbs Cross and Church Hill in Redditch and slightly further afield in Alcester.

I'm certainly going to be kept busy!

My family and I live in Catshill having moved here from Winchester over the summer. I was a secondary school music teacher for many years before becoming a Methodist minister and I play the flute, piccolo, piano and djembe drum.

My husband Ade is a great support to me in my ministry, and we have one son who is at University. We have all felt very much welcomed as new residents in Catshill. Everyone is so friendly and helpful. It certainly feels as though there is very much a sense of community here and I believe that is really something special you should treasure and nurture.

It was lovely to read the welcome from Rev. Manda from Christ Church in the previous edition of this magazine.

I especially loved what she said in her final paragraph. I too want to say that as the Church (of whatever denomination) we are here for everyone, and you are welcomed just as you are.

After all the Church belongs to God and not to any of us and God loves each one of us even though we're not perfect and we often get things wrong. Thank goodness!

At Catshill Methodist Church on Golden Cross Lane we have lots of activities throughout the week so do come along some time. We'd love to see you.

*Rev Ruth*



## *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*

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[www.catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk](http://www.catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk)



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Published by Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council

# Carols. around the Christmas Tree

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**5pm onwards**

**CVH Catshill Village Hall**

**Free Mulled wine and Mince Pie**

