

This is the Parish Council sponsored Newsletter for October 2017, giving details of past and forthcoming events and other items we think will be of interest.

1. **Parish Council Notes:**

- a. As you will have seen from the recent “flier”, for some time, efforts have been underway to arrange an **improved Broadband service for Forthampton**. As part of this initiative it has been discovered that a “Line-of-Sight” option could be introduced at reasonable cost if enough people were interested in taking up the option. A meeting has therefore been arranged in the Village Hall on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 8 p.m. where full details of this option will be described. So please come along and learn all about it.
- b. This year’s **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal** is about to start, helping to raise funds to support ex-servicemen and women who have been injured or are experiencing hardship. So please give generously when one of the collectors calls. And the annual **Remembrance Service** will be held at the Cross in Forthampton at 11 a.m. on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November. All are welcome to attend this short service.
- c. **Father Christmas will be on hand to switch on the lights in Tewkesbury** at 5 p.m. on 19 November. The Tewkesbury Christmas market will be held the same day from 12 noon until 6 p.m. in the High Street.
- d. Why do bats hang upside down? How do they find their way in the dark? Renowned bat expert, David Endacott, will be at the **John Moore Museum on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October** to explain and will have a selection of live, rescued bats for you to see. Choose from any of 4, 1 hour sessions (10:30 – 11:30, 11:45 – 12:45, 2:30 – 3:30 or 3:45 – 4:45). Tickets cost just £4 for adults and £2 for children

2. **Church Notices:**

- a. **Services at St Mary’s, Forthampton** for the coming weeks are:
  - i. Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 11 a.m. (Sung Eucharist)
  - ii. Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 9:30 a.m. (Holy Communion)
  - iii. Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 6 p.m. (**Harvest Festival**)
  - iv. Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30 a.m. (Morning Worship – complementary coffee served afterwards).
- b. The **Harvest Festival and Harvest Supper** this year were very successful. For the Harvest Festival, over 70 people were in the church attended by the Bishop of Gloucester. Lessons were read by Anabel Yorke and Jo Robinson. The choir sang an inspiring anthem, and Rev. Barbara Messham involved many members of the congregation in her ‘harvest talk’, which was both funny and poignant. Bishop Rachel commented on the beauty of the church, and the warmth of welcome that she was given, enjoying chatting to many people after the service. Following the service over 30 people went to the Village Hall to enjoy a superb harvest supper provided by Jean Morgan and her team. The Village Hall committee generously donated the proceeds from the supper and raffle to the Church Restoration fund, which benefited by £224. Whether in the Church or the Hall, thanks to everyone who made the evening such a success.
- c. Michael Tavinor, the Dean of Hereford Cathedral enthralled the audience at **the ‘Dean’s Delight’** which was held in the Church on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October. His mixture of songs, organ music, poems and reminiscences from his diary kept the audience

enthralled all evening with many 'laugh out loud' moments. Another successful evening for the Church Restoration Fund, raising £346.50p.

- d. The next fund raising event will take place at Hither Riders on **Friday evening November 17<sup>th</sup>**, when Peter and Lynda Remmer will be hosting a **Cheese and wine Evening**. Tickets costing £7.50 are available from Peter (01684, 297903; 07769 708501 or [premmmer@btinternet.com](mailto:premmmer@btinternet.com)) or any PCC member.

### 3. **Village Hall Notices:**

- a. **The monthly fayre** held on 7<sup>th</sup> October raised a further £100 which will go towards the maintenance and continued refurbishment of the Village Hall. The next Fayre will be held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November with all the usual wares, as well as coffee/tea and bacon butties.
  - b. Pauline and Deanna would like to extend a massive thank you to everyone that supported the **Macmillan Coffee Morning** on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September where they raised the fantastic sum of £833.53. This was slightly more than the amount raised last year and thanks go to everyone who attended, for the donations of raffle prizes and all that helped make this so successful.
  - c. The first annual **Forthampton Festive Feast** will be held in the Village Hall on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November starting at 12 noon. There will be Mulled Wine and Nibbles, then a lovely meal of Seasonal Casserole and Vegetables, followed by a Selection of Puddings, Tea or Coffee and Mince Pies. Tickets at £15 per head can be obtained from Nick on 07795436339 or Jean on 01684 297854. Please Book By 3<sup>rd</sup> November to assist with the catering. See attached poster.
  - d. On 10th December 2017 there will be **Children's Christmas Disco** in the Village Hall with the usual visit from Father Christmas. Further details will be published in the next Parish Magazine and this newsletter.
  - e. Planning permission for **improved access to the Village Hall** has finally been granted without amendment. This is brilliant news and means we can now move to the next step of trying to obtain Grants in order for the work to be started.
  - f. Jean, of Whist Drive fame, would like donations of tins, biscuits and other none perishables to make **Hampers for the Christmas Whist Drive**. Donations can be left with Jean Morgan on 01684 297854, Audrey Peters on 01684 291540 or Lyndon on 01684 275350 by the end of November, any donation will be much appreciated,
4. At the October meeting of the **Forthampton WI** the members were given a most interesting insight by Mike Curtis into his world of helping Homeless People and the drug use he has come to know during his time with the Gloucester City Mission. Mike explained how, at 50 years old, he was made redundant after working as a printer for many years. His Christian faith provided him with the courage to enter Theology College. Following this he felt his calling was to establish a charity which would benefit his local community – which is how the Gloucester City Mission started and continues to help many of the city's homeless people. The next meeting of the WI is the AGM to be held on November 14th at 2.00pm in Forthampton Village Hall. Please call Tessa Hadley on 01684 297463 if you'd like more info on our WI.
5. On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October the **Sevenside Walking Group** will start their walk from the Severn Springs pub to walk the Leckhampton Loop to the Devil's Chimney and back. Then in

November it will be back to Upton-on-Severn for a walk to Hanley Castle and back. So, if you enjoy walking and meeting friends, simply contact Alan Brown on 01684 291220 or e-mail: [skepcott1@gmail.com](mailto:skepcott1@gmail.com) for full details.