

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR

**Kinnersley • Sarnesfield • Letton • Norton Canon**

### **SIGNAL BOX**

Well, we've now reached the milestone of three issues within three months - not a bad effort for a group of volunteers trying to gather in articles from a variety of different people and places and receiving no payment! We do however still rely on YOU for contributions on items of local interest - whether they be 'bees in bonnets' or reminiscences of life in the villages or just a letter.

Feel free to write to

'SIGNAL BOX'  
c/o Leominster Marches Project  
Whitehill House, Weobley.

Incidentally, our apologies for not including Kinnersley Church News in the last issue; as you will see, this has been put to rights.

PS - If you would like to help with delivery, please 'phone Rod Kilvert on Weobley 306

### **Parish Meeting**

As some people will know, the Annual General Meeting of Kinnersley and District Parish Group was held on Tuesday 18 May at Kinnersley Village Hall. This meeting, as with all Parish Meetings, was open to the public, but where were they?

Attendance at Parish Meetings is a useful way of discovering what's happening locally and you will be given the chance to air your own views on local affairs.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 7 September at 7.30pm at Norton Canon Village Hall.

## **Down on the Farm**

May is one of 'the' months of the year in the farming calendar. It represents the end of winter and heralds the coming of a new season. The cattle are turned out to grass, their winter quarters clean and bare, waiting to start a new cycle.



We've manured the grass and hope to make quality silage that will produce plenty of milk for the coming winter. This is in 'the lap of the gods' as it is all so dependent on the weather. There is a saying 'a dry May, neither oats nor hay'. Currently it seems as though it will be a very dry May.

## Down On The Farm...

However, we hope to start making silage soon and the likely that is when we will get the rain!!!

Regardless of such possible frustrations, we all know we will endure any adversity for the privilege of enjoying the peace and tranquility of our life 'down on the farm'.

Dick Children.



**Tie A Yellow  
(And Green)  
RIBBON!**

I am a member of a Weobley Methodist youth club who meet on Sundays, and Thursday (for recreation). The club is called 'After Eights' and caters for 11 years upwards.

On Friday 14 May 1982, certain members of the club (including myself) left for London on the annual MAYC (Methodist Association of Youth Clubs) London weekend.

We arrived at the chapel where we were to stay in London at about 10.00pm. We were sleeping in the two rear club rooms. There were also toilets and a fully equipped kitchen. We had a mug of cocoa and went to bed, the girls in the smaller room, the boys in the larger.

### Breakfast

Next morning we woke up to the smell of breakfast cooking in the kitchen. Apparently, the girls had been up for half an hour or so!

After breakfast, we decorated the two cars with green and yellow ribbons (the traditional MAYC colours). We set off for the Albert Hall, receiving strange looks from the pedest-

rians who were not used to seeing cars such as ours. We took our seats for the dress rehearsal in the Royal Albert Hall. We watched a couple of sketches and then prepared for ours.

### Umbrellas

We had to open flowers (made from brightly decorated umbrellas). We were lined up either side of the stage and when we received our cue we had to slowly open our umbrellas. This we managed successfully.

In the evening performance we got lost in the tremendous maze of stairs and steps etc. We finally managed to reach our positions, only just in time! The rest of the annual MAYC show went well.

We returned to our lodgings, extremely tired. The next day, (Sunday), we ate plenty of breakfast, washed up, prepared sandwiches and set off for the Albert Hall again, for worship. The atmosphere was terrific!

After worship we had a game of football and had lunch, in St James' Park.

### Pom-Poms

In the afternoon we joined in the MAYC march and ended up in Trafalgar Square for a few songs and the famous Pom Pom exchanging ceremony. Everybody in the march is equipped with a pom pom (like the one off a bobble hat) with our name and address attached. We then threw our pom pom into the air and received another persons. The tradition is then that you write to whoever's pom pom you receive. As it happens I received a girls, her name being Helen Bauden, of St Martin Methodist Chapel, Cornwall.

After the hymns and pom pom exchange we returned home to Herefordshire.

Jonathan Absalom

# moorhampton memories

I have always lived at Moorhampton but have also felt much a part of Norton Canon.

In the early days and between the wars, and of course, before that, everyone who wanted to travel, even to go just to Hereford, had to come to Moorhampton for the train, unless they had a horse and trap, or some other conveyance.

In those days there was a much used right of way from somewhere just below the Vicarage down the field to the stile and narrow bridge over the stream, another stile and up the fields bringing one out on to the road at Moorhampton, a much shorter distance than round by the road.

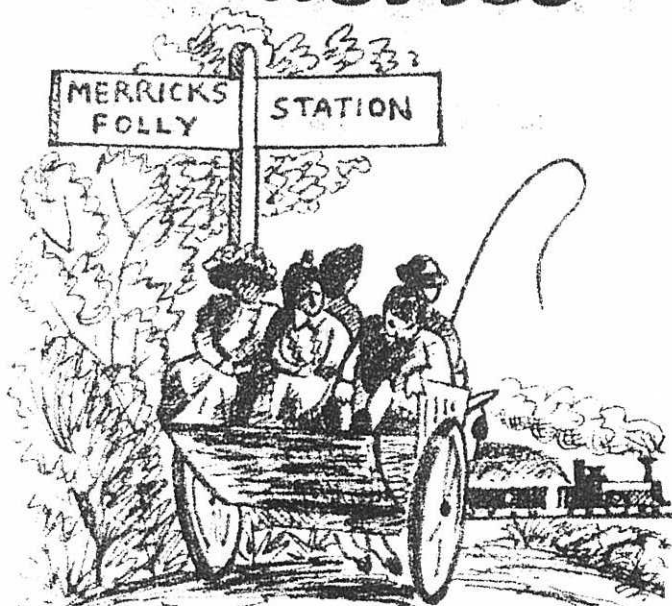
In those days, Market Day (Wednesday) in Hereford meant meeting and having a drink with friends, and the term then used for the home-comers was that they were 'Market Plant' and this meant that the narrow bridge across the stream was not so easy to negotiate, and it was rumoured that some men arrived home as wet outside and within.

Norton Canon has always been a village, unlike many villages which have had a squire, or Lord of the Manor who usually made the rules, and whose word was law.

Anything organised in Norton Canon was done by the people of the village, a united effort.

There was, many years ago, a Manor House at Norton Canon on the site of which the Vicarage was built by the Rev'd Robinson in the early 19th Century.

The garage building in the village was built by the uncle, named Merrick, of an elderly lady who lived in the village. It was built as a place for changing horses of the Stage Coach en route, but by the time it was completed, the Railway had arrived so it was never used for its original purpose, and afterwards was known as 'Merricks Folly.'



Norton Canon had a thriving Mens Club, Saturday football matches, also a Tennis Club. The land for this belonged to Mr Evans, on which now stands the bungalows in Canon Drive.

The money to equip the Tennis Club was raised by organising dances in 'The Heat' which were given by Mrs Scott who lived in the Vicarage and took place in the Vicarage garden.

It was used for Whist Drives, Dances and Meetings, the forerunner of the present attractive Village Hall.

Later, when the Vicarage was bought by Mr Evans, he allowed the Tennis Club to move their equipment to the Vicarage and for many years home and away matches were enjoyed on this lovely situation.

Later came the Womens Institute, at first rather disapproved of by some of the husbands who thought it might be just an evening of gossip discussing their husbands etc.

The last words of our Blacksmith at Moorhampton to his wife on leaving home for the W.I. was 'Mind you keeps your mouth shut.'

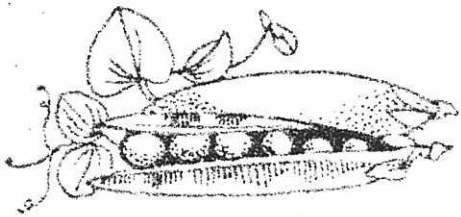
There have been many changes in the village, and many newcomers who have proved welcome and join in the organisation of village life today.

Lillian West



# The Garden In June

In the flower garden, mid-May to early June marks the transition from Spring to Summer. The tulips and wallflowers have passed - how sad it is sometimes to have to remove still flowering sweet scented wallflowers to make room for summer bedding plants. If you have a cool shaded part of the garden available, transfer your polyanthus which have given so much pleasure these last few months, so that they can rest and recuperate - remember to remove dead heads as soon as possible after flowering. When preparing flower beds for summer incorporate well rotted compost, if available or scatter bonemeal or a general fertilizer. Planting out will usually be completed by early June, but be mindful of late frosts which may harm delicate subjects, begonias, petunias, fuchsias and geraniums. Having completed this and when you think you can have a breather, do remember to sow wallflowers, pansies, Brompton stocks, sweet williams or any other biennials for next year's display. About the end of June you may remove the dead leaves from the daffodils.



In offering suggestions and observations on gardening I suppose it will be apparent that my greatest interest is the flower garden. Perhaps it is the easier branch with fewer hazards and enemies and more beautiful rewards. But, of course, I do feel satisfaction in producing, with co-operation from the freezer, garden vegetables throughout most years and there is seldom a day when we do not enjoy home grown fruit.

And of course, there is much to be done in the kitchen garden; as E.J.P. told us last month, May/June is the time to plant out sprouts, broccoli -including any or all the sprouting varieties - green calabrese, white and purple, kale and that winter favourite, January King. Make further sowings of quick maturing summer cabbage, May Express of Hispi, peas of course - and dwarf French beans, some of which are quick growing and are a pleasant change from runner beans.



Among the fruit - keep an eye on gooseberries for mildew (spray systemic fungicide) and sawfly caterpillars (spray malathion). Check on and improve the defences of your currants (especially red) against the thieving birds - short of a 24 hours watch, netting seems the best. Thin gooseberries, plums and pears if fruit set is heavy - wait until after "June drop" for apple thinning. Pull out unwanted stray shoots of raspberries and currants after harvest.

Keep the hoe in use against the weeds and the spray handy in case insecticides and fungicides are required.

Enjoy your gardens.

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## FOR SALE

Firewood logs cut and split in sizes to suit open fires or woodburning stoves.

Apply: Probert, Old Castle,  
Kinnersley.

Tel: Eardisley 297.

# Children's Page



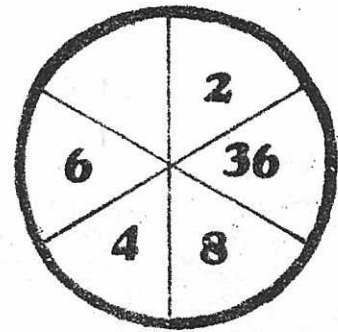
## MIDSUMMER MAGIC.

The barn owl awoke, stretched a thin yellow claw and preened a wing. About him, the remains of the June day were blown in broken trails of scent, and from these he could tell all he wished to know of that day. Most of it, sad to say, he had slept away, for the brilliant sunshine half blinded him. Night was his time, it was left for other creatures to make themselves fragrant houses in the hay, or crush the sweetness of the flowers as they rolled and gambolled at play in the June meadows. First he smelt the bitter-

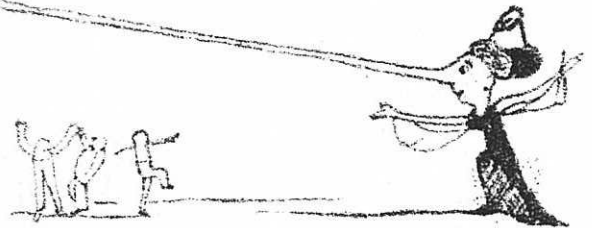
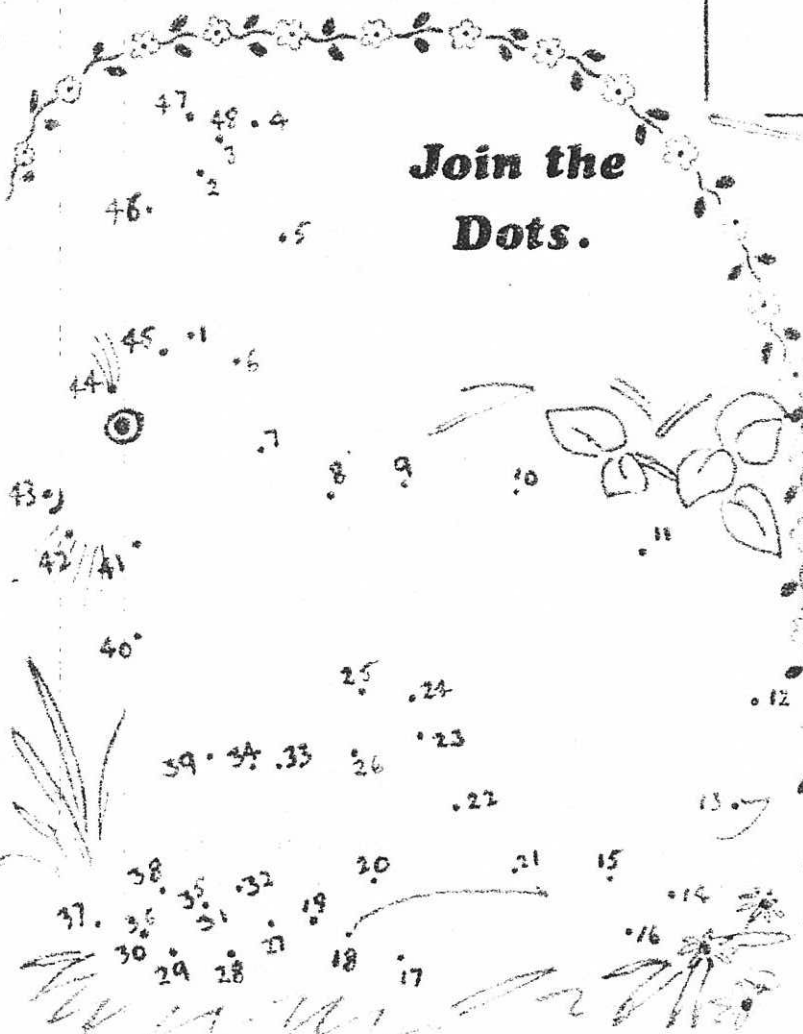
sweet hawthorn scent, and it told him of the high, white hedges all in flower against the blue. Meadow-sweet fragrance came, and the fresh, most beautiful smell of hay; the cool breezes bore it to the woodlands from meadows which had lain steeped in sun all day. Then came the dank, cool smell of the ferny forest; then he picked up a trail of woodbine, strangely mingled with the musk of the wild rose. Far from the woodlands and meadows came distant calls from fellow and brother owls. Occasionally Barney answered.



Insert the missing number.



Join the Dots.



There was a Young Lady whose Nose  
Continually prospers and grows;  
When it grew out of sight,  
She exclaimed in a fright,  
"Oh! Farewell to the end of my Nose!"

**Please write!**

Dear Children,  
Will you write a joke  
or a story, or do a  
drawing?  
Please hand it to  
your distributor.

## Lament of a Landlady

I've got bags 'neath me eyes,  
and me hair's going grey,  
it's hard to distinguish night from  
day.  
There's no fresh air in this lousy  
bar,  
So my face resembles a white washed  
wall.  
I try to be pleasant, honest I do,  
to Fred and to Harry - even Dr. Who.  
Why is it when I try to shout time,  
There's a clamour to get at the  
lager and lime?  
Why can't they all go home, I say,  
Then I'll have strength for another  
day.  
I need my eight hours - I really do,  
"Don't be so daft, I survive on two!  
Sometimes I sit and ponder the  
thought  
Whatever has happened to old Cross-  
roads!  
But, would I change this peculiar  
job,  
Not on your nellie - I'd miss the  
old mob.  
L.G.



## Ode To The Poor

"The poor re those who never hear  
the nightingale - or the murmur of  
a streamlet in a lonely dale -  
the bleat of lambs - the drowsy  
humming of honey bees - the sigh  
of wind in swaying corn - the  
roar of stormy seas.  
The poor are those who never see  
a wild rose in the hedge - or the  
quivering of rushes at a river  
edge - The poor are those who  
never smell the earth in summer  
rain - or the scent of honeysuckle

at a windowpane.  
The really poor arn't those who  
never have a coin to spare - They  
are those who never walk on grass  
or breathe fresh air - who  
discovered from Nature's laws  
lack life's intrinsic wealth - the  
simple joy that is the source of  
happiness and health".

## LEOMINSTER MARCHES PROJECT

### What Is It?

The Leominster Marches Project  
is a five year scheme, spon-  
sored by Leominster District  
Council, Hereford and Worcester  
County Council and Community  
Projects Foundation (a London  
based charity); it is the  
first of its kind in this  
country. The project  
employs a team of four  
workers, Jerry Burslem, Cathy  
Moon, Ray Westcott and  
Suzanne Penny, who are based  
in Weobley and work in and  
around ten villages:  
Kinnersley, Sarnesfield,  
Letton, Norton Canon,  
Eardisley, Almeley, Whitney,  
Winforton, Willersley and  
Brilley.

The Project was set up  
because, although everyone  
admires the Herefordshire  
countryside, it has been  
recognised that there are  
difficulties in living here,  
especially as some of the  
local services continue to  
disappear; just as important  
though, are people's needs  
to get together for fun and  
relaxation. The Team is  
here to help local people  
tackle these and other  
issues. Firstly, we'll  
listen to and learn from  
everyone concerned. Then  
we'll put ideas into  
practice - by arranging  
local meetings, contacting  
relevant organisations and  
even helping local people to  
run more ambitious schemes.  
So far, the Project has  
helped to set up an Area  
Youth Committee in Brilley,



## LEOMINSTER MARCHES PROJECT .....

a consortium of local crafts-  
men, a playgroup in Almeley  
and 'The Signal' itself!

The team member working in  
the Kinnersley Group Parish  
is Jerry Burslem, who lives  
in Dilwyn and previously  
worked in the North West  
before moving to Herefordshire.  
If you have any ideas or  
suggestions, or want further  
information, feel free to contact  
him on Weobley 8170.

## NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

### PARISH REGISTERS

The baptism of Mark Stephen  
Thomas took place in Kinnersley  
Church on 11th April. We welcome  
this new member into Christ's  
family, the Church.

### DEANERY SYNOD

For the Kinnersley Church Deanery  
Synod representatives, there will  
be a meeting of The Deanery Synod  
on Tuesday, 22nd June at 7.30 pm  
at the Parish House, Kington,

preceded by Holy Communion in  
Kington Church at 7 pm.

### DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO HEREFORD CATHEDRAL

If there is anyone interested in  
going on a pilgrimage to Hereford  
Cathedral on Friday, 2nd July to  
Saturday, 3rd July, and wanting  
further details, please would they  
let the Rev. D. Lowe know.

Those going on the pilgrimage are  
asked to arrive at Staunton-on-  
Wye Youth Hostel on the Friday  
evening. After spending the night  
there we will be walking along  
lanes and bridle paths to Hereford.  
At the Cathedral there will be a  
service of Holy Communion and a  
meal then we return to our parishes  
by transport which will be provided.

For those who do not wish to walk  
all the way, a distance of about 10  
or 11 miles, or who do not want to  
spend the night at the Youth Hostel,  
people are very welcome to join us  
on the route at any point they like  
or meet us at the Cathedral.

### MUSICAL EVENING IN KINNERSLEY CHURCH

A Musical Evening is being held in  
Kinnersley Church on Saturday, 19th  
June at 7.30 pm. Those taking part  
in it are Lyn McLarin, flautist,

## Birthdays

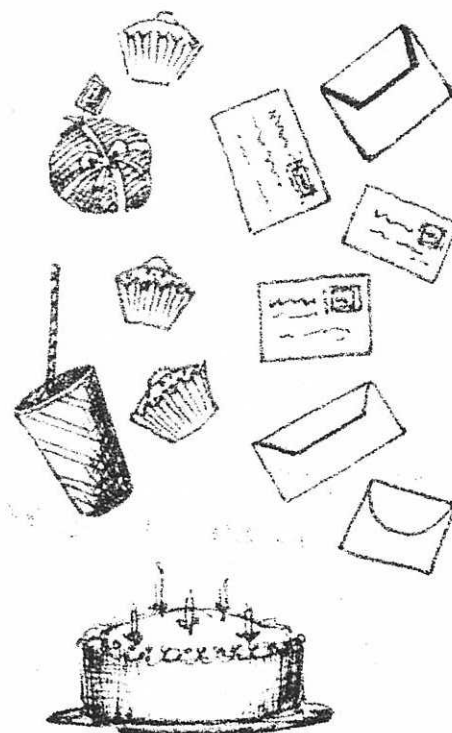
A belated Happy Birthday to  
Carolyn Watson  
on 17 May - Jayne Protheroe  
on 26 May - Sorry

Children in Norton Canon with  
birthdays in June

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Adam Loxston	16th
Rhys Evans	21st
Louise Deem	22nd
Deborah Lewis	23rd

We hope we haven't forgotten  
anyone!



and Philip Booth, pianist.  
All are welcome. Admission is by  
programme at £1.25, no charge for  
children. There will also be re-  
freshments.

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The Revd. Ivor Hughes, Child-  
ren's Work Adviser from the  
Church Missionary Society is  
coming to Weobley on Sunday  
13 June. He will speak at  
the family service at 11am.  
Families are invited to  
bring a picnic to eat at  
Castle Green afterwards  
followed by games and a  
session with Mr Hughes.  
Both talks will be based on  
the project "What's the  
difference" which explores  
the relationship between  
Japan and this country.

## Services

### Services during June

- 6th Trinity Sunday  
9 am Holy Communion at Norton Canon
- 13th First Sunday after Trinity  
9 am Morning Prayer at Norton Canon  
10 am Holy Communion at Barnesfield
- 20th Second Sunday after Trinity  
9 am Holy Communion at Norton Canon
- 27th Third Sunday after Trinity  
9 am Family Service at Norton Canon  
10 am Morning Prayer at Barnesfield  
3.15 pm Holy Communion at Letton

### SERVICES AT KINNERSLEY CHURCH

- 6th June 10 am Holy Communion  
15th June 10 am Mattins  
20th June 10 am Holy Communion  
27th June 10 am Family Service  
4th July 10 am Holy Communion

## SMALL ADS

### For Sale

Calor Gas Cooker  
Working order but one grid  
missing £6.00

Electric Cooker, ditto,  
but one hot plate needed  
£6.00

Phone Eardisley 432

Farmyard manure - free for  
collection

Davies, Ailey, Kinnersley

FOR SALE - Oil fired Rayburn,  
single burner. Good condition  
Tel. Eardisley 387

## NOTICES

KAREN BRYAN will marry STUART  
DICKIN from WELLINGTON,  
Shropshire at Kinnersley Church  
on 9 June at 4.00pm.

We wish them every happiness in  
their new life.

Welcome to Letton -  
Mr and Mrs Merriman  
(Margaret and Ceril)  
to the Rectory House

Good luck with all  
renovations!

## WHAT'S ON

### WEOBLEY CARNIVAL

Saturday 26 June 1982

Floats, fancy dress, sideshows,  
bar, Major Mustards' travelling  
circus, children's country dance  
competition, RAF gymnastic  
display, local ladies keep fit.

The Carnival's theme is 'Weobley  
in Wonderland'.

The 'Monmouth Militia' will lead  
the parade in the village at  
12.30pm. From 1.30pm, thereafter,  
at Castle Green.

### Painting Classes

At Kinnersley Castle, 2.30-4.00pm  
each Wednesday - £1.00 per session.  
Please contact The Warden or  
Mr Garratt Adams on Eardisley 407

### Norton Canon Women's Institute

Third Thursday each month at 7.30pm  
in the village/school hall.

This month, June, however, there  
is a change because we visit  
Madley Satellite Station on  
Tuesday June 8th, arriving there  
by car at 7.00pm.