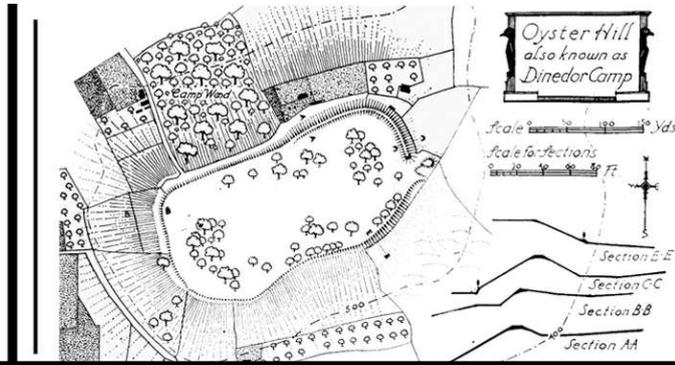


Dinedor Newsletter

January 2018



On behalf of Dinedor Parish Council we wish everyone in Dinedor a very happy

New Year!

Winter has thrown everything at us in the last couple of months and Dinedor looked especially spectacular on Monday December 11 with icy temperatures and vivid blue skies.



Now there is lots of mud on our lanes and everyone should take care when driving !

We would like to apologise for the difficulty in reading our last edition in November. Our printers opted to use festive red paper which made the print difficult to read and the photos too dark.

We have also received a few comments about the size of the print so we are experimenting with increasing it. This will mean we will fit less in but hope if you have something you want to share you will still continue to send it in and we will do our best.

DINEDOR ART GROUP

Dinedor Art Group meets on Thursday mornings in the Village Hall from 10.00 till 12.30. This term starts on **February 8** and ends on **March 29** (8 weeks.) We are very happy to welcome new members and would stress that NO experience or skill is required, the emphasis being on social enjoyment rather than artistic merit, though we do strive towards this as well! Since we do not have a tutor, the cost is very modest, generally in the range of £14 - £20 for the term depending on numbers, but you are welcome to come and have a "taster" session without any commitment. The culmination of our efforts will be on show at our Exhibition on **June 24** which will be a fund-raising event for Village Hall funds. **Further information is available from Margaret Bircher on 01432 870587**

THE DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT EDITION IS
THURS MAR 22

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

The weather for our first meeting of 2018 on the evening of January 16 was not pleasant so particular thanks to the 12 parishioners who came to the meeting. It's a good way to find out what is going on and raise issues directly with the parish councillors.

It was agreed the parish council precept for 2018/19 would remain at the same as for the current year, so although Herefordshire Council has had to raise its rate, the local rate has not increased.

Ward councillor, David Summers, spoke about the proposed changes to the speed limits on Holme Lacy Road. Liz Kelso, clerk, will attend the meeting and report to our next parish council meeting. He was also asked about the lack of action about the unauthorised changes to the land near Maes-y-felin. The parish council agreed to raise this yet again with the planning authority.

Two planning applications were considered - five new houses on land at The Oaks and an agricultural worker's dwelling on land near The Old Mill adjacent to the B4339. The increase in traffic at the junction with the B4399 would be raised with the council but no other objections were raised.

The camp steering group work to improve the camp area is going well and all the volunteers were thanked for their hard work. The damage at the Outdoor Centre caused by a large falling tree during the snow will be covered by insurance.

A pleasing number of responses have been received regarding the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. These will be considered by the Steering Group at the next meeting on **February 1** to enable the Parish Council to decide next steps at its March meeting.

Fuller details of parish council matters and copies of the newsletter (in colour!) are available on the website.

www.dinedorparishcouncil.org.uk

If you are a local business and would like to advertise in future editions of the Parish Newsletter please contact us via the details at the bottom of the back page. The advertising rates will be very reasonable at £20 for the year.

DINEDOR HERITAGE GROUP

We will be holding a presentation on **Tuesday evening January 30.**

Rhys Griffith, Senior Archivist at HARC will be giving a talk about the archive services and how best to use the wealth of information available.

On **Tuesday evening February 27**, Dr Keith Ray will be presenting a talk on Neolithic History concentrating on interesting local sites.

Both meetings at
Dinedor Village Hall, starting 7.30.
Members £3.00. Visitors £5.00. Light Refreshments.
Further details from Ian Stead 07833 137096.

Dinedorheritagegroup.wordpress.com

Rwanda and Uganda - Pleasure and Pain! Part Two - The Pleasure

After four nights at our base near Kabale in S.W. Uganda, we joined our guide Fred and his safari van with a roof that could be raised for better game viewing and travelled north to the Queen Elizabeth Game Park. The journey was a live geography lesson. We saw tea, coffee and rice being grown, often on steep terraced slopes; we visited some hot springs where the locals bathe in the hot water coming up a fault line in the earth's crust; and we turned a corner, and there below us was the savannah of the Rift Valley in which the Q. E. game park is situated. Some miles away we could see the hills and mountains that formed the other rift valley wall.

The lodges in which we stayed each had large and comfortable cabins set in expansive grounds with electric power, balconies overlooking the bush and large bathrooms with hot water. We stayed in one cabin underneath the balcony of which we were told the lions came into sleep! Food was good by and large, European oriented but with African dishes here and there. During our three days in the park we saw elephants, various kinds of deer and buffalo, butterflies, birds, hyenas, chimpanzees and hippos. There were two highlights for me: firstly, somehow or other we were able to go 200 metres off-road, - in spite of notices saying "Fine 150\$ for leaving the road"! - and circle behind a tree to take photos of five lionesses having their afternoon snooze in that tree; they couldn't have been less bothered by our presence.

Secondly, towards the end of one afternoon, Fred veered off a track and we came up alongside a couple of mud pools in which hippos were immersed to keep their skins protected from the sun. Pool etiquette didn't rule out a deal of bumping and barging



and wide mouthed lunging at one's neighbour! I think we sang a chorus of "Mud, mud, glorious mud" – it would certainly have been appropriate! After the game park we moved on to Kisoro, a bustling market town very close to the Congo border and where we saw a refugee camp. Local politics seem to suggest that one needs to know where the local border and refugee camp is! The border there is marked by five volcanoes, not all inactive, and these rise out of the plain, a bit like the Malverns but five times higher! Here some of our group went off to see yellow monkeys (100\$ a head but gorillas were 1000\$). Sally, our leader, and I choose the more economic option (20\$!!) and visited a farm to see how a green coffee bean ends up as a delicious drink in your hand.

The Ugandans are friendly people and are keen to say hello, shake your hand and give you a beaming smile. Conversation often seems to be limited to checking out that both parties are "fine", but some are very happy to have a bit of a natter. It was, however, in Uganda, that our green van was sometimes followed by shouts of "Hey, Musungu (rich, white person!), give us some money!" I found that discomfiting as, naively, that wasn't the relationship I wanted with the local people, but it flags up the economic reality of these African states. What the future holds who knows: Is this benign dictator to be trusted? Who will follow after him? What will Uganda do with the 45000 graduates they produce every year and for whom there are no jobs! Seems like a recipe for a revolution to me!

We loved what we saw of these two countries. Now, when we see TV news of Africa, we have a better feel of the circumstances. We met many, many warm people, all smiles and laughter. However, I am left with my conscience asking what I can do to relieve all this poverty – but it seems that anything I *can* do is the snowball in Hell! – and a great sense of impotence!

It was an extraordinary, wonderful experience and we are enormously grateful to have had the chance to visit these countries and meet people who are making a difference in their lands.

If you would like us to give a presentation with slides in the village hall, please let us know – Nick and Tricia Austin: nandt.austin@tesco.net

A MESSAGE FROM BARBARA FERRIS

I remember with gratitude Julia's words after her operation – can it be 2 years ago? I struggle to put my own experience into words. I only know that I felt I was slowly disintegrating last year but being surrounded by love has carried me through. The diagnosis and confidence in my surgeon sustained me till the effects of the double dose of morphine wore off and my body just didn't want to start working again. Then it really hit me.

I had forgotten what it is like to only care about the turbulence inside but that awareness has changed me. My perceptions have been heightened and I have never felt more connected with basic humanity. I know of 3 different young families experiencing difficult births or pregnancies and I have shared the joy of two pre-Christmas babies. One moment is etched in my mind - a raging red-faced baby, finally at peace as the product of her struggles escaped the nappy! A metaphor for life? Why is so difficult to get rid of things that are no use to us? There is nothing that can beat the satisfaction of having dealt with pain but in the main we do all we can to avoid it.

I had also forgotten what it is like to be completely useless. Even worse, to think I was communicating and realising I wasn't saying a word. Accepting that, together with the realisation that everyone has simply made the best of things for me, is life changing. Now I can have the chemotherapy in Hereford and expect to be fully able to celebrate attaining my eighties - I just hope I can live up to this incredible care!

Thank you everyone – and especially all those who brought Rotherwas Chapel to light and life on Jan 6. The community spirit uplifted me and and is giving me focus.

Hello Dinedor from Chris and Amy

As we are new to the neighbourhood, Suzanne asked us to write a paragraph to introduce ourselves. A few months ago we were lucky enough to move into Millstone House in Dinedor Cross, having moved from Portsmouth with our 2 yr old son



Max and our needy but very friendly dog, a black Staffie-cross called Bingo. The aim is to settle down with a family after a final fling of freedom travelling the wilds of China, Laos and Thailand on our bicycles. We both work in healthcare and have managed to find jobs in the area. Amy is a GP working in Hereford and I am a paramedic working in Hereford and Worcester. Years ago I used to be a bicycle mechanic so if anyone needs their bicycle fixed, feel free to pop round. We moved house to be closer to Max's grandparents who live near Ross on Wye. Our new home is perfect and it is such a lovely area to live. Max particularly likes listening for the owl at bedtime! We look forward to meeting you all if we haven't already done so :-)

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

Saturday February 3 2018

Is this date in your diary?

Whether you have lived in Dinedor all your life, or whether you are a recent arrival, you are really welcome to come to our next coffee morning at the **Village Hall between 10.30 - 12.**

Come and meet another resident you may never have spoken to, or catch up with news from those you already know!

Hot drinks and home made cakes will be available. Bring a book you have finished reading and swap it for another one! We look forward to seeing you !

Mair Granthier

We are happy to give you a lift, so contact Suzanne (873170) or Mair (870593) if we can help you.



DINEDOR WI

New Year, new Programme and we were off to a floriferous start with slides taken on a visit to Dore Abbey in August 2017. British flowers in arrangements around Dore Abbey commemorated former residents of St Michael's Hospice, sunflowers were in abundance and brightened up a dank January evening.

In February we welcome a wild life ceramics expert to talk about her work, and members will be encouraged to 'Show the Love' with a green heart, raising awareness of the need to tackle climate change in our local neighbourhood.



The March meeting is all about a most important sense, sight, and our charity for the year, the Macular Society. Something we all take for granted until we realise that we are losing it - find out how to protect your vision. We shall also be holding a Bring and Buy with money raised going to the Society. April showers bring May flowers and the WI a talk on the 'Lost gardens of Herefordshire' with David Whitehead, an open meeting for husbands and friends to attend and join us to explore our local heritage with a very knowledgeable speaker. £3 charge for non-members, please let us know if you wish to attend so that refreshments can be organised accordingly.

For further information about the WI meetings that are held in Dinedor Village hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, (visitors welcome) contact Wendy 01432 870582 Annual membership subscription of £44 includes speakers and WI Life magazine plus monthly Federation newsletter.

DINEDOR VILLAGE HALL

We are very pleased to welcome two new members on to the Village Hall Committee, Chris and Delyth Waters. We are sure that their knowledge and enthusiasm will be a great asset to the committee and we look forward to working with them.

You may remember that our Art Exhibition fundraiser had to be postponed last year but we are happy to say that it has been rescheduled for **Sunday June 24** this year. Two other fundraisers are in the pipeline also - a Beetle Drive on **Saturday 12 May** and an event involving cheese and homemade chutney sometime in the Autumn. There will be some element of competition regarding the chutney so if you've made a batch of chutney you're particularly proud of - let us know. Both these events are in the early stages of planning and we welcome any helpful suggestions. There will be further advertising nearer the time so look out for the posters! **To hire the Village Hall please contact the booking clerk Marlene Kitto on 870628**

VARIETY - DINEDOR COMMUNITY CHOIR

Variety had a very hectic Christmas period singing at various events and in some nursing homes. We battled through against the obstacles of snow and illness and, although depleted in numbers at times, were able to enjoy sharing carols and festive songs with many. We enjoyed food provided for us and enjoyed each others company at our Christmas meal at the Cider Orchard Restaurant at the College and at our annual get together at the Laurels.

A New Year is always a good time to try something different so if you enjoy singing please consider joining us. Singing together is always great fun and good for you too!



Details are available from **Nick and Tricia Austin on 01432 870730**

DINEDOR CAMP STEERING GROUP

Since the last report scrub clearance work has continued and you can now see a real difference on - and from - the Camp. The community payback teams have continued to come most weeks and are concentrating on general clearance of bramble, small saplings etc. The community volunteers have been clearing areas on the perimeter to open up some of the lovely views. You can now see Hay Bluff and the Black Mountains from the West side and May Hill from the south. Many thanks to those stalwarts of the Parish who have continued to work in not very nice conditions - although we did cancel the session when there was ten inches of snow!

The Steering Group are also applying for a felling licence to allow some bigger trees to be removed and we are also getting details about equipment we may purchase if the grant applications we are pursuing are successful. We are also very happy to welcome Chris Waters to the group; we are sure his contribution will be very valuable.



For further details please contact Ian Stead on 873170 or to ianstead20@hotmail.com

Christmas Events

The bad news - snow! Unfortunately the snowfall on December 10 meant that we had to cancel the usual service that morning and the carol service in Holme Lacy Village Hall on the Monday evening.

The good news – no snow! The following Sunday the snow had cleared so we were able to hold our carol service on December 17. The church had been beautifully decorated by Jean Savage, Wendy and others. There was a good turnout and special thanks to John Eden and Variety who helped us sing carols together and get in tune with the real message of Christmas. The collection in aid of Christian refugees from Syria living in Jordan and for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh raised £119.81.

Attendance was also good on Christmas morning and thanks to Rev Anna Branston for taking the service.

Remembering

A proposal has been made to add the name of Philip Cleland to the memorial plaque in the church to those who died as a result of the Second World War. More details are on notices in the church and on the notice board facing the road. The closing date for any comments is January 31.

Looking forward into 2018

What happens when I go in November? It was good to have people from Dinedor at my re-licensing in early December in the Bishop’s special chapel and all enjoyed the splendid lunch afterwards laid on by Joan. Plans are afoot for what happens when I finally go. A ‘pastoral measure’ is making its progress through the relevant committees and public consultation to form a separate benefice of the two parishes I am responsible for i.e. Dinedor/Holme Lacy and Little Dewchurch/Ballingham. This will entail advertising for a House for Duty priest and that means finding and the diocese buying, or possibly renting, a suitable property. Minimum specifications include 3 bedrooms, a study and a toilet easily accessed from the study without intrusion into the other living space in the house. If you know of any possible properties, please let me know.



A Wish List

Some repairs and replacements need to take place including replacing some roof tiles, a new notice board and a better heater for the interior of the church – sometimes we feel like God’s frozen, rather than chosen – people! This all needs money and at present our income only just about covers our current running costs. If anyone would like to start or increase their giving to the church please let me know.

Forthcoming Programme at St Andrews Sundays 9.30 a.m.

- JANUARY 28** Holy Communion
- FEBRUARY 4** Holy Communion – *Candlemas - the celebration of the presentation of Jesus Christ in the temple. The service will include an opportunity for children to be blessed and prayed for.*
- FEBRUARY 18** Holy Communion
- MARCH 4** Holy Communion
- MARCH 18** Holy Communion
- MARCH 25** PALM SUNDAY service
- APRIL 1** EASTER DAY Family Communion

Other Local Events

MESSY CHURCH for families who find Sundays difficult to come to church, happens every second Wednesday of the month 3:30 to 6pm at little Dewchurch Village Hall.

Activities, stories, worship and a hot meal together (saves someone at home cooking that night!). Everyone is welcome and its free – but any donations are welcome.

Next ones are on **February 14, March 14** and **April 9.**

ASH WEDNESDAY service 6:30 pm **Wednesday February 14** at St David’s Little Dewchurch

MOTHERING SUNDAY service 11am **March 11** at St David’s Little Dewchurch



Production Team:

