# PARISH NEWS

## December 2026 January 2027



Priors Hardwick - Wormleighton - Priors Marston

PRIORS HARDWICK WITH PRIORS MARSTON AND WORMLEIGHTON

*part of The Bridges Group of Parishes* www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk

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PARISH COUNCIL: http://www.priorsmarston.org/parish-council/

PRIORS HARDWICK PARISH WEBSITE: priorshardwick .org.uk

THE PRIORS HALL: Barbara Harvey 01327 260709
info.thepriorshall@gmail.com (Bookings)

PRIORS SCHOOL: http://www.thepriorsschool.co.uk/

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TENNIS CLUB: priorstennis@yahoo.co.uk

PRIORS TODDLER GROUP: Julie Wilson 07947 276437

# THE PARISH NEWS

Many thanks to those who have contributed towards the cost of printing the Parish News.

You can use the QR code here to donate if you wish.

For direct transfers, bank details are as follows:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Account name: | Priors Marston PCC |
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Please reference your donation as 'Parish News'.

Many thanks
Helen, Editor. hlnmnzs@gmail.com

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**PARISH NEWS DEADLINES**: Helen Menezes 07719 807915
hlnmnzs@gmail.com Hillside House, Keys Lane, Priors Marston, Southam, CV47 7SA.
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**PARISH NEWS PDF**: You can read the Parish News in PDF format, by sending a request to the editor – hlnmnzs@gmail.com. You can also read the latest edition on the Priors Marston Parish Council website http://www.priorsmarston.org.

**Disclaimer**: Please note that views expressed in articles in The Parish News are the views of the authors.

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Many thanks to John Eustace, who has recently been delivering magazines in Priors Marston.

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Cover image from a water colour by Martin Jezzard, mjezzard@gmail.com

**THANK YOU** from *Margaret Ingman,*
*Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser, Napton & District MGD20.*

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2026

**PRIORS HARDWICK**
**The amount** raised for the Priors Hardwick Appeal including House to House Collection, a Wreath & the Church collection amounted to **£604.69**

**With grateful thanks to**
All who contributed, also to our loyal & supportive volunteer collectors Isabel Davies & Mark Suddens

**Grateful thanks also extended to Honesberie Shooting School** for their participation. **Collection amounted to: £16.85**

**PRIORS MARSTON**
**The amount raised for the Appeal: £92.51p**

**With Grateful Thanks to**
Donna & Lacey's Hairdressing Salon, for holding a collection box.

*These donations will be added to the Napton & District Total collections and submitted to the Royal British Legion, which is at the heart of a national network that supports our Armed Forces community through thick and thin—ensuring their unique contribution is not forgotten.*

# Quiz Night

## 5th December 2026

7.00pm for 7.30pm start

at

## Wormleighton Hall Farm Shoot Barn

(by kind permission of Sam & Nicola Burton)

- Teams of up to 6 people
- Entry £5 per person (children under 12 free)
- Price includes crisps, nibbles and tray bakes
- Wine, beer and soft drinks available for purchase

  *Card payments accepted*
- Raffle (donations of prizes would be much appreciated)

**To reserve a table please call Wormleighton PCC on 07884 061135 or email us at WormleightonPCC@gmail.com**

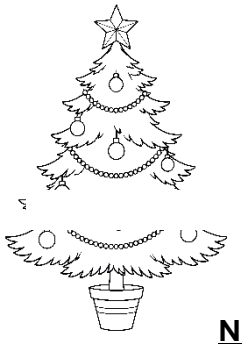
This event is being organised by St Peter's Wormleighton PCC and all monies raised will be used for the running of the Church.

**The Bridges Group Church Services**
**December 2026**
BCP – Book of Common Prayer  CW - Common Worship

| **THE BRIDGES GROUP** | **6th Dec**<br>**Advent 2**<br>*Purple* | **13th Dec**<br>**Advent 3**<br>*Purple* | **20th Dec**<br>**Advent 4**<br>*Purple* | **24th Dec**<br>**Christmas Eve**<br>*Purple* | **25th Dec**<br>**Christmas Day**<br>*White* | **27th Dec**<br>**Christmas 1**<br>*White* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **PRIORS HARDWICK** | *Prep for Christmas*<br>All age Worship<br>**9am** | Evensong<br>**5pm** | Holy Communion<br>**BCP**<br>**9am** | | | |
| **PRIORS MARSTON** | | | *Lessons & Carols*<br>**4pm** | | Christmas Morning Service<br>**10.30am** | |
| **WORMLEIGHTON** | | **7.30pm Wed. 16th Dec**<br>Young Farmers<br>*Carol service* | | | Carols for Christmas<br>**9am** | |
| **NAPTON** | Holy Communion<br>**CW**<br>**10.30am** | | *Candlelit Carols*<br>**6pm** | Holy Communion<br>**CW**<br>**11pm** | Christmas Morning Family service<br>**10am** | |
| **STOCKTON** | *Carol Service*<br>**4pm** | Holy Communion<br>**Methodist Tradition**<br>**10.30am** | Messy Christingle<br>**4pm** | Family Crib Service<br>**4pm**<br>&<br>Holy Communion<br>**Methodist Tradition**<br>**tbc** | | |
| **LOWER SHUCKBURGH** | | | | *Carol Service*<br>**4pm** | | Holy Communion<br>**BCP**<br>**9am** |

## *Plus.. <u>Alternative Christmas Worship</u>! With churches across The Bridges Group.*

****Carol services in church – see the service grid**** (often served with yuletide refreshments)



**<u>Stockton</u>** *Christmas Tree Festival* **Sat 5th & Sun 6th Dec, 10am-5pm**
**<u>Lower Shuckburgh</u>** *'A Christmas Carol' performance* **Saturday 5th Dec, 7pm**
**<u>Napton</u>** *'Christmas on the Green!'* **Sunday 6th Dec, 4pm,** carols & fun for all the family!
**<u>Lower Shuckburgh</u>** *Christmas Fete* **Saturday 12th Dec, 2-4pm,** stalls & refreshments
**<u>Priors Hardwick</u>** *Carols at the Lychgate* **Wednesday 16th Dec, 5.30pm**
**<u>Priors Hardwick,</u>** Carol Service **December 24th Christmas Eve, 6.00 pm**
**<u>Stockton</u>** *Carol Singing round the village!* **Friday 18th Dec, 6.30pm, at the church**
**<u>Lower Shuckburgh</u>** *Afternoon Teas* **Saturday 19th Dec, 2-4pm**
**<u>Napton Forest Church</u>**, *early morning walk celebrating Christmas & the Winter Solstice*, meet at **Napton churchyard – Mon 21st Dec, 8am (see posters).**

**The Bridges Group Church Services**

**January 2027**

BCP - Book of Common Prayer  CW - Common Worship

| **THE BRIDGES GROUP** | **3rd January Christmas 2**<br>*White* | **10th January Baptism of Christ**<br>*White* | **17th January Epiphany 2**<br>*White* | **24th January Epiphany 3**<br>*White* | **31st January Epiphany 4**<br>*White* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **PRIORS HARDWICK** | Epiphany All-age Service **9am** | Evensong **5pm** | Holy Communion **BCP 9am** | | |
| **PRIORS MARSTON** | Morning Worship **10.30am** | Morning Worship **10.30am** | Holy Communion **CW 10.30am** | | The 'Gathering' Holy Communion **CW 10.30am** |
| **WORMLEIGHTON** | | | | Morning Worship **10.30am** | |
| **NAPTON** | Holy Communion **CW 10.30am** | | All ages family service **10.30am** | Evensong **5pm** | |
| **STOCKTON** | Morning Worship **10.30am** | Holy Communion **Methodist Tradition 10.30am** | | Holy Communion **CW 10.30am** | |
| **LOWER SHUCKBURGH** | | | | Holy Communion **BCP 9am** | |

# CELEBRATE!

## TRADITIONAL LESSONS AND CAROLS

### PRIORS MARSTON CHURCH

## SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER



## 4pm

FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS

# WAKE UP - YOU AT THE BACK!

Have you left school, got an apprenticeship, are you going on to further education, off to Uni, do you have a special project on at school or Uni? Then we can help you.

The Kay & and Bradshaw Educational Foundation, or as it is more commonly known 'Keys Charity', exists to provide financial assistance for the promotion of education, including social and physical training of persons under 25, who have a parent or parents residing in the parish of Priors Marston.

In these uncertain times, we know students need all the help and support they can get, and Keys Charity can assist with the purchase of course books, tools and equipment for a trade or profession, cost of a field trip or training course, music and arts in fact anything connected to education.

Over several years, many young people from the village have benefited from its assistance.

The trustees will look at all applications as they are received. If you would like to make an application, please write to Malcolm Monkhouse, Dot Brown (priorsdot@gmail.com), Elaine Forsyth or Sue Benson, together with your details and receipts for any books or equipment that you have purchased.

**We are waiting to hear from you!**


WINTER OPENING TIMES
THE PRIORS
SPORTS CLUB
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Sat 5th Dec - Sports Teams Fancy Dress Social
Sat 19th Dec - The Marstones Village Christmas Party
25th Dec - Open from 4pm
New Years Eve - You Choose The Music
Mon 6pm - 10pm
Tue 6pm - 10pm
Wed 6pm - 10pm
Thu 6pm - 10pm
Fri 5pm - 10pm
Sat 2.30pm - 9pm
Sun 2.30pm - 9pm

THE NORTH POLE DEC 25 99705

FROM THE DESK OF

# FATHER CHRISTMAS



Dear Children,

I've been checking my list (twice, of course!) and I'm delighted to announce that I'll be visiting you all on my sleigh!

Wrap up warm and come along to the
**Hollybush Inn**
**Friday 11th December 5.30pm**
to see me before I head back to the North Pole!

I can't wait to see you all!

*Father Christmas*

BROWNS CORNER
THE NORTH POLE




**The Knitwits** meet every Thursday evening at the Hollybush Inn, from 6.30 to 8.00 pm. Needles and wool provided for people new to knitting – just let us know.

Call Dawn on 07949 095170

**Priors Between the Covers** book club meets 1st Thursday of the month at the Hollybush at 6.30 pm.

Contact Dawn at dagosling70@gmail.com for more information.



ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, PRIORS MARSTON Flower Rota:

| | |
|---|---|
| 20th/27th December/3rd January | Barbara Allen |
| 10th/17th January | Maggy Thompson |
| 24th/31st January | Donna Winfield |

If you would like to help with cleaning, we meet on the first Saturday of every month at 10.00am in St Leonard's, to clean the church, enjoy coffee, biscuits and a chat.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PRIORS HARDWICK Cleaning/Flower Rota

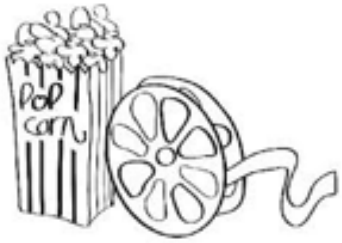
| | |
|---|---|
| 6th/13th December | Candy Kelly/Advent |
| 20th/27th December | Rosemary Hobday/Advent/Gabrielle Hodgson |
| 3rd/10th January | Sue Talbot/ Sue Talbot |
| 17th/24th January | Barbara Harvey/ Barbara Harvey |
| 31st January | Holly Marsh-Lazell/ Holly Marsh-Lazell |

## Bridges Group of Churches

We now have a Facebook page to support our shared life across the parishes. Each week, it will include a prayer focus, a short blessing, and details of Sunday services.

If you would find this helpful, you are very welcome to follow:
https://www.facebook.com/BridgesChurches/

This is simply a small way of staying connected in prayer and encouragement.




# Film Nights
# at
# The Priors Hall

December's film has been brought forward to the first Friday of the month.

so, the next film, on **Friday 4 December**, will be:

## The Sheep Detectives

*Year of Release: 2026  Certificate PG  Running Time: 1 hr 49 mins*

**Doors Open at 7:00pm  Film starts at 7:30pm**

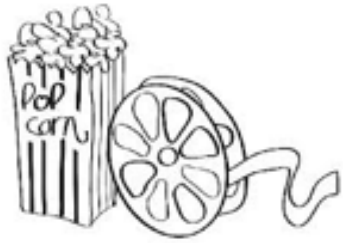
*George is a shepherd who reads detective novels to his beloved sheep every night, assuming they can't possibly understand. But when a mysterious incident disrupts life on the farm, the sheep realise they must become the detectives. As they follow the clues and investigate human suspects, they prove that even sheep can be brilliant crime-solvers.*

*Be prepared for action, suspense, and a ridiculous amount of wool-based puns!*

Cast includes: Hugh Jackman, Emma Thompson, Bryan Cranston, Patrick Stewart, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Chris O'Dowd and Bella Ramsey.

- Free tea, coffee and biscuits are served in the interval but please feel free to bring your own refreshments.
- There is no charge for admission, but there is a collection box for voluntary donations towards our costs.

**If you have any questions or wish to receive e-mail updates**
**Contact The Priors Cinema Team at:**
**priorscinema@gmail.com**
**You can also call Lee Robinson Tel: 01327 263268**




**Film Nights**
**at**
**The Priors Hall**

## Friday 8 January

# O, Brother, Where Art Thou

*Year of Release: 2000  Certificate 12  Running Time: 1 hr 42 mins*

**Doors Open at 7:00pm  Film starts at 7:30pm**

*Set in the deep American south of the 1930s, and loosely on the Homer's Odyssey, O, Brother, Where Art Thou follows three escaped convicts, whose quest for a hidden stash of stolen money turns into an epic, mythological journey. Along the way, they will accidentally become radio sensations as a musical group, run afoul of a one-eyed Bible salesman and get bewitched by sirens at the riverbank. Can they reach the treasure before the authorities catch up, or will their musical fame be their undoing?*

Cast Includes: George Clooney, John Turturro, Tim Blake Nelson, John Goodman and Holly Hunter.

- Free tea, coffee and biscuits are served in the interval but please feel free to bring your own refreshments.
- There is no charge for admission, but there is a collection box for voluntary donations towards our costs.

**If you have any questions or wish to receive e-mail updates**
**Contact The Priors Cinema Team at:**
**priorscinema@gmail.com**
**You can also call Lee Robinson Tel: 01327 263268**

PRIORS MARSTON PARISH COUNCIL

VILLAGE COMMUNICATION

If you would like to be added to the village email list, to keep up to date with village news, or are new to Priors Marston and would like a copy of the Parish Plan, please email the Clerk, emma@priorsmarston.org

The Parish Council also has a Facebook page - please find us @Priors Marston parish council.

www.priorsmarston.org

priorsmarstonparishcouncil

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**ADVERTISE IN THE PARISH NEWS AND**

**REACH ABOUT 400 LOCAL HOUSEHOLDS**

One-off/Annual (10 issues) prices:

£60/£300 per full page

£30/£150 per half page

£20/£100 per third page

£15/£75 per quarter page

£10/£50 per sixth page

# WELCOME TO ST. LEONARD'S

## WE TRY TO OPEN THE CHURCH EVERY DAY:
## 10-4 IN WINTERTIME
## 10-6 IN SUMMERTIME
## WE ARE SORRY IF SOMETIMES IT IS NOT POSSIBLE

## GENERAL ENQUIRIES, CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE and BURIAL PLOT ENQUIRIES:

**MALCOLM MONKHOUSE**
**Tel/ text 07855 855 063 & malcolmmonkhouse92@gmail.com**

## FAMILY HISTORY ENQUIRIES:
**SHIRLEY MONKHOUSE: Tel/text 07870 685 124**
**s.a.monkhouse@hotmail.co.uk**

## FIND A GRAVE:
**THERE IS AN INDEX OF GRAVES AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH**

## BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS AND BURIALS:
**SUSAN HOLLOWAY: admin@thebridgesgroup.org.uk**

# Report from Your District Councillors – December 2026

# Stratford on Avon District Council

## Local Government Re-organisation is back on

Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is! The government has said that it is "minded-to" move forward with a South Warwickshire unitary, but with a revised timetable, which at present we understand to be the following:

District Council elections – May 2027

Shadow unitary elections – May 2028

South Warwickshire Unitary vesting day – May 2029

The government has also said that they will allow three to four weeks for representations before a final decision is made. We will let you have more information as soon as we have it ourselves.

## Severn Trent in Napton

We are holding a village meeting with representatives of Severn Trent in November. This is to discuss the issues the village have been experiencing with water pressure and continued road closures. We aim to reach an understanding on how future issues will be prevented and disruption minimised when work is required.

We are also expecting Holt Road to be closed soon, so that they can finally cap off the old main. Will update when we hear that a date has been set.

## Changes to Planning Decisions: New National Arrangements

A reminder that new national legislation changing the way planning decisions are made came into force on 31 October 2026. The legislation introduces a consistent national approach to determining which planning applications are decided by planning officers and which are considered by elected members through Planning Committee. Most planning applications, including householder and smaller developments, will be decided by Council planning officers rather than by the Planning Committee. Under the new rules, Ward Councillors and Town or Parish Councils will no longer be able to request that an application is considered by the Planning Committee. Some larger or more

complex applications may still be considered by the Committee, where this is permitted under the new arrangements.

For those keen to learn more, in the electronic version, here is a link to the government guidance: Planning Committees and the National Scheme of Delegation of Planning Functions: Guidance for local planning authorities in England - GOV.UK

**Resourcing at Southam SNT**

Following PCSO Sutton choosing not to return to the Force following her maternity leave, Southam SNT have been one PCSO short in an already strained department for our area. Natalie has written to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask him to liaise with the Acting Chief Constable and to advise her as to their proposals to properly resource Southam SNT going forward. This has been passed to the Area Commander to respond, which we hope to receive soon.

**Government's £100 Household Energy Payment**

SDC is currently awaiting further information from the government regarding the £100 Household Energy Payment which was announced during the 2026 Budget. So far, we know that:

- Payments are expected to start from January 2027
- It is for Council Tax Bands A, B, C and D only
- If you pay Council Tax by Direct Debit, you will receive the funds into that account

SDC will update its website and communicate further with residents when there is more information.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all residents. Thank you to everyone for their kindness and to Jake in particular since May. We look forward to a Happy Christmas and a great 2027.

**Cllr Natalie Gist**
natalie.gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk

**Cllr Jake Beavan**
jake.beavan@stratford-dc.gov.uk

FROM THE CHURCH OF

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN

PRIORS HARDWICK

FAITH • COMMUNITY • A CHURCH FOR OUR VILLAGE




## Looking Back: November 2026

### A Village Remembers

On Remembrance Sunday, 26 people gathered at the Village War Memorial to honour those from our village who gave their lives in service. Thank you to everyone who took part in this moving service.




### Worship and Fellowship

Our 9.00am service on 1 November was a joyful time of worship, with a full church, beautiful hymns and a strong sense of community.



### The Church Building

Plans for the community area are progressing well, following a meeting with the Diocese and Stratford District Council on 19 October.



### A Generous Village

Thank you for your Harvest donations, which will go to Southam Food Bank, and for the £621 raised for the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.



### Caring for Our Churchyard

Thank you to our volunteers who keep the churchyard tidy, welcoming and peaceful for all, including visitors and their dogs.



Thank you for your continued support

ALL ARE VERY WELCOME

THE CHURCH OF

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN

PRIORS HARDWICK

FAITH • COMMUNITY • A CHURCH FOR OUR VILLAGE




## Looking Ahead: December 2026

### Our Services

*A warm welcome to our services this month.*

**6** — **Ali-Age Advent Service** — 9.00 am
Preparation for Christmas – a friendly, creative service for all ages.

**13** — **Evensong** — 5.00 pm
A peaceful, traditional service of readings and music.

**16** — **Carols at the Lychgate** — 5.30 pm
Come and sing well-known carols with the Handbell Ringers.

**20** — **Holy Communion (BCP)** — 9.00 am
A traditional service of Holy Commusion.

**24** — **Christmas Eve Readings and Carols** — 6.00 pm
Oor much-loved Christmas service for all ages, with carols, readings and plenty of festive spirit.

### Our Community

**Priors Hardwick Viliage Meeting**
Next meeting: Thursday 7 Jan 2027, 7.30pm

**Handbell Ringers**
Adding a special seasonal sound to our celebrations.

**Adult Mobility Classes and Fitness Classes**
Keep active and well this winter.

**Children's Arts & Crafts**
Creative fun for all ages.

**Technology Workshops**
A friendly, practical session planned for January.

*Everyone is very welcome to join us*

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST MARY'S



## READINGS AND CAROLS

**THURSDAY 24 DECEMBER**
**AT 6.00 PM**

*Our much-loved Christmas service for all ages, with traditional readings, well-hnown carals and a warm, welcoming etmosphere. Come and share the true meaning of Christmas!*

**CONTACT:** Margaret Clarke 01327 262233
Christopher Hodgson 01327 261490

**with music from our organist Dr Gerard Hyland**

FAITH • COMMUNITY • A CHURCH FOR OUR VILLAGE

*All are very welcome*

THE CHURCH OF

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN

PRIORS HARDWICK

FAITH • COMMUNITY • A CHURCH FOR OUR VILLAGE




## Looking Ahead: January 2027

### Our Services

*A warm welcome to our services this month.*

**3** — **All-Age Service for Epiphany** — 9.00 am
A joyful service as we celebrate the visit of the Wise Men.

**10** — **Evensong** — 5.00 pm
A peaceful, traditional service of readings and music.

**17** — **Holy Communion (BCP)** — 9.00 am
A traditional service of Holy Communion.

**24** — **No service at St Mary's this week.** See the parish magazine for other local services.

**31** — **The Gathering** — 10.30 am
Join six local parishes gathered together for Holy Communion (Common Worship) at Priors Marston.

### Our Community

**Priors Hardwick Village Meeting**
Thursday 7 January, 7.30pm

**Handbell Ringers**
New members always welcome!

**Adult Mobility Classes and Fitness Classes**
Keep active and well this winter.

**Children's Arts & Crafts**
Creative fun for all ages.

**Technology Workshops**
A friendly, practical session this month – date to be confirmed.

*Everyone is very welcome to join us*

## THIS MONTH AT ST MARY'S



### A NEW YEAR AT ST MARY'S

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

*A fresh start in the New Year – a chance to worship, reflect and be part of our friendly church community.*

**CONTACT:** Margaret Clarke 01327 262233
Christopher Hodgson 01327 261490

**with music from our organist Dr Gerard Hyland**

FAITH • COMMUNITY • A CHURCH FOR OUR VILLAGE

*All are very welcome*

# PRIORS TODDLER GROUP






Join us for the all new Toddler Group running every term time Friday 9.30–11.30am

## PRIORS MARSTON VILLAGE HALL

Christmas Term Nov 13th – Dec 11th

Resuming Jan 8th

£3 including a cuppa & cake

50p additional siblings

Please bring a nut free snack for your little ones

### Play, explore & discover!

Our welcoming sessions give little ones aged 0–4 the chance to have fun, make friends & grow in confidence.

With physical, creative and musical play, there's always something new to enjoy, before coming together for a cosy story time.




More Information

Julie 07947 276437

Rowena 07932 317589

Alison 07888 296322

# The Priors School

# CHRISTMAS FAIR

## Saturday 5th December
## 10am – 1pm
### at Priors Marston Village Hall




## Craft stalls, games and refreshments

If you would like to have a stall at the Christmas Fair please contact
**PTA@thepriorsschool.co.uk**

# BACKBONE

## BLUES BAND



# LIVE AT THE 100 CLUB

**8 DECEMBER | 7:30PM–10:45PM**

BACKBONE ON STAGE FROM 9:30PM UNTIL CLOSE

COACH FROM PRIORS MARSTON 5PM - OXFORD STREET DROP

PRIORS HARDWICK PICK UP/DROP OFF PLANNED

APPROX. £60PP INCLUDES TRANSPORT & £15 ADVANCE TICKET

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE PRIORS SPORTS CLUB
OR FROM MARTIN DIRECTLY 07788167197 MJEZZARD@GMAIL.COM

BACKBONEBLUESBAND.CO.UK




# More than just meetings...

Visitors and new members always welcome

Friendship, inspiration and great evenings together.

WEDNESDAY
**9th DECEMBER 2026**
7.30 p.m.
**The Priors Hall, Priors Marston**

**A festive celebratory event!**
**Angus Baskerville Magic**
Mind reader and magician
Hear Angus's fascinating story of how, as an autistic man, he discovered his talent for magic – and then prepare to be **amazed!**

**At our October meeting**
we held our AGM and enjoyed a delicious supper of homemade lasagne and a wonderful selection of puddings. We also welcomed lots of new faces – who we'd love to see again!

**Monthly meetings**
Usually 3rd Wednesday of the month

**Typically**
7.30–9.30 p.m.

**Great days out**
Gardens, theatre and more.

For more information:
**Fiona Spencer** 01327 263423 | **Jenny Hoban** 07976 213055

theWI


theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN
PRIORS MARSTON &
PRIORS HARDWICK WI
INVITE YOU TO A
Coffee Morning
All welcome!
Festive Hamper Raffle
£1 per ticket
Good coffee.
Homemade cakes.
Great company.
TUESDAY
15TH DECEMBER 2026
10.30 AM – 12.00 PM
THE PRIORS HALL
PRIORS MARSTON
Join us for a relaxed and friendly morning
COMMUNITY ♥ FRIENDSHIP ♥ GOOD NEIGHBOURS ♥ TOGETHER


the WI
INSPIRING WOMEN
PRIORS MARSTON &
PRIORS HARDWICK WI
INVITE YOU TO A
Coffee Morning
All welcome!
Catch up with friends and neighbours after the festive period
and banish the January blues!
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TUESDAY
26TH JANUARY 2027
10.30 AM – 12.00 PM
THE PRIORS HALL
PRIORS MARSTON
Join us for a relaxed and friendly morning
COMMUNITY ♥ FRIENDSHIP ♥ GOOD NEIGHBOURS ♥ TOGETHER




# THE PRIORS HALL

The Priors Hall serves Priors Hardwick and Priors Marston. It is available for meetings and functions. Please contact Barbara Harvey, 01327 260709, info.thepriorshall@gmail.com, to book, or for more information. The hire rate is £20.00 per hour, with a village rate of £15.00 per hour. Hiring for longer periods is possible, subject to availability - the rates depend on precisely what is required. Two local businesses are based in offices upstairs at the Hall, as well as hairdressing and post office downstairs.

Current activities include:-

- Lacey's His and Hers Hairdressing: Tuesday to Saturday, by appointment, 01327 263330 and 07733 102564.
- Post Office: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.00 am - 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm, 01327 261743.
- Play Group: Wednesday mornings. eleanorwakeford@outlook.com
- Women's Institute: Meet on the third Wednesday of the month, 7.30 pm.
- Film Nights: Film nights are on selected Fridays, from September to May, at 7.30 pm. priorscinema@gmail.com Lee Robinson, 01327 263268.
- Toddler Group, Fridays in term time, 9.30 – 11.30 am

Badminton, darts, short mat bowls and table tennis equipment are available for use. The hall committee is always pleased to hear from people with ideas for new activities and events.

Air Ambulance: A clothing bank is situated in the car park of The Priors Hall, for donations. (Air Ambulance may not collect bags left outside the bank if they become wet, as the contents cannot be reused. If the bank is full, please do not leave bags outside.)

THE PRIORS
SPORTS CLUB

# LOW CONTACT RUGBY

## Ladies Session
**Monday Evenings**
**6:45 Arrival - 7pm Start**

## Men's Session
**Wednesday Evenings**
**6:45 Arrival - 7pm Start**

## Contact Mark 07919 001217

**Come along for a fun, friendly evening of low contact rugby! Whether you're a complete beginner or have played before, everyone aged 14+ is welcome, whatever your fitness or ability. It's a great way to get active, learn new skills, make friends and have a laugh along the way. Our relaxed, supportive sessions are injury and recovery friendly, with no pressure and plenty of team spirit! With floodlights to keep us playing through the darker evenings, we're out on the pitch whatever the weather. Stay for a drink and a catch-up afterwards – spectators always welcome!**



**Scan below to join the Priors Sports Club**

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# GARDEN JOTTINGS FROM BRIDGE NURSERY

*Your local Hardy Plant Specialists*

Viburnum bodnantense 'Dawn' is plant of the month this month. It is an upright shrub rather than bushy and easy to grow. Some of the older stems need cutting back low down each year to encourage new growth. There are autumn colours on the leaves before they drop, then clusters of scented pink flowers through the winter. It grows well in the clay soil, but didn't like the drought this year. Height 2-3 m.

It has been a tricky year, not one I'd want to experience again. Too wet earlier, then almost immediately too hot and dry. Plant sales understandably slowed down (no-one could dig the ground as the summer wore on) and fewer people visited the NGS garden, which in turn meant that the donations were less than normal. This nursery owner lost any motivation to do anything other than the necessary daily watering, anyway it was too hot. The only good thing was that there have been many new customers this year, I hope to see some of them next year.

It's not easy to single out just one plant, but I'm going to say that Gaura lindheimeri is my plant of the year. I planted 3 last year and wished I'd planted 33!!. They became good bushy plants and flowered non-stop from May through to October. After surviving the endless winter wet, they then went on to thrive during the relentless summer heat and drought without being watered once.

Seasons greetings from

Christine Dakin
Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton
www.bridge-nursery.co.uk
¼ mile from Crossroads Garage – look for our Tourist Sign

## WEATHER JOTTINGS OCTOBER 2026

With 83mm of rain, October was by far the wettest month this year since February, and we all breathed a sigh of relief – but not until the second half of that month.

For the first week of October 2026, the temperature remained above 20℃, with just a trace of rain/light drizzle on Saturday 3rd, before 9.00am, 11mm on Wednesday 7th, 1.5mm overnight on Thursday 8th, another trace on Saturday 10th, then1mm as a result of drizzle for most of the day on Monday 12th. So a total of 13.5mm during the first half of the month – but still more than April or July.

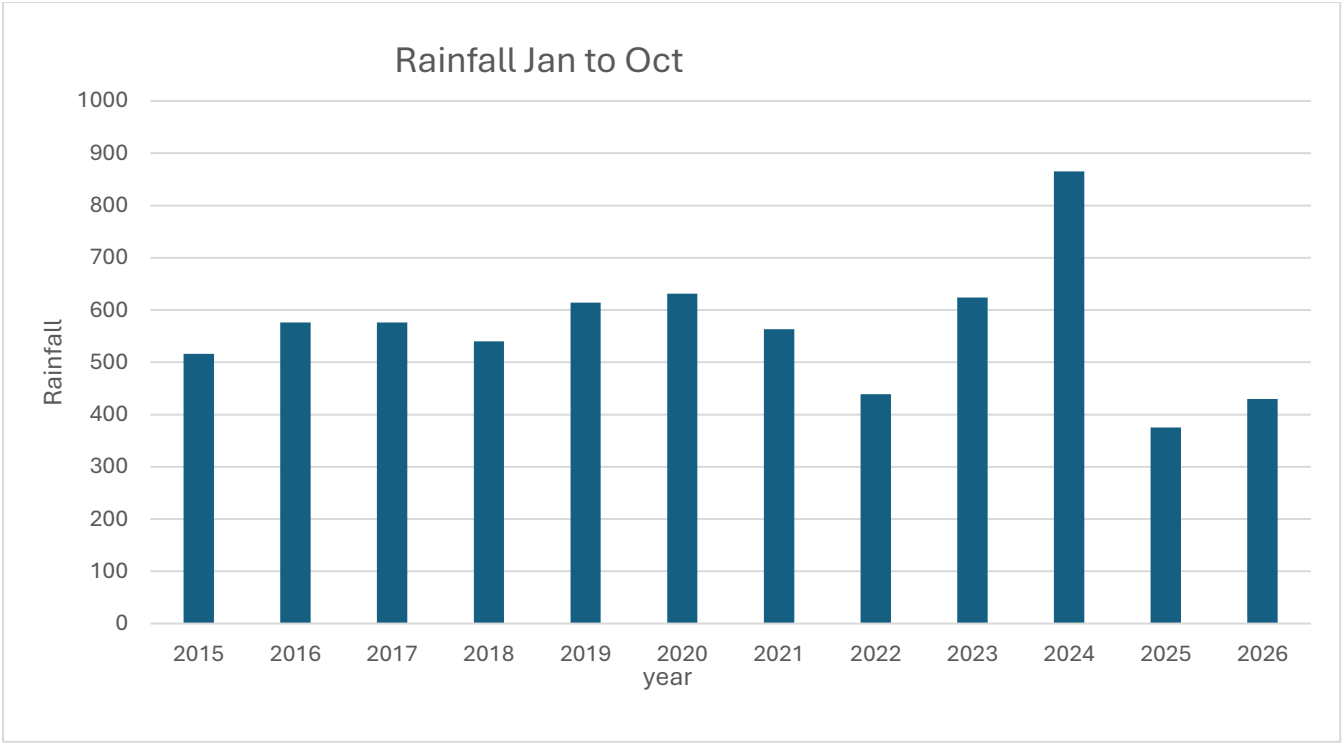
After three mostly sunny days, we received 4mm overnight on Thursday 15th, followed by four beautifully sunny days, but with a slight frost on the morning of Saturday 17th and a suspicion of frost on the following morning. Sunday 18th then became beautifully sunny, but the temperature didn't rise above 13℃ all day, but as the temperature rose during the night, we received 4mm of rain by the morning of Monday 19th. Then one more dry day, before a succession of days when we received precipitation of some description on every day from Tuesday 20h until Thursday 29th - 70mm in 10 days!

Tuesday 20th was the wettest, when it rained all day resulting in 15mm. Storm Austen came upon us overnight - 10mm fell overnight on Thursday 22nd and into Friday 23rd, with another 5mm on Saturday 24th. This was quickly followed by Storm Boelo on Sunday 25th – but with little impact here. The storm had passed much more to the north, Storm Austen, though, had wrought damage due to falling trees in this region, but no more than relatively minor damage here.

The last three days of the month were the coldest, but sunny days with the temperature only at 12℃ on Saturday 31st.

The 'general statistics' for the month were that this was the sunniest, warmest and wettest October on record.

Margaret Clarke

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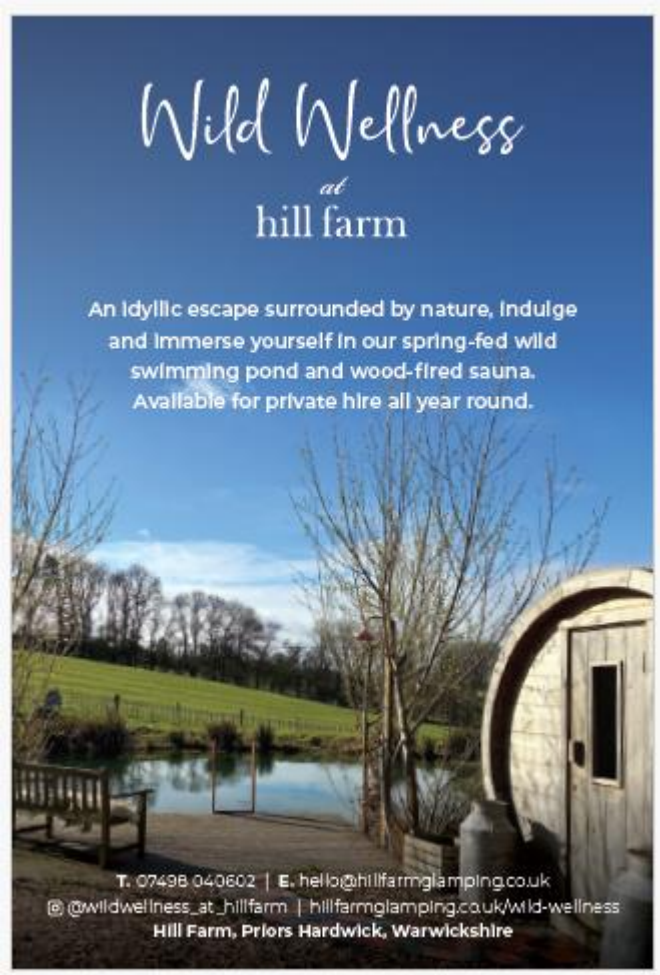


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