



HAGLEY

MAY 2025

VILLAGE NEWS



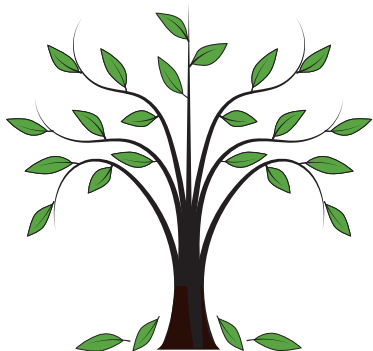
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Welcome to May

And what a beautiful month it is - nearing the end of spring and just on the cusp of summer. The gorgeous bluebell bowl nestling in the Clent Hills is a perfect synonym of just this, which is why we've featured it on this month's cover of the Village News. Big thanks to Andrew Hipkiss for this absolutely breathtaking shot.

As always there is much to be happening in and around Hagley. Don't forget that RBL's Beer and Banter initiative (their new social event) is starting on the 21st - more details of this are available in their report on page 5. Also if you head over to page 8 you'll find information on the Remembrance event that will take place on VE Day.

We have a very informative report on page 25 from the Stourbridge Line User Group. If you're not familiar with 'station adopters' then remember you heard it here first - check out what they have to say about it amongst other interesting news on their activities.

Christian Aid week in Hagley will take place from 11th - 17th May. Please see page 32 for further details of their focus this year and how you can donate if you wish to do so.

Once again we bring you fresh news of another gorgeous greyhound in need of a forever home - Paddy! He's a very sociable, loveable, well mannered gent who just wants to live his best life can you resist? We dare you not! Have a peek at his profile and very handsome doggy features on page 29, courtesy of Home Run Hounds.

Very importantlyThe Hagley Boot has a big announcement - find out what this is on page 19 we think you'll like it very much!

Anyway folks - we'll leave you with it for now. Have a good read and enjoy the fair month of May, the warmer weather and hopefully plenty of sunshine. Catch up with you all again June.

Alison Akers Editor

*Cover photo courtesy of **Andrew Hipkiss***

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COMMUNITY CENTRE TIMETABLE 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ACTIVE SENIORS Happy Hearts 9.30-10.30am			LITTLE TREASURES 10.00-11.30am	PILATES WITH YASMIN 9.45am (Female Fit) 10.30am (Mummy & Me)	HAGLEY MARKET Last Saturday in the month 9.00-1.00pm
ACTIVE SENIORS Strength & Balance 11.15-12.15pm	ACTIVE SENIORS Strength & Balance 1.20-2.20pm 2.45-3.45pm		ACTIVE SENIORS Strength & Balance 2.45-3.45pm	WEST GLEN HTM DOG TRAINING 2.00pm	
	ACTIVE SENIORS Tai Chi & Qigong 4.15-5.15pm		ACTIVE SENIORS Tai Chi & Qigong 4.15-5.15pm		
ART CLUB 2nd Monday of each month 7.30pm	MC PAWS DOG TRAINING 7.00pm	GLOWING MAMAS 7.00pm	VERVE TAEKWONDO 7.00pm	DECLAN DOUBLE Martial Arts 7.00pm	

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

VE DAY 80 On Thursday May 8th, it will be the 80th Anniversary of VE Day – Victory in Europe Day – and we will be marking the occasion in the usual way, with an Act of Remembrance at Hagley War Memorial at 9.45am. This will be followed by a VE Day Eucharist Service at St Saviours Church at 10.30am led by Fr. Tom Owen, after which coffee and cake will be served. All will be welcome at either or both these events.

BEER AND BANTER If you have ever served in the forces or are part of the forces family, this is for you. The Royal British Legion has three aims – to be Custodians of Remembrance, to provide welfare and support for ex-service personnel and their families, and to facilitate Comradeship. In Blakedown and Hagley, we meet the first two objectives, with Remembrance Services at Hagley and Churchill War Memorials, and a very successful Poppy Appeal stall in Worcester Road. But we have not attracted sufficient numbers to run social events since CoVid. So we are trying something new. The King Arthur in Worcester Road have offered us the upstairs room at the pub on Wednesday,

May 21st from 7.00pm. If you fancy popping out for a swift half, and to meet up for a chat with others who have either served or are otherwise connected with the Armed Forces, just come along at or after 7pm, buy a drink at the bar, and come upstairs and join us.

We promise there will be no cost (apart from what you spend at the bar!), and we won't ask you to join the Royal British Legion or volunteer for the Poppy Appeal. We have always made it very clear that being ex-Forces is by no means necessary for being involved with the Royal British Legion – all are welcome. We owe a debt to those who served, and we hope that this event will enable us to offer comradeship to those who wish to join us. We also promise that if it is a success, we'll look at repeating it on a regular basis. For further information, contact Jonathan Plant on **(07813) 785496** or **blakedownhagley.treasurer@rbl.community**



HAGLEY STRING ORCHESTRA

We will have started our summer term at Hagley String Orchestra by the time you read this, and we will be working on some new pieces. However, at the time of writing, we are coming to the end of our spring term repertoire and we are becoming really familiar with the music. One of those pieces is by Wagner, adapted for string orchestra by Maurice Johnstone, called 'Albumblatt' or Album leaf. Wagner wrote very little apart from his towering operas, which changed the course of musical history. This small piece, originally written for piano, was dedicated in gratitude to Princess Pauline Clementine von Metternich, who was a staunch and loyal supporter of Wagner's music. Unfortunately, Metternich was responsible for one of the most famous disasters in Classical Music when she persuaded Napoleon III to force the Paris Opera to put on a performance of Tannhauser. The French did not like Wagner's

'modern music' and Metternich herself admitted that Wagner 'tortured the musicians to death' and was intolerable to everyone. With protests outside the theatre, Wagner himself withdrew the music after the third performance. As usual, we continue to meet on Tuesday mornings between 10am and 12, midday. We are always keen to welcome new members. For further details please contact Haydn Thomas on **01562 885252**

Rory Freckleton



THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF ST JOHN BAPTIST

My previous article outlined how, and why, "The Friends of St John" had been formed. This article provides historical facts about the Church:- The Domesday Book suggests that there was a church here in Saxon times: In the 1100s, a small stone church was built in the Norman style: Circa 1300, a new church was built with chancel, nave and south aisle: In the 18th century the Lyttleton family made Hagley their principal seat; Following this, the chancel was rebuilt and a vault constructed underneath it; Further improvements, included new windows, seating and a gallery at the west end of the church; In 1827 the church was enlarged by the addition of the North Aisle; In 1856 the church underwent a major reconstruction when the wall between the chancel and the nave was removed; The Tower and Spire were built in 1865 and a peal of eight bells was installed in 1885. With the Church facing closure, the Midlands press reported:

Stourbridge News "Heartbreak decision faces Church Members", Birmingham Post "Church faces closure threat" and "Question over St John's future" A meeting took place at Haybridge School, chaired by the Bishop of Dudley, with over 300 attending following which the County Express reported "Packed meeting vows to save Hagley Church". Today St John's still needs work to be done and "The Friends" have committed over £40K for the repair of stonework and work on the car park. Finally remember our coffee morning on the 11th June at 10.30 in St John's.

**Tony Battersby - Trustee
The Friends of St John**




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HCK BADMINTON CLUB

Our summer club is now underway and will run through to the end of August. This is open to members and visitors alike and continues on both Tuesday and Friday evenings from 8pm to 10pm, at Hagley Catholic High School Sports Hall. This is operated on a pay and play basis £7 per session. However, regular visitors will have the opportunity to sign up for the summer club season (or part thereof) at a reduced rate. Please e-mail info@hckbadminton.club for details. If you are a new visitor interested in attending our summer club, please do contact us in the first instance, to ensure availability on the nights you wish to attend. Further coaching sessions are also running during the summer on a Friday evening between 7pm and 8pm. Registration for these sessions is on a first

come first served basis, so please contact us by e-mailing info@hckbadminton.club. This is a great opportunity for anyone looking for a chance to get into the game, or to improve their game, to do so in a friendly, informal environment. Own equipment is not necessary, but please let us know if you need to loan a racquet for the sessions when you sign up. We are a sociable club, with social events taking place throughout the year, so whether you are an absolute beginner, or an experienced player, you can be assured of a warm welcome.



HAGLEY HOBBLERS

Hagley Hobblers is Hagley's own Walking Football group. We meet and play every Tuesday morning 10.30-11.30 on Hagley Playing fields. We are open to all and new members are welcome/encouraged. Walking Football is the same as football, save for 'no running' and a few other rule changes to produce a safer game. We play a game amongst ourselves each week, rather than seek games against other groups. The emphasis is on enjoyment. We also then meet post match in the Pavilion at 11.30 onwards for post match coffee, tea and biscuits. This has become an important part of the Hobblers experience with coffee meetings taking place every week - even on those rare occasions when there is no game due to weather/pitch conditions. And we are often joined by those unfit to play that week. New players are welcome to come along to play or, if preferred, in the first instance to watch. No prior notice from new members is necessary as we adjust the number of players each week to accommodate all who turn up. The Hobblers acknowledge and are grateful for the continuing practical support from others especially Hagley Parish Council, Bromsgrove District Council and West Hagley Football Club.

BLAKEDOWN & HAGLEY TENNIS CLUB

Your local club is ready and waiting for you! We play all year round but the warmer weather is always an incentive to hunt out that old racquet and give the lovely game of tennis a try again or if you're a newcomer to book some lessons with our friendly coach. The club was formed in March 2018, following the merger of the two village clubs. There are three hard courts, two of which are floodlit. We are located on the left-hand side of the A456 just as you enter Blakedown, heading in the Kidderminster direction. The setting is great for families as we are adjacent to a play park and the community field. There are regular mix-ins on Friday and Sunday

mornings plus Monday evenings, which means you can just turn up and have a game. We also enter a number of teams in the local leagues which is a great way of meeting players from other clubs. Have we whetted your appetite? We hope so. For further details, just go to the website clubspark.lta.org.uk/BlakedownTennisClub and we'll look forward to seeing you on court! **Sandy Thomas**





Remembering VE and VJ Day 80

Act of Remembrance – Hagley War Memorial – 9.45am
Service of Remembrance – St Saviours Church – 10.30am
Coffee & Cake to Follow
VE Day – Thursday 8th May 2025 – All welcome

rbl.org.uk





Take A Look Back

We have a comprehensive
Back Issues Archive
of previous Village News editions

There are two types:
from October 2004 they are in searchable
pdf format, but earlier copies are scanned
and cannot be searched.

If you have any 'missing' copies that we
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see Hagley Village News section where the
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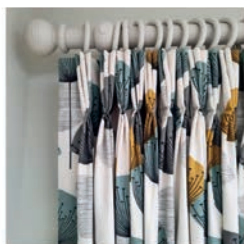
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HAGLEY HISTORICAL AND FIELD SOCIETY

On April 1st we had a talk by Alan Hill, a retired manufacturing systems consultant, on 'The Great Exhibition of 1851.'

Held in Hyde Park, London, from May to October 1851, this international event was organized by Prince Albert and Henry Cole (who invented the Christmas card). It aimed to showcase Britain's industrial leadership.

The exhibition's iconic building was a marvel of iron and glass, built in just 8 months using modular, prefabricated design and was made almost exclusively in Birmingham and Smethwick. Six million people attended, and

enjoyed displays like the velocipede (precursor to the bicycle), the image telegraph (early fax machine), and the world's first public toilets!

Visitors are most welcome at all our events. See hhfs.org.uk for more details and contact information.

Rachel Paget - Secretary



GIRLGUIDING IN HAGLEY

Congratulations to Fiona Drewett our District Commissioner who was awarded a Regional Commissioners Award in March for her service to Girlguiding. Fiona was praised for always putting the girls first

All units have been busy celebrating spring events. 2nd Hagley Rainbows held a Mothers' Day Pamper evening. There have been lots of egg hunts and Easter crafts across the district. 2nd Hagley Guides tried indoor climbing and some outdoor cooking. 1st Hagley Brownies have been working on their Dance interest badge. 2nd Hagley Brownies enjoyed a Finland themed night which was run by one of the Rangers who is going to Finland this year as part of the INTOPS programme to complete

some conservation work and experience Finnish culture. Rangers travelled to London to take part in the Monopoly Run Live event where 8000 Scouts and Guides competed in a GPS live game of Monopoly visiting all the locations on the Monopoly Board and completing challenges along the way. The Rangers also stayed at Pax Lodge which is the UK World Centre for Girlguiding

If you are interested in joining our team please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the instructions on how to join us.



HAGLEY COUNTRY DANCERS

The First of May has been celebrated in dance for centuries and much has been written about the origins of this custom. It is still the traditional day for maypole dancing and is the day when Morris rings around the country are up with the larks to dance the day in at dawn. We wish the dancers and supporters cloudless skies and a beautiful sunrise. Hagley Country Dancers will be starting the month in a more sedate fashion and will not be meeting until May 12th as the 5th is a Bank Holiday. We will not meet on the 26th May Bank Holiday either, but then will dance on every Monday until we finish for the summer. There is plenty of parking behind the Free Church. There is no charge for a first visit, subsequently the cost is £3 per person. For more information, ring June Waterhouse **01562 700639**

ROTARY CLUB No 1328 District 1060

GODFREY PARTRIDGE PHF Past President & Public Relations Office

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The Rotary Club of Hagley supports Youth Exchange from which Students learn a new language, discover another culture, and truly become global citizens. Exchanges for students ages 15-19 are sponsored by Rotary clubs in more than 100 countries so if you know a suitable candidate and are prepared to provide accommodation in exchange to an overseas student please contact us to discuss this wonderful opportunity. In March we were privileged to have the first of our new fundraisers which was greatly assisted by music from AbenGarth who entertained a full evening with country, folk and harmonies from the 60s and 80s. Funds raised will be used for local charities and to assist the ambulance destined to Ukraine. For Rotarians the coming month of April is dedicated to the needy subject of Maternal and Child Health.

If readers would like to have fun with a purpose, consider joining our club which holds its meeting at 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm on Monday evenings at the Blakedown and Churchill Golf Club. Alternatively try visiting our website at <https://hagleyrotary.wixsite.com/website>

The Rotary Club of Hagley in Fellowship with Rotary International Dedicated to Good Health and Happiness for All.

Call Martin Freckelton: 01562 700 391 or Dave Santus: 01562 886 529



THE HAGLEY BOOT

A member of our lovely community has very kindly sent us these sweet images of our much cherished Hagley Boot. Situated on the walk behind Haybridge High School on the path between the school and the end of OuntyJohn Lane this most delightful item of footwear has indeed become infamous in these parts. It is an absolute pleasure to see that this handsome fella has finally found a suitor and is now betrothed. We hope you'll all join us in wishing them all the very best for a long and happy union! And who knows they may even embark on starting a family together ♥



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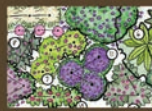
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HAGLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

I am so pleased to be able to report that the Community Centre has seen some really important and progressive steps forward. In addition to resolving some of the long-term heating issues, we've upgraded, tidied and decorated the stage area, added new lights, and sound. We're in the process of fitting additional power sockets in the hall, cleared old unused storage from the back of the Centre and the website is currently being updated, so if you would like to advertise your business or sponsor the website please contact **advertising@hagley.uk** This is in addition to the future works to the planned outside of the

centre and the committee room. My sincere thanks to the committee members for all their work and focus to make these changes. Happy 2nd birthday to the Community Market. It's been a great success and with your continued support we can ensure that it continues. We're now back in full swing looking forward to the coming year. Bookings are doing well, with the Hagley Community Theatre Group making a welcome return and its good to see the hall being booked for private functions and events.

**Steve Colella - Chairman
Hagley Community Association**

HAGLEY PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

There have been a couple of changes at Hagley Surgery with the news that Dr Mobeen Ahmed has taken up an offer to be the senior clinician at another surgery. The PPG thanks Mobeen for all the help and support he and the surgery management team have given to the group and for all the hard work and commitment in Hagley. Mobeen has been very instrumental in taking the surgery and the PPG forward during

his time. We wish him sincere congratulations on his new appointment and wish him the very best for the future. Mobeen will be replaced by Dr Tristen Brodie. We welcome Tristen and look forward to meeting him in the very near future.

Steve Colella - Chairman Hagley PPG

HAGLEY PROBUS CLUB

You wouldn't imagine you could feel seasick sitting in a comfortable seat on terra fi ma, but that was the unconscious feeling as the members and guests of Hagley Probus Group listened to the adventures of four intrepid sailors as they rowed the Atlantic Ocean from Lanzarote to Antigua in January 2024. The talk, given by crew member Guy Minshall, described how 3 male friends and a late female replacement planned and executed the challenge. The meticulous preparation, including a daily allowance each of 5000 calories of food and means of communication were detailed. On board 2 members rowed for 2 hours with 2 hours rest in between, so sleep was at a premium. Routine maintenance comprised going overboard to clean the hull and a continuous watch for marlin which had a reputation for attacking boats. I

will leave details of the toilet faculties to your imagination! The 3200mile trip took 52 days 18 hours and raised £150,000 for the Meningitis Trust and other charities in memory of the son of one of the crew. A lively question and answer session followed the presentation.

Hagley Probus Club offers a warm welcome to professional and business gentlemen from Hagley and district. Activities include a monthly lunch meeting with speaker and occasional outings and social events. Please contact Alan Hess **07967 590219** for more details.



HAGLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The initiative to add the 'Hagley Churches Together' and Home Instead to support Hagley neighbourhood Watch has had good positive feedback. Just as a reminder I wanted to expand the support that the Neighbourhood Watch offers to Hagley by adding in the two partners.

So, now you can contact Neighbourhood Watch, not only with Policing issues but if you have any concerns for friends, relatives

or neighbours. The more that we can all help, gives greater support for our community, and helps tackle loneliness and isolation. The Policing Team has tentatively accepted an invite to hold one of its drop-in sessions in the Community Market, with the end of June Market earmarked to attend.

**Steve Colella - Co-ordinator
Hagley Neighbourhood Watch**

STOURBRIDGE LINE USER GROUP

It may be of interest to Hagley residents that there is a thriving community of "station adopters" in the Worcestershire area supported by Worcestershire Community Rail Partnerships. As well as adopting stations other projects associated with the aims of connecting the community and community projects to their local rail facility have been realised including projects, for example, the Radar Research Museum in station premises at Great Malvern or various station to station" rambles through the Worcestershire countryside. A short video showing some of the activity is here <https://youtu.be/AKTG7NX6GQA?si=YVq7kx16b4U9u-YP> or can be accessed by searching for Worcestershire Community Rail Partnership on the internet. The Stourbridge Line User Group supports this thriving initiative along with local rail operators.

However, one of the few stations not adopted is Hagley. So anyone interested in investigating how they can be involved please contact stakeholders@wmtrains.co.uk in the first instant or if any difficulty contact Stourbridge Line User Group through their website and we will put you in touch.

In addition, Stourbridge Line User Group will be hosting a open meeting on 13th May at 1900 in the Severn Valley Railway refreshment rooms at Kidderminster to which all are welcome. There will be presentations from the various relevant train operators about their plans and issues at that meeting and an opportunity to ask questions.

www.stourbridgelineusergroup.info

IN MEMORY OF DAVID PETTIT

Anthony and Paul announce that the Funeral Service for our father, David Pettit, took place on Friday 9th May at 2:00pm in St Saviour's Church, Hagley. As you know, Dave liked a party, so the service was followed by refreshments and memories in the adjoining Church Hall. We would like to express our

deep gratitude for all the support we have received since our dad passed away on 20th February, and the understanding shown as we have organised matters from Brazil and Bermuda. Dave will be buried alongside his beloved Wendy, with Anna, shortly after the day of the funeral.



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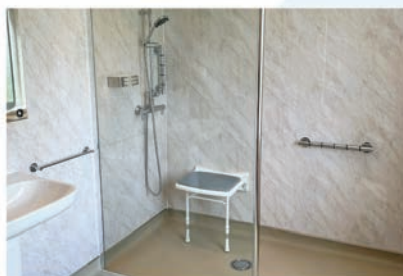
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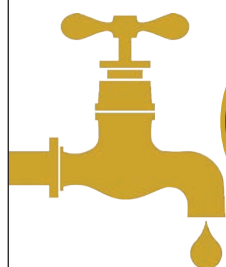
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ACTIVE SENIORS

By the time you see this article I will hopefully be completing the final stages of my rehabilitation following knee surgery and I will be planning my return to work in the next few weeks. It has become very apparent to me how important being physically active before surgery is. We don't often think of the other benefits that exercise gives us but these include building a higher pain threshold, improving our ability to 'bounce back' after illness (or surgery) and to build our muscle memory – in my case for that all important rehab. When we think of exercise we tend to think of the more immediate benefit like keeping our heart healthy, keeping our asthma or diabetes under control but perhaps we also need to consider it as a way of building a 'bank balance of fitness' for when we may need it in the future – to help us recover from surgery or illness. Speaking from my own experience over the last few weeks I know that all those

exercises I do in class each week have enabled me to do the things that are difficult when we are recovering – simple things like getting out of a chair, up the stairs and even off the loo!! I suppose that's why people are encouraged to do some exercise pre op as it really does help! Just in case you are wondering classes in Hagley have continued whilst I've been off with colleagues who have been working hard to keep my regulars exercising each week. I look forward to seeing everyone again as soon as I'm able but in the meantime I'm more than happy to chat with everyone about joining a class so give me a call on **07512546480**



BEE KEEPING

After a few months of rest—aside from occasional checks to ensure storms haven't damaged the beehives—beekeepers everywhere are preparing for another busy season. The bees have been active, too. Inside the colony, the temperature remains a steady 35°C year-round—the equivalent of a hot day in Spain. Eggs laid by the queen now will mature into bees ready to forage by May. One of the biggest challenges in beekeeping is finding a good apiary site. The ideal location is away from people, out of frost-prone hollows, and positioned so the morning sun warms the hive at daybreak. If you know of such a spot, why not reach out? Email **admin@hsbka.org**

VILLAGE LADIES

Hi Village Ladies, hope you all enjoyed your Easter break and that now we are having at least some sunny days. In this Village News we look back to our meetings in March when on 11th Alan Tumber entertained us with 'Rhyme nor Reason', an evening of poetry and songs. On 25th Rosemary Winnall OBE revealed just what can be found on the shoreline 'Between the Tides'.

This month we look forward to 13th May when Jennifee Rigby will tell us all about 'Albert, Worms and Don't Do That'. On 27th May, fingers crossed for a dry day, we go on our trip to Trentham Gardens.

We meet in St Saviour's Church Hall on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month at 7.30 for 7.45pm start. If you would like more details, please ring Anne Poole **885556** or Ann Pagett **882692** or email **annpagett@tiscali.co.uk**

Ann Pagett



ART CLUB

May sees the first of our 2025/2026 demonstration season and we begin with an acrylic wildlife demonstration by Katherine Skorka on the 12th May featuring the always popular furry friend, the fox. Prior to that we have our Spring Workshop at the Edward Marsh Centre, in Kinver on Saturday 10th May, back by popular request, Andrew Hemmings after a very successful demonstration earlier this year. Andrew was the first artist to kick off our new feature, an invitation to paint along with the artist at demonstrations, with his quickfire watercolour sketches. Check out our latest exhibition at Russells Hall Hospital (corridor) 13th May til 9th June 2025.

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Contact us at **hagleyartclub583@gmail.com** or turn up at Hagley Community Centre 2nd Monday of every month 7.30 start. (£5 guest fee) If you love all things arty you won't regret it. Or visit our painting circle, on Tuesday afternoons, ring Sue on **07831487648** or email for details Why not join for £25 per year and a small entrance fee? We are incredible value without compromising on the calibre of visiting artists.

Sallie Gurney - Publicity



HAGLEY ART CLUB

HOME RUN HOUNDS

Hello from all of us at local charity Home Run Hounds! This month we wanted to introduce you to one of our greyhounds, 5-year-old Paddy. Lovely Paddy has proved himself to be on his best behaviour with his trips out and about and is very popular too, getting plenty of fuss and cuddles from both adults and children, which he thoroughly enjoys. One of his trips out was to watch a local rugby match and he coped really well in a busy environment both outside by the pitch and in the club house, so he could make an ideal companion for lots of fun activities. He travels well in the car. He's a big, handsome boy and can be a bit strong on the lead to start with but soon settles down to enjoy lovely walks, he has met lots of different dogs already on his travels. If you'd like to come and meet this well-mannered boy, Paddy

will be very pleased to welcome you at Broadmarsh kennel on Wassell Grove Lane!

Katy Rees (Volunteer)

Hello@homerunhounds.co.uk



HAGLEY COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

We are looking forward to accompanying the hymns in the service at Hagley Free Church on Sunday May 18th (10.30am). Our Thursday rehearsals for the event will be on May 1st, 8th and 15th in the Upper Room of Hagley Free Church from 5.30 to 7pm. If you would like to join us in the orchestra, please text or phone **07545 773 139 - Cynthia Downes, Musical Director**

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HAGLEY WI

The last couple of months at Hagley WI have centred around Flowers. What could be better? We had so much fun decorating our Easter Bonnets and the winners certainly enjoyed their Chocolate Eggs. They weren't the only ones, as all our raffl prizes were chocolate eggs and chocolate bunnies..... Now the weather is warming up and we can get in the garden, we will soon burn off those chocolate calories digging out the pesky weeds!

Last month we all enjoyed being entertained by Andrew, the ever-popular Stourbridge florist. He is not only entertaining but so clever how he arranges those fl wers, his work, artistry and imagination are much to be admired. I don't think I would make a very good florist but it doesn't stop me enjoying the beauty of fl wers and arranging them as best as I can..... Last month, I told you about another fl wer we are making - White

Poppies. We had a target of 250 white poppies to make for the Royal British Legion by May to signify Peace. I'm happy to say that we all knitted, crocheted, sewed and put our paper making skills into action, met our target and delivered the poppies in time for VE Day at the Arboretum. Life is good at Hagley WI

We meet the second Monday of each month at Hagley Community Centre 2.00pm till 4.00pm. If you want to know more about Hagley WI, please contact Judi on **Tel: 07890 117097** or email: **hagleypres@wfedwi.org.uk**

Judi Priest

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This year the focus will be on poverty in Burundi, where more than 70% of the population live in poverty every day!

If you are able, and wish to DONATE to Christian Aid, you can do so:

Online: At <https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2025/HAD-CA>

In person: Envelopes and collection boxes will be placed inside our local churches during Christian Aid week (11 - 17 May)

There will not be a door-to-door collection in the village this year.



SCAN TO DONATE

HAGLEY VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS

As we enter a new year and a new growing season, we hope the Greek god of harvest Demeter is smiling down on us all - but also that her sister Poseidon is not! We need 2025 to be just enough dry and just enough wet - not the extremes that 2024 continually threw at us!

We've actually had a busy winter at the allotment. The onions, shallots and brassicas are all currently present and correct - with nothing yet washed away or frost bitten! But I did see some cat-sized pigeons stalking the joint - I fear they were what ended the all-too-brief lives of last summer's extensive sunflower and pumpkin plants. There's

nothing like a fresh notebook twinned with new year enthusiasm to get the plot planning grey cells working. We seem to have endless lists of ideas, seeds and a potting schedule - let's see how quickly we fall behind with it! The sweet peas continue to do well in my greenhouse and the lasagne planted pots are done, albeit a little later than I'd have liked! These were a great success last year - as well as being deeply satisfying to see the sequential layers of spring flowers.

James and Anna

THE ARTS SOCIETY - STOURBRIDGE

15th May 2025 -- Our next lecture is CAMBODIA : THE SACRED ART OF ANGKOR WAT AND LIVING ARTS. The temple complex of Angkor is the greatest archaeological site in Asia. There are many temples, the most important is Angkor Wat, built in the 12th century, the biggest religious monument in the world. In this lecture, Denise Heywood will reveal the history of the Khmer empire and its flowering of sculptural art. Author, lecturer, photographer and journalist, Denise lived in Cambodia for three years in the 1990s and has been a scholar and enthusiast of Southeast Asia ever since. If

you would like to join us or if you want to come along to this lecture at Stourbridge Town Hall at 10.55am please contact Neill Robb on **07484 830487** or email **neillrobb@btinternet.com**.
www.theartssocietystourbridge.org.uk.



WORDSLEY AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY - WADS

"Wait Until Dark" by Frederick Knott took place from 26th-29th March 2025. This was the story of Susy Hendrix, a recently blinded housewife who unwittingly possessed a doll filled with illicit drugs. Harry Roat, a brutal and sophisticated criminal, coerced two small-time thugs into helping him con Susy into giving up the doll. A battle of wits ensued as Susy and the young girl upstairs launched a counterplot against the thieves. The drama played on the themes of darkness and light as Susy navigated through her sightless world,

and the crooks signalled each other with light through the Venetian blinds.

Box office **01384 270228** or email on **wordsleyamdram@outlook.com**. Tickets may be purchased on line via **www.wordsleyamdram.co.uk**.

Jane Goldsmith



ST JOHN'S BELLRINGING

Clangley Bells was formed from the bands of St. Leonard's in Clent & St. John's in Hagley. Ringing is a very sociable activity which expands and promotes your physical and mental well-being as you learn the skills along the way. It serves the community and is a beautiful old english tradition, but most of all it's fun. If you would like to try it there are a few limited spaces available for anyone interested on Monday & Wednesday evenings. Please contact either of the tower captains to give it a go or to arrange a group session.

Martin Whittaker and Richard Scarth
Clent & Hagley Tower Captains

mjwhittaker@talktalk.net
07769 817495

hagleyringers@gmail.com
07768 273545



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WYRE FOREST & DISTRICT CENTRE NATIONAL TRUST

We had a splendid meeting in March when Dr Richard Churchley came to talk about Market Towns, a lovely, relaxed speaker whose talk was most interesting. Our Meeting on 8 April will be the welcome return of Mary Bodfish who will talk about Cavalier Dogs and Roundhead Rogues.

Mark Baldwin will join us on Tuesday 13 May for his talk about The Occupation of the Channel Island. We do hope that you will join us at Blakedown Parish Rooms Belbroughton

Road Blakedown DY10 3JG. Meetings begin at 7.30pm During the summer months we have some outings, and a holiday planned. For further information please visit our website **www.wyreforestntcentre.co.uk**

Toni Allison on behalf of WFDCNT



HAGLEY U3A

As well as sponsoring learning and recreational events through the year, with currently 18 subjects on offer, there is usually a general meeting with a speaker on the first Wednesday of the month at St Saviour's church hall, 13.30 for 13.45. In April we had our AGM, when one more volunteer was welcomed to the organising committee. Usually, too, there's a book swap and a chance to pick up a free plant for your garden.

There are also organised visits during the year and the next are a tour of the beautiful Baroque church at Whitley Court on 16 May and to the garden at New House Farm,

Cutnall Green, on 20 June. Further ahead in the autumn there's a guided tour of the Dhammatalaka Buddhist Pagoda behind Edgbaston Reservoir in Birmingham.

For booking and more information please message Andrea via the Contact page of our website at:

<https://hagley.u3asite.uk/welcome>

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Hagley Free Church
Established 1905



The 8th May is the 80th anniversary of VE Day. The gemstone for this occasion is ruby represented in the Bible with the attributes of beauty and wisdom; with wisdom being far more precious than rubies, making our lives pleasant and bringing us peace. In Christianity the ruby symbolises the divine sacrifice of Christ on the cross, as His blood is represented in the purity and deep hue of the stone accentuating His unconditional love for all of us. VE Day celebrations offer

an opportunity to bring people together to remember those who gave their lives and whose sacrifice enables us all to enjoy the peace we have today. Moreover, the event reminds us that ultimately God is our refuge and strength, because His sacrifice revealed He would rather die and forgive His enemies. The cross is God's alternative to the sword: "Look to me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other" (Isaiah 45:22). Be blessed. **Rev'd Tim**

SERVICES FOR MAY 2025

Date		Morning 10.30am
04th May 2025	Communion	Rev. Tim Mullings
11th May 2025		Rev. Peter Bates
18th May 2025		Rev. Tim Mullings
20th May 2025		Mrs. Hazel Quelch

BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER GROUP Is meeting every Friday 2:30pm in the upper rooms.

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CHURCH OFFICE MONDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY: 8.30am - 12.00pm
Contact **07922 508014** or Email: **hfc1905@btinternet.com** for all enquiries and bookings.
Visit us at **www.hagleyfreechurch.org.uk**

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CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Here for Christ. Here for the challenge of the gospel. Here for the community around us.

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THE PARISH OF HAGLEY

St John the Baptist with St Saviour's
www.hagleycofe.co.uk admin@hagleycofe.co.uk
Tel: 01562 886363
Facebook: search for hagleycofe



THURSDAY 8 MAY: Remembering VE Day: meeting at the War Memorial in Hagley at 09:45 am for a short service along with representatives from the Royal British Legion, processing to St Saviour's Church for a service of Holy Communion at 10.30 am followed by refreshments from Hagley Mother's Union in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – 11 TO 17 MAY 2025

Christian Aid Week 2025 will take place from May 11th to 17th, focusing on the poverty in the communities of Burundi and calling on the UK government to address climate change and debt justice. You can give to Christian Aid via the website: **www.christianaid.org.uk**

THURSDAY 15 MAY: Hagley MU meeting in St Saviour's Church Hall at 2.30pm

SUNDAY WORSHIP FOR HAGLEY AND CLENT - MAY 2025

Date	Services 10.30am
04th May 2025	Holy Communion at St John's Worship 4 All at St Leonard's
11th May 2025 Christian Aid Week	Holy Communion/Sunday Club at St Saviour's Holy Communion at St Leonard's
18th May 2025	Family Service at St Leonard's Holy Communion at St John's
25th May 2025	Holy Communion at St Saviour's Holy Communion at St Leonard's

There is a said service of Holy Communion in St Leonard's at 10.30 am on the 1st Wednesday each month, and in St Saviour's at 10.30 am every Thursday. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to enquire about a baptism or wedding



TODDLER GROUPS - parents/guardians stay

MONDAY STAY & PLAY 0-5 Romsley Scout Hut 9:30-11.00am Call Laura 07525 476339 BOUNCE & RHYME 0-2 Hagley Library 10-10.30am and 11-11.30am Email: halib@worcestershires.gov.uk ACTIVE TOTS Hagley Library 2.15-2.45pm	TUESDAY LITTLE BABS PLAYGROUP St Kenelm's Church Hall, Romsley 9:30-11.00am Call Laura 07525 476339
WEDNESDAY TODDLERS Hagley Free Church 9:30-11:15am Call Zsuzsi 07852749268 BOUNCE & RHYME 0-2 Hagley Library 2.15-2.45pm Email: halib@worcestershires.gov.uk BELBROUGHTON TODDLER GROUP Belbroughton Church Hall 9.30-11.30am PRE=SCHOOL PLAY Clent Parish Hall 10.30-11.30am	THURSDAY STAY & PLAY 0-5 Churchill Village Hall 9:30-10:30am and 10:45-11:45am Call Laura 07525 476339 LITTLE TREASURES Hagley Community Centre 10.00-11.30am STORYTRAIN Hagley Library 10-10.30am Email: halib@worcestershires.gov.uk
	SATURDAY LEGO CLUB 5+ Hagley Library 2.30-3.30pm

ADVERTISING AND EDITORIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

THE COPY DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BOTH EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING IS:
Before noon on 1st of preceding month
(i.e. before noon June 1st for July edition)

ADVERTISING

Adverts must be in the following format:
300dpi jpeg or pdf

- 1/8 Page - 46mm x 64mm (HxW) Landscape
- 1/4 Page - 92mm x 64mm (HxW) Portrait
- 1/2 Page - 92mm x 128mm (HxW) Landscape

Payment in full on submission of copy, a charge may be made for midterm alterations.

Email artwork for adverts to:
advertising@hagley.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Editorial may be reproduced on the village website

PLEASE MENTION THE HAGLEY VILLAGE NEWS WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS.

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HAGLEY LIBRARY

We have lots of exciting children's activities at the library for your little ones. Bounce & Rhyme is for babies and children age 0-2 years on Mondays 10-10.30am and 11-11.30am. We also run a session on a Wednesday 2.15-2.45pm. Active Tots is for children age 2-4 years on Mondays 2.15-2.45pm. All sessions are Term time only and involve rhymes, songs, puppets, musical instruments and fun! Storytrain is for children age 2-5 years on Thursdays 10-10.30am. Come and listen to a fun story and make a simple craft to take home. Lego Club is for children age 5 years and above and runs every Saturday 2.15-3.30pm, come and make a Lego creation linked to a weekly theme. All our activities are FREE and run term time only, apart from

Storytrain and Lego Club which run through the school holidays too. Please book a place by emailing **halib@worcestershires.gov.uk** or phoning us on **01905 822722** or popping into the library. We also have a great selection of books for readers young and old, you can browse our catalogue on our website at: **www.worcestershires.gov.uk/libraries** and order books for collection, renew your books online and have access to many online resources, including our popular e-books and magazines. The library offers free computer use and we have a printing service too, 15p for a black and white printout, 50p for a colour. Our friendly staff and volunteers are always happy to help you we look forward to seeing you soon!

THE HAGLEY LIBRARY HEALTHY WALKING GROUP

Want to get more active and socialise at the same time? Then we're here to help! Walking is a great way to get fit and explore what's on your doorstep. Our friendly group meets in the library on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.30am. We have two experienced Walk Leaders in the group who will take you on some lovely one hour long walks around the local area.

Our walks in 2025 are: 7th & 21st May, 4th & 18th June, 2nd & 16th July, 6th & 20th Aug, 3rd & 17th Sept, 1st & 15th Oct, 5th & 19th Nov, 3rd & 17th Dec

CALLING ALL PEOPLE WHO LOVE TO CRAFT

Hagley library has a 'knit and natter' group on Fridays at 10-11am. Come along with your knitting/crochet/embroidery project and chat to others while you craft. It's a great way to meet new people in a warm, welcoming environment.

GENTLE HEALTHY WALKING GROUP

We would like to set up a walking group for people who would like a shorter walk around the local area, probably 40-45 minutes. If you are interested in coming on the walk, or leading it please get in touch with us by popping into the library or emailing us at **halib@worcestershires.gov.uk** or telephoning the Worcestershire Hub on **01905 822722**. Let us know which day of the week you would prefer to walk on too. We look forward to hearing from you!


Hagley Village Directory

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

ACTIVE SENIORS: Angela.....	07512 546480
BLAKEDOWN AND HAGLEY TENNIS CLUB: www.blakedownhagleytennis.co.uk	blakedownhagleytennis@gmail.com
HAGLEY ART CLUB: Bob Haywood-Lister	hagleyartclub583@gmail.com : 01562 700078
HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL: Mr B McArdle.....	01562 883193
HAGLEY COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA: Cynthia Downes.....	downlyn@gmail.com
HAGLEY C of E: Sue Priest.....	admin@hagleycofe.co.uk : 01562 886363
HAGLEY CRICKET CLUB:	07834 157035
HAGLEY FREE CHURCH:.....	hfc1905@btinternet.com : 07922 508014
HAGLEY GUIDES, BROWNIES, RAINBOWS: Fiona Drewett.....	waltond2024@gmail.com
HAGLEY HELPLINE:	01562 886696
HAGLEY HISTORICAL & FIELD SOCIETY: Rachel Paget.....	07807 361092
HAGLEY NETBALL CLUB:	07789 514382
HAGLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL:	07488 253537
HAGLEY RAMBLER SCOUTS: Sue Corlett	hagleyramblersgs@gmail.com
HAGLEY STRING ORCHESTRA: Haydn Thomas	01562 885252
HAGLEY WI: Judi Priest	hagleypres@wfedwi.org.uk 07890 117097
HAND OF FRIENDSHIP: Mrs Jean Deacy	office@hagleyprimar .worcs.sch.uk : 01562 885760
HCK BADMINTON: Paul Scrivens	07731 744467
HOME RUN HOUNDS: Katy Rees	hello@homerunhounds.co.uk : 07488 253537
LIFECENTRAL HAGLEY: Location Pastor.....	0121 5013542
MC PAWS: Mark Collins	01562 633045
PILATES WITH YASMIN: Yasmin	yasminpilates@gmail.com 07747 787832
PROBUS CLUB: Alan Hess	07967 590219
ROTARY CLUB: Godfrey Partridge.....	hagley.rotary@gmail.com : 07496 796332
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION: Helen Roberts	01384 378934 : 07962 980446
ST JOHNS HAND & TOWER BELLRINGERS: Richard Scarth	07768 273545
THE STOURBRIDGE ARTS SOCIETY: Neill Robb	01562 885300
TUESDAY TEA CLUB: Sheila Munden.....	01562 636333
UNIVERSITY OF THIRD AGE: Ian Charnock.....	ianjcharnock@hotmail.com : 01562 884843
VERVE MARTIAL ARTS: John Swift.....	07989 980155
VILLAGE LADIES: Ann Pagett	01562 882692
WEST GLEN HTM: Pat Sidaway	01384 637085
WORDSLEY AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY: Jane Goldsmith.....	07512 568321
WYRE FOREST NT: Toni Allison.....	01562 884079
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WEST MERCIA POLICE GENERAL CONTACT NUMBER	0300 333 3000
CRIME STOPPER LINE (CONFIDENTIAL) Freephone.....	0800 555111
HAGLEY LIBRARY	01905 822722
HAGLEY MEDICAL PRACTICE.....	01562 881700

LOCAL COUNCILLOR/MP CONTACTS

HAGLEY PARISH COUNCIL: Hagley Pavilion, Hagley Playing Fields, Victoria Passage, Hagley DY9 0DA.....	01562 885253
HAGLEY (& FURLONGS) COUNTY COUNCILLOR (CLEMENT HILLS DIVISION): Karen May	07818 085140
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR FOR HAGLEY WEST: Steve Colella	01562 882996
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR FOR HAGLEY EAST: Ruth Lambert	r.lambert@bromsgrove.gov.uk



"It is now May . . . It is the month wherein Nature hath her fill of mirth, and the senses are filled with delights. I conclude it is from the Heavens a grace, and to Earth a gladness" **Nicholas Breton**

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