



GROUPS TO JOIN THINGS TO DO

OPEN LETTERS and GROUPS DIRECTORY

GOLDEN VALLEY GROUPS INITIATIVE

#2/1 - November 2019

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***“A problem shared is a problem halved.”
Knowledge shared is knowledge doubled.***

#2/1 on the front shows that this is the first edition of our second brochure. Other editions may follow. The first brochure was produced for last year's Societies Fair.

WELCOME

Warning! You will not find anything particularly clever or insightful in this little brochure. However, our Directory might help you find some people or some things that interest you or can be helpful to you (or you can help) and the Open Letters might lead to a few people helping us develop that directory and some other things we are working on.

Dear Reader,

GVGI is an exercise in sharing information and encouraging people to communicate with each other to see how they can help each other. That help could be little more than telling someone about a good pub or café but it could be about how to get help for something really important. I cannot provide all potentially-relevant information myself but perhaps I/we can direct you to where you may find it.

Why have I produced this brochure and what are its objectives? I will be happy if it does one or more of the following:

- * Enables a few people to find someone who can help them and make their lives easier or more enjoyable in some way.
- * Encourages some people to become one of those volunteers who do so much to make Life better for others.
- * Leads to constructive feedback on our Open Letters:
 - (1) improving GVGI's Directory of community-support groups.
 - (2) making it easier for people to find out what is going on around them and then support local activities.
 - (3) making next year's Societies Fair a success.
- * Is accepted as being potentially relevant to EVERYONE who lives in our part of the world, of all types, of all ages.

Thank you for your interest.

Peter Barns-Graham

Peter@GoldenValleyGroups.UK

07836-610590 (in Herefordshire so does not always work!)



P.S. Help with distributing this brochure in & around SW Herefordshire would be appreciated!

AN INTRODUCTION TO GVGI

The Golden Valley Groups Initiative was set up in early 2018:

- to help publicise the many 'Community Support Groups' that are active in and around South-West Herefordshire; and
- to encourage those groups to appreciate and support each other when appropriate, paying particular attention to those that are active in and around the Golden Valley.

<p>We use the term 'Community Support Groups' to cover those who support social, charitable, hobby-supporting, educational, religious, sporting and similar community-focused activities, large or small.</p>	<p>We aim to make it easier for people to find out about each other, communicate with each other and (hopefully) help each other.</p>
<p>Our 'Friendship Area', which applies to our Groups Directory and our Societies Fairs, covers most of South-West Herefordshire plus a spur into Monmouthshire to include Grosmont.</p>	<p>Our 'Operations Area' is where we hope to help some Community Groups develop closer ties with each other so that they benefit from co-operating with each other. This will start with just a small Core Area, part of the central-southern bit of the Golden Valley plus those nearby villages & hamlets that want to be involved. If that goes well then we will think of expanding the area, albeit never beyond the Friendship Area. If it fails then "So be it". There is no harm in trying and there is potentially quite a lot to be gained if we succeed!</p>
<p>Key elements of our approach are that we keep it simple & sustainable, that we don't get involved unless we are encouraged to, and that we avoid reinventing wheels.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our main 'product' is our web site.</p> <p>Last year's Societies Fair was our first non-virtual event. This brochure represents the next step in our gently-paced approach. If you think we are going too slowly, why not offer to help us?! If you wish to find out more about us, have a look at our web site at www.GoldenValleyGroups.UK.</p>	

OPEN LETTER 1 - ONLINE DIRECTORY

As indicated on page 2, we use the term “community-support groups” loosely but there is a basic theme with it all. We are talking about groups whose principal interest is in serving the community and making Life easier and/or more enjoyable for others, young or old or in-between.

Dear Reader,

Much of this brochure is taken up with providing a hard copy version of our Online Directory of the community-support groups that are active in our Friendship Area. Please have a look at that Online Directory, at www.GoldenValleyGroups.UK, and, if you think it is worth supporting, help us make it better.

It is very likely that some worthy groups have been missed out and that other mistakes have been made. I cannot do it all myself, and have only occasional help from a few people, so I have to rely on You, The Public, and potentially relevant groups for contributions & suggestions. Please do let me know if you have any contributions or suggestions to make or if you could otherwise help with this project in any way.

Thank you,
Peter BG : Peter@GoldenValleyGroups.UK

Notes.

(1) The Online Directory aims to help people find community-support groups that interest them or are otherwise relevant to them. Please remember that it is a medium for marketing community-support groups, not for advertising businesses. However, there are many people who want to help others but still have to make a living as they do so. That can be ‘fair enough’. There are many pubs, cafés and similar that play an important role in Community Life and perhaps should be mentioned. If you are in doubt on whether or not an organisation or activity qualifies to be included in the Directory, feel free to contact me to discuss the matter.

(2) I do not expect to keep producing hard-copy versions of the Directory, such as this one, for more than a few years. However, I do aim to maintain & keep building-up the online version as a useful free-to-all resource for many years and to hand-it on to another in due course.

OPEN LETTER 2 - SUPPORTING LOCAL EVENTS

GVGI organises most of its activities into 'Events'. This letter is relevant to two of them, Event03 ('Supporting our local online Events Diary providers') and Event04 ('Supporting our local information-providing periodicals'). It is also relevant to our long-term ambition of supporting our Community Halls.

Dear Reader,

When I think of going out, I too often think only of going up to Hereford, down to Abergavenny, or across to Hay or Ross. I am as guilty as anyone of forgetting that there could be something going on in a nearby village that could be just as much fun and where I could receive a personal welcome. I forget that I have really enjoyed most of the local events I have attended over the years (village fairs & festivals, quiz nights, etc.) and have several times promised myself to make more of an effort to support them. I am also aware that, if people like me do not support local events, it is likely that they will gradually disappear, our entertainment options will reduce, and Community Life will be diminished. 'Use them or Lose them' is highly relevant to this.

The above leads me to want to find out how to find out what is going on locally and to share that information with others. You will see from the box and the list/map on the opposite page that I have made a start on this. That work is far from complete so please do let me know if you think I have missed out a site or magazine that I should have mentioned. I may be able to include it in our web site and in a later edition of this brochure.

Thank you,
Peter BG : Peter@GoldenValleyGroups.UK

P.S. Organising an event is not easy so, when you think of supporting an event, please think not only of attending it but also of offering to help with its preparation and tidying-up. However, when doing so, please remember this basic rule of much of Social Life: Even if you think something could be done much better, Never Criticise a Volunteer!

There is a lot going on around us. How do we find out about it all? It is not practicable for any one source to cover everything in and around South West Herefordshire but the following are pretty good: GV Wye Magazine (with a good Facebook page), VisitHerefordshire.co.uk, WhatsOnGoldenValley.co.uk (provides email updates) and WISHerefordshire.org.

Our Directory lists many parish or village-specific web sites and many of them have a 'what's on' section. The following are particularly good: EwyasHarold.com and MuchBirchParish.org.uk.

[N.B. There is space here to list more!]

Civil and Church Parishes

Many people associate the word 'parish' solely with the organisation of churches but, in England, the civil parish has been the grass-root unit of democratic government since the 1860s. We ('The People') are grouped into civil parishes and elect Parish Councillors who represent us in dealings with other levels of Government on issues such as planning applications, crime prevention, and the management of public facilities & open spaces. Civil parishes often use the same boundaries as the ancient church parishes which are run by Parish Church Councils, PCCs. Most parish magazines & newsletters are run by PCCs and so contain quite a bit of church-related information but, even if you are not interested in that side of them, please do not ignore them. They are often the best source of information on What's Going On in our local villages so they are worth reading and supporting.

Parish magazines & newsletters in our Friendship Area:

1. The Link
2. Village Pump
3. Golden Valley News
4. Black Mountains Group
5. Tracking the News
6. Good News
7. The Diary
8. Parish News
9. Church Link



N.B. The above list & map are still being worked on. Suggestions for improvements would be welcome. Event04 in our web site names the parishes covered by each of the magazines/newsletters.

OPEN LETTER 3 - SOCIETIES FAIR 2020

Our first Societies Fair was held in Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall on 18th November 2018. It was a modest affair which we viewed as a 'Trial & Taster' for what is to come. [A report on it is included in our web site.] The enthusiasm of the stallholders encouraged us to hold at least one more free-to-enter fair in 2020. If that goes well, then we will probably do one more after that ourselves, in 2022, but thereafter leave it to others to take it further should that be wanted.

Dear Reader,

We aim to hold another Societies Fair sometime in 2020, probably but not necessarily in November. We need some help to make it really successful. Would you help us? The main purpose of the Fair will be to draw attention to the many community-support groups in our region so that not only are Members of the Public given opportunity to meet representatives of those groups but also those representatives have opportunity to meet each other.

We held the 2018 Fair in the Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall (who were excellent hosts) but, although it is not unlikely that we will go there again, we are not yet committed to that.

We seek help with ...

- ❖ marketing the Fair to the General Public with the preparation & distribution of flyers/leaflets & posters, notices into local magazines, newsletters, web sites & social media, etc..
- ❖ finding prospective stallholders and other participants.
- ❖ making the Fair interesting (perhaps a bit different to normal fairs) with activities & displays that go beyond simple stalls.
- ❖ obtaining sponsorship so that we can cover most of the costs.
[A Fair like this is not expected to make a profit but it would be great if it did not cost us too much! Should a surplus arise, it will be reinvested in the project.]
- ❖ setting-up and tidying-up on the day.

Please let me know if you are interested in helping with any of this.

Thank you,

Peter BG : Peter@GoldenValleyGroups.UK

DIRECTORY

The following pages provide extracts from the Online Directory in www.GoldenValleyGroups.UK as at 21st November 2019. Our focus is on developing that as an online resource with links to web sites and Facebook pages where the groups/organisations provide more detail on themselves. These extracts are shown to let you know what is available online and so they do not always provide contact details. If you do not use the Internet and want to pursue a lead found here, look at your local parish newsletter / magazine (which can probably be found at your local post office) as that may contain relevant contact details.

The Online Directory is set out in alphabetical order. It is supported by a Names Index and an Activities Index. In due course there may also be a Locations Index.

The Directory is still at an early stage of its development. There are bound to be some errors. There must also be many omissions. However, we had to start somewhere. We would welcome friendly and constructive corrections & suggestions on how to improve it. For more on this, please see our ‘Open Letter 1’ on page 3 of this brochure.

Key for categories of activity shown in the Directory

ACD = Art, Craft & Drama; BUS = Business; CHA = Charitable; CHI = Children; EDU = Educational; ENT – Entertainment; FAR = Farming Community; GPM = Group Marketing; GPS = Group Support; H&W = Health & Wellbeing; HOB = Hobby; LSK = Life Skills; MUS = Musical; REL = Religious; SOC = Social; S&E = Sport & Exercise; TRA = Transport; VEN = Venue; YGP = Youth Groups.

[Note: The Business category is new. Our interest is not in advertising normal businesses but in supporting those people & organisations who have to make a living but still try to support their communities in non-commercial ways.]

The following show what links our Online Directory provides:

 = own or related web site  = own or related Facebook page
 = Herefordshire Council's Online List of Community Halls
 = WISH's web site  = email address only

Note on the Village, Parish & Community Halls which show the  symbol
Information on these halls has been taken (last checked at the date shown) from the Herefordshire Council's Online List of Community Halls with only an occasional correction where known to us. For identification of the relevant page within the Council's web site, and of the email address for amending a hall's entry, see the entry for 'Herefordshire Council'.

- Abbeydore Ladies Guild** SOC 
An independent women's group that meets at the Abbeydore Village Hall on the 1st Thursday each month.
- Abbeydore Village Hall** VEN   
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: (about to change). Activities supported include Playgroup, Fundraising, Ladies Guild.
Active Here (Herefordshire) – see Ignite.
- Age UK (Herefordshire & Worcestershire)** CHA   
Age UK was formed in 2009 when 2 earlier well-known charities (Age Concern & Help the Aged) were combined. It is now the UK's largest charity working with older people. [03330-066299, www.ageuk.org]
- Air Cadets (Ewyas Harold)** LSK, YGP 
The Ewyas Harold Group has its own hall just behind the Memorial Hall.
- Allensmore Village Hall (Pateshall Hall)** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01432-357472. Activities supported include WI, Keep Fit, Garden Club, Social, Fundraising, YFC.
- Arts Alive & Flicks in the Sticks** ENT  
Locations include Dorstone, Michaelchurch Escleyside & Garway.
- Bacton Village Hall** VEN 
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-240336. Activities supported include Social, Fundraising.
- Bellringers** HOB, MUS  
A popular hobby for all ages (almost).
- Black Mountains Group Benefice Newsletter** GM, REL -
One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.
- Black Mountains Herefordshire Wildlife Trust** CHA, FAR  
Part of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, with a programme of speakers & trips.
- Book Clubs** EDU, ENT, SOC -
There are many book clubs in the region but most of their meetings are held in private homes and so are by invitation only. To find a book club near you, ask at your local village hall or contact a group such as U3A or the WI.
- Borderlands** FAR, REL 
Provides “a confidential, listening ear offering pastoral support to farmers, farming families and agricultural communities”.
- Bredwardine Village Hall** VEN 
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-500155. Activities include Tai Chi, Feldenkrais, Village Market, Social Events, Children's Parties.
- Brightspace** CHA 
A not-for-profit organisation based in Hereford that aims “to enable people and communities to live sustainably.” [01432-378409]
Brownies – see Guides Brownies & Rainbows.

- Callow Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01432-279779.
- Care Herefordshire** BUS, CHA, H&W, SOC, TRA, VEN   
The impressive 'Social & Wellbeing' hub based at Pontrilas Post Office. An award-winning example of a Community Interest Company. [01981-240235]
- Charity Checkout (Herefordshire)** CHA, GPM, GPS 
Part of a nationwide project to help people identify & support local charities.
- Church Link** GM, REL -
One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.
- Churches Near You** REL  
A web site with a page for every Church of England church in the UK.
- Clelonger Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-251079. Activities supported include Playgroup, Keep fit, Yoga, Social, Fundraising, Brownies, Childrens Dance Club, Adult Ballroom Classes, GVCM Club.
- Clifford Community Centre** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01497-831422. Activities supported include WI, Playgroup, Keep Fit, Social, Fundraising, Youth Club, Dance, Karate, Sunday School.
- Community Catalysts** CHA, GPS   
A Social Enterprise and Community Interest group. Featured in an article in the brochure we produced in November 2018.
- Community First** CHA, GPS 
Advisory & support charity that aims to support rural communities. Featured in an article in the brochure we produced in November 2018.
- Community Libraries** EDU, ENT 
Several villages have volunteer-run libraries including Dorstone, Garway, Ewyas Harold, Kilpeck, Longtown & Peterchurch.
- Community Wheels** CHA, TRA  
Leominster & Hereford Community Transport group. [01568-737940]
- Craswall Village Hall** VEN 
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-510226. Activities supported include Fundraising, Young Farmers' Club, Over 60's Club, Social.
Dore Abbey – see Friends of Dore Abbey.
- Dore Community Transport** CHA, TRA   
The Community Transport group that covers most of the area being considered by GVGI. Featured in an article in the brochure we produced in November 2018. [enquiries: 01981-240924, bookings: 0845-2020144]
- Dorstone Front Room** SOC 
The initiative that saved Dorstone from losing its local Post Office and then provided a friendly meeting place.

- Dorstone Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-550280. Activities supported include WI, Toddler Group, Fundraising, Cinema, Youth Club.
- Eaton Bishop Village Hall** VEN   
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 07396-541340. Activities supported include WI, Garden Club, Social, Square Dancing, Farmers Market.
- Eat.Sleep.Live.Herefordshire** GPM 
A guide to tourism and leisure activities in Herefordshire.
Esleyside Hall – see Michaelchurch Esleyside Hall
- Ewyas Harold Baptist Church** REL, SOC 
Has a hall that is used for various weekly social events.
- Ewyas Harold Festival of Arts** ACD  
This group organises a biennial showcasing of local artists. Next in 2021.
- Ewyas Harold Football Club** S&E  
Based at the Recreational Ground.
- Ewyas Harold History & Archaeological Society** EDU, HOB 
An occasional group that takes on interesting local projects.
- Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall** VEN   
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-240710. Activities supported include Women's Institute, Playgroup, Keep Fit, Social, Fundraising, Cinema, Community Access Point, U3A, Mat Bowling, Scouts Cubs & Beavers.
- Ewyas Harold Methodist Church – Pop In** REL, SOC 
The church has a 'Pop In' open morning on the last Saturday of each month.
Ewyas Harold St. Michael's Church – see St. Michael's Hall
- Ewyas Harold Twinning Association** SOC 
The Association has a Friendship Pact with the village of Segonzac near Cognac, SW France. [twinning@gvgi.uk]
- Ewyas Harold Village Web Site** GMP  
One of the information-providing sites referred to in Open Letter 2.
Ewyas Harold Walkers – see under Walking Groups.
- Farming Community Network** CHA, FAR  
A charity that supports farmers & families in the farming community through difficult times. [03000-111999]
- Festival Martial Arts** S&E 
Mixed martial arts for all ages, based in Clehonger.
Flicks in the Sticks – see under Arts Alive & Flicks in the Sticks
- For People and Planet** EDU, LSK 
A local independent group formed by like-minded people keen to create a fairer society in tune with the environment.

Friends of Dore Abbey	ENT, REL	 
Supporters of the Abbey not least through arranging concerts & fairs.		
Garway Heritage Group	EDU, ENT	
Exploring their local rich & diverse heritage.		
Garway Village Hall	VEN	 
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01600-750664. Activities supported include WI, Keep Fit/Yoga, Cinema, social, fundraising, Library.		
Golden Valley Bowls Club	HOB, S&E	-
Meets in the EW Memorial Hall on Monday mornings and Tuesday evenings.		
Golden Valley Classic Motorcycle Club	HOB	
Supports trials for most age groups in and around the county.		
Golden Valley Groups Initiative	GPM, GPS	  
Us! See page 2 and elsewhere in this brochure.		
Golden Valley News Magazine	GPM, REL	-
One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.		
Golden Valley Probus Club	SOC	  
A social group for retired & semi-retired professional & business-men. One of the least formal and most active Probus Clubs in the country.		
Golden Valley & South Wye Magazine - see GV Wye Magazine.		
Golden Valley Study Group	EDU, HOB	
Promoting & encouraging the study and preservation of local history.		
Good News Magazine	GPM, REL	-
One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.		
Grosmont & District Gardening Club	HOB, LSK	 
Meets on the first Tuesday of most months at Grosmont Town Hall.		
Guides, Brownies & Rainbows	CHI, LSK, YGP	 
There are a number of groups for Guides, Brownies or Rainbows in the area including Ewyas Harold. [Joingirlguiding.herefordshire@hotmail.com]		
GV Wye Magazine	ENT, GPM	 
One of the periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.		
Hardwicke Village Hall	VEN	  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: not given.		
Hay & District Dial-a-Ride	CHA, TRA	
Community Transport for the north end of the Golden Valley. [01497-821616]		
Healthwatch Herefordshire	CHA, H&W	  
Instituted as a “champion for health and social care” by gathering feedback from the Public on local health-related services. [01432-277044]		
Heartstart – see Herefordshire Heartstart.		
Hereford Searchers	CHA, HOB	
Metal detecting & raising funds for charities.		

- Herefordshire Art Week** ACD 
Co-ordination of exhibitions & displays every September.
- Herefordshire Council** H&W, GPS (etc.)  
Herefordshire County Council plays a huge role in providing and supporting services across the County. The Council's site includes a directory of Community Halls. [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/directory/15/a_to_z] To change entries there, contact communityregen@herefordshire.gov.uk.
- Herefordshire Heartstart** CHA, H&W   
This charity teaches emergency life support skills.
- Hereford(shire) Holidays** BUS, GPM  
A small-business hub that supports local holiday-focused businesses.
- Herefordshire Rural Hub** BUS, FAR, GPM, GPS  
Supports local farming & rural businesses.
- Herefordshire Samaritans** CHA 
The charity that offers someone to talk to. [116123, 01432-269000].
- Herefordshire Talking News (for the Blind)** CHA 
Records extracts from local newspapers for those with reading difficulties.
- Home-Start Herefordshire** CHA  
A charity that offers help & assistance to stressed families. [01432-371212]
- HVOSS** CHA, GPS   
The Herefordshire Voluntary Organisations Support Service. Featured in an article in the brochure we produced in November 2018. [Volunteering: 01432-343932]
- Ignite (and Active HERefordshire)** BUS, H&W, S&E   
"Empowering people to be creative & healthy".
- Kilpeck & District Village Hall** VEN   
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 07714-318515. Activities supported include Social, Fundraising, Youth Club, Plays/Panto, Community Library.
- Kingstone Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: not given.
- Koffi Pot** SOC -
Meeting people at the Ewyas Harold Baptist Hall on Friday mornings.
- Little Birch Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-540682. Activities supported include Garden Club, Social, Fundraising, Brownies, Bingo, Whist, History Group.
- Little Dewchurch Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01432-840845. Activities supported include Social, Fundraising, Cinema, Over 60s' Club, Whist Drives, Line Dancing, Choral Group, Parish Plan, Short Mat Bowling.
- Llanwarne Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: not given.

- Longtown & District Historical Society** EDU, ENT 
Interesting monthly meetings and occasional outings & projects.
- Longtown Thursday Club** SOC, ENT 
Regular meetings and outings.
- Longtown Village Hall** VEN   
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01873-860829. Activities supported include WI, Yoga, Fundraising, YFC, Spinning and Stitching Group, Age Concern Day Centre, Historical Society.
- Madley Craft Group** ACD  
Holds workshops every Tuesday at the Village Hall.
- Madley Parish Hall** VEN   
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 07947-126154. Activities supported include Short Mat Bowls, Social, Scouts, Cubs, Craft Group, Irish Dancing, Madley Seniors and Fitness Class.
- Michaelchurch Escleyside Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-510263. Activities supported include Playgroup, Keep Fit, Garden Club, Social, Fundraising, Cinema.
- Moccas Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-500250. Activities supported include WI, Playgroup, Social, Fundraising, Cinema, Carpet Bowls, Hand Bells, Art Class, Railway Club, Mothers Union, Morris Dancing.
- Much Birch Community Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-540980. Activities supported include WI, Social, Fundraising, Adult fitness, Advanced Motorists, Mothers and Parent Group, Village Market, Church Activities, Cinema, Senior Group, Bridge Club, Theatre Group. Web site has a very good ‘What’s On’ facility.
- Much Dewchurch Community Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-540688. Activities supported include Playgroup, Keep Fit, Garden Club, Social, Fundraising.
- NAVCA** GPS 
The National Association for Voluntary and Community Action.
- Orcop Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-580685. Activities supported include Keep Fit, Fundraising, Age Concern.
- OWL Good Neighbour Scheme** CHA, SOC 
An impressive Friendly Neighbour Scheme for Orcop, Garway, St. Weonards and Llanwarne. [07940-308696]
- Parish News Magazine** GPM, REL -
One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.
- Peterchurch Community Centre** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 07733-128512. Activities include Keep Fit/Zumba, Garden Club, Social, Fundraising, Brownies & Rainbows, ...

Pensioners Club, Wedding & Birthday Parties, Short Mat Bowling, Dance.

Peterchurch Hub at St. Peter's Centre VEN   

Council site (21.11.19): Contact: 07880-874275. Activities supported include Library, Café, Arts Alive, Borderlines events, Yoga, Playgroup.

Pontrilas Post Office – see Care Herefordshire.

Preston-on-Wye Village Hall VEN  

Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: not given.

Probus (Ewyas Harold) – see Golden Valley Probus Club.

Rainbows – see Guides Brownies & Rainbows.

Rowlestone Women's Guild SOC 

An independent women's group that meets at Rowlestone Village Hall.

Rowlestone Village Hall VEN 

Council site (21.11.19): Contact: 01981-240182. Activities supported include Women's Guild, Fundraising, Community Events.

Rural Hub – see Herefordshire Rural Hub.

Rural Media Charity SCD, CHA  

"Using creative and digital arts for community engagement, education and social change".

St. Michael's Hall, Ewyas Harold REL, SOC 

The hall is used to support a wide range of activities.

St. Michael's Hospice CHA, H&W   

A charity that deserves much admiration and respect for its services to those who need palliative and similar care. [01432-851000]

St. Peter's Centre – see Peterchurch Hub at St. Peter's Centre.

St. Weonards Village Hall VEN  

Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01981-580201. Activities supported include WI, Social, Fundraising, YFC.

Scouts, Cubs & Beavers CHI, LFS, YGP 

Groups meet at Madley Village Hall and Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall.

Temple Bar Inn, Ewyas Harold BUS, VEN 

An inn/pub that hosts various charitable & social events.

The Diary GM 

One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.

The Link GM, REL -

One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.

Tracking the News GM, REL -

One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.

Turnastone Court Farm CHA, FAR  

"Promoting wildlife-friendly farming and campaigning for a living, working countryside."

- U3A – University of the Third Age** EDU, SOC 
Our local U3A is based at Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall and offers an eclectic range of groups including (as at 10.10.19): Art Appreciation & History, Creative Writing, Drama, IT, Poetry, Singing for Fun, Welsh Pronunciation, Bridge, Cycling, Food, History, Keep Fit, Pub Lunch & Tai Chi.
- Village Pump** GPM, REL -
One of the Parish Periodicals referred to in Open Letter 2.
- Visit Herefordshire** GPM 
One of the information-providing sites referred to in Open Letter 2.
- Vowchurch & Turnastone Village Hall** VEN  
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 07974-929508. Activities include Social, Keep Fit/Yoga, Playgroup, Garden Club, Cinema, Fundraising, Local Produce market with café, Dance Lessons, Suppers and Lunches.
- Walking Groups** S&E -
There are a number of walking groups in the region. We will list them as they come to our attention. Ewyas Harold.
- Walterstone Village Hall** VEN 
Council site at 21.11.19: Contact: 01873-890675. Activities supported include Social, Fundraising.
WEA – see Workers Educational Association.
- What’s on Golden Valley** GPM  
One of the information-providing sites referred to in Open Letter 2.
- WISH** CHA, GPM, GPS, H&W 
Wellbeing Information and Signposting for Herefordshire. One of the information-providing sites referred to in Open Letter 2. Featured in an article in the brochure we produced in November 2018. [01432-260101]
Women’s Guilds – see Abbeydore Ladies Guild & Rowlestone Ladies Guild.
- Women’s Institute (W.I.)** SOC  
There are branches at Allensmore, Dorstone, Longtown & Pontrilas.
- Workers Educational Association (WEA)** CHA, EDU 
The UK’s largest voluntary sector provider of adult education.
- Wye Valley Bee Keepers Assoc.** FAR, HOB 
Keeping alive the art & craft of beekeeping. [www.wyevallybeekkeepers.org]
- Young Farmers’ Club** FAR, SOC, YGP  
With branches around the county, the Herefordshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs plays an important role in the lives of many. We hope to get to know them over the next few years.
- YSS (Your Support Services)** CHA  
A charity that provides community-based support services for those who are vulnerable, have complex needs, or face difficult life changes. [01905-730780]

E&OE (Errors and omissions excepted!)

SPONSORS

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Stirnet is owned by Peter who founded & leads GVGI. Stirnet.com provides 'genie data'.

THANKS ALSO to Jenny Davies for allowing us to use her sketch of the famous 'Hare and Hound' corbel (at the Church of St. Mary & St. David in Kilpeck) as our 'brochure logo'.

VOLUNTEERING

Many people find that all their energy is taken up with looking after themselves or their families. Fair enough! However, if you have some spare time & energy and want to do something positive, or simply feel a need to 'get out of yourself', think about helping others as a Volunteer for a community-support group. Most people find that helping others is greatly rewarding. It can also be a great healer or diverter of boredom, loneliness & depression.

These groups are normally highly flexible so that it will be wholly up to you how much or how little time you give to them and to those they support.



How do you go about becoming a Volunteer? For a start, have a look through our Directory. It might include a group that interests you. If in doubt, ask HVOSS or someone at your local Community Hall or pub or church or post office if they know of any group that could do with your help. You could help improve other people's lives – and your own!

Peter's favourite local community-support group is Dore Community Transport. He wishes also to draw attention to - and thank - those who support their local Village Halls, from being on the Committee to just helping put out chairs when needed or baking the occasional cake. These halls are important for our Community Life. Volunteering to help them (and other groups) can come in many different ways but it is always (or at least should always be) greatly welcomed & appreciated.

LAST TIME

Our last brochure was our first one. It accompanied our first 'event', the Societies Fair that was held on 18th November 2018. A copy of that brochure may be downloaded from our web site which also contains a report on that Societies Fair.

The brochure contained articles entitled 'Hale the Halls!' (with a feature on Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall), 'Community Transport' (featuring Dore Community Transport), 'The Three Ages' (which mentioned the idea of supporting a social network for those at college or in work, something that could lead to an informal "U2A") and 'Support for the Supporters' (with features on Community Catalysts, HVOSS, Community First and Herefordshire Council).

NEXT TIME

The next brochure we produce will probably EITHER be done for the Societies Fair that we plan to hold sometime in late 2020, as referred to in 'Open Letter 3' on page 6, OR be something earlier in 2020 that could be quite similar to this one but which includes material that makes it too different to be viewed as just another edition of this second brochure. Something that could lead to that would be the introduction of one or more new articles. One article being considered is about the need to encourage & support some of those who are in the 25-65 age group to develop their social and/or volunteering lives outside of their careers. Another is on the recent addition of the Business category to our Directory to cover community-friendly businesses such as pubs, cafés and similar organisations that support non-commercial social & charitable events. We are still thinking about these issues so any relevant suggestions would be welcome.

www.GoldenValleyGroups.UK

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