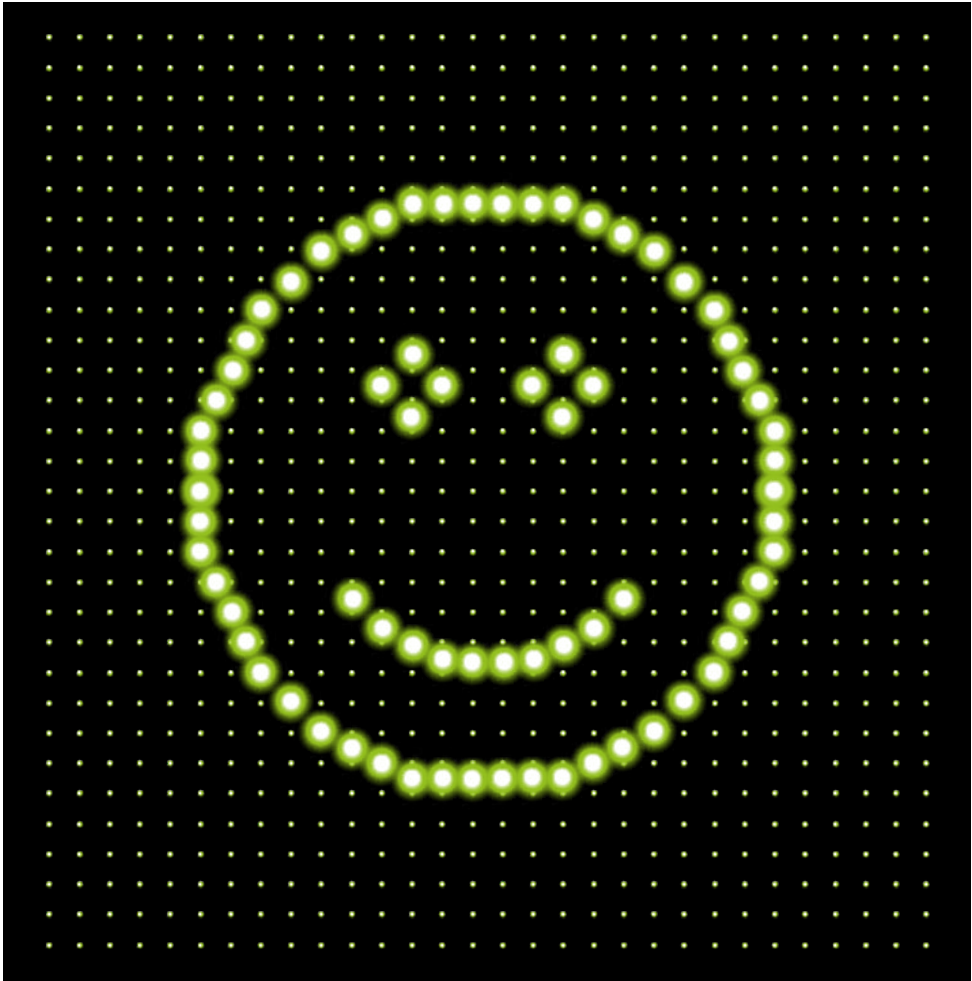


TWYNING

bulletin

The Newsletter of Twynning Parish Council. No. 157. July 2026



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WELCOME

Welcome to the latest Twynning Bulletin. As you see it's now in full colour, with a new design – and a new editor! Hopefully you'll like the content as it includes updates, news and more detailed stories on some of the exciting events that have happened – or about to happen – in the Parish. Unless you've been to the TRAC site recently you may be unaware of the new playground. Did you know a beautiful lion now guards the school? And of course what about that speed sign on the front cover? More on those later.

At the back there is now a listing of local businesses, so when you're next looking for a product, service or trade, have a look there first. If you have comments (polite please!), would like to suggest ideas for future articles – or be involved – please let me know.

Paul Holden, designer and editor

E: paul@prhdesign.co.uk

Twynning Bulletin is edited and designed by Paul Holden of PRH Design Consultants.
www.prhdesign.co.uk

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

First let me introduce myself. I am Simon Clayson and I took over as Chairman of Twyning Parish Council at the annual meeting in April.

This is not a position I sought but I have agreed to take on the role for now. I have lived in the village for 26 years, working in Birmingham for the first half of that time and now enjoying retirement here.

I am very sorry that the previous Chairman, Keith Davies, has had to resign on medical grounds and I am sure we all wish him successful treatment and a speedy return to full health. I must thank him for all his work as Chairman over the last two years. Until I took over, I had not appreciated the work involved. His quiet and friendly manner has enabled our meetings to run smoothly and efficiently. His most significant achievement has probably been the total refit of the playground at TRAC which now provides a modernised safe area for our children and grandchildren to play in. The substantial funding of around £180,000 required to finance the work was provided by some of the recent housing developments that have taken place in the village.

We are now faced with two more applications for development in the Downfield Lane and Fleet Lane area which will no doubt add further strain to roads in and around the centre of the village. It is very understandable that villagers are horrified and express very strong views to the Parish Council about this continual stream of developments. The Parish Councillors share those feelings but regrettably our objections are often cast aside because Tewkesbury Borough Council is unable to demonstrate a five year land supply which often tips the balance towards allowing development. Even if TBC turns down the application, the developers will generally win at appeal resulting in fees for expensive lawyers and costs awarded against the Borough Council. The resulting community infrastructure levy sweetens the pill a little but the impact on the village is very worrying.

Simon Clayson
Twyning Parish Council Chairman



More information on events, businesses and new developments in and around the Parish can be found at www.twyningparishcouncil.gov.uk.

If you'd like to hear about, discuss, or make your voice heard on local matters please come along to the Parish Council meetings held on the third Monday of the month, except August and December. Held at Twyning Parish Hall. The Planning Committee convene at 7pm whilst the Full Committee meeting starts at 7.30pm. Agendas are posted on the Parish Council website and notice boards.

For more details contact the Parish Council Clerk at: clerk@twyningparishcouncil.gov.uk

IN BRIEF FROM THE PARISH

Biodiversity

Twyning Parish Council has its own Biodiversity Working Group. This group's focus is to try and encourage and develop increased biodiversity within the Parish. This could include anything from not cutting verges (subject to traffic considerations), planting trees, the use of bird boxes, encouraging the planting of hedges and increasing woodland to provide wild animal cover.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the Parish Council via the Clerk.

A safer village

The new speed awareness sign at Hillend Road is now thankfully facing the correct way! And Twyning Parish Council have purchased two more signs to be installed – one at the junction of Brockeridge Road and the other further towards Church End near the new housing development. We are waiting for the poles to be installed. Hopefully once they are up and running, any speeding traffic will slow down before it reaches the more built up areas of the village.

August Bank Holiday Weekend

A weekend packed with entertainment, community spirit and fun for all ages!

Saturday 29th August

Live music in the marquee. Start time: TBC – 10:30pm
Tickets: £12 (14 years and under FREE) – Early bird ticket £8 purchased before 1st August. Join us for an incredible afternoon and evening of live music featuring Chimp on a Bike, Breeze and other fantastic local bands.

- Licensed bar (application submitted)
 - Food and refreshments available
- Tickets on sale – don't miss out!

Sunday 30th August

10:00am – Church Service in the Marquee
Join the congregations of Twyning Chapel and St. Mary Magdalene Church for a Bank Holiday Sunday service.

... followed by the Twyning Motor Show

Browse an impressive display of classic cars and motorbikes on the Green. Breakfast bacon baps available while you browse!

The Twyning Soapbox Challenge returns!

Back by popular demand! From 12:00 noon. Take part or simply enjoy the excitement as homemade soapbox karts race from the top of Goodiers Lane to the Green.

- Participants enter at their own risk.
 - Let's make it a fun and safe day for everyone.
- Grab an entry form, get creative and join the fun!
Funds raised from the Soapbox Challenge will be shared between TRAC, Fly2Help, 4Ed and the Air Ambulance.

Monday 31st August – Village fête & car boot sale

1:00pm – 4:00pm. A whole array of entertainment new and old is planned for the afternoon, so why not come early, enjoy a BBQ lunch and afternoon tea or something stronger from the bar amid a host of stalls, sideshows and arena events. Not forgetting the chance to grab a bargain at our popular car boot sale (or using it as a chance to have a good clear out) or even to enter your dog in the dog show (weather permitting).

More on the fête on page 24.

Twyning Community Project

Now incorporating the Men's Shed, Sister Shed, Community Garden and recently the Community Pottery. We are a group set up to make, repair and refurbish anything you want to preserve. And in doing this we create contacts, we have conversations, and we use our creativity. All this helps to prevent loneliness, provide purpose and where we make friends.

Some members have differing needs and mostly we can accommodate them in one way or another. The important thing is in coming you

are open to a bit of banter, like having fun, and like developing your own creativity by contributing to whatever is going on.

If you'd like to be part of a growing group that actively contributes to our local community then we'd like to hear from you! Contact Bill O'Dell on hello@twyningmensshed.co.uk or fill in the form on twyningcommunityproject.co.uk



Twyning's Going Potty

The Twyning Community Pottery has now held a number of free taster days where local residents are able to try their hand at making things out of clay. Chris and Hazel are both experienced potters, Chris is a retired teacher and Hazel a sculptor in clay so the students on the taster days were in good hands! Following on from these, once we have learned what people want and have established a framework for the future, we will be running courses, probably for 6 weeks and at a cost of approx £20 per session. This will include an item fired and glazed, and additional ones can also be purchased.

We are still very much in the experimental phase and although we have some good equipment we have little experience with our kiln and we will be testing out different firing regimes over

the coming months so an exciting time for all budding potters!

Pottery is the most elemental of all crafts. You are taking earth, shaping it with water, drying it in air and creating a useful pot with fire – the 4 elements. So it is very grounding and allows you to explore your creativity and demands focus, concentration which seems to come naturally and is emotionally rewarding. We will not turn you into the next Shoji Hamada but you may be surprised by what you can achieve.



Twyning Community Garden

At Green Farm we are in our second year of growing vegetables in the Community Garden. Well managed by Helen Dale and her team of volunteers they are growing a big range of vegetables from tomatoes, courgettes, beans, peas, kale, chard, raspberries and too many others to mention. They are always looking out for new members to join in and take part – no particular knowledge needed, just a willingness to learn and

get your hands dirty!

Like pottery, gardening is a great leveller and also an excellent de-stresser. After an initial trial, choose a time to take part that suits you, and it can be with others, or on your own or with a friend. A great way to shake off a bit of anxiety, depression or loneliness and also improve your self worth whilst growing some very useful produce! Come on down, and join the gang!



Insectophilia

When I was at college back in the 1970s, I used to drive regularly from Bedford to Bromsgrove each weekend. Often I would have to stop, particularly in the summer months, and clean the windscreen of insects. My numberplate was always covered in kamikaze insects.

As I sit in the car writing this I'm in a car park and I can see 20 number plates in front of me with not a single insect stuck to it. This does not mean that we wash our cars more frequently, but it does mean that the insect population is dramatically decreasing.

For this reason encouraging insects is a really important thing to do. Whether they be wasps, spiders, flies, honeybees, bumblebees or whatever, they all have a part to play in pollinating our fruits, vegetables and plants in the garden. Over 1/3 of the food that we eat relies on pollination and already in Japan they are having to hand pollinate with fine paintbrushes many trees to ensure the species continue because of a lack of insects.

So next time you swat a wasp or stamp on a spider, remember that they may have been responsible for the apples in your fruit bowl or the vegetables on your plate and in some cases for the feed for the animals – the meat of which you are eating. And be gentle with them. Yes sometimes you may be stung, and if it's by a honeybee remember the bee will die, not so with a wasp! And that sting is much less hurtful than getting caught in stinging nettles!

So in keeping bees you're doing a small part to help maintain pollinators locally, and at the same time you may benefit from the honey they collect which you can harvest. If anyone is interested in beekeeping, your FIRST point should be to look at the Malvern and Upton Beekeeper Association website www.mubk.org.uk. There you will find a wealth of information on bees, courses and beekeeping in general.

Bill O'Dell



The Story of the Kintsugi Lion

In September 2024, I attended the launch event for Lions at Large. Like many people there, I wandered amongst the sculptures admiring the creativity of the artists involved and imagining what it might feel like to paint one myself. I had submitted a design for consideration, but never really expected anything to come of it. That same week, my life changed dramatically. I was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Just a few days later, another email arrived. My lion design had been selected.

Within the space of a week, I had gone from dreaming about painting a sculpture to facing cancer treatment and being given the opportunity to create artwork that would help raise money for people affected by cancer. Looking back, it feels like one of those strange moments when life places two seemingly unrelated paths side by side and invites you to walk them together.

My design was inspired by kintsugi, the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with gold. Rather than hiding damage, kintsugi celebrates repair and recognises that the cracks are part

of an object's story. At the time I created the design, I simply loved the philosophy behind it. Following my diagnosis, however, it took on a much deeper meaning.

The sculpture would help raise money for The Big Space Cancer Appeal, a project by Cheltenham and Gloucester Hospitals Charity that aims to create a dedicated cancer support centre for local people and their families. Suddenly, the lion was connected to a world I had unexpectedly found myself entering.

Over the following months, I underwent surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Throughout much of that journey, the lion stood quietly in the studio. There were days when treatment

left me exhausted and days when painting felt difficult, but the lion gave me something positive to focus on. While hospital appointments measured progress in weeks and treatment cycles, the lion measured progress in brush strokes.

As I painted the golden cracks across his coat, they began to symbolise something more personal. They became a reminder that strength is not about avoiding hardship but about finding a way through it. The lion and I seemed to be travelling our own journeys of repair at the same time.

When the Lions at Large trail opened, thousands of people set off across Cheltenham and Gloucester searching for sculptures. Families



explored together, children collected lions on maps and visitors shared photographs and stories. What none of us anticipated was how strongly people would connect with the Kintsugi Lion.

In particular, the village of Twynning seemed to adopt him as one of its own. People visited him regularly, brought friends and family to see him and followed his story throughout the summer. By the time the trail was coming to an end, a conversation had started to grow. Could we somehow bring him home?

It was an ambitious idea. The sculptures would be auctioned and competition would be fierce. Yet Paul Dorkings and Katie Hartell were determined to give it a try. Together they led a fundraising campaign, gathering pledges and support from far and wide. Contributions came not only from people in Twynning but from supporters further afield who had fallen in love with the story of the lion and what he represented.

Eventually auction night arrived at Gloucester Cathedral. The atmosphere was electric. The cathedral was packed with bidders, supporters and sponsors, all gathered to raise money for The Big Space Cancer Appeal. As the

“Five complete strangers stood up and each pledged £1,000...”

Kintsugi Lion entered the auction, the bidding quickly climbed. Despite the incredible efforts of the fundraising team, it soon became clear that the village’s budget might not be enough.

At that moment, Mark Hartell from Twynning village stepped forward and did something incredibly brave. He took to the stage in front of the packed cathedral and

appealed directly to the audience for help to bring the lion home.

What happened next was extraordinary.

Five complete strangers stood up and each pledged £1,000 towards the fund. Within moments, an additional £5,000 had been raised. It was an astonishing act of generosity and a powerful reminder of how people can rally around a cause they believe in. Thanks to that support, the bidding could continue. The Kintsugi Lion was secured and, in the process, an impressive £15,500 was raised for The Big Space Cancer Appeal.

For me, there was something deeply moving about that moment. The sculpture that had accompanied me through cancer treatment would now help support countless others facing



their own diagnosis and treatment journeys.

Months later in May 2026, the village gathered once again, this time for a homecoming. Hundreds of people came to see the lion unveiled in his new permanent home. Children who had followed the trail stood alongside residents who had donated, fund raised and championed the project from the very beginning. Standing there

“The real gold was never painted onto the lion. It was always the people around him.”

on the unveiling day, it struck me that the lion’s golden cracks had come to represent far more than my original design. They represented resilience, generosity, community and hope. They told the story of a village that refused to give up, of strangers who chose kindness and of a cancer appeal that will go on helping people long into the future.

The Kintsugi Lion began as a sculpture. He became a companion through a challenging year. He became a fundraiser for a cause that suddenly meant the world

to me. And somehow, along the way, he became a symbol of what can happen when ordinary people come together to achieve something extraordinary.

The real gold was never painted onto the lion. It was always the people around him.

Today Kintsugi Lion stands proudly just outside Twynning School. Along with the Lion

belongs to me. He no longer belongs to the trail. In many ways, he doesn’t even belong to the village committee who worked so hard to bring him home. He belongs to the community that has gathered around him and to the next generation who are already taking responsibility for his future.

For all the talk of auctions, fundraising, art and cancer support, perhaps that little girl understood something the rest of us had missed. The Kintsugi Lion isn’t simply a sculpture. He’s a story that people have chosen to care for.

And now, thanks to one very proud young guardian, I know he’s in safe hands.

Sam x



You can read more on Sam Morris’ fantastic story, and see how much was raised for The Big Space Cancer Appeal at www.lionsatlarge.co.uk

Photography kindly supplied by Jack Boskett

Behind the scenes as a Twyning Primary School Governor

You might picture being a school governor as involving lots of paperwork, long meetings, and rather serious conversations. In reality those happen rarely.

I have found being a governor at Twyning Primary School has offered a wonderful window into the life of the school and the community it sits at the heart of.

When I come in to the school, it's very special sitting with a child as they tackle a tricky word, grow in confidence, and finally beam with pride when it clicks.

Governors spend time visiting lessons and seeing first-hand the impressive work from children. These visits are uplifting and reassuring, and reflect the care, creativity and enthusiasm of the teaching staff, who consistently go above and beyond to support and inspire the children.

This year has been particularly exciting with the arrival of the lion sculpture, trips to Macaroni Wood and the Pioneer Centre, and coming back with wonderful stories of climbing, outdoor adventure and teamwork.

Governors help determine the school's mission, take strategic decisions and approve budgets but don't manage the day-to-day. They act as a sounding board, offering support and challenge when needed. Many are not from an education background, but bring useful experience and fresh perspectives. Being a governor isn't about knowing everything. It's about caring, showing up and asking questions. And it's fun too! This year we've cheered at netball competitions, enjoyed the Christmas Nativity and the upper-school carol concert — a real highlight showing the strong sense of community that runs through the school.

Reception cohort for September is already at capacity, and it was a real pleasure to attend the new reception stay and play, to help welcome students into the school community and answer their questions. A great reminder of how important those early connections are between home and school.

At the moment, the governing body is looking to appoint a new non-parent governor. If you think "I could do that" — or "I'd quite enjoy that" — then perhaps you're right. Governors come from all walks of life, and a willingness to get involved and support the school is far more important than any particular background.

Jamie Bartlam, Chair of Governors



If you would like to find out more, please contact me, Jamie Bartlam, Chair of Governors (chair@twyning.gloucs.sch.uk), and I will be very happy to have an informal conversation and explain a little more about what's involved.

Neighbourhood resilience

Hello neighbours!

My name is Marcus and my family and I live here in Twyning. We're the Americans with the slightly unhealthy enthusiasm for decorating our house at Halloween and Christmas. Since moving to the village, we've enjoyed becoming part of this wonderful community and getting to know many of the people who make it such a special place to live.

To support the community, I volunteer with the Severn Area Rescue Association (SARA), assisting with land search and flood response operations across Gloucestershire and the wider Severn region. I also serve as a Volunteer Flood Warden within Tewkesbury Borough. Through these roles, I have seen how much resilience begins at the community level.

Most people are familiar with the emergency services, but resilience starts much closer to home. Neighbours, families and local communities are often the first line of support during flooding, severe weather, power outages, medical emergencies and other disruptive events. Simple preparation and local awareness can make a significant difference.

People who know one another, understand local risks and have discussed how they might respond during difficult circumstances are better able to support vulnerable residents and reduce the impact of emergencies.

To help strengthen OUR local resilience, I'm starting the Twyning Resilience Group and invite interested residents to join me. The aim is simple: to bring together people interested in preparedness, local resilience and practical ways to support our community. Topics may include flooding, severe weather, power outages, vulnerable residents, emergency planning, household preparedness, and resources available through organisations such as Gloucestershire Prepared, GRCC and SARA.

If you would like to participate or have questions, please contact me at: marcus.gay@sara-rescue.org.uk. I look forward to meeting others who share an interest in helping keep Twyning informed, connected and prepared.

Marcus Gay
Twyning Resident
Tewkesbury Borough Volunteer Flood Warden
SARA – Mountain Rescue and Flood Water Technician



Useful resources

- Gloucestershire Prepared – www.glosprepared.co.uk
- GRCC – www.grcc.org.uk/flooding-and-community-resilience
- SARA – www.sara-rescue.org.uk





A playground for many generations

We are incredibly fortunate to live in a village with such fantastic community assets. Nearly 30 years ago, local people came together with a shared vision to build and develop the sports and recreational facilities at TRAC. The land was generously donated to the village by the late Mike Warner specifically for community recreation. With support from Lottery funding and Sport England grants, that vision became a reality and marked the beginning of an exciting journey.

As with any well-used facility, time takes its toll. It became increasingly clear that the children's play area was in need of significant investment and refurbishment. When Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding became available, we saw an opportunity to improve this valuable community asset.

We approached three companies for quotations, and after careful consideration we chose Playdale. As a predominantly British company, they could provide long-term support and replacement parts for their equipment, giving us confidence that the play area can be maintained for many years to come.



“We hope this refurbished play area will be enjoyed by children and families for many years to come.”

We submitted our proposal to the Parish Council, who kindly supported our application. We recognise that there were other worthwhile projects seeking CIL funding and, although our bid represented a significant proportion of the available funds, we are pleased that other projects also benefitted.

We sometimes hear TRAC referred to as a separate organisation looking after its own interests. In reality, we are simply a small committee of volunteers working on behalf of the whole village to ensure these facilities are maintained for current and future generations.

Without the committee, responsibility for maintaining TRAC would fall to the Parish Council, with the cost ultimately being met through the village precept.

Once Playdale had been appointed, we met with them to discuss our priorities. Our main objective was to replace the ageing play surface to meet current health and safety standards. In fact, over half of the total project cost was invested in the new surfacing which is a significant improvement on the old black rubber surface.

During excavation, several unexpected issues came to light. Beneath the existing rubber surface, contractors discovered the original bark surfacing, along with three large pits that had been backfilled with rubber. Removal required more skips than originally anticipated but, once the site had been cleared, installation of the new equipment progressed smoothly.

Fortunately, the weather was on our side and the project remained on schedule. After the equipment was installed, a specialist contractor laid the new safety surfacing and everything was ready for the official opening on 9th May.

We have also asked Playdale to investigate the possibility of introducing a wider slide. We know this was an important feature for many families. Unfortunately, the current slide is

the only inclusive model available at present, but the company has agreed to discuss options with its designers.

While the refurbishment was taking place, members of the committee refreshed the paintwork throughout the play area. We purchased new plants and shrubs for the mound where children had created informal paths over the years. These were generously funded by Councillor Vernon Smith, for which we are very grateful. We would kindly ask parents to encourage children to stay off the mound while the plants become established.

We have purchased an additional bench to increase seating and are looking forward to receiving a bespoke bin enclosure currently being made by the Men's Shed.

The play area generates a considerable amount of litter, particularly during the summer months. Please use the bins provided, as regular litter picking is once again carried out by volunteers.

We hope this refurbished play area will be enjoyed by children and families for many years to come. If you notice any problem, please let us know as soon as possible, so that we can address them promptly.

To help protect this investment, we have taken out a maintenance package with Playdale, which includes three inspection visits each year and an annual comprehensive safety inspection – effectively an MOT for the play equipment. This will help ensure the equipment remains safe, well maintained and in excellent condition for years to come.

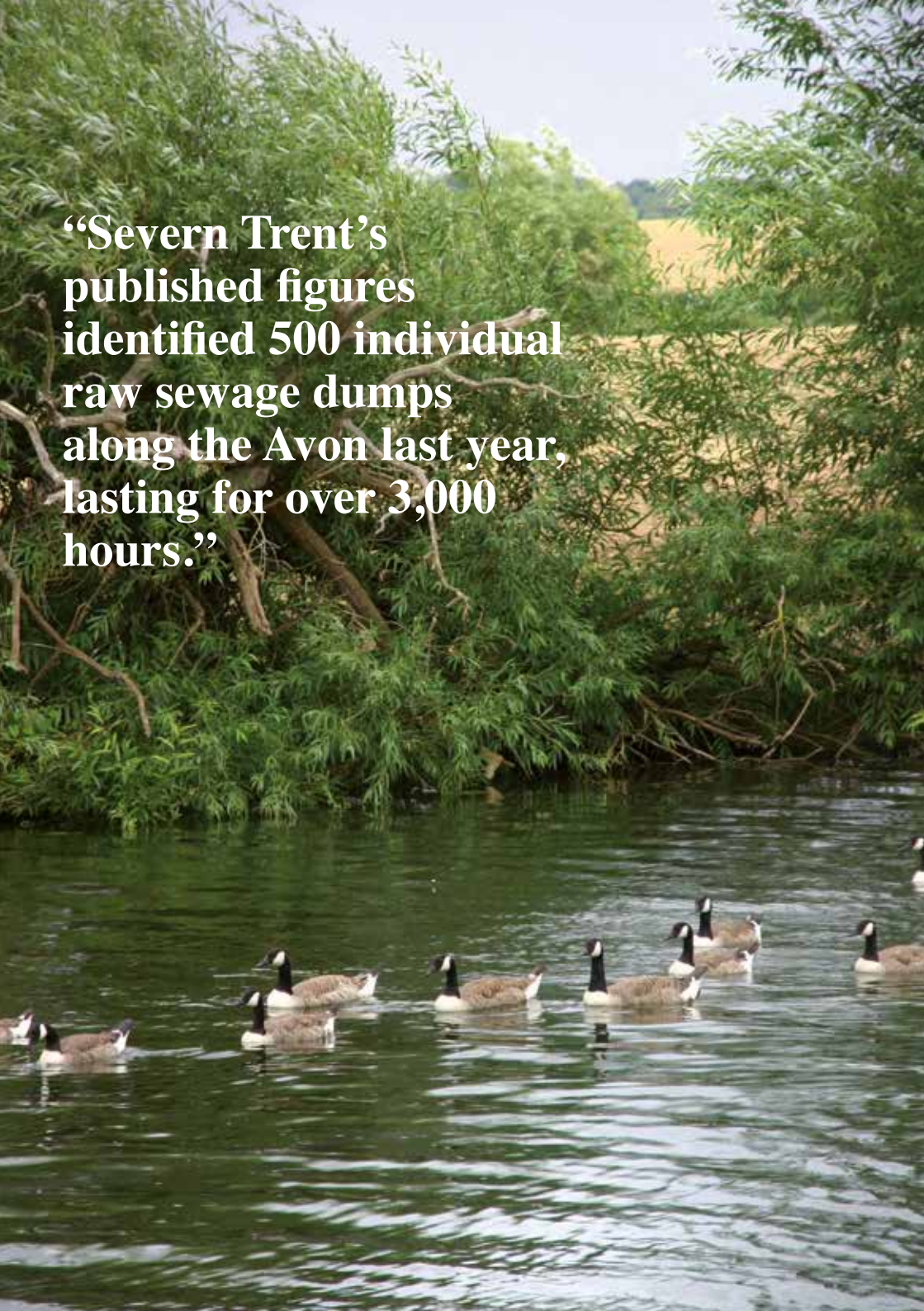
Finally, we would like to thank everyone for their patience during the works. We hope you will agree that the refurbished play area has been well worth the wait.

**Lorna Herald
TRAC**

Flowing together: why the health of our river matters to Twynning

Recently, I stood by the water's edge to lead our annual river blessing. While the main service took place just downriver at Tewkesbury Abbey, I was acutely aware that we were part of a much larger, shared effort. Right here in Twynning on the very same day, a local group gathered at The Fleet Inn to walk the path to St Chad's Well, where prayers for our waters were beautifully led by Angela Cole. Similar blessings took place all along the Avon, stretching through Pershore, Evesham, Stratford, and right up to Rugby.





“Severn Trent’s published figures identified 500 individual raw sewage dumps along the Avon last year, lasting for over 3,000 hours.”

Rivers do not recognize parish or village boundaries; they connect us in a literal, living web. This is why the health of the River Avon is a vital issue for every single one of us, whether we attend church on a Sunday or simply enjoy a walk along the banks.

It is easy to look at our beautiful local landscape and assume all is well, but our rivers are under immense pressure. Globally, only a third of the world’s great river systems remain free-flowing, unimpeded by human barriers. Closer to home, the statistics are deeply sobering, with only 14% of English rivers currently achieving “good ecological status” under the Government’s own definitions. When a river suffers, the damage ripples through the entire ecosystem. Freshwater species have seen a staggering 83% decline worldwide since 1970, and the surrounding land suffers too, losing natural nutrients and experiencing accelerated erosion. Ultimately, this directly impacts human communities through increased flood risks, a degraded drinking supply, and clear harm to the local recreation and tourism that our area relies on.

This is not just a distant environmental headline; it is happening

right on Twynning’s doorstep. Severn Trent’s published figures identified 500 individual raw sewage dumps along the Avon last year, lasting for over 3,000 hours. The data for the start of 2026 is even more concerning. In just the first three months of this year, the treatment works right here in Twynning, alongside Tewkesbury, each spilled raw sewage for 42 days. This is a system-wide overload, a massive public health gamble that directly impacts our local water meadows, wildlife, and river users.

From my perspective as a vicar, the Bible views creation not as random matter to be exploited, but as a dynamic web bound together by divine love. We are called to be interdependent caretakers of the earth, not masters over it. Yet, you do not need to be religious to recognise that everything is interconnected. The plight of our river is simply the downstream result of human choices – how we build, how we grow food, and what we consume.

Fortunately, there is a vital opportunity for change on the horizon. The Water Bill is currently passing through Parliament, with campaigners rightly calling for an absolute end to raw sewage

dumps, full funding for the Environment Agency, and total transparency in reporting by water companies. If you cherish our local environment, please consider contacting our MP to share your thoughts. Our river is a beautiful, life-giving gift that connects Twynning to the wider world. Let us work together to protect it, ensuring it remains a source of health and pride for generations to come.

Revd Canon Nick Davies MA, MTh (Fr Nick)
Vicar of Tewkesbury with
Walton Cardiff & Twynning

.....

Editor’s note:

SafeAvon is a project by Tewkesbury and District Friends of the Earth established in 2023, which monitors pollution in Warwickshire Avon, and its tributaries. Over 90 volunteers track nitrate and phosphate levels at 40 sites from Stratford Upon Avon to Tewkesbury. Twynning Parish Council have been funding testing of the Avon’s water at Twynning. Results from the testing can be used in evidence to improve water quality. For further details or to volunteer please contact Geoff Sallis, Tewkesbury Friends of the Earth, T: 07774 675162 E: geoffsallis@btinternet.com

Cubs and Scouts

Group – 2nd Twyning Scout Group – Ian Palmer – theianpalmer@gmail.com

The Scout Association have just launched their strategy for the Scout Movement through to 2035 which is to make every Scout Group a “Place to Belong” with the purpose to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Volunteers are fundamental to the success of Scouting in Twyning. We urgently need a new Treasurer as Libby is stepping down at the end of this term and we need further adult leaders especially in the Cub Section with Camilla also stepping down.



Cubs – Age 8 to 10 (Thursday 18:15) – Euan Neill – d1scowing@yahoo.co.uk

Organised by Liz Orchard, this year had a wintry start with the joint sections winter camp near Pen-y-fan in Wales. Ten Cubs challenged themselves by going caving; followed new skills and building bridges between different age groups.

Six new Cubs joined this term – which meant time learning about Scouting and gave our new Sixers and Seconders some practice at leading with new games. The highlight was the highly co-operative game of Kinball – three teams keeping a giant beach ball from hitting the ground. The Cubs also earned their Scientists badge, with experiments inflating balloons with yeast – to learning how exercise affects heart-rate. And a treasure hunt saw us to Easter.

We then went on another camp in early April, to the beautiful Wye Valley – with Cubs to experiencing basic camping in tents. With a walk, boat-trip, fire-lighting and real rock-climbing making up for awakening to ice on the tents! We are now headed into summer, and more activities on the Green and at TRAC.



Scouts – Age 10½ to 14 (Thursday 19:15) – Matthew Wills – mattwills85@yahoo.com

We began with a focus on youth leadership and planning, as Patrol and Assistant Patrol Leaders came together to shape the programme for the months ahead. A highlight of the term was the Chef Activity Badge. Scouts planned, prepared and cooked two main meals as well as puddings. These evenings were great fun, helping Scouts to build confidence and independence in the kitchen.

Scouts also took part in the ever-popular Narrowboat weekend. Skills learnt during the Chef Badge helped them plan and cook all meals, including mini pizzas, pasta carbonara and a classic fry-up. Scouts worked towards the Power Coxswain Badge, safely operating a narrowboat and navigate locks along the Grand Union Canal.

Four Scouts took part in the annual Shire Hike challenge walk in the Malverns, navigating a 13km route and demonstrating excellent teamwork and determination.

After half term, the focus shifted to First Aid. Scouts learned essential first aid life skills such as bandaging, treating minor injuries and responding to different injury scenarios. The term finished with an Easter-themed scavenger hunt around the village, combining problem-solving and teamwork to find the Easter prize.

Ian Palmer

All for one – village!

Many thanks to everyone who came along to our May production of ‘The Three Musketeers’. The many different scene changes were ably managed by director Phil Hodge with the technical and backstage crew.

Millie and Maisy Bartlam, together with Amber Parkinson brought lots of energy to the production as Athos, Aramis, and Porthos, and Rose Essex was a dashing D’Artagnan.

There aren’t always suitable parts for young people but we include them whenever possible. Supporting them, the more familiar ‘Players’ – complete with dodgy French accents!

Our social calendar continues through the summer but we’ll be gathering together again in September with rehearsals for the next show. The dates for your diary are 3rd, 4th, 5th December. Tickets will be available through our website: www.twyningplayers.org

We welcome new people who would like to be on stage or help backstage. Get in touch for more information.

Carol Chapman,
Secretary, Twyning
Players

T: 01684 293527

E: mail@cchapman.co.uk

Interested in your own stall at the fête?

Please get in touch and let us know your ideas so we can avoid duplicate stalls and allocate space. The fête is a fantastic opportunity to raise funds for your chosen cause. We simply ask that 10% of your takings is donated to TRAC. All proceeds help maintain Twyning’s excellent sports and play facilities.

Competition Schedule for the fête

- Under 5s: • A metre of bunting • A cress head in an eggshell • “A Monster” – made from any materials
- Ages 5–8: • “Bedazzled and Fabulous” – craft item
- Decorated plate – Royal Theme
- Ages 9–12: • “Bedazzled and Fabulous” – craft item
- Three decorated cupcakes

Open Classes

Food & Drink:

- Jar of jam (any fruit except strawberry) • Chutney (any variety) • Jar of honey (minimum 1/2lb) • Fruit wine or other infused spirit • Speciality homemade bread • Four Scotch eggs • Five pieces of shortbread • Three cheese scones • Citrus Drizzle Cake (2lb loaf tin) • Victoria Sandwich

Arts & Crafts:

- Painting or drawing (any genre) • Knitted or crocheted item made within the last 12 months • Handmade invitation

Fruit & Vegetables:

- Pair of cucumbers • Dish of five tomatoes (will be tasted!) • ‘5 a Day’ – collection from your garden • Three stalks of rhubarb • ‘Little & Large’ – biggest and smallest of the same vegetable

Photography (A4 prints):

- Black & White • Trees / Forest • Landscape • Anything Goes • ‘Life Through My Lens’ • Floral • Special floral arrangement – set and judged by Hans Haverkamp.

FLOWER MEADOW – Create a design which expresses the feeling of a meadow. Keywords: airiness, layering (different heights), creativity (clever use of colours and materials. Maximum space 50 x 50cm, any height.

Challenge Cup awarded to the first-place winner.

Scarecrow Competition

Theme: Scarecrow of the Future

Entry forms will be available from the Village Shop.
Enquiries: Lorna Herold T: 294292

LOCAL GROUPS, CLUBS AND FACILITIES

Ann Townend Hall Church End

Contact Becky Hallett
T: 01684 275128
E: anntownendhall@gmail.com
Seating for up to 60 people
for children's parties, family
gatherings and all manner of
events. Complete with kitchen,
tableware and drop down screen
for films. Charged per hour.

Bredon Guides

Bredon
E: bredonguides@gmail.com
For girls aged 10-14. Thursday
meetings at Bredon Village Hall.
Skills building, event participation
and games are all part of this
friendly group's activities.

Children's Society

Contact Lorna Herald
E: lherold@btinternet.com
Help and activities to support
vulnerable children.

Explorer Scouts

Contact Dan Orchard
E: dan@twynning.net
For ages 14-18
Tuesday evening meetings.
Mounting walking, caving,
climbing, bushcraft and
marathons are just some of the
more hard-core activities on offer.
So are posh dinners and quizzes!

The Friendship Group

Contact Hilary Caudle
T: 07770 571755
Support and friendship for
bereaved people. We arrange
meetings, lunches and quiz nights.

The Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene

Church End
Rev'd. Canon Nicholas Davies
E: vicar@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk

Tewkesbury Cricket Club

Gander Lane, Tewkesbury GL20 5PG
www.tewkesbury.play-cricket.com
Contact Hilary Caudle
T: 07770 571755
E: hilary@owlsend.co.uk
E: enquiries@tewkesburycc.co.uk
Men's, women's and junior cricket
teams. Welcoming anyone who
wants to play cricket. Venues in
Tewkesbury and Twynning.

TRAC

Contact Lorna Herald
E: lherold@btinternet.com
Fantastic new playground, football
pitch and tennis courts on Kilmore
Lane.

Twynning Bridge Club

Contact Irene Fort
T: 01386 553605
Hone your card skills with ace
players at Anne Townsend Hall on
Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Twynning Chapel

Contact Emily Hastings
T: 07966 684065
E: emily@actinguptheatre.co.uk

Twynning Community Project Twynning Men's Shed Twynning Sister Shed Twynning Community Gardeners

Contact Bill O'Dell
E: hello@twynningmensshed.co.uk
Various activities bringing people
together in the village. Meet new
friends whilst learning new skills.

Twynning Cubs

Contact Euan Neill
E: d1scowing@yahoo.co.uk
Weekly Thursday evening
meetings for 8-10 year olds.
Activities include camping,
cooking skills, hiking, games and
generally having fun!

Twynning Over 60s Lunch Club

Contact Judith Allen
T: 01684 292123 M: 07817 984737
Make new friends and meet old
ones at the club's Friday lunches –
without having to do the washing
up!

Twynning Players

Contact Carol Chapman
T: 01684 293527
A long established amateur
dramatic society with two
productions each year – in May
and December. Always on the
lookout for new members to join
our society.

Twynning Playgroup

Contact Elle Grindley
E: twynningplaygroup@gmail.com
Daycare at Village Twynning
Hall with activities supporting
learning, creativity and curiosity.
With arranged visits to local
attractions.

Twynning Probus Club

Contact John Ridley
E: johnlridley@hotmail.com
Sean Betteridge
E: seanbetteridge@hotmail.com
Meets weekly on Monday
mornings at Ann Townend Hall for
inspirational talks on interesting,
informative subjects. Both men
and women welcome.
www.probusonline.org/longdon

Twynning Tennis Club

E: twynningtennisclub@gmail.com
Located on the TRAC site. Run by
volunteers living in the village,
the site provides facilities and
activities for the whole village.
We have two specially dedicated
floodlit courts, which were
resurfaced recently. During our
busier times, we also have access
to TRAC's third court.

2nd Twynning Scout Group

Contact Ian Palmer
E: theianpalmer@gmail.com

Twynning Scouts

Contact Matthew Wills
E: mattwills85@yahoo.com
For ages 10½-14. Thursday evening
meetings. Organised camping,
hikes, competitions and many
other outdoor activities.

Twynning Short Mat Bowls Club

Contact Fred, T: 07885 901607
Malcolm, T: 07981 473504
John, T: 07522 827454
Social, mildly competitive games
at this well equipped club. Meets
Monday afternoons throughout
the year at the Village Hall.

Twynning Sports Club

Puckrup Ground, Twynning
Contact Pete Healey or Hilary
Caudle
WhatsApp 07949 498576
E: petehealey@btinternet.com

Twynning Tigers

Contact Peter Hadley
E: twynningtigers@gmail.com
Grassroots footy on the TRAC field
for youngsters aged 4-11 years.
New members welcome.

Twynning Village Hall

Contact Maggie Ball
T: 01684 292550
Lovely hall with equipped
kitchen, seating and raised stage.
Bar available by arrangement.
Charged per hour/day.

Twynning WI

E: twynningwi22@gmail.com
A very friendly group of ladies
who meet the second Tuesday of
each month in the Village Hall
at 7.30pm. We organise guest
speakers, Scrabble and book clubs,
social events and activities.
New members and visitors are
always very welcome.

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Beauty at the Barn

www.beautyatthebarn.com
T: 01684 275569
E: teresa@beautyatthebarn.com
CACI Non Surgical Facials, Indian
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Facials.

Eaubaby Swimming

M: 07733 308939
E: info@eaubaby.co.uk
www.eaubaby.co.uk
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Teaching at The Moretons, Bredon,
Tewkesbury, Bettridge School,
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College, Moreton in Marsh.

Gloss Fireaction

www.glossfireaction.co.uk
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extinguishers. 50+ second usage
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www.lewiscritchleyarchitects.co.uk
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E: lmc@lewiscritchleyarchitects.co.uk
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Lisu Adye Conservation – Restoration of art on paper & archives

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E: lisu@paperconserve.co.uk
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Club, Tewkesbury
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mini-golf
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E: golf.puckrup@hilton.com
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E: Freya@vital-accounts.co.uk
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helping small businesses with
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T: 01242 300054 M: 07989 535924
E: eddie@westcountrymarquees.
co.uk
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or business within the Parish and
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next Bulletin please email details to
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