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February- March 2026

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Bomere Heath and District News

Is a joint publication managed by the Methodist and Anglican churches of Bomere Heath, Leaton and Albrighton with Battlefield.

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Bomere Heath and District News

February- March 2026

Spring is on the way!

Welcome to this edition of the Bomere Heath and District News! We hope you enjoy our new colour centre-page. Please do also take a look at the Fun Fundraiser poster on the back page. Last year, this event enabled us to break-even so that we can keep delivering the magazine free of charge. With new houses going up, we'll need to increase our print-run, so an extra bit of fundraising is all the more important. Do support the day- and remember you can also make a donation to the cost of mag if you'd like to (bank details below).

As last year, we will have a plant stall, selling outdoor plants, shrubs, tomato and other veg seedlings. If you have any plants to donate, we would be so grateful- do just bring them along on the day (11th April). Our treasurer, Caroline Watson, will be running the stall, so if you've any queries please get in touch with her (07831 661000).

If you have anything that could go on our bottle stall or raffle, or if you would like to help on the day, please do contact Pat Hall or Hannah Lins.

Our next edition of the Bomere Heath and District News will be April-May, with a copy deadline of 16th March.

With thanks from
The team at Bomere Heath and District News

If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the mag, here are the bank details:

Bomere Heath Parish News

Sort Code. 30-90-89

Account No 46107060

CHURCH SERVICES

Anyone is welcome at any of our services- we are here for you!
Each one lasts about an hour, and our service times are below:

Date	**Bomere Methodist Church** the redbrick church at the top of the bank on Baschurch Road, SY4 3PN	**Holy Trinity, Leaton** the parish church- Berwick Road, SY4 3AP	**The Mission Church** the white building in the centre of the village- Shrewsbury Road, SY4 3PN	**St John the Baptist, Albrighton** the sandstone church opposite Albrighton Hall Hotel- SY4 3HP
1st February	10.30am	10.30am united service at Shrawardine for Candlemas		
8th February	10.30am	10.45am	9am 3pm- Loopy Sunday	No service
15th February	10.30am	10.45am	No service	9.15am
18th February		*11am- Ash Wednesday service at Bicton*		
22nd February	10.30am	10.45am	9am	No service
1st March	10.30am	10.45am	No service	9.15am
8th March	10.30am	10.45am	9am 3pm- Loopy Sunday	No service
15th March	10.30am	10.45am	No service	9.15am
22nd March	10.30am	10.45am	9am	No service
29th March	10.30am	10.30am united service at Montford for Palm Sunday 3pm- Forest Church at Huffley		

To find out more about the wider life of the local churches, go to our websites:

www.shropshireandmarches.org.uk

www.severnloopparishes.org.uk

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TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17th 2026
SHROVE TUESDAY

QUIZ AND PANCAKE EVENING

MISSION CHURCH, BOMERE HEATH
7 for 7.30pm

Tickets £5 from 290637, 290604 or from church

FRIDAY 6th MARCH 2026

PAINT A POT EVENING

MISSION CHURCH BOMERE HEATH 7pm

£12 to include a pot to paint, materials to paint with and refreshments

Maybe a gift for Mothering Sunday, a Birthday present or a gift for yourself.

Please give your name with money to Pat Hall, 01939 290637

EXCERPTS FROM THE PRESCOTT SURGERY PATIENT NEWSLETTER January/February 2026

Proposed new housing developments in Baschurch & neighbouring villages

The Patient group continues to work transparently with the practice leadership team, the parish council and councillor Robert Jones, and all other relevant people of influence. The patient group and I attended the Boningale developer's event at the end of 2025. I had opportunity, along with Cllr Robert Jones to ask a number of relevant and challenging questions of the developers. The Patient Group continues to champion the need for additional surgery space as a rural practice both for the benefit of the surgery and for patient parking, which remains a priority.

Medication Delivery Service

The medication delivery service was introduced in March 2020 to ensure that patients were able to obtain their medication during the Covid-19 lockdown(s). At the end of the pandemic the service provided at collection points in villages was extended into a permanent arrangement to support those who have limited access to transport to be able to travel to the surgery. Since then, however, many patients who have transport, or visit the surgery frequently or who are local to the surgery have made regular use of the service. We are now at capacity, however, and are in a position whereby we have several housebound patients who have requested the service, but we have been unable to accommodate them, so we need to make changes. As we are not a commercial business, we are unable to charge for deliveries, and we therefore need to ensure that it is provided to those who need it most. This is not a service that is funded by the NHS. It is funded by the doctors.

From January 2026 we will re-focus the service on those who are housebound and/or have no transport to be able to travel to the surgery. These changes are timed to coincide with the successful introduction of Pharmabox, our automated medication collection box which can be accessed 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.

All deliveries from w/c 5th January 2026, now take place on Wednesdays.

The cut-off time for ordering your medication for delivery will be 4:00pm on the previous Thursday. Requests received after this time will not be delivered until the following week.

Delivery Collection Point Timetable (from Wednesday 7th January)

- **Bomere Heath Village Hall: 11:30am**
- **Nescliffe Village Hall: 1:30pm**
- **Ruyton-X1-Towns: 2:30pm**

Doorstep deliveries to housebound patients will take place in between the deliveries to collection points. We can no longer deliver to patients living in Baschurch unless the patient is housebound**.**

To make use of the Pharmabox collection box you need to register. Please collect a registration from the surgery or download and complete the form from our website https://prescottsurgery.co.uk/medication-collection-box/.

Thank you for your support with these changes.
Nick Storey – Business Manager, Prescott Surgery

Bomere Heath Gardening Club

Meeting to be held in the Wale Room
7.30.p.m. on Thursday, 26th February 2026
Talk by Gareth Manning
Evolution of Japanese Garden Design

Meeting to be held in the Wale Room
7.30. p.m. on Thursday, 26th March 2026
Talk by Adam
A Bulb for Every Day of the Year
Visitors £5.00. to include tea/coffee + Biscuit

From our local churches…
The Fast before the Feast
Revd. Hannah Lins, Severn Loop Parishes

Have you got rhythm?! We've evolved with changing seasons, so the ability to adapt to a changing environment is in us somewhere… even if it's buried very deep these days! In a society where we can generally get whatever we want whenever we want, we can so quickly become disconnected from our own ecology- merrily guzzling raspberries at Christmas and seeking sunshine in far-flung places to stave off those dark winter nights. It's easy to forget what it's like to keep in step with the provision of the seasons out of necessity.

Many of the fasting and feasting traditions of religion are born out of the biological and psychological ways of coping with the hard and the easy times of year. A winter festival like Christmas is a real gift when hope feels thin and we are ground-down by the lack of light. Easter comes with new life- buds and lambs and eggs- as we look forward to the verdancy of Spring. We know this well, but what we've perhaps forgotten, is the bit before- Advent before Christmas and Lent before Easter. These are times of 'fasting'. Aside from 'dry January' times of fasting are largely absent in our culture- possibly because they are much harder to commodify?!

I want to put in a word for those times when we deliberately retreat from the abundance of a feast, and instead give things up and choose to live more simply, in sympathy for those pre-industrial days when we had to hold-back if we were to have enough to keep us going the whole year round. Times like this also reconnect us with that sense of rhythm (so fundamental to who we are) and help us to see it in nature too, to better understand the gifts (and the absences) of each season. Incidentally, it also helps us to spot the distress that a changing climate is already bring-ing- things flowering differently, or earlier, certain species under threat…

This year, Lent begins on 18th February. Even that is a rhythmic decision- Easter Sunday the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox. All that long preamble about fasting and feasting was just a way of saying let's notice Lent! There are all sorts of 'fasts' that people do- it can be giving up certain kinds of food, but it can also be fasting from social media, phones, driving short distances… whatever we might do, doing *something* gives us back a bit of rhythm. Let's go for it!

Tales from the vets- Anfield flu By David Jagger

Sheila lived just off Stanley Park in Liverpool, a stone's throw from Anfield, and she had 8 cats. They lived in her kitchen and living room and were free to roam via the cat flap in her back door, which gave access into her back yard and thence to the wider world. Her house was immaculate with no smell from its feline occupants and she was justifiably proud of her newly decorated kitchen.

As soon as I stepped out of my car in Sheila's street I was greeted by a bright young Anfield boy: "watch ya car mista". Being well versed in Liverpool street parking law I paid up the going rate of 50p (early 1970s so not to be sneezed at). My boss impressed on me the importance of paying up- if you don't, you will find a nasty deep scratch all along your paintwork when you return. However, payment means he will protect your car.

The minute Sheila opened her front door to me I was aware of a cacophony of sneezing coming from her kitchen. A distraught Sheila showed me in. All 8 of her beautiful cats were crouched on the kitchen floor, necks extended and continually sneezing and coughing, their noses and eyes caked in horrible discharge. Cat Flu was constantly circulating in the feline population of cities such as Liverpool. A significant proportion of these cats were unvaccinated. Sheila certainly could not afford to vaccinate all of hers.

The scene in Sheila's kitchen was one of abject misery. These cats could not eat and even drinking was difficult. They all really needed Intensive Care. Influenza being a virus does not respond to antibiotics and anyway oral medication would be beyond Sheila's capabilities. These cats needed nursing and anti-inflammatory pain killers.

I was at my wits end when I remembered something my grandmother swore by for head colds and flu. Friars Balsam in hot water as an inhalant. These cats were not going to put up with inhaling from a bowl with a towel over their heads. The answer: a large saucepan of Friars Balsam solution simmering on the stove in the kitchen over night with the window closed. Sheila, also a fan of Friar's Balsan, readily agreed and the cats spent the next night inhaling.

I rang Sheila next morning. She was delighted to tell me that all 8 cats were wonderfully better first thing and had asked for breakfast having not eaten for several days. The not so good news was that Sheila's expensive new kitchen wall paper was quietly peeling away from her walls and ceiling.

"We've had a tip-off that the sermon is going to over-run again."

BOMERE HEATH LADIES CLUB

Bomere Heath Ladies Club meets on the first Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm in the Red Room in the Village Hall (unless we are out on trips etc). We enjoy trips, speakers and quiz evenings amongst other events.

Why not join us - our annual subscriptions are £15 and £2 at each meeting attended.

Why not come along and give us a trial. Guests £4 per meeting

Tuesday 3rd February: AGM

Tuesday 3rd March: Get together at the Bridgwater Arms. Table Booked for 7.30pm

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REVS has been meeting at Leaton Church for a whole year! Every month, on the third Saturday, 10am- noon. Whether you have a classic car or not, all are welcome. Here is a snapshot of what it's about….

Cars are welcomed in and directed to a parking spot. People are then free to mingle and chat, and to go into church for bacon or sausage butties, and a hot drink. There's no charge, though folk are free to make a donation. Adam Gompertz, founder of REVS, writes:

'So what is REVS all about then? Well, cars is probably the obvious answer, but there is a whole lot more to it than just 4 wheels and an engine. REVS is really about creating community; it's about bringing people together who love automotive things but may also want a place to meet. Just as old cars have stories, so do people, and we want to make a space where people can feel safe, welcomed and valued, and so feel able to share their story with us. REVS is also a place where people can ask questions about faith, God, the Church – even if they don't agree. REVS is about belonging to something, and it is open to anyone whether they have a collection of cars, one car, a car poster on their wall, or the memory of a family car they went on holiday in. In truth, REVS is for anyone.'

John Morris, who comes along regularly, says 'I just like coming to see the variety of cars and very friendly, lovely people!'

Do come along one Saturday morning if you'd like to! The next meetings are on 21st February and 21st March.

Refreshments being served by Margaret Dady and Katherine Wood (left).

Paul Humphreys arrives in his BMW M3 V8 (2011)… on his birthday! (below).

Alastair Wood, who coordinates the Shrewsbury group (below left) and some of the helpers- Alex Aldous, Malcolm Dady and Len Howes (below right).

Below- David Leake, John Morris, Terry Leach and Raymond Owen with an Austin Big Seven (1938) and a Ford Model T Sedan (1926).

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The Darkling Thrush By Thomas Hardy

I leant upon a coppice gate
When Frost was spectre-grey,
And Winter's dregs made desolate
The weakening eye of day.
The tangled bine-stems scored the sky
Like strings of broken lyres,
And all mankind that haunted nigh
Had sought their household fires.

The land's sharp features seemed to be
The Century's corpse outleant,
His crypt the cloudy canopy,
The wind his death-lament.
The ancient pulse of germ and birth
Was shrunken hard and dry,
And every spirit upon earth
Seemed fervourless as I.

At once a voice arose among
The bleak twigs overhead
In a full-hearted evensong
Of joy illimited;
An aged thrush, frail, gaunt, and small,
In blast-beruffled plume,
Had chosen thus to fling his soul
Upon the growing gloom.

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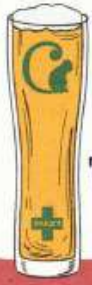

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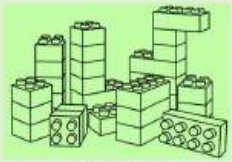
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