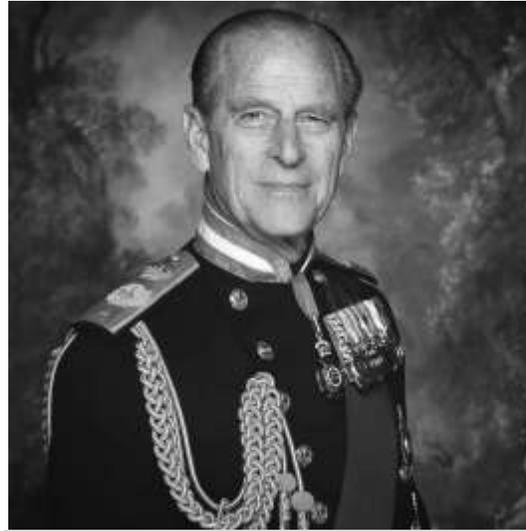


OPENING HOURS**MONDAY - FRIDAY****09.00 - 14.00****16.00 - 18.30****SATURDAY & SUNDAY****09.00 - 12.30**

The Shop

At Bromsberrow

POST OFFICE OPEN**TUESDAY & THURSDAY****9.30 - 11.30 am****APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER****HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE PHILIP,**
DUKE OF EDINBURGH

It was with deep sorrow that Her Majesty the Queen announced the death of her beloved husband at Windsor Castle on Friday 9th April. The Duke of Edinburgh, the longest-serving royal consort in British history, was at the Queen's side for more than six decades of her reign. Speaking at Downing Street, the Prime Minister said that the Duke had inspired the lives of countless young people and had earned the affection of generations here in the United Kingdom, across the Commonwealth and around the world.

Redmarley Church had previously decided they would have a condolence book in the Church but bearing in mind the pandemic and Government guidelines, a decision has been taken by the Diocese not to allow this to happen. Therefore, they have had to rethink how they could provide a facility whereby everyone could contribute in a way that was appropriate for them. Therefore, the following alternatives have been put in place:

- People would be encouraged to visit the official online site and leave their condolence message there - <https://www.royal.uk/condolence>.
- However, if you would rather the message appeared in a more personal way, Hilary Morton will have the condolence book at home and you would be very welcome to visit her garden to write your message in it. Please contact her at redmarleyforge@gmail.com to arrange a time.
- If you do not have the facility to go online, please write your message at home and leave it in the church on the table. Hilary Morton will collect and put your message on the official site.

SHOP MEMBERSHIP

We are a Members' organisation (currently 66) and it would be good if some of our many supporters would take the step to become a member. It can be done for as little as £1 and all details plus application form are on the website. As a member you receive details of the Shop business situation and have a vote at our AGM (hopefully face-to-face this year, once allowed). This allows you to elect the members of the Management Committee or additionally to stand yourself. 2020 was something of a "bumper year" in that we gained 20 members. It would be good if we could do as well, or better, this year. Each month I send the newsletter to 50 supporters so I'm ready to be inundated!

IT PAYS TO BE STUPID?

I don't get out much! On a recent trip I returned to pay the parking fee. I tried to feed my ticket in to assess the fee. Various warning messages were shown, "Cannot read ticket", "Wrong way round", "Push ticket further". With some satisfaction I totally inserted the ticket at which point I realised that it was the credit card slot. There was a help button to push, which connected me with a very uncomplaining and sympathetic voice – I felt it wasn't his first call of the day. I was pleased to see him arrive, since the crowd behind me were becoming restless (the only other machine available was broken!!). He removed my ticket, by which time the machine was depicting a robbery. Being unable to feed it into the machine he suggested I depart via the left-hand lane which was free. From our time in Scotland we learnt about playing the "daft laddie" – it seems our stay was both enjoyable and profitable!

MEANWHILE AT THE SHOP

With so much going on in the shop (painting & decorating, refurbishment, replacements, electrics, fund applications etc.) we now operate a "tracking" spreadsheet to help us stay on top of everything. It currently runs to five pages. We are making progress, however, as we know that Boris' roadmap will allow us to use the hairdresser and pub garden from 12th April to be followed by reduced restrictions in May and June. That said we should be getting prepared with a programme of events for the second half of the year – would anybody(s) like to make a start on doing that?

NEW STOCK AT THE SHOP

We have locally sourced bedding plants back again in stock – lovely healthy plants. We also have Stokes sauces in stock – lots of different flavours - and Just Rachel's ice creams.



We are also looking for people organisations to sponsor some new benches as we will be able to open our cafe (outdoors) as soon as our kitchen refit has been completed. We will have a new menu with homemade quiches, cakes etc. Please contact Marie at The Shop if you are able to help.



DOT AND MAV

“Exciting times, Dot!” “What Mav?”

“The new kitchen Dot!” “What?...it’s only seems like two minutes ago that we fitted the old kitchen!” “I know Dot but it’s been seven years believe it or not!”

“And Mav, do you remember when we wheeled all the original shelves and fridges down the road from the old shop on Doug Morgan’s trolley, he was a good support.” “Yes of course Dot, and then poor dear Barbara, she was such a help to you when you were doing the accounts?”

“She was Mav, so sad and tragic, and we’ve lost other good friends too, dear Bonnie, what a character and a good laugh.”

“Yes, I know Dot, but we’ve had Easter and Spring is here, new life, new beginnings,” “the end of lockdown and a new kitchen Mav! “Exactly, look to the future Dot!”

“Hope everyone had a good Easter.”

COUNTRYFILE – DAFFODIL WALK

Did anyone see the Daffodil Walk on Countryfile on Easter Sunday? It looked stunning and showed how to explore the pretty countryside, orchards and woodland surrounding the village of Dymock on this circular walk in the Forest of Dean.

The trail runs for about 9 miles through Dymock Woods and Kempley Green with lots of wild Daffodils to look out for in early Spring. Also look out for bluebells and butterflies in the section through Dymock Woods. To extend the walk you could further explore the woods, which includes Hay Wood and Queen's Wood. The Poet's Path also runs past Dymock and you could pick this up and enjoy a walk along the River Leadon to Ketford. See the link below for further information.

www.gps-routes.co.uk/routes/home.nsf/RoutesLinksWalks/daffodil-way-walking-route



JENNY'S MONTHLY QUIZ

MARCH QUIZ

1. How do you make the number 5 an even number without addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division?

Answer: Remove the two letters 'F' and 'E' from the word 'FIVE' and you have IV – number 4 in Roman numerals.

2. Can you write down eight eights so that they add up to one thousand?

Answer: Drop the 's' from the letter 'eight' i.e. $888 + 88 + 8 + 8 + 8 = 1000$

3. How many sides does a circle have?

Answer: Two - The inside and the outside

4. How many times can you subtract the number 5 from 25?

Answer: Once, because after you subtract it's not 25 anymore

I didn't get any right, so how did you do?

APRIL QUIZ – (easy one this month!!)

1. There are three doors in front of you – you have to go through one of them. Behind the first door, a fire is raging; a gunman lurks behind the second one; and behind the third one, there is a lion that hasn't eaten in three years. Which door would you choose?
2. There is a bathtub filled with water in front of you. You have a spoon, a cup and a bucket. What is the fastest way to empty the bath?
3. What can you see in a minute, twice in a moment and never in a thousand years?
4. There are five sisters in a room: Ann is reading a book, Margaret is cooking, Kate is playing chess and Marie is doing the laundry. What is the fifth sister doing?
5. What question can you never answer yes to?
6. What is always in front of you but cannot be seen?
7. What can you break even if you never pick it up or touch it?
8. If there are three apples and you take away two, how many apples do you have?

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATES

Still more scams going around and a list of how to spot them is given below.

1. The send's email address does not match the website address of the organisation it claims it is representing. Roll your mouse pointer over the sender's name to see its true address.
2. The email doesn't use your name – it says something like “Dear Customer” instead.
3. There is a sense of urgency asking you to act immediately.
4. There is a prominent website link which at first glance looks like the proper address but has one letter missing or is spelt wrong.
5. There is a request for personal information.
6. There is poor grammar and spelling mistakes.
7. The entire text of the email is contained within an image rather than in the usual text format and the image contains an embedded hyperlink to a bogus site. Again, roll your mouse pointer over the link to reveal its true destination – BUT DON'T CLICK IT!!

Popular scams at the moment are from Nationwide, Test & Trace, HMRC, EE, Lloyds Bank, Amazon etc etc. We need to be one step ahead of these scammers. Look at the actual company website and send the scam email to their Phishing Departments and then delete. Below is an email supposedly from Royal Mail – looks pretty authentic but it is not!!



Or, you could register with the Which Scam Alert website – www.campaigns.which.co.uk



APRIL RAINDROPS

by Lenore Hetrick

Dance, April raindrops!
Tap your wee feet.
The seeds will awaken
When they hear that glad beat.
"Grow, seedlings, grow!"
Let your tapping feet cry.
"Come up, little seedlings,
And see the wide sky!"
Now, raindrops, tap harder
For a moment or two.
Some seed with his winter nap
May not be through.
And a brisk pitter pat
Over this sleepyhead
Will make him come tumbling
From his underground bed.
Dance, April raindrops!
Tap your wee feet!
No seed can resist
That merry, loud beat.





AN OBITUARY ENTITLED '**COMMON SENSE**' PRINTED IN THE LONDON TIMES

Today we mourn the passing of an old friend, **Common Sense**, who has been with us for many years.

No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

1. Knowing when to come in out of the rain.
2. Why the early bird gets the worm.
3. Life isn't always fair.
4. And, maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge). His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentional but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6 year old boy charged with sexual harrasment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live when criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense finally gave u the will to live after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death:

- By his parents: Truth and Trust
- By his wife: Discretion
- By his daughter: Responsibility; and
- By his son: Reason

He is survived by his five stepchildren:

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else is to Blame
- I'm a Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

Not many attended his funeral because so few realised he was gone. If you still remember him, please pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing!!

THE RESULTS ARE IN FROM THE 'BIG GARDEN 'BIRD WATCH' 2021

Did you take part – results are as follows of the most spotted birds in our gardens.

