



# autumn 2018 newsletter

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## Baldwin's back! ...thanks to the Civic Society

**M**ore than seventy years after his death, Bewdley's most famous son is back on his pedestal. The much-loved, three-time Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin has been honoured by the unveiling of an imposing statue at the heart of his home town.

The Autumn sun was at its brightest; the flags fluttered; the band played; the Royal Duke ceremoniously unveiled Martin Jennings' magnificent, larger-than-life statue; the bells rang out; the crowd cheered and the great man was revealed, pipe in hand, gazing possessively down Load Street towards the bridge...looking every inch *the Worcestershire man*...as he often described himself.

This is undoubtedly the Stanley Baldwin who the Mayor of the day said was "loved and worshipped."

As Society chairman Richard Perrin said in his introduction, the erection of the statue - more than 70 years since his death - was overdue but added: "What matters is, we have done it...due to the people of Bewdley and Worcestershire, who gave the project such wonderful support. Raising nearly all the money from the general public has needed much work and principally, we have the Civic Society to thank for that."

Formally unveiling the statue, HRH The Duke of Gloucester said statues played a key role in reminding us of our history and it was fitting that Stanley Baldwin should be recognised in his home town which he had represented in Parliament for so many years.

The Civic Society president Beatrice Grant, the great-granddaughter of Stanley, said it was wonderful to see so many people here in Bewdley embracing the statue project and revealed also present were what she called "a pack of Baldwin descendants from the age of 89 to 16."



Photo COLIN HILL

STANLEY  
BALDWIN  
1867-1947  
THREE TIMES  
PRIME MINISTER



**LATEST on the missing bollards:  
They're still missing!**

The work of a Prime Minister is  
the loneliest job in the world  
*Stanley Baldwin*

**See also  
Pages 2-4**





Sculptor Martin Jennings poses before the statue with the Earl Baldwin and HRH The Duke of Gloucester

Introduction to the unveiling by RICHARD PERRIN  
Chair of the Society

## Proud to boast he was our Society's founding President

This monument to Stanley Baldwin, the town's most famous son is overdue. To put that in perspective, we are just outside the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth and some 70 years since his death in 1947.



What matters is we have done it! **'We've done it!'** And who do we have to thank for this? Of course, it's all of you here today and in particular the people of Bewdley and of Worcestershire who have given this project such wonderful support...and a big thank you to all of you who have come to witness this historic event.

I dare say some of you may be here having heard Tom Watson's plug for us on Radio 4 yesterday morning. That just goes to show Baldwin was popular with MPs on both sides of the House.

Raising nearly all the necessary funds from the general public has indeed been a challenge and Bewdley Civic Society has been pleased to take ownership of the project.

Bewdley Civic Society was founded in 1944 and it has always been proud to boast that Stanley Baldwin was its founding President...appropriate since he had a love of preservation of the countryside and the encouragement of historical consciousness.

The Society has had many achievements but this statue is its greatest. I do hope if he is looking down on us today, he would agree. Modest man that he was, he might be a little embarrassed but we don't mind if he is: we are delighted to honour him here in the place of his birth.

## 'A pack of descendants'

Civic Society President Beatrice Grant is Baldwin's great-granddaughter



It is wonderful to see so many people here in Bewdley, embracing this statue project and to have with us a pack of descendants from the age of 89 to 16.

It was in 1925 that Stanley Baldwin was, on this very spot, receiving the Honorary Freedom of Bewdley. The streets were packed, people at every window, and buildings decorated with bunting and flags in honour of their distinguished son. The roar of applause and cheers was deafening when they saw his car come over the bridge to deliver him here.

Baldwin was not only Prime Minister of Great Britain at this time but also of an empire that stretched to all corners of the world.

But it was this corner of England that he held so fondly in his heart. As he mentioned on that day "I have assisted at many ceremonies during recent years but none calculated to touch the hidden springs of the heart more than this. I have never failed to find in my own country understanding, sympathy and support and even when life seems most difficult and the fences in front of one most un-climbable, one is apt to turn back in memory and in recollection to this peaceful spot by the side of the river in which one first drew (one's being) breath, and from the memory of which one is able to draw strength."

Baldwin was told, on receiving this honour, that the bestowal of the freedom "was accompanied by the affection and esteem of every man, woman and child in Bewdley and trusted that Baldwin would feel that, however small their tribute was, it came from hearts full of pride."

I think that this shows how strong Bewdley's affection was and still is towards the Baldwin family who gave so much to this town and surrounding areas.

Therefore, it is a befitting tribute to have the only statue of Baldwin here in Bewdley.

I would like to thank the statue appeal/fundraising committee for all their tireless work towards this project. What started off as a conversation between two people, soon galloped into a project full of ideas and organisational skills to deliver this venture.

I would also like to pay an enormous tribute to the sculptor, Martin Jennings, who took on this task. His work is very well-known throughout the country. I am sure you know his sculpture of John Betjeman at St Pancras Station that is now a celebrated London landmark.

Martin did so much research, looking through numerous photograph albums, talking to the family, enabling him to get a real feel of Baldwin.

Finally, I would like to thank HRH the Duke of Gloucester: I know that my family especially are very touched that you are unveiling the statue.



Among the VIP guests was Tom Watson, the deputy leader of the Labour Party. He sat alongside Conservative MP Mark Garnier and his wife and they happily exchanged selfies!



# BEWDLEY UNVEILED!



When the formalities of the ceremonial occasion were over, then was the time for our beloved town to be unveiled!

The cheers and clapping of the crowds gave way to the warmth of the welcome offered by the people of Bewdley to HRH and all the other visiting dignitaries.

Led by the Mayor Councillor Roger Coleman, the Royal entourage embarked on what might have been a whistle-stop tour of Load Street but turned into a gentle meander in and out of the shops on both sides of the street.

There was time for a pint (*of apple juice, of course*) in the Real Ale Tavern and genuinely-interested enquiries and conversation in the flower-shop, the chemists, the charity shops with more time in the museum and the council offices as well. And there was time, too, to inspect the line-up of the local firemen and for en route chats with by-standers. This was Bewdley at its best.



## The Civic Society team

With chairman Richard Perrin and Secretary Barbara Longmore heavily involved in entertaining the 200 guests in the St George's Hall celebration, the stewarding of the event was led by Sharon Harvey, aided by executive members Chris Griffin, Ian Williams, Martin Guard & Jock Gallagher plus BCS members Peter Miller, Bill Goodall and Jim Ineson.





# Stages in the story of the statue...



Leaving the foundry



The hole in the ground: the site is prepared



The working group that has seen the statue from concept to fruition: Richard Perrin, Nigel Goodman, Barbara Longmore, Gay Adam, Beatrice Grant, the Earl Baldwin and Lady Baldwin. Chief fund-raiser Andrew Grant wasn't available when the photo was taken.



Lower Park - birthplace of Stanley Baldwin in 1867

Westminster toff or Bewdley man the pipe's the same!

**M**artin Jennings is one of the foremost sculptors of the day. Before the unveiling of his Baldwin, his most recent work was the towering figure of George Orwell (far right) - unveiled outside the BBC's Broadcasting House in London - earlier in the year.

A Fellow of the Royal Society of Sculptors, Martin lives and works in Oxford. He has been commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery, St Paul's Cathedral, the Palace of Westminster, the University of Oxford and other major institutions. His subjects include prominent figures from the worlds of politics, the military, royalty, academia, literature, industry, medicine and the law. The relationship between a work of art and its setting is, he says, always an important consideration when he conceives his designs: "You have to invent a pose and a way of representing the figure that gets to the essence of who that person was."

He has certainly achieved that with his forceful interpretation of Stanley Baldwin, the self-styled "man of Worcestershire" firmly rooted in his home town.

The Baldwin statue is 2.1 metres tall and stands on a .9 metre plinth. The inscription on the front of the plinth says simply: STANLEY BALDWIN 1867-1947  
Three times Prime Minister

## The sculptor and his sculptures

Martin with his famous John Betjeman figure in St Pancras Station (2010) and George Orwell outside the BBC's Broadcasting House in London (2018)





# Beautiful Bewdley 2

PHOTO Carol Mathieson



Just a dozen or so steps off Load Street is the exquisite garden created over forty painstaking years by retired solicitor Hugh Morgan. Hugh raised nearly £300 when he opened his masterpiece to an astonished public on one of the most glorious days of summer.





## Private Jack died on the 11th day of the 11th month

This is the grave of Private Jack Insull in St. Leonard's graveyard Ribbesford.

Jack served in both the Hampshire and Berkshire Regiments. He was the son of Rose Insull of 32, The Hollow, Bewdley, and the late Jack Insull.

His brother was Lance Corporal George Insull who served with Percy Whittington Carter in the 144 Company. Machine Gun Corps.

There is no evidence that Jack was wounded at the front and it seems more likely that he died of influenza or pneumonia before being repatriated.

Jack was 19 when he died on Armistice Day, November 11 1918. His grave is South West of the Church, if you wish to visit it.

It is generally assumed that Armistice Day marked the end of World War 1.

However the War was not yet over in East Africa with German General Paul von Lettow-Vorbeck still continuing his guerrilla operation against British, Belgian and Portuguese troops.

Finally he was told of the Armistice in Europe on November 14. He agreed to a cease fire and was ordered to march north to Abercorn in Northern Rhodesia (now Mbala in Zambia) to surrender his undefeated army and he did on November 25. **ROB LIMBRICK**



Sergeant Tom Lawrence as he appeared on the back of the playing-card celebrating his VC. He was the nine of hearts!



As he later became:  
Lieutenant-Colonel  
Thomas  
Lawrence VC

## A street named Lawrence

Local war hero Tom Lawrence was one of four VC winners celebrated by Wyre Forest District in a street-naming ceremony. He has given his name to Lawrence Grove (on the Silverwoods estate on the Stourport Road).

Tom Lawrence was a 26 years-old sergeant in the 17th Lancers when he won his medal "for gallantry in the face of the enemy" during the Boer War.

The citation says: *On August 7, 1900 when he saved the life of one of his comrades who had been shot and left trapped under a horse. He also kept the attacking Boers off until help arrived.*

Lawrence received his medal from King Edward VII in London 1902, during a review of colonial troops present for the king's coronation.

As a distinguished horseman, he was a member of the Great Britain eventing team at the 1912 Summer Olympics in Stockholm. Unfortunately he was not able to add to his distinguished medal collection. The Great Britain team failed to complete the event.

He later served in both World Wars and reached the rank of lieutenant-colonel. His VC is on display in the Imperial War Museum in London.



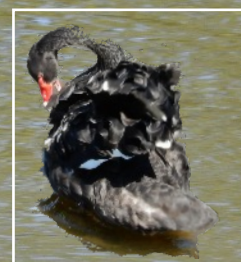
**The Newsletter is edited by Jock Gallagher:**  
articles, letters, comments and photographs are  
always welcome. Please email

**jyg@cix.co.uk**

**The Winter edition will be in mid-December**  
**The deadline for items will be December 2**



**Seagull on  
the rocks**



**Bewdley's  
black swan**



# Faces of the future



For the annual local history project, the Civic Society spent three days with students from Year 7 of the Bewdley School and 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre, working on their annual local history project. These heritage projects are designed to encourage the young people to take an interest and a pride in the history of the town and to develop their research, team-working and communication skills. This year's project focused on the history of education in Bewdley. The pupils visited the sites of buildings which were originally built as schools or had become educational institutions at some time in their history.

## September Lecture by Eric Davies

### The Wild Clee Hill

From Clee to heaven the beacon burns,  
The shires have seen it plain,  
From north and south the sign return  
And beacons burn again  
from Housman's *A Shropshire Lad*

We were treated to an excellent talk about the flora and fauna (with his nickname being Eric the Fish, we leave it to our members' acumen to deduce his daytime job!)

He began by saying that the Hill is not somewhere most local people tend to know apart from enjoying the lovely vistas on a sunny day en route to Ludlow.

This, I'm sure, rang true with many of us in the audience. It is partly due to the industry of stone-extraction rendering some areas unattractive and remaining so even years after workings cease in a particular area.

However this has resulted in a habitat in which wildlife can thrive, some of its flowers being rare nowadays in this country: causing enthusiasts to travel long distances in the hope of catching a glimpse of, for example, the beautiful marsh gentian (above).

Eric claimed not to be a photographer but his pictures were superb and a testament to hours of patient observation of the many birds to be found on the Clees.

They range from birds of prey such as peregrines (inset) to various LBJs (*little brown jobs*) such as meadow pipits and warblers. Eric did assure us though, that not all little brown jobs are boring and apparently the dunnoek (inset) has a great sex life, although he did not enlighten us further!

The area is also an important place for migrating birds to stop off on their migration so those such as ring ouzel can be spotted at the right time of the year too.

We all came away much better informed after an entertaining evening and grateful to Eric who had generously waived any fee for his talk.

Jenny Frow

At 540 metres (1,770 feet), Brown Clee Hill is the highest in Shropshire





# Glimpses of the past

Recollections of a Bewdley childhood by Richard Brown

As a child, I remember staying with parents and siblings at Nana Brown's in The Tannery House (20 Severn Side South).. I remember being shown the rope marks in these horse arches of Telford's bridge and given the explanations you set out in my father's article [*Summer Newsletter*].

It was my grand-father, Cyril Charles Brown (b1882) who was the last tannery manager. He was taken by a seizure in the back-bar of The George (right) in 1925. His body was carried back home by the tannery foreman - by the wonderful name of George Aurelius Septimus Marquis and others - on the back of the tall wooden settle that used to be by the left wall of the back-bar as you entered from the outer door.

Nana Brown is reputed to have given each of them a penny for their trouble.

My father - CCJB - used to say how amazing it was to watch his father take a whole tanned and cured cow hide and spread it out on the cutting table. After only a few brief moments of visual assessment and without any marking out of the hide, he would deftly cut out sections, depending on thickness, for shoe and boot soles, then the uppers and then the thinnest areas for cosmetic leather goods - with little or no waste whatsoever: a real master craftsman!



My cousin - Ollie Johnson (left) - was always the life and soul of any gathering! His summer jazz parties at his home towards the top of Park Lane were something else. Very boisterous. Very Boozy and sometimes just Bedlam but always very good natured!

Grandfather Brown had two younger brothers.

The youngest, Frederick Harvey Brown (b Bewdley 1889), served with The Queens Own Worcestershire Hussars at Gallipoli in the Great War. At the battle on Chocolate Hill (right), he received a *Blighty Wound* and was withdrawn to a rear field-dressing station then to be taken back down the line and sent home. But he suffered much more serious shrapnel wounds when the field-station was bombed during the night.

He was repatriated to Britain but died of his wounds in Exeter Hospital November 26, 1915 (only 25 miles from Torquay where I had lived)

He is buried in Ribbesford Churchyard - along with many more of previous generations of Browns - who moved from Evesham to Bewdley in 1791 - with a War Graves Commission Headstone. His name is also on the War Memorial tablet on St Anne's Church.

The other brother - John William Brown (1884) - served in the Great War with 2 Worcesters. - 'The Guards of the Line' - but not with the heroes of the BEF who held the line at Gheluvelt at the Ypres-Menin Gap on October 31 1914 - hence the Memorial Park at Worcester!.

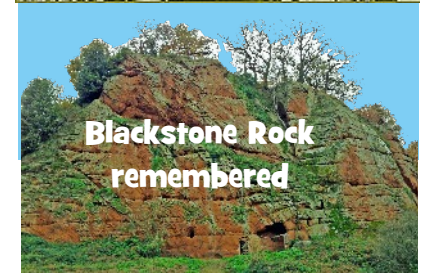
John was conscripted in 1916. I met him only a few times with my father - usually at his carpenter's workshop at the back of the houses on the upper side of High Street. The war experiences had badly damaged him. It was what they now call Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, I suppose.

However, he did act at some time in some official capacity for the Mayors of Bewdley. I inherited a rather fine walnut mantel clock (fully working and chiming) presented to: *Sgt J. Brown by Alderman and Mrs H. Neal Frost - Mayor and Mayoress - 2nd April 1933.*

The last time I met up with Cousin Ollie was a few years back, to visit and to pay my respects at the grave of great-uncle Frederick and then to look at The Tannery House. We then, with his daughter Lisa, enjoyed an excellent pub lunch at the Mug House.

I have many more memories of the Bewdley of my childhood. - Blackstone Rock, fishing, walks to Dowles Manor and Snuff Mill; excursions to Far Forest, sometimes to look for the reputed terrazzo floor of a Roman villa!

I really must make another visit. Perhaps before I do, I should look out some of the old handwritten letters written by Mr Baldwin to my grandfather in the early 1920s - usually from The Carlton Club - when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer. They really ought to be in the Town Museum. *Richard Brown Bournemouth.*





# Glimpses of the past 2

## The 1834 scandal of the missing toll income

### Trustees refused to render accounts to town Corporation

Having seen the dreaded Rotten Boroughs outlawed by Parliament, Thomas Marson was keen to see his town - Bewdley - similarly reformed so that the Corporation should be answerable to the townspeople: the ratepayers who largely financed it.

Thomas was a maltster living and working at 64 Load Street (now the George Hotel) and he was clearly a leading voice for reform in the town's politically-corrupt administration. He had been a member of the Municipal Commission for Bewdley that sat in the Guildhall.



Contemporary reports in *Berrow's Worcester Journal* give the clear impression of "a tight-knit clique of local dignitaries carving up positions for themselves and being largely unaccountable to the local population."

The paper adds: "The Corporation and the Treasurer refused to render any account of the tolls of the bridge and a mandamus (writ) would compel them as the Corporation were liable to the repair of the bridge." In what must have been an astonishing stand-off, the Treasurer (a Mr Slade-Baker) insisted that he would decline to produce the figures..

Mr Thomas Crane, the town's Bailiff said he had no accounts of the building of the bridge (designed, of course by Thomas Telford in 1798 at a cost of £11,000) nor the Toll House (eventually demolished in 1960).

Tolls were levied on people crossing the bridge since it was opened thirty-six years earlier and the missing money was said to amount to a very substantial £4000. "Until the issue was brought to the public's attention, local officials seemed remarkably sanguine," says the report.

#### TENACITY

They clearly underestimated the tenacity of Thomas Marson.

He also took up the case of local people "dissatisfied with the mode of election of the Magistrates of the borough" and he was concerned about the lack of representation for the people living in Wribbenhall.

"It would," he said be for the general advantage of the hamlet of Wribbenhall if the Bewdley Magistrates were to act there. The population is 500. It is just across the river on the other side of the bridge from the main town."

Thomas Marson's success in ensuring that Bewdley did enter the Age of Reform was appreciated by the townspeople who contributed generously to the commissioning of the silver mug (top right) and medals. He died aged sixty-eight in 1841 and is buried in Ribbesford Church graveyard.

**PAULINE LOWE**



#### HISTORY FOR SALE



### 'Handsome silver cup' marked the end of tolls on Bewdley bridge



Thomas Marson's success in ending the toll on the Telford bridge - on March 25 1834 - was rewarded by the presentation of this splendid silver pint-mug and two badges. The mug - currently being sold by a London saleroom - has a beautiful engraving of the five-arch bridge and beneath that it is inscribed

*To T. Marston Esq  
Through whose exertions the  
above toll was abolished  
The cup is gratefully presented  
by his friends  
On the other side is the legend  
The people will have their rights  
Triumph for Mr Marston  
and his friends  
This is the age of reform*

The mug and medals are described by the sellers as *Very fine: unique: a fascinating group.*

At the time of going to press, it looked as if the Society, the Friends of the Bewdley Museum and the Town Council would make a combined bid to save the mug and medals "for the town."





## Celebrating the return of the Shad

Earlier in the year, Society members Steve Bent and Dave Whiting joined me at the banks of the River Sever in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire to witness a natural wonder that takes place there each spring – the Shad migration.

Recalling the experience, Steve said: “It was fascinating to witness these sinuous silvery fish struggle over the Tewkesbury weir taking advantage of the high Spring tide”.

Prior to the construction of navigation weirs in the 1850s, the Shad, a species in the herring family once known as the May Fish, ran up the Severn in their hundreds of thousands searching for suitable spawning habitat.

A network of volunteers in Tewkesbury now monitor the migration each spring. Initial results from the 2018 monitoring suggest an estimate of below 10,000.

## The volunteer bashers!

This year's Civic Society *Balsam Bash* (right) can be counted very successful. Building on previous year's efforts we were able to take advantage of the unusually dry conditions to clear the entrance to Dowles Brook for the first time. We also tackled growth around the marshy area between the caravan park and the grassed area above Severnside North and Riverside North Park and below the Telford bridge to the secondary school on one side and the bypass bridge on the other. Everything achieved was a function of volunteers who were prepared to roll up their sleeves and do something practical for the good of the town so many thanks to those who made the effort. It does make a difference!

Steve Bent

## £20million grants will unlock 158 miles of the Severn

Unlocking the Severn for People and Wildlife is a £20million river-restoration project being run by the Canal & River Trust, Severn Rivers Trust, Environment Agency and Natural England.

The objective is to reopen 158 miles of the River Severn to fish, by installing state-of-the-art fish passes at four weirs on the River Severn: Diglis, Bevere, Holt and Lincomb and making fish passage improvements at two weirs in the River Teme: Powick and Knightwick.

The project also aims to deliver ambitious heritage, education and science programmes in the region

Last month the project was awarded £10.8 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Adding to the £6 million previously secured from the European Union LIFE programme and other contributions from the partnership organisations.

*Tim Thorpe, Project Volunteering Office*





# The child genius who served three kings

**THROUGH THE MOST TURBULENT PERIOD OF HISTORY...AND WAS OUR MP FOR FOUR YEARS**

Bewdley's fourth MP, elected in 1624, was nothing less than a child genius who left Oxford with a BA...at the age of ten!

Like Stanley Baldwin, Ralph Clare was Worcestershire-born but having got the thirst for education, he went on to study law at the Middle Temple when he was thirteen.

By the time he was twenty, he was a courtier to James I and mentor to the crown prince Henry. He was a ripe 35 when became our local MP and by then he had been a loyal courtier to three kings - James I, Charles I and Charles II - and somehow survived one of the most turbulent periods of English history and was still trying to be our MP when he was over seventy!

His royal patronage first secured him the parliamentary seat of Droitwich at a by-election in 1614 and he served as their MP for ten years. When he came to Bewdley (again with royal patronage), he seemed all set for the re-launch of a glittering career but he hadn't reckoned on the first Civil War, which ended with the beheading of Charles I nor the second which saw Charles II routed by Cromwell's Roundheads at the Battle of Worcester, where he was taken prisoner and incarcerated in the city gaol.

Born in 1589, Ralph was the eldest son of Sir Francis Clare (then Keeper of Tickenhill Lodge) and was just twenty when he joined the household of James I to mentor his eldest son Prince Henry, the heir to the throne. He became a highly-regarded and influential courtier until the Prince's early death in 1612, which is when he decided to try politics.

No sooner said than done. He continued his precocious rise and went to the Commons (for Droitwich) but although he stayed there for ten years (until 1624), he failed to distinguish himself in the House.

He seemed to fit in well in Bewdley and after his 1624 victory, he was re-elected in 1626...and yet again in 1628. He had also transitioned smoothly into the Charles I household and was knighted at his coronation (in the Order of Bath no less).

Three years later, his parliamentary career was cut short abruptly not by the electorate but by a frustrated King who decided to abandon any semblance of popular democracy and closed the House of Commons...a closure that was to last eleven years.

Sir Ralph's consolation was to be made a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber (with, of course, daily access to the King) and in 1636, he was royally rewarded when the King granted Kidderminster a Charter and appointed Sir Ralph as the first High Steward...for life.

When Parliament eventually resumed in November 1640, he was once more elected to represent Bewdley...to what was to be the Long Parliament. Not for him, however. His election was declared void because he had not met the King's call to arms as was expected of royal servants. He was fined £1000 and then sequestered for non-payment. The debt was not discharged until 1650. However on his return from France, he became a magistrate in Worcester and was granted a stipend of £3000 for services to the King.

Clare died unmarried at the age of 82 and was buried at All Saint's Church Kidderminster on St George's Day (April 23) 1670.



## In memorium

The essence of Clare's life story is inscribed in a memorial stone in the churchyard of St Mary's and All Saints, Kidderminster

*HERE LIETH THE BODY OF THE HON.  
SIR RALPH CLARE, ELDEST SON UNTO  
SIR FRANCIS CLARE IN THIS COUNTY,  
SERVANT UNTO PRINCE HENRY,  
KNIGHT OF THE BATH AT THE  
CORONATION OF KING CHARLES I,  
WHOM HE ATTENDED THROUGH ALL  
HIS GLORIOUS FORTUNES. SERVANT  
TO KING CHARLES THE SECOND  
BOTH IN HIS BANISHMENT AND  
RETURN; WHO BEING ZEALOUS IN HIS  
LOYALTY TO HIS PRINCE, EXEMPLARY  
IN HIS CHARITY TO THE DISTRESSED,  
AND OF KNOWN INTEGRITY TO ALL  
MEN, FULL OF DAYS AND FAME  
DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE FOURSORE  
AND FOURTH YEAR OF HIS AGE, ON  
21ST. APRIL 1670.*



Cromwell at the Battle of Worcester, where he defeated the Royalists...and took prisoners including Sir Ralph Clare. It was the decisive moment that brought the Civil War to an end. In 1651. When he was released, Clare went with the Charles into exile in France, where he was one of the king's most senior aides. On the restoration of the monarchy, he returned to make yet another unsuccessful bid to be Bewdley's MP. He was 72!





## Bewdley Festival

October 12- 20

**Tickets for all shows are available online at [tickets.bewdleyfestival.org.uk/login.php](http://tickets.bewdleyfestival.org.uk/login.php) or from the TIC and from the Festival Office in SGH.**

### - REMINDERS -

## Society sponsors civilisation!

The Society is again sponsoring a keynote event at this year's October Festival. Making a return visit to Bewdley, Professor Alice Roberts (right) will present *Tamed: three species that changed our world*.

Professor Roberts, biological anthropologist, author and broadcaster delves into archaeology, history and genetics to reveal the amazing stories of three species that became our allies. For hundreds of thousands of years, our ancestors depended on wild plants and animals for survival. They were hunter-gatherers, consummate foraging experts, taking the world as they found it. Then a revolution occurred. Our ancestors' interaction with other species changed. They began to tame them. The human population boomed; civilisation began.

**Mercure Hotel 8pm Wednesday October 17 tickets £20**



## Society's first Christmas card

This beautifully-atmospheric picture of the bridge in winter is featured on the Society's first Christmas card (now on sale from executive member Sharon Harvey). The photographer is her niece, Clare, who took the photograph during a visit to Bewdley. Currently a keen amateur, Clare (29) the mother-of-two, hopes to become a professional. Proceeds of the sales - at £4.95 per pack of ten cards with envelopes - go to the Society (registered charity no. 700898)

Cards available per [s.harvey1885@btinternet.com](mailto:s.harvey1885@btinternet.com)



**Bewdley Bridge over the River Severn PHOTO by Clare McHugh**

## Beautiful Bewdley 3







# Bewdley Civic Society Annual Dinner Menu

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At St. George's Hall, Load Street, Bewdley on Friday 2nd November 2018

Time: 7.30pm for 8pm **Tickets £32 per head**

Please bring your own drinks

## **STARTER**

Fan of melon served with a raspberry coulis

BASKETS OF FRENCH BREADS AND BUTTER ON THE TABLES

## **MAIN COURSE**

Pan fried Supreme of chicken stuffed with peppers and wrapped in bacon  
Served with a herb cream sauce

Courgette and chick pea ragout topped with goats' cheese croustades (V)

Medley of fresh vegetables

Buttered new Potatoes

## **DESSERT**

Profiteroles

With a chocolate sauce

\*\*\*\*\*

## **TEA, COFFEE AND MINTS**

**Please advise any dietary requirements.**

Please tick your choice of starter and main course with respective initials against choice

NAMES OF ATTENDEES .....

Please make cheques payable to Bewdley Civic Society and send together with above to:  
Sue Perrin, 59 Park Lane, Bewdley, DY12 2HA by October 26, 2018