

PARISH NEWS

OF

ST WEONARDS, GARWAY, ORCOP,
PENCOYD, TRETIRE, MICHAELCHURCH,
HENTLAND AND HOARWITHY

AUGUST 2021



Cover Drawing by Louise Brosnan

CONTENTS

Page

- 3. Contacts for local Organisations**
- 4. Magazine Contacts and Parish Council contacts**
- 5. Vicar's Letter**
- 6. The Service Rota for August/ Service in the Woods**
- 7. A New Dean for Hereford Cathedral**
- 8. The Knife Angel**
- 9. Magazine News and the Prescription Rota**
- 10. Methodist Chapel Service Times / Village Pages – St Weonards**
- 11. Perry Pears Part two**
- 12. Garway News/ Garway School and pre-School/ The Heritage Group/ The Old School group**
- 13. Garway Fun Day 2021**
- 14. Orcop News/ Orcop Fete**
- 15. Neighbourhood Development plan/ Prints for Sale/ Tretire, Michaelchurch and Pencoyd**
- 16. Tretire with Michaelchurch an Pencoyd News continued/ Book Review**
- 17. Ted's Tale/ Fleeces for sale/ Wildlife in our Garden by the Oubridges**
- 18. Wildlife in our Garden continued/ Dore Transport news/ Garden Notes**
- 19. Garden Notes/ Another Curious Pet**
- 20. Chuckle Corner / Oz humour**
- 21 Longtown Historical Society/ Funeral Director Services / Hereford Civic Society**
- 22. Hereford Civic Society.**

CONTACTS IN THE ST. WEONARDS GROUP OF PARISHES

Churchwardens

St. Weonards	Richard Mynors.....	01981 580208
Orcop	Margaret Fletcher.....	01981 540790
Garway	Vacant	
Tretire & Pencoyd	Elizabeth Malcolm	01989 730201
Hoarwithy	Peter Pember.....	01432 840254
	Jeff Goulding.....	01432 840492
Hentland	Robin Symonds	01989 730439

Local Contact

Editor Parish Magazine	Fiona Mynors	01981 580208
Group Choir	Richard Mynors.....	01981 580208
Bellringing	Mr Peter Hallowell	01981 580203
Royal British Legion	Bea Morris.....	07932 668363
Orcop Evergreens	Gill Bannerman	01981 580685
Woman's Fellowship	Miss June Griffiths.....	01981 580353
Youth Group, Tear Fund	Mrs Fay Rowlands	01600 750242
Orcop Hall Bookings	Gill Bannerman	01981 580685
St Weonards Hall Booking	Julie Ross	01981 580201
St Weonards Pre-school	Maggie Evans	07855 550108
Singing Tree Choir	Hilary Smallwood	01600 641021
Garway Hall Bookings	Hilary Keenan	01600 750243
Garway Pre-school	Julie Jones.....	01600 750273
@Garway	Graham Bevan.....	01981 580215
Flicks in the Sticks	Claire Adamson.....	01600 750465
Much Dewchurch Gardening Club	Linda Ashton.....	01981 540804
OWL Good Neighbours	Jane Rigler.....	07940 308696
Dore Community Transport	0345 2020144
St Weonards Group website	www.stw.org.uk

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Birch Ward:	Toni Fagan (Green)	tonifagan@btinternet.com
		office hours 01981 540721
Dinedor Hill Ward:	David Summers	david.summers@herefordshire.gov.uk

Samaritans

National Helpline	08457 909090
Hereford	01432 116123 jo@samaritans.org
HOPEline UK (Prevention of Young Suicide).....	0870 1704000 01978 367333

Golden Valley & Hereford Rural South local policing teams

Sgt Emma Freer, PC Kirsty O'Brien, PC Jim Phillips, PCSO Lowri Anderson, PCSO Adam Westlake, PCSO Christina Howard, PCSO Hayley Cohen and PCSO Christopher Yarwood. How to get in touch:101 to talk to your local SNT or report a crime. herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
www.westmercia.police.uk

Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger.

MAGAZINE CONTACTS

Contributions to the Parish news can be given to your parish representative by the **12th of the month**:

Magazine Editor	Fiona Mynors	01981 580208
Garway:	Mrs Ruth Maskell Windy Ridge, Garway	01600 750454
Hentland/Hoarwithy:	Mr and Mrs Pember One Eleven, Hoarwithy	01432 840254
Orcop:	Mrs M Fletcher 3 Wilkes Row, Orcop	01981 540790
Tretire/Pencoyd:	Meg Oubridge Tretire Smithy	01989 580233
St. Weonards:	Mrs P Craig 8 Mount Way St Weonards	01981 580433

Contributions by email to archenfieldmag@btinternet.com

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

Garway:	Mark Hearne clerk@garwayparishcouncil.co.uk	01981 251887
Orcop:	Parish Clerk Mark Hearne clerk@orcopparishcouncil.org Parish council website www.orcop.wordpress.com	01981251887
St Weonards:	Mrs Kate Hughes Meadow View, St Weonards HR2 8QS Email: clerk@stweonardsparishcouncil.org	01981 580498 07967 352903
Llanwarne:	Mrs Kate Hughes Meadow View, St Weonards HR2 8QS Email: clerk@llanwarnegrouppc.co.uk	01981 580498 07967 352903
Hentland:	Nicky Mackenzie email: clerk@ballinghambolstonehentland-pc.gov.uk	

VILLAGE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND NEWS www.stw.org.uk

PARISH NEWS

THE ARCHENFIELD GROUP

Revd Frances Phillips
Associate Priest of the St Weonards Group of churches
New House
Garway Hill
Herefordshire
HR2 8EZ
01981 240032
franjphillips@gmail.com

Vicar's Letter

Dear Readers

On the first day of August is the festival of Lammas. This ancient celebration is to give thanks for the first fruits of the harvest, and the word 'Lammas' is derived from 'loaf-mass', from when a loaf of bread was made from the first newly-gathered grain of the harvest, and offered to God in thanksgiving. In medieval times, there was probably a hungry time when the wheat from the previous year started to run out, and people must have felt a real sense of relief to see the new harvest coming in. It would have been a time of hard work and company in the fields, as the reaping was done by hand by teams of men, with the women and children collecting the corn into stooks.

Lammas also marked the end of the hay harvest which had begun at midsummer, and in some parts of the country, Lammas meadows still exist, such as the one at Upton-on-Severn in Worcestershire. The riverside meadow was marked out with dole stones to show which villager had the right to the hay harvest, but when the hay was in, the whole wide area was opened for common use and grazing of stock.

For many years now, we have marked Lammas with an outdoor service in a woodland setting. Sitting in a circle amongst the tall trees, listening to the wind stirring the leaves, smelling the damp earth and hearing the birds around us gives us a renewed appreciation of this wonderful countryside we live in. Animals are invited to share the service with us—usually a tribe of dogs, but occasionally something more unusual—one year we had a parrot!

This year's service is on Sunday, August 1st at 11am. It will be held in New House Wood on Garway Hill. Access is from the upper road at HR2 8EZ, up the drive marked 'Yew Tree Corner'. There is easy field parking.

If you read this in time, do come and enjoy the service, and bring your animals.

It is time to give thanks.

Frances

August Service Rota

1 st August	11.00 a.m.	Lammas Service in the woods *	HR2 8EZ
8 th August	10.00 a.m.	All Age Service	St Weonards Church
	11.00 a.m.	Iona Lay-led service	The Old Mill, Hoarwithy HR2 6QH and on ZOOM
15 th August	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	Orcop Church
	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	Hoarwithy
22 nd August	9.15 a.m.	Holy Communion	Hentland Church
	10.00 a.m.	Family Communion	St Weonards Church
29 th August	6.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Pencoyd Church
	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	Little Birch Church
			Group
3 rd September	10.00 a.m	Holy Communion	ZOOM

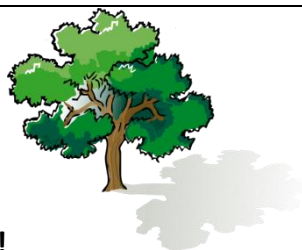
*Access to the wood is up the steep drive at HR2 8EZ, marked Yew Tree Corner: there will be a sign board to direct you.

For enquiries about baptisms, weddings or funeral services, please contact the relevant churchwarden or Rev Dr Frances Phillips.

If you would like to receive the link to a Zoom service which you have not previously attended, please send a brief email to the contact below:

Holy Communion at 10am on 1st Sunday: franjphillips@gmail.com

All age service at 10am on 4th Sunday: stweonardspcc@gmail.com



Service in the Woods!

Our Lammas celebration this year—our thanksgiving to God for the first-fruits of the harvest, and blessing of the animals—will again be held in New House Wood on Garway Hill. **It is on Sunday 1st August at 11am.** You are invited to bring a flask of coffee or a picnic to eat in this lovely hillside woodland with its beautiful views over Herefordshire. Pets welcome! There is easy access to the top of Garway Hill from the wood, if you want to walk after the service. Please dress for the weather—wellies are a good idea if there has been rain—and perhaps a brolly. There is plenty of field parking. For any further information, please ring Frances on 01981 240032, or email franjphillips@gmail.com

Access to the wood is up the steep drive at HR2 8EZ, marked Yew Tree Corner: there will be a sign board to direct you.

New Dean For Hereford Cathedral



Bishop Richard is delighted that Her Majesty The Queen has confirmed the appointment of The Revd Canon Sarah Brown as the next Dean of Hereford. This is a significant appointment for the Church of England in Herefordshire and South Shropshire and the first time in the 1,300 year history of the diocese that a woman has been appointed to the role of Dean.

Sarah came to faith in her late twenties and describes how she first encountered God in her village church where she joined the choir. She explains: "It was here that I discovered the power of church music, the care of a Christian community, the teaching of a wonderful rural vicar and finally, in utter astonishment which persists to this day, the disarming love and forgiveness of God. "

Sarah is currently Canon Missioner at Peterborough Cathedral in the diocese of Peterborough where she has spent most of her adult life.

"I will miss everyone at Peterborough but I am excited by the beauty and missional prospects of this good and holy place land. I look forward to getting to know the people and places of Herefordshire and South Shropshire and of course joining in with what God is already doing in this part of the world."

Sarah was ordained in the diocese of Peterborough in 2008 following a career in business. After reading German at Nottingham University she worked in corporate sales and marketing before responding to an unexpected call to lead FCN, a national farming charity, which she did in tandem with studying theology and serving her curacy.

Her church career has at different times engaged with the agricultural community, rural churches, a market town and a cathedral city, all of which now come excitingly together in the role of Dean of Hereford.

Sarah is married to Richard and they have two children; Alice, who is a musician and Edward, who is training to be a vet. Her parents are also moving to Hereford and Richard's family live just over the border in Monmouth and are regular visitors.

Bishop Richard says, "As we plan for the future of the Church of England in Herefordshire and South Shropshire, my hope and prayer is for a healthy, growing and vibrant community of Christians of all ages who can confidently share their love of Christ with others. Sarah is a key part of helping bring that vision to life. She has a heart for pastoral ministry with a vision for mission, a rare combination of gifts and I am excited to see how God uses her in her role as Dean."

Sarah will be installed a Dean of Hereford at a special service which will take place in Hereford Cathedral later this year. Details will be announced nearer the time.

The Dean is the senior priest in the Cathedral and the chair of the Chapter, which is the governing body of the Cathedral. She has overall responsibility for the Cathedral's life, mission and ministry, and represents the Cathedral in the city and county, holding responsibilities in the wider Diocese.

KNIFE ANGEL IN HEREFORD



It is well worth visiting Hereford to see this amazing thought provoking art installation outside the cathedral.



PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION



17th August Liz Lloyd 01981 580002

Garway Hill Methodist Chapel Services:-

Sunday 8th August 3pm. Sunday 22nd August 3pm

VILLAGE PAGES

ST WEONARDS

We welcomed Bishop Dr David Thompson to the All Age Service in July. Our theme is the Early Church and as we learned about the persecution of the early Christians, we considered the pressures on many Christians around the world who are not safe to worship as they wish compared to our own freedoms.

We have an All Age Service at 10.00am on 8th August and a Family Communion at 10.00am on 22nd. All are welcome.

We were delighted to have weddings in church again, and to hear the bells ring out in July for **Elizabeth Sprackman** and **Ed Bowen**, and **Isobel Partridge** and **James Davies**. We wish them well for the future.

Despite a rather poor weather forecast, the Open Garden at Treago Castle went incredibly well. The start of the afternoon was billed for 2.00pm so we were rather surprised to welcome our first visitors at 1.25 pm who arrived from Abergavenny! That began an extremely busy afternoon. We were delighted that Izzie Partridge chose to come and picnic with her hen party, and they were followed by about 250 people who enjoyed exploring the formal garden, with its many roses, and the wilderness/arboretum and of course eating the delicious tea!

Many thanks to the Herberts for letting us loose in their garden, to all those who made wonderful cakes, to the indefatigable tea team who made hundreds of cups of tea and washed up, and to the generous raffle prize givers and sellers. Thanks to all who supported the event which enabled us to raise an amazing £1100 for the church. **Richard Mynors**

Perry Pear Trees Part Two

Before moving to St Weonards Kerry and I had a view of a towering Blakeney Red perry tree some 40 feet in height. As keen wildlife observers it was hard not to notice how many mammals, birds and invertebrates frequented the tree and seemed to have an ecological relationship with it. For us it was doubtless that perry pear trees were also invaluable in terms of habitat and biodiversity.

Initially the farmer and grower in me convinced myself that I was only concerned with growing and preserving local perry pear trees, and I saw no reason why the principles of our forest garden in Italy could not be transferred to the orchard. I began designing growing systems to enhance and diversify existing orchards to make them more productive and ecologically sound. Existing orchards can be easily modified into polycultures enabling the cultivation of several crops in one space, which makes a site more adaptable to market trends. In my case, I farm a few acres in Stoke Lacy where I grow apples, pears, vegetables, and herbs all in one space.

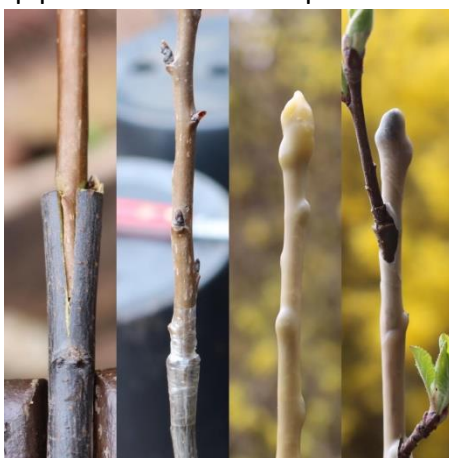
This type of farming is now recognised by the UK Government and had been defined as “Agroforestry” which quite literally means agriculture incorporating the cultivation of trees.

Flakey Bark pear trees are originally from Taynton in Gloucestershire, but there are many incredibly special and endangered varieties from here in Herefordshire including Gregg’s Pit of Much Markle and Holmer of the variety’s namesake. In fact during this perry journey we have discovered some wonderful little orchards all but lost, except by those people who care for them and those dedicated to finding and preserving heritage perry pear trees and well as making real craft perry.

Many perry pears have an astringent taste rendering the fruit unsuitable for the table, but this attribute transfers excellently to the bottle making for some sophisticated flavours. Perry pears prefer to grow in areas that are susceptible to cold air and are at slight altitude, such areas as May Hill, The Markle Ridge, Penallt in Monmouthshire, and I would hazard a guess that they would fare well in Western Garway too. It is the combination of sunshine and the warmth of day and the cool air of night that gives perry pears their intense flavours.

As you may have already guessed, after spending so much time around orchards, pears and producers, I inevitably tried cider and perry making for myself, which quickly became a hobby and is now slowly growing into something else.

Back at Old Farm, we now have 100 young trees in pots which I grafted myself taking scions from rare and desirable trees and grafting them onto quince rootstock. We have had about a 95% success rate, the resulting trees will of course enable me to eventually take further cuttings to graft, resulting in more rare and endangered trees. Ultimately, we would like this very personal project to result in the creation of a heritage orchard-cum-wildlife sanctuary as a legacy and something to leave behind, but we have yet to find and acquire a site. Culturally, economically, and environmentally, it is clear that perry pear trees are worth protecting and it is our mission to help preserve them and spread them far and wide.



In the next twelve months we would like to expand to a second site a bit closer to home to grow vegetables and I am currently deciding which rare Herefordshire perry pears to graft next season.

I am always on the lookout for apple and pear trees and of course surplus fruit, so if you have anything that you think may be of interest or have any questions regarding this article please do get in touch!

By **Jack Worthington**, Email whitestagnature@gmail.com Tel: 07594 365661

GARWAY

Garway School and Pre-school

Despite restrictions, the pupils have had an exciting end of term! The whole school enjoyed the *SEA LEGS PUPPET THEATRE* who performed 'Peter and the Wolf' and everyone went to Barry Island. Class 4 visited Skenfrith Castle and the Year 6 leavers' treat was a visit to the *Green Spider Climbing Centre*. Following the government's announcement about changes to lockdown, it was decided to hold Sports Day and a Leavers' Assembly with families attending. It is hard to imagine the excitement after such a long time with restrictions!

The term cannot end without recognition of the work of parents in supporting their children with their education and especially the huge amount of work undertaken by Miss Jones and her team. We are so grateful for their commitment and professional approach. With frequent changes in covid protocols, risk assessments and planning for every possible eventuality, the pressure was relentless. However, the team ensured that the pupils' education suffered as little disruption as possible during the year. In fact, reading the weekly newsletters, so many activities continued as well as the core curriculum, that it was hard to remember the restrictions except we could not share in the excitement in the school!

We wish everyone an excellent summer break and a hope that school can return in some measure of normality next term. **Fiona Mynors**

Garway Heritage Group

The Garway Heritage Group (GHG) was created to explore the rich and diverse heritage of Garway and the surrounding area and to make its work available to others who may share our interests.

Our focus is on learning how historical events, from the Bronze Age to the present day, have impacted on our area and have influenced -- and continue to influence -- the bigger picture of social development.

Monthly talks are held between September and April on the third Tuesday of every month. During the summer months, walks, visits and events are arranged and advertised through an email list and this magazine. To find out more, look at the website.

<https://www.garwayheritagegroup.co.uk/>

Great News! At last we can begin to look forward to our upcoming programme. We plan a walk around Ewyas Harold village on Thursday 5 August followed by a meal at the Temple Inn.

On Saturday 11 September we plan to visit Mathern Mill near Chepstow, have lunch in Chepstow and later visit Chepstow Castle.

Keep any eye on website for news of our first autumn meeting on Tuesday 21 September when Heather Hurley and Rosie Watts will tell us some fascinating history of the Scudamore family.

Please look at our website or contact Liz on 01981 580002 or liz@fouracretrust.org.uk to find out more and book your place. <https://www.garwayheritagegroup.co.uk/>

Garway Old School Group

Thirty people from Garway came to the old school on 17th June to protest against the proposed demolition of the old Victorian school in the centre of the village. The protest was reported in the Hereford Times and the Monmouth Beacon on 30th June 2021. The group would like to see the old school listed, preserved and refurbished as housing. It could become once again a feature in the centre of the village, situated as it is opposite the new school and new community centre.

The protest came together because of a planning application by the owner to the Herefordshire Council to demolish the building. This application is now being reviewed by the Planning Department and their review will take into consideration objections and comments made by residents of Garway and other members of the public, together with members of Herefordshire Council.

Anyone in Garway, and /or the surrounding parishes who would like to support the group to preserve the old school is cordially invited to contact Nick Handoll or Malcolm Howard and we will keep you informed of developments.

Our contact details –email: nicholas@handoll.org or malcolmhoward@mwhjh.com

Garway Fun Day and Dog Show

Come and help us put “the Fun” into Fun Day

Garway Common

Saturday 28th August from 2pm




BBQ



Tea Tent



Bric a Brac




**Cakes and
Produce**



**Fancy Dress
Parade**



**Plant
Stall**



**And Much
More...**

ORCOP

ORCOP NEWS: August 2021

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of **Flo Hayward**, who died in hospital on June 28th, aged 89.

It was great news to hear of the birth of a son to **Elwyn** and **Jenny Powell** of Wilkes Row (my neighbours) on June 4th, born at home, a brother for Jack. We extend best wishes to the family and congratulate them on the new arrival.

On July 11th we welcomed Bishop Anthony Priddis to Orcop Church to take the monthly communion service. Anthony served as Bishop of Hereford for 10 years and he conducted the service with all the dignity and gravitas that might be expected, given his seniority and long experience. It was a moving experience for the few in the congregation. Given the activities at Wimbledon and Wembley on that day the low turn-out was not too surprising. Anthony will be taking further services during the interregnum and his next visit to Orcop will probably be for the 11am service on Sunday 12th September, the day after the Orcop PLC concert in the church. Neither the concert nor the service the following day should be missed!

Margaret Fletcher Churchwarden

Church Flower and cleaning rota: August 6th and 13th Mrs. W. Dudfield

Orcop Fete

Monday August 30th 2021, 2.30pm

Orcop Parish Hall

Competitions: to be staged by 3.00pm

- A photograph with a caption
- A limerick which starts: "There was an old man from Garway Hill
- A 3 metre length of bunting made from any medium e.g. cotton, plastic bags

Stalls: cakes, preserves, pictures, plants and produce, bric-a-brac, books, tombola, games, skittles, raffles, ice-creams, refreshments and more.

Pre-fete quiz sheets available-contact Julia Garlick Tel 01981 580515

Tables welcome

Free Admission, Ample parking, disabled access

Everyone welcome

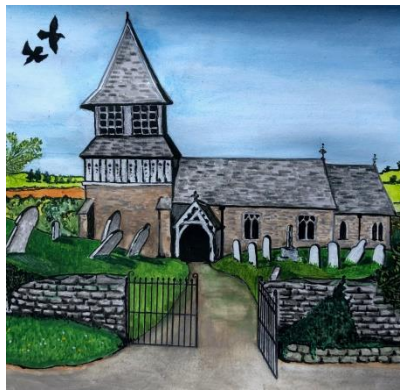
Any donations of goods or offers of help would be very welcome – please contact Julia Garlick 01981 580515

Orcop Neighbourhood Development Plan – Update June 2021

The Steering Group met in June with our Planning Consultant to confirm further amendments to the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan, v2. Appendix B 'exception case' had also been written (this explains the approach taken to the delivery of housing). Gordon Downie (recently moved to Orcop Hill) was invited to attend as he had valuable information regarding his investigations with DEFRA into the use of cesspools. Wastewater formed a major part of our discussions, resulting in the Consultant now re-writing that section. A further meeting will soon take place to hopefully approve draft v3. That will be followed by submission to Herefordshire Council for an Environmental assessment which takes 6-8 weeks. Thereafter is the public consultation.

Meanwhile all queries should be addressed to Mark Hearne, Orcop Parish Clerk, tel 01981 251887 clerk@orcopparishcouncil.org **Margaret Serle**, Chair Orcop NDP Steering Group

ORCOP CHURCH LIMITED EDITION PRINTS



An original watercolour painting of Orcop Church was presented to Elizabeth as a retirement gift.

A limited edition of 50 top quality Giclee prints of the painting, on Hahnemuhle German Etching paper are available, signed by the artist, at £25 each (unframed).

ALL SALE PROCEEDS WILL FUND THE MAINTENANCE OF THE CHURCH

If you wish to order, please email garratt_peter@hotmail.com or phone 01981 580418

TRETIRE WITH MICHAELCHURCH AND PENCOYD

On Sunday 20th June, Elizabeth Malcolm our churchwarden welcomed a good sized congregation in the freshly cleaned little church at Michaelchurch for the annual midsummer service of evening prayer, which she led for us, using a simple Iona style evening worship. She provided us with the hymns on her phone for us to hum along to, behind our masks, as singing in church is still not allowed under Covid restrictions. She read to us a short history of St Michael the Archangel in Dean Tavinor's book, *Saints and Sinners of the Marches*, and James de le Billiere read a prayer written for the military, for whom St Michael is Patron Saint. After the service we gathered in the churchyard for the traditional glass of wine, nibbles and chat on a cloudy but dry evening.

The following evening, mindful of covid restrictions, about 30 of us gathered at Michaelchurch Court by kind invitation of John and Kathy Handby, who had erected their marquee for us to hold a barbeque. We had reason to be truly grateful for that shelter as the rain began soon after most of the guests had arrived. The cooks, Elizabeth, Harry and Mark struggled bravely on, sometimes under umbrellas, so that we all got our sausages and burgers. The buns, sauces and a great choice of salads kept dry in the marquee.



Strawberries had been kindly donated by Anthony and Christine Snell for pudding. In spite of the rain, folk stayed and chatted till well into the evening, catching up after the months of lockdown with so little social activity.

We are so grateful to Nick and Lucy Snell for lending their firepits for this occasion.

The next parish gathering was of a rather different nature as a number of people came armed with dusters, polish and floor cleaners to mount a massive spring clean on Tretire church after all the building work and decorating that had been taking place in the previous few months. It now looks transformed, and you have an opportunity to come and enjoy it at a service of Holy Communion led by Rev Dr Frances Phillips, on **Sunday July 18th at 10.00 am** (please note, this is not the usual Tretire time of 9.15 am). This will be the only service in the Benefice for that Sunday.

Not wishing to hurry your summer along, but please can you make.....

A note for your diaries- On Sept 26th we shall be holding our Harvest Thanksgiving service at 5.00 pm in Tretire Church . And the traditional harvest supper will be held in Much Birch hall afterwards, with auction of produce. So please, if you are making jams and chutneys this summer, could you put a jar or two aside for that event?

Margaret Oubridge

Book Review

***Lies Behind the Ruin* by Helen Matthews**

Emma Willshire, divorcee and Mum to Owen from her first marriage, finds happiness with her second husband Paul and their daughter Mollie. All is now well.

But Paul, who works as an executive in the construction industry, is plagued with worries that centre around a fatal accident at work. Failures in safety procedures leave Paul less than squeaky clean in this incident, and he can see that blame is beginning to fall on him. He is rescued by a fellow employee, Genevieve, who covers up for him. But her rescue is not without strings, which Paul proves unable to resist.

The novel opens with Paul and Emma looking round a dilapidated property in France, whilst on holiday there. Emma sees it as a diversion, but for Paul it represents a way out of his dilemma, and to Emma's disquiet, he buys the property behind her back. Financial ruin follows on from the fatal accident at work, and retreat to the French property seems the only solution: a chance to leave the troubled past behind him and make a new life.

But, as in so many novels in this genre, the past will not lie down and die, and Paul finds himself in a tangled web of deceit and lies.

What appears at first to be a repeat of the well-worn saga of middle class Francophile Brits buying a renovation project in France turns into something altogether more sinister. The tale unfolds in the voices of both Emma and Paul, a device that can be clumsy but works well here. The ending is a bit of a damp squib, but it is still a good read. **Hilary Smallwood**

Another of Ted's Tales

Uriah Heap Plays Put and Take

About this time a series of cigarette cards was issued in entitled 'Characters from Dickens'. Uncle Humphrey made a collection of these as he was fascinated by the Dickens characters and was also intrigued by their names. He chortled when a card about Uriah Heap turned up, and for some reason known only to himself started calling me Uriah Heap. I didn't think this much of a compliment as this chap was a strange sort of character. It would be Uriah Heap, 'Come here!' or 'Uriah Heap. Do that!' or 'Where is Uriah Heap?' until I was heartily fed up with my new name. Granny told Uncle Humphrey that if he did not stop calling me Uriah heap she wouldn't make him any more meals.

Uncle Humphrey invented a new game involving cigarette cards. At least it was a new game to me! He had a little gadget like a brass spinning top which spun when twisted between finger and thumb. I think it had six flat sides and when it has been spun it came to rest with one of the flat sides uppermost. The flat sides were inscribed consecutively PUT 1, TAKE 1, PUT 2, TAKE 2, PUT 3, TAKE 3.

The players each started with the same number of cigarette cards and spun the little top in turn, putting or taking cards as indicated when the top came to rest. This little brass top was appropriately called 'PUT and TAKE' and was frowned upon by granny. She said it was a gambling machine, however as we only used it for gambling with cigarette cards I don't think Uncle Humphrey was leading Uriah Heap astray!

FOR SALE

For sale and calling all spinners. Rare breed Portland sheep fleeces for sale. A fine white wool which is sought after by spinners. Fleeces are cleaned and free of vegetation.
Contact Sue Garratt - Tel 01981 580418

Wildlife in our Garden

The heavy covering of foliage has now made it nearly impossible to see the birds that like to stay in the trees. We can tell they're around by their songs: blackcap, chiffchaff, greenfinch. In previous years, I think I remember, our songthrushes have stopped singing in summer. But this year they're still to be heard all June, though somewhat outsung by blackbirds now. We still regularly see all the birds which come to feed from the low wall outside our breakfast room where we are offering seeds every day: chaffinches, robins, blackbirds, house sparrows, dunnocks, a young great tit and of course the faithful cock pheasant. Because we now often find him quite close to us, we are able to hear him, especially when feeding, making a soft "wup", "wup", "wup" noise. Quite a contrast to the raucous "quaaaark" which announces his arrival!



A bird which does not feed on seeds but which we now see easily is the spotted flycatcher. There are at least two, maybe the same pair as were nesting and breeding last year in some trellis against the house. We're not sure, but their young maybe the ones we sometimes glimpse down in the field. The books tend to describe them as having rather drab plumage, but we think they are very smart in their two-tone brown-grey, sitting pert on a post, attentively watching for flies.

Oddly though, we don't think the spotted flycatcher is at all spotty. Apparently, the young do have more spots on their head, back and breast, but the adults are left with what is described as streaking over the tops of their heads.

Watching birds coming to feed near the house, in May, June and July, we can see that the young of several species are more spotty than the adults. This is most obvious with robins. The young are rusty red and spotted all over and look nothing like their parents at all. It also goes for blackbirds with quite spotty young; the spots fade to a few speckles on the flanks of the females and are hardly visible at all on the males. In thrushes though, the spots become more accentuated on their breasts as they mature. Adult dunnocks have black streaks over their backs, like house sparrows, but the young have them in most places. And so the young of several species are more like each other than their parents who are more differentiated and recognisable.



There used to be a hypothesis in embryology, though now discredited, that as embryos and fetuses grow and change, they pass through stages which resemble the evolutionary stages of development of their species. I was reminded of this by these birds and wondered whether their ancestors in the distant past would have all been spotted! **John Oubridge** 6th July 2021

Change of contact number for Dore Community Transport

To all our customers. Please note that the number to use for contacting DCT is now **0345 2020144**

Now that some Covid restrictions have been lifted, we need more drivers, please get in touch if you are interested.

Garden Notes

We have had some strange weather this year and the plants have been behaving accordingly. With such a chilly April we delayed planting any vegetables but goodness do they look fabulous now! Our much-reduced vegetable plot is crammed with the healthiest vegetables we have ever grown. The Brussels sprouts are looking quite extraordinarily perfect, which perhaps makes up for the miserable little things that we have grown some years. The lush green leaves of the French beans are climbing up their arches and looking as decorative as anything you might plant in a flower border. Even the parsnips all germinated successfully.

Our roses have been exceptionally good this year, especially the immense *Rosa complicata* which was a picture. The one exception was *Rosa mutabilis* which was looking so pretty and then suddenly dropped every one of its leaves. I suspect black spot which is not something it has ever suffered from before. I gathered and burned all the fallen leaves and it is now producing healthy new leaves so I hope it is not going to be a recurring problem.

Other plants are slow coming into flower. We have had a few sweet peas but they too are very slow. I am rather disappointed with the colours this year - as usual I sowed a packet of mixed colours but these turned out to be a dismal combination of pure white and a very dark purple. Next year I plan to buy single colours instead so that I can choose my favourites.



African marigold! I haven't grown African marigolds for perhaps thirty years but, wanting a large plant with chunky orange flowers, sowed seeds of marigold 'Elevate Orange'. I suppose the clue is in the name (and the words 'towering beauties' in the description) but I really wasn't expecting them to be three feet tall. They have lots of buds but like everything else they are taking a long time to open. Likewise, *Tithonia* 'Fiesta del Sol' - I do wish it would hurry up though as the leaves, described in the catalogue as velvety, are dull and ragged and truly, truly ugly. I love snapdragons and I like my snapdragons to be large and showy. This year's choice of *Antirrhinum* 'Overture Deep Orange' is certainly large and showy – its promised height of 2'6" has been exceeded by a foot and the first few flowers that have appeared are fabulous.

Although I love propagating from seed, I've never done much propagation by taking stem cuttings. However, this year when strong winds broke off a branch of the climbing hydrangea, I used the broken chunk to take cuttings. I also tried *Sambucus* 'Thundercloud' – not sure why as it's a dull old thing with mud-coloured leaves. I had instant success with both and I am so thrilled with my ten new Hydrangeas and five Sambucus, that I am now keen to have a go at other shrubs. It is great to learn new skills at any age and finally after years of gardening, I am learning which plants respond best to particular types of cuttings: softwood, greenwood, semi-ripe, ripe, hardwood; and whether to take a cutting from the leading shoot or the side shoots; and what the terms leaf-bud and inter-nodal cuttings actually mean... There is a lot to learn but I'll only really do that by actually trying some more plants. The excitement of seeing new green shoots and white roots peeping out of the bottom of the pot is just as thrilling as seeing seeds germinating. I have my eye on the Forsythia, Choisya, Viburnum, Weigela, Deutzia, Spirea, the Potentillas, the Fuchsias...

Julie Davies

Another curious pet



In the South Transept of Chichester Cathedral there hangs a large panel originally painted by Lambert Barnard for the visit of Henry VIII to Chichester Cathedral in 1526. The main picture shows Henry VIII talking to the Bishop of Chichester, Robert Sherburne. The left-hand panel shows St Wilfred talking to King

Caedwalla, who ruled the West Saxons from 659 to 689. By Caedwalla's feet Barnard has painted a monkey. Most visitors to the cathedral imagine that this is Caedwalla's pet monkey; but this cannot be the case, as it is clearly a Capuchin monkey. These are native to central and southern America, and nobody was sailing between southern England and south America in the seventh century. But the interesting thing is that Catherine of Aragon, Henry VIII's first wife, had a pet Capuchin monkey, and at least two paintings of it have survived; one of them is shown here. It looks as though Barnard has deliberately painted Catherine's monkey at the foot of the Anglo-Saxon king, and this (like many other things in the painting) is a coded message to King Henry, saying 'We understand. Catherine is ancient history. We are on your side'. The whole painting was probably a desperate attempt to prevent Henry from wrecking Chichester cathedral as he damaged so many others.

Contributed by **Edward Mynors**

Chuckle Corner

Poster found in a church in France (translated)

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Longtown Historical Society was established in 1971 to promote knowledge of local history in an area of southwest Herefordshire between the Golden Valley and the Black Mountains. This includes much of the ancient **Hundred of Ewyas Lacy**, now centred on the village of Longtown.

Talks and events are held throughout the year and are normally publicised through a membership list and this magazine.

To get in touch email:- jmdrh@btinternet.com

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Talks and events are advertised through the Society's website and this magazine.

<https://www.herefordcivicsociety.org.uk/about-the-society>

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www.herefordcivicsociety.org.uk especially commenting on latest reports about housing design; and worries about loss of democracy with the suspension of the planning committee.

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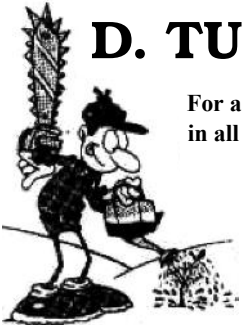
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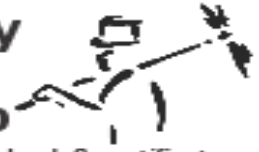
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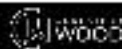
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Advertisers index

<u>Advertiser</u>	<u>page</u>	<u>Advertiser</u>	<u>page</u>
A & G Machinery Services	3	(Builder - Maintenance).....	17
A R D Pest Control	20	Complete Heating & Bathrooms	2
Advance Joinery	4	Computer Solutions	10
Aquassist.....	7	Creative Kinesiology	6
Beyond the Clouds	19	D R Godding Car Sales	1
Bill McGinley (Maths Tutoring).....	18	D Tugwell Tree Services.....	11
Brian Colwell.....	4	Darryl Godding Funeral Services.....	6
Catherine King	6	Deborah Cronshaw	12
Certainlywood.....	21	Dennis Walker & Son	
Cherished Funerals	24	(Tree Services)	14
Chips Away.....	21	Ethan Mitchell Tech Support.....	6
Chris Strange (Building & Carpentry) ..	13	F R Ball Insurance	5
Coley's	16	Feet First.....	21
Colin (Garden Maintenance services) .	10	Fiona Furnishings	10
Colin Beaumont-Russell			

(Continued on page 26)

Advertisers index *(continued)*

<u>Advertiser</u>	<u>page</u>	<u>Advertiser</u>	<u>page</u>
<i>(Continued from page 25)</i>			
Frameworks.....	25	Mark Serle (Tools).....	18
Franklin Plumbing & Heating.....	4	Martin Honeyman Decorations.....	2
G E Nicholls (Broad Oak Garage).....	9	Monnow Valley Counselling.....	21
Garway Community Centre.....	14	N R Evans & Co.....	6
Garway Pre-school.....	5	Nigel Payne (Tree Pruning).....	11
Geolec Electrician Services.....	4	Oldfield Forge.....	4
Gerald Benjamin (Electrical Services).....	17	Orcop Parish Hall.....	11
Glazy Days.....	2	Owl Good Neighbour.....	22
Gleam Clean.....	19	P G M & Son.....	12
Golden Valley Construction.....	22	P Muldowney & Sons.....	1
Golden Valley Funeral Services.....	2	Parr Plumbing & Heating Services.....	8
Golden Valley Tree Services.....	18	Paul Ackerman (Carpenter).....	15
Goldenvallyhomehelp.....	1	Pengethley Farm Shop.....	13
Greenleaf Architecture.....	24	Physio and Health Matters.....	23
Hereford Coatings.....	16	R J Jones & Sons.....	11
Hillman's Florist.....	17	Rob Evans (Hedge cutting).....	24
Hollow Ash.....	20	Ross Vincent.....	1
Home Choice Flooring.....	3	Ryeland (Rural Bookkeeping).....	20
Horton Gardening & Pet Services.....	14	Sarah L Hope (Osteopath).....	20
Hypnotherapybygill.....	13	Snooky the Sweep.....	15
Inti Electrical Solutions.....	8	South Herefordshire Dowers.....	2
Iyengar Yoga.....	15	St Weonards Pre-school.....	17
J P Mower Services.....	18	St Weonards Village Hall.....	3
Jane Bovell (Singing Lessons).....	18	Stephen Williams.....	1
Jo Song APNT (Therapeutic Massage).....	14	Tony Webb Services.....	10
Jon Winder (Chimney Sweep).....	20	Town & Country Plastering.....	11
Julie Ablett Homeopathy.....	17	Vivian Ray RCST craniosacral therapy.....	1
Kelsmor Dairy.....	8	Wellington Consulting.....	12
Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors.....	7	Williams Dental Care.....	23
Leabrink Quails.....	25	Woodcut Tree Surgery.....	15
Llama Trekking.....	2	Wormelow Filling Station.....	9
Lynne Bradley (Piano Lessons).....	18	Wye Electrical Services.....	6
		Wye Valley Footcare.....	19
		Wye Valley Group.....	7

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Index of Advertisers' Services

Agas, heating & plumbing services	2,4,8,11	Hedge cutting	24
Architectural services.....	24	Home help	1
Blacksmith	4	Ice Cream & Milk	8
Bookkeeping & accountants	6,12,20	Insurance services.....	5
Builders & decorators	1,2,4,11,13,17	Kindling.....	20
Car sales and repairs	1,9,21	Llama Trekking	2
Carpentry.....	1,4,13,15,17	Legal Services	7
Coatings	16	Machinery services	3,18
Computing	6,10	Maths tutoring.....	18
Counselling.....	19,21,22	Owl Community Support.....	22
Dentist	23	Pest Control services.....	12,20
Dowsing.....	2	Pet services	14
Electricians	4,6,8,17	Picture Framing	25
Farm shop	13	Piano lessons	18
Firewood.....	1,21	Pre-school/Toddler	5,17
Fitness	15	Quails eggs.....	25
Flooring.....	3	Septic Tank emptying	7
Florist.....	17	Singing lessons.....	6,18
Foot care	12,19,21	Skip Hire, recycling etc	7
Fruit juice	20	Small bale hay	20
Funeral services	2,6, 24	Soft furnishings.....	10
Garages.....	9	Sweeps.....	15,20
Gardening.....	10,14	Tools.....	18
Groundwork	10,16,22	Tree services ..	1,11,14,15,17,18
Health	1,6,13,14,17,20,23	Windows & Conservatories.....	2
		Window cleaning.....	19
		Village Halls & Community Centres	3,11,14