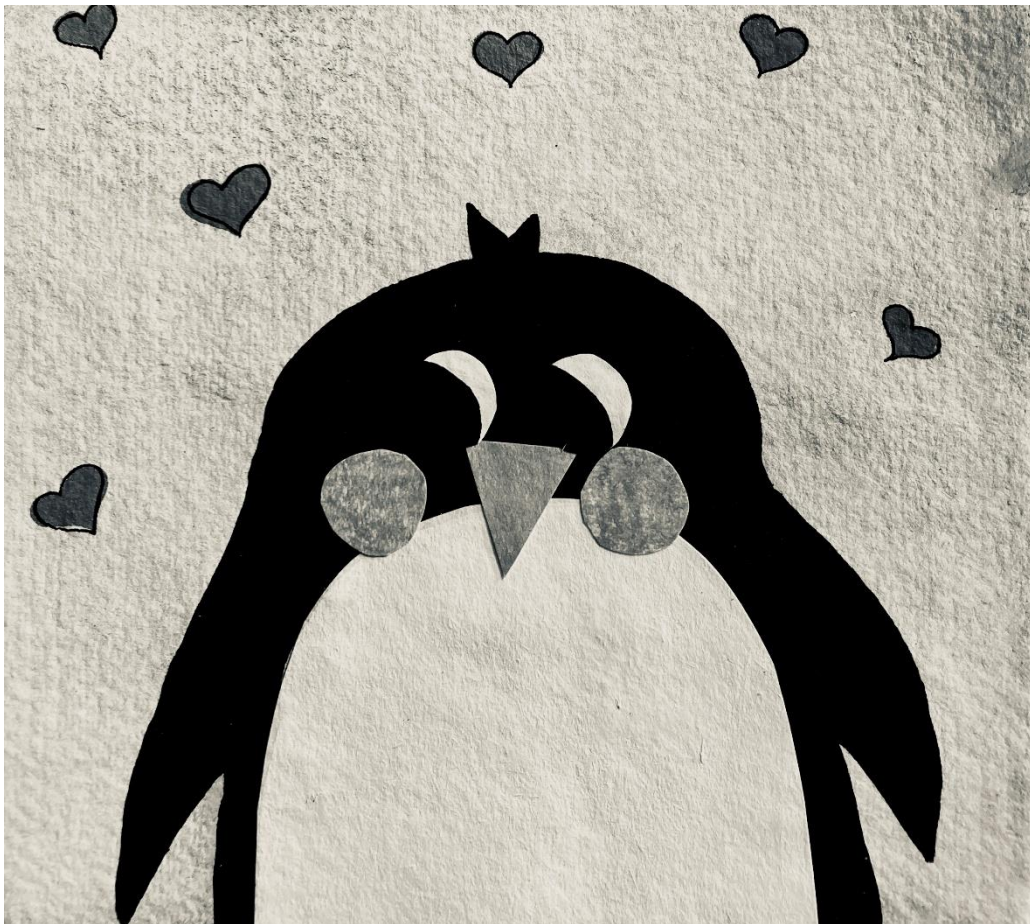


PARISH NEWS

OF

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

DECEMBER 2021



COVER PICTURE BY LOUISE BROSNAN

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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	Jude Loveridge.....	01981 241614
St Weonards Hall Booking	Anna Williams.....	01981 580195
St Weonards Pre-school	Maggie Evans	07855 550108
Singing Tree Choir	Hilary Smallwood	01600 614012
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:	Margaret Oubridge Tretire Smithy	01981 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:	Mark Hearne clerk@orcopparishcouncil.org Parish council website www.orcop.wordpress.com	01981 251887
St Weonards:	Mrs Kate Hughes Meadow View, St Weonards HR2 8QS clerk@stweonardsparishcouncil.org	01981 580498 07967 352903
Llanwarne:	Mark Hearne clerk@llanwarnegrouppc.co.uk	01981 251887
Hentland, Ballingham, Bolstone & Hentland:	Nicky Mackenzie clerk@ballinghambolstonehentland-pc.gov.uk	07581 353103

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

Hello Everyone,

December brings us to Advent in our liturgical calendar – so I want to start there.

In our busy world, we are always looking forward to the next great event, in this case Christmas, when family and friends get together and we all have a wonderful time – well at least according to the adverts on TV.

But our church calendar works slightly differently. Advent has always been about waiting and reflecting. Waiting on God and reflecting on the arrival of Jesus. It is not to say that we shouldn't have a party or a get together with those around us, I am all for that, but there has to be a firm foundation upon which the celebration is built. Otherwise, it just becomes one in a series of events to be "experiences" rather than cherished.

So what to do with Advent? We could simply use it to count down the days, eat the chocolate from our Advent Calendar and let the days slip by. Or we could do something a bit deeper! We could use the Deanery Prayer Diary (available on the Ross and Archenfield Deanery Facebook page) or use some other resource from Christian Aid, Tearfund or CPAS to develop our spiritual side, our reflective side, or even our biblical knowledge. There are some great resources out there, and for only 5 – 10 minutes a day, can help us to really appreciate Advent so that we are ready to welcome the Christ child on Christmas day.

With every blessing for a reflective and spiritual Advent (and a happy Christmas),

Revd Mark

December Benefice Service

Our December benefice service is at 10am on Sunday December 5th at 10am via Zoom. This will be the only service in our group of parishes on this day, so that we can all gather together and share each other's company and fellowship. It will be a Communion service.

If you are not already a member of our Zoom congregation, and would like to be, then please send me an email today at franjphillips@gmail.com

I hope to see you there—**Frances**



PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION



December 7th Tuesday, Colin Robinson 01600 750544

Try your hand at woodcarving

Kentchurch Carvings to illustrate Christ's life.

There's a small group of some practised wood carvers and some not who want more people to join them ... please!

In Kentchurch there's a workshop with good tools, light, warmth and companionship. There's a professional carver to guide us. There is no charge.

Ring **Clare Gray** on 01981 240 221 to arrange to come and see us on any Wednesday morning from 10.00 until 12.00. We're currently working on Christ on the Sea of Galilee amidst the storms. You could carve the waves or the boat or the people.

December Service Rota

For any changes please check the benefice website www.stw.org.uk

DECEMBER SERVICE ROTA

5 th December Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion	Zoom
12 th December Sunday	10.00am	All Age Christingle Service	St Weonards Church
	11.00am	Communion	Orcop Church
	3.00pm	Carol Service	Hentland Church
19 th December Sunday	11.00am	Carol Service	Hoarwithy Church
	3.00pm	Carols and Readings	Orcop Village Hall
	6.00pm	Tretire and Pencoyd outdoor nativity and carols	Old Manor House Pencoyd
22 nd December Wednesday	6.00pm	Carol Service	St Weonards Church
24 th December Friday	4.00pm	Crib Service	St Weonards Church
	11.00pm	Midnight Communion	St Weonards Church
	11.00pm	Midnight Communion	Hoarwithy Church
25 th December Saturday	11.00am	Holy Communion	Orcop Church
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Pencoyd Church
2 nd January Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion	Zoom

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

Iona style service on 2nd Sunday: PeterPember.plus.com

Evening Prayer at 6.30pm on 4th Sunday: elizabethmalcolm@outlook.com

Hereford Cathedral Events

Christmas Tours: Join us for a journey of festive discovery as we explore Christmas through the ages. These tours are a wonderful way to discover more about Hereford Cathedral during this very special season as our experienced guides share snippets of Christmas knowledge.

Tours will run on selected dates between Monday 6 – Friday 31 December

Tickets £7.50 available via the cathedral website. Ticket price includes a mince pie and hot drink from the Cathedral Café to be enjoyed after the tour.

Christmas Sparkle Organ Concert: Saturday 4 December, 1.15 pm

Lunchtime organ recital of Advent and Christmas favourites given by Peter Dyke, with large screen projection.

Admission is free but booking is required via herefordcathedral.org. There will be a retiring collection in support of Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust.

The First Celebration of Nine Lessons with Carols Lecture. Wednesday 8 December, 7 pm.

In this lecture, Howard Tomlinson will explore the service's origins and setting; its content and structure; and how it was adapted by Dean Milner-White at King's. The talk is based on new material from the Cornish archives at Kresen Kernow.

Tickets cost £8, available to buy online: www.herefordcathedral.org/events

Ex Cathedra: Christmas Music By Candlelight : Thursday 9 December, 7.30 pm

Ex Cathedra return to Hereford Cathedral with a concert of much-loved favourites, little-known gems and stunning new works. These are accompanied by a selection of readings, which together capture the meaning – and humour – of the season.

Tickets from Birmingham Symphony Hall Box Office 0121 780 3333, Courtyard Hereford 01432 340 555 or Cathedral Shop 01432 374 210.

Hereford Choral Society: Handel's Messiah. Saturday 11 December, 7.30 pm

A special candlelit performance by Hereford Choral Society with Marches Baroque. **Tickets available from: herefordchoralsociety.org/tickets**

ABF The Soldiers' Charity Christmas Concert: Tuesday 14 December, 7 pm

ABF's annual Christmas concert returns in all its glory, with school choirs, bands and even a guest appearance by members of a former rock band.

Tickets will be available from the Cathedral Shop, Tel 01432 374 210 and The Courtyard Box Office www.courtyard.org.uk/abf.

Hereford Cathedral Christmas Fair: Saturday 18 December, 9.30 am – 4 pm

Join us for our annual Christmas Fair with over forty stalls selling a range of festive produce. Admission free, with a collection to support the work of Hereford Cathedral. We will not be holding the Carols for Shoppers service this year but join us in the Cathedral Close at 12 noon for carol singing.

St Michael's Hospice 'Light Up A Life' Service: Sunday 19 December, 5.30 pm

Everyone welcome. Please visit st-michaels-hospice.org.uk for more information.

VILLAGE PAGES

ST WEONARDS

We were pleased to welcome Bill Taylor's family and friends to a memorial service at the church at the end of November. Bill had been so important in training many local people to ring bells, that it was fitting that they rung out joyfully before the service.

Harvest

With some additional donations, the proceeds of the harvest service and supper totalled £600 for the Boderlands Rural Chaplaincy. We took the harvest gifts to the Hereford Food Bank. Here is part of their letter:

Hereford Food Bank would like to offer sincere thanks to you and the congregation at St Weonards Church for your Harvest Thanksgiving gift to us. The past 18 months have been extremely challenging, and we are supporting an ever increasing number of families and it is only with the generosity of the local community that we can manage to provide enough food.

We are deeply concerned that the need for our service is rising but we are very thankful that we continue to receive so much help in terms of donations and also the support of so many volunteers. At present most of the items of food that we stock are very low, but we anticipate that these gifts that are given to us at Harvest time will aid us through the worst of the winter.

We shall continue to collect non-perishable items, and any donations can be left in the box provided in church.

All Age Service

Our All Age Service in November focused on climate change, linked to Remembrance. Many thanks for Gillie and her team for the beautiful poppy display. After the two minute silenced, we made a blue *river of prayer* through the church, from its source to its mouth. As we did this we considered the impact of climate change on struggling communities and how we are all involved in making a difference. Young and older people read prayers, and we created prayers on leaf-shaped paper to remind us of the value of trees for our planet. They are hanging in the church. Do take a look.

Archdeacon Derek Chedzey is celebrating communion with us on Sunday 28th November, and in preparation for Advent, we shall be making a large advent wreath to go round the font. So come and join us. As always we have delicious coffee, tea and cakes after the service and time to catch up with friends!

We begin our Christmas celebrations with Christingle at the All Age Service on 12th December. Come and join in and make a Christingle.

Bishop Richard is taking our midnight communion at the slightly earlier time of 11.00pm on Christmas Eve.

Join us at the Christmas Services at St Weonards in December

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Sunday 12 th | 10.00am All Age Service. Christingle. |
| Wednesday 22 nd | 6.00pm Carol Service. Hear the Christmas story, sing carols and enjoy mulled wine and mince pies afterwards! |
| Friday 24 th | 4.00pm Crib service for families. |
| | 11.00pm Midnight Communion celebrated by Bishop Richard |

We are gathering a *choir*, which includes children, to sing at the carol service on 22nd December at 6.00pm. Please save the date and if you would like to sing, please contact me on 01981 580 208 or fionamynors@btinternet.com. Come and enjoy singing the well-known favourites.

Richard Mynors

St Weonards Academy School News

Plans are now well underway at St Weonards Academy for the opening of Shining Stars Pre-School for children aged 2 & over. Opening January 2022, we invite any family with pre-school aged children to get in touch and arrange a tour of our setting or request an application pack. It would help the School greatly if the local community could be advocates of the new pre-school and spread the good news among our community.

The school made a wonderful donation to Ross Community Larder from the Harvest celebration assembly and enjoyed learning about Remembrance Day, taking part in a 2 minute silence at 11am following a special remembrance assembly.

There is much excitement growing in the school for the festive period that is quickly approaching, we are hopeful that parents will be able to attend school to watch the children perform in their Christmas Show, Christmas dinner is organised for the last week of term and many more festive celebrations will be enjoyed.

The schools Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) have been working hard to promote the school and raise vital funds. They held a Halloween Party for all the children within the school and have organised a wonderful Christmas Raffle. They are grateful to all local businesses that donated prizes and are selling raffle tickets on behalf of the school. The draw takes place on Wednesday 8th December 2021. If you would like tickets please do pop into the office at School between 9am & 12pm or get them from St Weonards shop.

Should you wish to know anything about St Weonards Academy or Shining Stars Pre School please do get in touch with me, Mrs Anna Williams, Office Administrator. Tel: 01981 580352 Email: admin@stweonards.hmfa.org.uk

Perry Pears update



As 2021 makes way for 2022 it is perhaps a good time to reflect on our first year at Mivals Cottage Old Farm and give you an update on our lives with perry pears. People have been so welcoming, and we are settling in nicely. I have had an overwhelming response from my last article, and we have heard from all sorts of people all over Herefordshire and beyond all with information, questions and asking me to take a look at their trees. Most importantly from a conservation point of view, I am grafting rare and endangered trees for people I have got to know – which I am more than happy to do in exchange for a few perry pears to press for my hobby of making craft single variety perry.

We get all sorts of queries from all sorts of people, and I have been asked if I am the perry pear man quite frequently which is an absolute honour to be associated with such majestic and culturally important trees. I was asked for photographs for CAMRA's (Campaign for Real Ale) recent publication Modern British Cider by international cider connoisseur Gabe Cook, and for a book essentially about apples and cider. I managed to get a photo of perry pears in there somehow! I'm not obsessed honest.

I am very pleased to tell you that in 2022 I will be concentrating on grafting some super rare perry varieties from our very own Herefordshire. Such as the dubious sounding Dead Boy from Ross on Wye, as well as some equally rare and wonderful varieties from just across the border in Monmouthshire. It has to be said they have some awesome perry pears such as Betty Prosser, a variety which I will be grafting for Jeremy and Clare of Cwm Maddoc cider and perry in Broad Oak. I rate Jeremy as one of the UK's top cider and perry makers. His Betty Prosser perry is something to behold and is one of his signature bottles- if you have not tried Cwm Maddoc yet, it comes highly recommended.

Our perry pear grafts remain in pots until we acquire a field to plant them in our dream a heritage orchard cum wildlife sanctuary. With the right approach a working, productive orchard that also boosts biodiversity and provides habitat is easily obtainable simply by applying such things as companion planting.

This is something we have been experimenting with in our grafts in pots, and are trialling companions for pears such as chives, catmint, comfrey, and broad beans. Some companions repel pests, others feed the roots over winter. In the case of the beans, they fix nitrogen, attract pollinators and aid the grafting process. It is easy to make an organic rooting hormone from dried legumes; simply sprout the beans or peas on damp paper or towel and once they begin to sprout, crush them and add to rainwater. I figured this hormone must also leach into the soil as the bean germinates and sprouts, and that it may aid grafts taking as well as cuttings. Our trials showed that grafts were 100% successful when planted with broad beans or peas, and the foliage was stronger and healthier. But although peas seemed to help the grafting process, the mature plants inhibit young pear trees- so broad beans are the way to go.

The key thing with companion planting with fruit trees on a larger scale is not too much of one thing in one place. It's important to aim for companion polycultures rather than growing one crop in blocks or patches. I have a friend who planted a glut of true comfrey in one patch with the aim to make enough organic liquid fertiliser for his orchard and veg patch in a very sustainable way. The comfrey established and this provided the perfect habitat for codling moths which devastated his fruit trees. It is important not to swap one monoculture for another, no matter how good our intentions may be.

As for the rest of the garden, we did not get as much done as we should have liked in terms of installing a vegetable patch. However we have started many perennials in pots and laid membranes plotting out the patch ready for next year. These membranes will help kill off the weeds without chemical intervention or the need to disrupt soil structure too much. Instead we plan to disturb the surface a little and add fertility- almost no-dig! These membranes will also help save the grass in other parts of the garden by virtue of diverting foot traffic. We are very excited about next year as the soil here is magnificent and what we did grow, grew very well indeed. We did grow a lot of open pollinated French and runner beans on a large a-frame purposely for a seed harvest, which was very successful, but very hard not to eat! But our restraint this year will mean bigger healthier crops next.

So that our first year here, a year of challenges for most people especially gardeners and farmers with late frosts, torrents of rain, extended periods of aridness and who could forget the great aphid invasion of 2021? Our plants certainly took a battering but the lady bird cavalry turned up eventually and munched their way back to a balanced population, better late than never....

Onwards and upwards! **Jack Worthington**

GARWAY

Dennis Benjamin

Connie, Pauline and Anthony, Gerald and Christine, and family, would like to thank everybody for their cards and letters, kind support and offers of help following the death of Dennis Benjamin. The many acts of kindness and sympathy have been much appreciated. Also, thank you for the very generous donations to Garway Church and St. Michaels Hospice in memory of Dennis. **Ruth Maskell**

Garway Primary School and Pre-school

The whole school spent some time considering COP26, what it is and how it hopes to inspire positive action to address the issues arising due to climate change. David Attenborough addressed the conference and asked world leaders to take real action. The pupils have an impressive knowledge and understanding, enormous concern and real passion over issues.

As a school, the pupils have considered how they can take positive action for the future. Every child in the school has made their own 'climate pledge' which have been displayed on a 'Tree of Hope' just inside the entrance foyer. This activity has been led by pupils, particularly the three Year 6 members of our 'Green Team' (Leo, George and Robyn) who created the display themselves. Green Team members will be leading positive actions over the coming months and will be keeping our school community updated through our school newsletter and through whole school assemblies.

Anti-bullying week and road safety awareness have also taken place and parents and the community are asked to help with the road safety matters:

- Keep the driving speed within the 30 mph speed limit through the village
- Park considerately so that the area outside the school does not become congested
- Keep the school main entrance clear of vehicles (observe the yellow zig zag lines!) to maintain visibility
- Drop off children swiftly in the mornings so car parking spaces at the village hall are freed up for the next family.

Pre-school have been exploring another element of the weather and that is the wind. They've experimented making windsocks and windmills and tested how they move against light and strong winds. They have also been looking out for signs of wind in the environment, including watching how the tree branches sway which the autumn leaves to fall down.

Congratulations to the PSA for the extremely successful bonfire and fireworks event which raised an amazing £2300 profit for the school. Many thanks to all who supported it and gave of their time in the organisation. **Fiona Mynors**

Armistice Day at Garway Church

Friends of Garway Church joined with Garway School in remembrance of those who died in wars. The church was packed with the whole school; the tiny ones at the front and the older children behind with members of the public on chairs and in the choir.

The children had prepared poems, readings and the school song. This was followed by a recording of the Last Post, the two minutes silence and the Reveille. At this point the youngest children filed out into the chapel for a drink of orange and a biscuit and a return to school.

There were five men from Garway who died in WW1. Frank Nicholls, uncle of Graham Nicholls at Broad Oak Garage; William Fowler of Tennessfield Farm. Benjamin Badham who worked at Oaklands Farm; William Walford who lived at Glanmonnow and Robert Benjamin who lived on Garway Common and was the great uncle of Gerald Benjamin.

The stories of who these men were, and where they died was told. The remembrance ended with Elgar's Nimrod variation played by the Band of the Coldstream Guards. The older children had a drink and biscuits before they walked back to school.

It was a very moving occasion made more so by the exemplary way in which the children sat quietly throughout. *Joan Thomas*

Decorating Garway Church



Saturday December 4th at 10.30am

The Friends of Garway Church invite you to come and help us decorate Garway Church ready for Christmas.

Or come and join us for coffee, sherry and mince pies while we sing carols from about 11.30am

Carols on Garway Common

Saturday 18th December at 6pm

Keep this date!

Carols, mulled wine, soft drinks and surprise festive guests – never before seen in Garway!!

The children will love this!

Absolutely not to be missed!!



With thanks to Pengethley Farm Shop

Garway Christmas Windows

Following the huge success of last year's Christmas windows the Spice Girls are inviting you to decorate your front window – with lights if possible – for everyone to enjoy over the Christmas period.



Lights on by December 1st please.



On Thursday morning December 16th the children from Garway School will once again walk the village to admire the windows, stopping for hot chocolate and biscuits on the common at 10.30am

Come and join us!



Garway Coffee Morning



Tuesday December 7th 10.15 – 12.15

Coffee, tea, cake, mince pies, Christmas craft activities

Post Office, library, and refill service – bring your own bottles to stock up on washing up liquid, soap, shampoo and much more.

In the Community Hall

Garway Spice Girls look forward to welcoming you all.

Garway School and the Singing Tree



Come along and join in this community event to start invite you to the return of

A Village Christmas Friday December 10th at 5pm

In the Community Hall

Carols, bells, mulled wine, mince pies, Christmas biscuits, Christingle

All ages welcome

Free entry – donations invited for Garway Primary School and Garway Church





FLICKS IN THE STICKS GARWAY

Tuesday December 14th 7.30pm
THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD
Garway Hall, £5.00.

Oh, dear reader, how you will enjoy this film! There could be nothing better than this sparkling, life affirming adaptation of Charles Dickens's novel – a perfect pre-Christmas delight. Director Armando Iannucci (Veep, Alan Partridge), has created a movie which would have Charles Dickens himself shouting bravo! from the cheap seats. It's a Copperfield which will take you on a whirlwind revisionist ride through the life of young David, now become a writer, who looks back and wonders whether he is going to be able to be the hero in his own life. The highlights are Hugh Laurie as the meltingly kind, soft in the head Mr Dick, whose simplicity becomes a kind of wisdom, Tilda Swinton as David's aunt, champion of women and obsessed by keeping donkeys off her lawn and Peter Capaldi (The Thick of It) as the down on his luck Mr Micawber who, when asked if he is homeless, cheerfully replies "We do primarily exist al fresco" adding "Every meal is a picnic!" Dev Patel (Slumdog Millionaire), plays David with great flair in a production where the casting is triumphantly colour-blind. It's an up-beat take on Copperfield which will propel you towards Christmas applauding all that's kind, eccentric and indomitable in the world. Doors open at 7.00pm and the interval is back for the usual partaking of delicious refreshments. The beneficent ghost of Christmas present will also be offering festive mulled wine and mince pies. It will help us if you can reserve a seat by emailing clarea.hollowash@gmail.com More information and a trailer to whet your appetite on www.facebook.com/GarwayFlicks

Live Music @GARWAY

We returned last month with a magical evening performed by "The Meadows" a family folk band, but this month we have a totally different evening featuring "The Quarry Katz" from Oxford.

They describe themselves as playing authentic 50's and early 60's Rock'n'Roll. It should be an evening of fun and excitement which will be a great beginning to the holiday season. It all happens at

8.00pm on Saturday December 11th with the doors open at 7.30pm

Admission is being kept at £10 and can be booked in advance at www.ticketsource.co.uk/atgarway The bar can now take card payments but the door will be cash or ticket only. Hope to see you there.

Graham Bevan

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.

Tuesday 21st December 2021 at 7.30pm in Garway Community Centre

CHRISTMAS PARTY AND QUIZ

Bring and Share Supper

The MVHR (Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery) installed in the Centre provides fresh filtered air into the building whilst retaining most of the energy that has already been used in heating the building. The heat recovery ventilation system provides a constant supply of fresh filtered air, maintaining the air quality whilst being practically imperceptible. The rate of air exchange increases with increasing numbers of people/use of the building and an increase in the level of CO2 as monitored by the system.

MVHR works quite simply by extracting the stale air from the various rooms in the building. The extracted air is taken through a central heat exchanger and the heat recovered into the fresh filtered supply air. This works both ways, if the air temperature inside the building is colder than the outside air temperature then the coolth is maintained in the building.

But, if you're worried you might find it too cold, we have the means to control that too. We're happy to adjust the temperature to suit our audience!

Lockdown – An anthology of newsletters produced by Garway Heritage Group during Covid lockdowns will be available for sale at £10 per copy. Ideal Christmas Present!

Contact us at www.garwayheritagegroup.co.uk GHGmembership@btinternet.com

ORCOP

After more than a page Orcop News in the November issue, there is not much to report for December, except to remind you of the arrangements for Christmas: On 12th December the 11 am communion service will be led by the Revd. Crispin Pemberton and on Sunday December 19th at 3pm there will be a community celebration around readings and carols in the Parish Hall (advertised separately in this issue). On Christmas Day, an 11am communion service will be led by the Revd. Fran Phillips.

It is good to see the Parish Hall booked for a “citizen science” training session by CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) relating to monitoring of pollution on the Wye tributaries (see separate article).

Our thanks go to Lesley Cross for her prompt and positive response to the appeal in last month’s mag. for a volunteer to distribute magazines around Bagwyllidyart. We obviously hope that Larry Smith will be able to resume his round in due course, but Leslie has kindly agreed to take it on until then.

Margaret Fletcher, Churchwarden



CAROLS IN ORCOP HALL DECEMBER SUNDAY 13th 3.00pm

AN INFORMAL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND READINGS

To be followed by mince pies, mulled wine and seasonal bonhomie All Welcome! No charge: Modest donations invited to Orcop Church

OWL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH Wednesday 8th December

The Owl Good Neighbours will hold their Christmas lunch. It will be 12.30 for 1pm and cost £12, payable on the day. There is a reduction for children. If you have special dietary requirements, such as vegan or gluten free please let Dexi 01981 540268 or Jane 01981 241310 know.

The meal will consist of a traditional home cooked turkey roast with all the trimmings. An alternative will be available. There will be a choice of puddings and a glass of Christmas drink.

All are welcome and all ages. It would be helpful if you are not a regular at the lunches to let us know you intend to join us, for the purpose of catering numbers.

We look forward to seeing you all. This has always been an informal and jolly event and Owl Good Neighbours are pleased to be able to hold it this year.

There will not be a community lunch in January.

Jane Rigler.

Orcop Neighbourhood Development Plan – Update November 2021

The Environmental Report/Habitats Regulation Assessment has been received from Herefordshire Council, and approved after minor amendments. The NDP v4 has been sent to Parish Councillors, and approval by the Parish Council was requested at their meeting on 17 November.

The 'Action Plan' detailing work for the public presentation [Regulation 14] has been discussed with the Planning Consultant at a Steering Group meeting. We are scheduling the drop-in public consultation event for all residents in Orcop Parish Hall on a day in December. This is where everyone can comment on the NDP, ask questions and suggest amendments. Publicity notices will be circulated beforehand, as well as giving the opportunity to as many people as possible to view the draft NDP. Documents will be placed on the Parish Council website.

Margaret and Graham Bowen have now moved away from the area and we welcome Theresa Murphy to the Steering Group.

for further information please contact **Mark Hearne**, Orcop Parish Clerk, tel 01981 251887 clerk@orcopparishcouncil.org

CITIZEN SCIENCE TO SAVE THE WYE

Most readers will probably be aware of the state of Herefordshire's wonderful River Wye, widely regarded as England's finest river. It is now in danger of dying. The effects of pollution have already decimated the fish, wildlife and flora for which the river is famous.

The Environment Agency believes the problem is mainly down to phosphates arising from intensive chicken farming in the upper catchment. They lack the funding required to pinpoint the sources of such pollution and therefore they are unable to work with farmers to mitigate its effects. To address this problem, a "Citizen Science" initiative has been set up, through a partnership of the Environment Agency, Cardiff University, The Wye and Usk Foundation and CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England). An advertisement placed for two weeks in the Hereford Times yielded 420 volunteers. This is a clear indication of the depth of concern amongst the population of Herefordshire regarding the fate of their river.

The initiative is gathering momentum on the northern tributaries and I have been involved in training volunteers on the Upper Frome and Tedstone Brook, north of Bromyard. The enthusiasm and commitment of the volunteers is amazing and very encouraging.

The southern tributaries, including the Garron, which rises on Garway Hill and flows through the Orcop Basin, will be monitored separately under the direction of Andrew McRobb. This part of the programme will commence the training of volunteers at evening meetings, the first of which will be held in Orcop Parish Hall on 10th November and the second in Carey.

So, if you see someone in a high-viz waistcoat hanging over the parapet of a bridge on the Garron you will know what they are up to. Please slow down and give them a wide berth!

Peter Garratt

TRETIRE WITH MICHAELCHURCH AND PENCLOYD

As I write this at the end of the first week of November, I would say that we have had a surprisingly unseasonal start to the month of November. Last month I quoted from Keats' "To Autumn"; this month I was minded of Thomas Hood's poem "No". which ends with "no shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees, no fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds, November! Well, here at Tretire, virtually none of that was the case, for we've picked raspberries, and plenty of flowers; have seen butterflies and bees; there are still plenty of leaves on the trees, and the sun has shone part of everyday till today, the 10th! There have been several short frosts, but only the last one actually scorched the Dahlias and the Nasturtiums.

October was also a delightfully mild month with plenty of sunshine, and we were pleased that we had arranged a few days away in the Lake District. Soon after our return we heard our churchwarden had succumbed to Covid. She was unable to join us for the service of Holy Communion at Pencoyd church on Sunday 17th, which Rev Frances Phillips kindly led for us.

Richard Mynors played for us, and we prepared the church in Elizabeth's absence, with help from Rosemary Evans. By the following Sunday she was sufficiently recovered and officially out of isolation, so able to lead the evening service at Tretire, attended by just 5 people. The absence of a vicar in our Benefice is making the holding of services in our churches more difficult, but the numbers attending such services as we have in Tretire and Pencoyd don't do justice to the amount of time in setting up and planning them. The pool of retired clergy available before the pandemic, is diminishing due to age, wariness of catching Covid and some simply want a rest from the relentless call.

The diocese is unable to supply our deanery with enough clergy for every benefice to have their own vicar. As a result, our rural dean, Rev Sean Semple held a number of meetings to explain the situation now facing all the parishes in our deanery. What is becoming clear is that more services in our churches will need to be lay led. Hence we now have a regular Evening Prayer at Pencoyd or Tretire Church on the 4th Sunday which we are so fortunate to have led for us by members of the congregation, church warden. We hope to secure clerical support through 2022 across both churches which will include some communion services.

Rev Frances Phillips is holding a Zoom Holy Communion service every 1st Sunday of the month; St Weonards hold an All Age service twice a month, one of which is usually a communion, and a communion service is also held at Orcop on a 2nd Sunday. Frances leads a communion service in one of our churches every 3rd Sunday, and Hentland has a Communion service every 4th Sunday. So there is at least one service in our benefice every Sunday, and most of us are fortunate enough to be able to drive to the church holding it. This is "church" for us for the foreseeable future.

Our PCC met on 28th October, and amongst other matters, inevitably the subject of services at Christmas was raised. We all considered that the carols held in the Vaughan's grounds last Christmas, was a huge

success. There were several young people illustrating the Nativity story read by Elizabeth, our churchwarden; James Snell provided musical backing for the carol singing, and refreshments were served round the firepits afterwards. We were all enthusiastic to repeat this venture, and considered several kind proposals of venue. After much consideration the plan for this Christmas carol gathering is that it should again be held, by kind invitation of Tom and Sarah Vaughan, on the evening of Sunday 19th December, following a similar pattern to last year.

There will be a service of Holy Communion at Pencoyd church at 11.00am on Christmas morning, kindly led for us by Rev Brian Phillips, a retired minister from Ross, who has is known to many of us as he has led services for us in the past. We are deeply indebted to him as he will have already taken a Midnight Communion service in Weston under Penyard and to Chris Snell for securing his services for the morning. An excellent opportunity to add some more life with decorations in the church.

We have been saddened to hear that Llewellyn Davies, who had been recovering well after a slow start, from his surgery in October, has had a further set back and been back in hospital. He is home again now, and we wish him all the best, and hope that he proves this time to be truly on the road to recovery.

We also wish the very best results to surgery and subsequent nursing care for Linda Miles. We hope you are home soon Linda, and nursed back to health within your loving family.

Margaret Oubridge

HENTLAND

With COVID still about, the Dason Court Wassail planned for Sunday 5th December will not now take place. It will be rescheduled for a date next Spring.

The Completion of the Chancel Restoration

To celebrate the completion of the work to restore John Pollard Seddon's scheme of decoration in the chancel at St Dubricius, an organ recital with songs was held in the church on Tuesday 12th October. The project included the complete dismantling of the 1869 J W Walker organ to give access to the plaster on the north wall, where a large section had fallen away some years ago, and where an adjoining section was now showing signs of following suit. Shortly after completion of the work, organ builder David Gallichan and his assistant former organ scholar Kevin Holmes completed the rebuilding of the Grade 1 -listed organ, so all was set to let the organ be heard and the revived decoration admired.

An organ recital seemed the obvious way to celebrate, but with a plentiful supply of skilled local organists, professional and amateur, who to invite to come and perform? In the end, we decided that the organ should be shown off not only as a recital instrument, but also as one to accompany, so we needed a singer as well. Ruairi Bowen, second son of Geraint, director of music at Hereford Cathedral, seemed an obvious

choice and likely to be available with the general lack of work for musicians during the Covid shutdown. Ruairi had grown up in the cathedral circle and with him, was John Challenger, who was now organist at Salisbury Cathedral and son of Stephen, secretary of the Diocesan Advisory Committee. We found a date when they were both available, and, still mindful of the need for social distancing, we invited about fifty from the local community. Admission was free, though all were invited to contribute to a retiring collection. The entire cost of the performance was generously met by a grant from the Alan Cadbury Charitable Foundation.

John and Ruairi devised a sandwich of a programme, with the outer layers all by English composers ranging from late-Renaissance William Byrd, to Kenneth Leighton who died in 1988. The filling was Baroque, with two works each by Handel and J S Bach, one by each sung by Ruairi. A member of the audience described it as a WONDERFUL CONCERT, with Ruairi 'singing his heart out', and John's playing as 'astounding'.

Robin Symonds

HOARWITHY

Hoarwithy Christmas Services

Please come and enjoy the Christmas story in our

Carol Service

at St Catherine's church on

Sunday December 19th at 11 am,

followed at 12.15 by a Christmas get-together and lunch:

a Festive Welcome Drink.

Hot Pork Rolls with a Vegetarian option and mince pies.

Our **Midnight Communion** service on Christmas Eve will start at the slightly earlier time than usual of **11pm.**

Keep Your Old Banger on the Road and Save the Planet!



With COP26 shining the spotlight on global warming, you might well be considering disposing of your petrol or diesel internal combustion (ICE) vehicle and buying a plug-in electric car (EV) to save carbon emissions. If so, read on:

Recent Japanese research and mathematical modelling (Nakamoto Y. and S. Kagawa, Journal of Industrial Ecology, 2021) has concluded that "Extending the lifetime of new and used [gasoline cars] will be highly

important as we make the transition to alternative fuel vehicles. In other words, we can reduce CO₂ emissions just by keeping and driving cars longer.”

The average life span of ICEs in Japan is 13.3 years and this is thought to be typical for developed countries. The modelling estimates that extending the lifetime of ICEs by 10% (about 16 months) could reduce carbon emissions by 30.7 million tonnes and if new ICE car buyers kept their vehicles for 10% longer this would lead to a similar reduction of 26.4 million tonnes. (It is not clear from the article, but it is assumed that these figures relate to global reductions).

A typical family car with an internal combustion engine (ICE) will emit about 24 tonnes of carbon dioxide over its life on the road. An EV will typically generate 18 tonnes, of which 46%, or about 8.3 tonnes arises from manufacture. This is about twice as much as arises from manufacture of an ICE vehicle.

Earlier research (Hans Eric Melin, Circular Energy Storage Research and Consulting , 2019) estimates that manufacturing an EV generates carbon emissions equivalent to driving 12000 to 90000 kms in a diesel vehicle. The lower figure has little significance, but the higher means that an EV might only have a positive climate impact after 7 years on the road.

All of this is rather simplistic. The climate change implications of going electric are very complex and need to take on board many issues, not least the environmental impacts of lithium-iron battery manufacture, recycling and final disposal and the impacts of recycling and scrapping of both ICEs and EVs. However, setting aside these complexities, let us consider the simple case of a retired motorist in rural Herefordshire. He or she will probably be covering a relatively low annual mileage, perhaps 6000 miles, or 10000kms, in an ICE car perhaps 5 to 10 years old. Nothing can be done about the emissions created by the manufacture of this vehicle. Our motorist may be considering selling (or scrapping) this car and buying an EV. He or she will have considered issues such as range per charge and access to charging points and will be influenced by the need to save the planet.

If we assume our theoretical vehicle emits 150 g/km of CO₂, it will emit 1.5 tonnes per annum. New cars now emit about 120g/km.

If it is replaced by an EV, that vehicle will already have been responsible for 8.3 tonnes of emissions in manufacture, so it will be more than 5 years before it has any benefit.

A further factor not considered here is the source of electricity to charge the EV. If this is not entirely from renewable sources the EV will be clocking-up further carbon emissions.

This article does not seek to argue against the Government’s decision to ban the sale of new ICE vehicles from 2030. In the medium to long term this will obviously deliver major carbon reduction benefits.

However, for those ICE vehicles already on the road and those that will be purchased up to 2030, there is a powerful argument for keeping them going for as long as possible.

In summary, we should not feel guilty if we chose to hang on to our venerable vehicles for a few years longer. This assumes, of course, that they are maintained so as to avoid excessive emissions arising from mechanical decrepitude!

A further indirect benefit is that our wonderful local garages should be busy on the vehicles they know and understand for many years to come.

Peter Garratt

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Book Review

***Gotta Get Theroux This* by Louis Theroux**

It is hard to understand how a man of Theroux's intellect could have agreed to such a cringe-worthy clunky title for his autobiography. He describes it as an "unfunny pun", but he comes to like it over time. Perhaps I need more time.

Theroux is Anglo-American, the child of middle class intellectual hippy-leaning parents, who none-the-less sent him to public school from where he moved on to Oxford.

I hardly need to exert myself to write this review, as Theroux himself has analysed the assets and faults of his own book in his *Afterword*. And he is pretty accurate.

Having accepted a substantial advance for the book, he was under an obligation to proceed, but, he observes: "*The truth was, I didn't like the idea of revealing my personal secrets, and still less trespassing on the private lives of those close to me.*" The nearest to personal he gets is the title.

And this is evident in his writing, which tells you little about the man himself, but does reel off endless laborious chapters on the subject of the behind the scenes process of funding and creating documentaries. As he says himself: "*...there are parts of the book that are little more than rehashes of the programmes, which don't add that much...*" Indeed so.

However, his averred qualms of conscience about whether his programmes might be seen as exploitative is a running thread. He presents himself as a man with moral standards which inform both how he approaches his subjects individually and also his desire for his encounters to be "authentic" – for example, when he greets someone on screen, it is said to genuinely be the first time they have met – he was not prepared to act out a first meeting.

Jimmy Saville is his most notorious subject and a large chunk of the book is given over to detailing how these films came about and Theroux's strange relationship with him. Theroux succumbs to Savile's sinister charisma – at one time he had a room in his own house for when Savile came to stay - whilst also betraying that he was aware that there was an undercurrent of evil and exploitation ticking away beneath the exterior, which he, like many others, found hard to pin down. Why then the apparent friendship? No wonder his conscience is troubled – it jolly well should be. He describes Savile's interactions with people as "transactional" and that is certainly true with Theroux. Savile got what he wanted from Theroux in a most chilling fashion.

The descriptions of some of Savile's misdeeds make harrowing reading and it is very hard to believe that the authorities in the hospitals and other institutions into which he inveigled himself could have had no idea what was going on. A brief visit to patients (some of them children) in their rooms would be time enough time for Savile to momentarily grope and abuse them, sometimes virtually in full view of staff. It is astounding how much people are prepared to ignore to be close to glitz and glamour, hoping that it might somehow rub off on them. Theroux himself is not exempt. And of course, we cannot ignore the financial motives behind the turned heads. There were health facilities that relied heavily on him for fund-raising; another cogent reason for properly funding our health services.

Whilst revealing little of himself, Theroux consciously seeks to present himself as a slightly incompetent, emotionally repressed man of high principles. *"I always used to worry that I was too normal and boring.writing the book taught me that I'm not that normal, that I am f***ed up in my own special way."* *"The biggest favour the book bestowed on me: showing me what an idiot I really am."*

I don't buy into all that – pull the other leg Louis. By the end of the book I felt that I was being manipulated and that this highly intelligent man knew exactly what this piece of PR was about. The faux wide-eyed innocence that characterises his documentaries is here in abundance – and very tedious it is too.

Hilary Smallwood

Wildlife in our Garden

We had quite a mild October, with bees, dragonflies and butterflies still busy. The commonest of the latter were Commas and Red Admirals, with a few Tortoiseshells on the last of the buddleia flowers. At first November looked like continuing the same, but then came two or three frosty nights, since when insects have largely disappeared and several sorts of flowers have begun to wilt.

Visitors to our low wall have dwindled, not surprising since we were away for several days a few times in October and didn't put out food regularly. The voles have stopped showing themselves now and we hardly see a dunnock. There are occasional chaffinches, a male whom we think is "Scruff", but it is hard to be sure as he really looks pretty normal, just a little less smart than male chaffinches usually look. The resident robin is very cross and attacks him as soon as he appears on the wall. Interestingly, the robin doesn't seem to take so much notice of the female chaffinches. There are also a pair of blackbirds, a jay, and a wren.



We didn't put out any feeders till early November but, as soon as we did, there were the blue tits and great tits back again. It is noticeable though that they seem much more enthusiastic about getting the seeds and nuts on cold mornings than on mild ones. Today we also saw a goldfinch.

Squirrels have not been too much bother yet. One of them is very odd: he or she has hardly any hairs on the tail; also it does not prance in that fluid, undulating manner so typical of squirrels, rather it hops in a manner reminiscent of a kangaroo! I think it has been injured at some time and its back leg action has become impaired. We wonder how good its climbing is. We will watch with interest.



Another bird which I haven't seen since the spring is a pied wagtail who reappeared on our roof in October. He or she never comes near the feeders, but then wagtails feed on insects; they seem to like slate, stone, rock or tarmac surfaces which the sun warms when it shines and where insects congregate. I'm sure you will have seen them in car parks, running around and hopping about catching flies in mid air. They often live in an urban environment. Their song is a high pitched, thin whistle, heard both when on the ground and when flying, which some folk say sounds like "chiswick". In London, I gather they have earned the nickname of the "Chiswick Flyover"!

John Oubridge, 10th November 2021.

Chuckle Corner

Think about it?

It's not an optical illusion. It just looks like one.

Two can live as cheaply as one, for half as long.

Is there another word for synonym?

Quiz panic answers

Name something you wash once a week-self.

Which birthday do you dread most? My wife's.

Name something the British are famous for-driving on the wrong side of the road.

What's the highest mountain in Britain? Etna.

A tale from headship

Having taught and led departments in academic senior schools, mostly teenage boys, taking on the headship of an all girls' prep school of 3 to 11 year olds had its challenging and amusing moments. Unlike senior schools which usually involved a 'talk', our assemblies were much more interactive. Being new to these and wanting to get organised, I planned weekly themes for assemblies As we were in a rural area I thought the topic of 'Farming' pretty safe.

Friday was my day for the whole school assembly which included the nursery and all the staff. After singing our hymn and a brief introduction, I started with what I regarded as a straightforward question. 'What do cows give us?' A forest of eager hands went up. I decided to choose a bright young lady from Reception to

answer. I vaguely remembered her parents were consultants at the local hospital and should have been more wary.

'Cows give us BSE,' she offered with great authority. I managed to hold back the laugh that was bubbling up inside me. This was more than Year 6 managed, sitting at the back, and the staff looked away with shaking shoulders. Where to go from there? We got round to *milk*, but by then the point of the assembly seemed lost. That experience made me think rather more carefully about any questions I planned to pose, and to be prepared for anything! ***Fiona Mynors***

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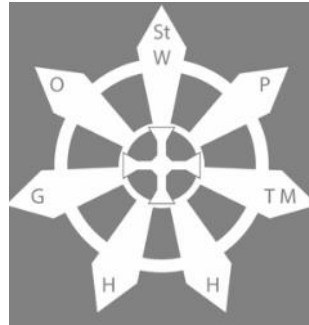


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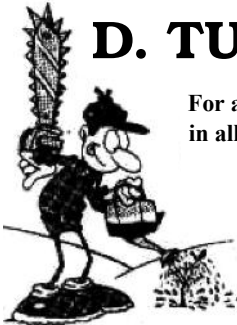
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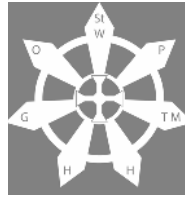
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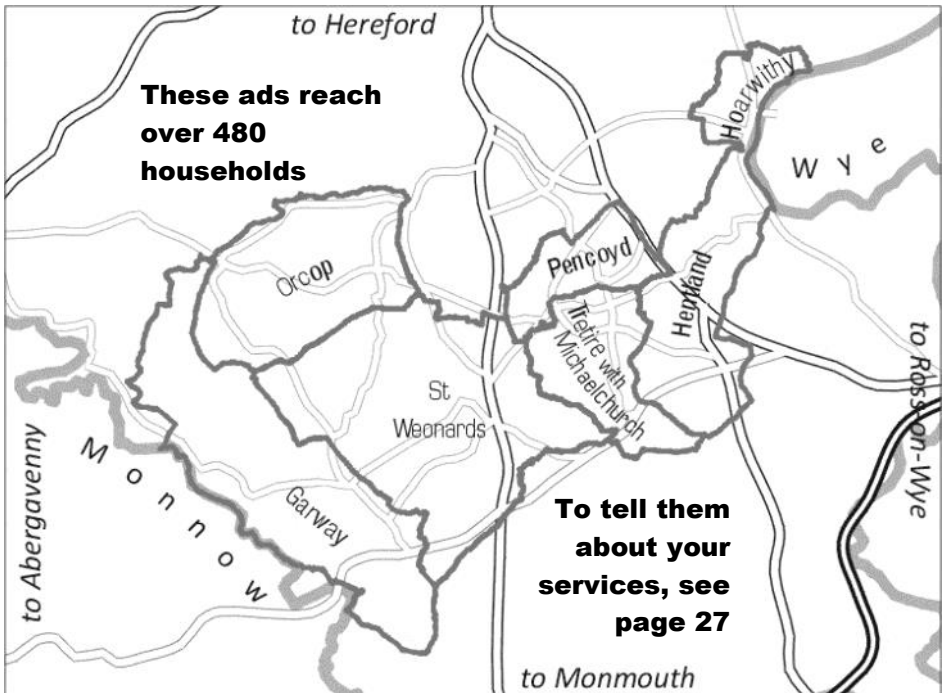
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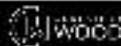
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