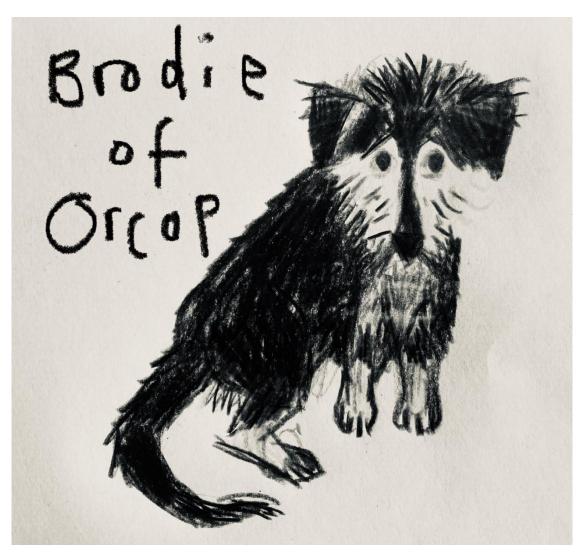
PARISH NEWS

OF

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

APRIL 2022



"Brodie" by Louise Brosnan

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CONTACTS IN THE ST WEONARDS GROUP OF PARISHES

Churchwardens

| St. Weonards Orcop Garway | Richard Mynors Margaret Fletcher Vacant | 01981 580208 01981 540790 |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Tretire & Pencoyd | Elizabeth Malcolm | 01989 730201 |
| Hoarwithy | Peter Pember Jeff Goulding | 01432 840254 01432 840492 |
| Hentland | Mr Robin Symonds | 01989 730439 |
| Local Contacts | | |
| Editor Parish Magazine | Fiona Mynors | 01981 580208 |
| Group Choir | Sir Richard Mynors | 01981 580208 |
| Bellringing | Mr Peter Hallewell | 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,Tearfund | Mrs Fay Rowlands | 01600 750242 |
| Orcop Hall Bookings | Jude Loveridge | 01981 241614 |
| St. Weonards Hall | Anna Williams | 01981 580195 |
| St Weonards Pre-school | Anna Williams | 01981 580352 |
| Singing Tree choir | Hilary Smallwood | 01600 614012 |
| Garway Hall Bookings | | hires@garwayhall.org |
| Garway Pre-school | Julie Jones | 01600 750273 |
| @Garway | Graham Bevan | 01981 580215 |
| Flicks in the Sticks Much Dewchurch | Claire Adamson | 01600 750465 |
| Gardening Club | Linda Ashton | 01981 540804 |
| OWL Good Neighbours | Jane Rigler | 07940 030 8696 |
| Dore CommunityTransport | J | 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 116 123 free calls

> 0330 094 5717 local call rates apply jo@samaritans.org 0870 1704000

HOPEline UK (Prevention of Young Suicide) 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 01600 750454

Windy Ridge, Garway

Hentland/Hoarwithy: Mr and Mrs Pember 01432 840254

One Eleven, Hoarwithy

Orcop: Mrs M Fletcher 01981 540790

3 Wilkes Row, Orcop

Tretire/Pencoyd: Mrs Meg Oubridge 01981 580233

St. Weonards: Mrs P Craig 01981 580433

8 Mount Way St Weonards

Contributions by email to archenfieldmag@btinternet.com

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

Garway: Mark Hearne 01981 251887

clerk@garwayparishcouncil.co.uk

Orcop: Mark Hearne 01981 251887

clerk@orcopparishcouncil.org

Parish council website www.orcop.wordpress.com

St. Weonards: Mrs Kate Hughes 01981 580498

07967 352903

Meadow View St Weonards HR2 8QS

Email: clerk@stweonardsparishcouncil.org

Llanwarne: Mark Hearne 01981 251887

Email: clerk@llanwarnegrouppc.co.uk

Ballingham

Bolstone & Hentland: Nicky Mackenzie 07581 353103

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

Hi Everyone,

Sometimes it feels as if the world is going to hell in a handbasket! With all the news from Ukraine, the threat of the climate emergency, COVID-19 still on the scene, it can be hard to find any signs of hope or any reason to be joyful.

That sense of doom, that sense that all is coming to an end affected Jesus's followers on Good Friday. They had seen their leader, their inspiration, arrested, subject to a mock trial, scourged and then paraded out like a common criminal and crucified, with that mocking notice "The King of the Jews" as the final insult.

They had lost hope, lost the will to carry on. They took down the body, hurriedly placed it in the newly carved tomb and rolled the stone over the entrance. A final end to all their hopes.

Yet, of course, it was not the end. In fact, it was the beginning of something they would struggle to understand, to comprehend. The message of Easter, the rising of the Messiah, the times and places he met with them, ate with them, dispelled that gloom.

So we too, even in our own time, should not see this as the end, should not, difficult as it is, sink into some state of despair. There will be a time when life is good again. We have the power to change things here on earth, to make the world a better place, infused with the Spirit of Him who made us, where justice and peace prevail.

Sometimes, though, all we can do is pray, be faithful servants of our God and wait on him. The light will come, the dawn will replace the dark and the Kingdom of God will not be denied!

May you have a blessed and peace-filled Easter, and may that peace fill our whole world.

Revd Mark

April Benefice Service

Our April benefice service is at 10am on Sunday April 3rd 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

Do join us.

Frances

LENT LUNCHES

On each Wednesday during Lent, the parishes have taken turns to host a light lunch of soup, bread and cheese. Do make a note in your diary, and come along to meet your neighbours, have a catch up and support a worthwhile charity. 12 Noon - 2.00pm

April 6th: Garway Community Hall

Palm Sunday Walk 10th April from Pencoyd Church.

Start at Pencoyd Church at 10.00am, and after a short service when Palm Crosses will be blessed and given out, walk to Llanwarne Church, arriving approx 11 .00 am. Holy Communion Service. Please see Tretire and Pencoyd entry for further details.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Weds 27th April 7 for 7.30pm in Orcop Village Hall

A meeting for all members of our community, particularly our PCCs. This will be chaired by the Rev Sean Semple, the rural dean. This is an opportunity to hear about the work of the churches in our benefice and for discussing future plans. Do come to find out more and put your point of view about the way forward for our churches.

PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION



April 22nd Christine Davies 01981 580 129

!!! Magazine News !!!

This month's magazine is much fatter! Despite the rise in covid cases, events are really beginning to happen at last and it is excellent that we are able to publicise them. However we are also delighted to have general interest articles, contributions to *Chuckle Corner*, and of course the random musings of our regular contributor Peter Garratt! Articles are frequently informative as well as entertaining. If you have any contributions please send them in, and where are our limerick writers hiding?

Fiona Mynors Editor

APRIL SERVICES

| 3 April | 10.00am | Benefice – Family Communion | Zoom |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 10 April | 10.00am 3.00pm | Palm Sunday Walk Pax Service | Pencoyd to Llanwarne Hentland |
| 13 April (Wed) | 7.30pm | Holy Week Concert | Hoarwithy |
| 17 April Easter Sunday | 9.00am 10.00am 10.00am 11.00am | Holy Communion Family Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion | Orcop St Weonards Hoarwithy Tretire |
| 14 April | 9.15am 10.00am 18.30pm | Communion All Age Service Evening Service | Hentland St Weonards Pencoyd (Lay-led) |
| 1 May | 10.00am | Benefice Family 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: peter@pember.plus.com

Evening prayer at 6.30pm on 4th Sunday: elizabethamalcolm@outlook.com

Hereford Cathedral events in April

Lent Art Discussion: 'This Speaks To Me' Tuesday 5 April, 7pm. During Lent we will be releasing short video reflections each Monday evening onto the cathedral website before a final online discussion via Zoom. We are using these videos as a way to explore wider meanings and thoughts about Lent, Easter and the relationship between art and theology. Booking for the zoom discussion is essential. For more information please visit the cathedral website:

https://www.herefordcathedral.org/news/lent-art-project-this-speaks-to-me

St John Passion: Tuesday 12 April, 7.30pm Bach's sublime masterpiece sung by the cathedral choir with Marches Baroque and a renowned line-up of soloists.

Tickets cost £25 or £18 via the cathedral shop or website: https://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/st-john-passion

'The Hereford Gospels and Origins of Hereford' by Professor Michelle P. Brown, FSA Wednesday 13 April, 2.30pm The Hereford Gospels is one of the great treasures of Hereford Cathedral and a landmark of early book production in Britain. In this lecture a new scenario for its production is suggested – made at or for Hereford Cathedral as a focal point at the shrine of a martyred royal saint, King Ethelbert of East Anglia.

Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased via the cathedral website:

https://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/the-hereford-gospels-and-the-origins-of-hereford or by calling 01432 374 225/6

Easter Monday Organ Recital Monday 18 April, 1.15pm

Join us for the annual recital performed by our Assistant Director of Music, Peter Dyke. Come along to hear a selection of music on our famous Father Willis organ. The concert includes large-screen video presentation from the organ loft.

Book a free ticket via the website: https://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/easter-monday-organ-recital2022

Easter Family Craft Day Tuesday 19 April, 11am - 3pm

Why not join the Hereford Cathedral team for a day of crafting activities suitable for the whole family? Make a selection of crafts to take home and discover more about the Easter Story!

Tickets cost £2.50 per participating child, and children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Tickets are available via the website, or bring cash on the day:

https://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/easter-family-craft-day2022

Escape Room Thursday 21 & Saturday 23 April, bookable sessions between 10am & 4pm. It is 1890... You have been accused of embezzling money from the Vicars Choral funds and have been shut in the Old Chapel until the police arrive. You have one hour, can you prove that you are innocent?

Come along and crack the code of our new Escape Room!

Sessions cost £45 and are suitable for groups of up to six people. More details can be found here: https://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/escape-room-april2022

All Things Bright: A thousand years of metalwork from cathedral and diocese Monday 24 January to Saturday 23 April Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm

The latest exhibition in the Mappa Mundi & Chained Library highlights a wide variety of metal objects, some fundamental to the act of Christian worship, others tucked away and perhaps overlooked. As well as its own metalwork treasures, the cathedral also cares for the historical silver no longer in regular use in churches in the Hereford Diocese. This exhibition shows some of the finest pieces from these collections.

Normal admission charges apply

VILLAGE PAGES

ST WEONARDS

Although so many people are testing positive for covid, services continue as usual in St Weonards Church. Sadly, the baptism of Charlotte Nicholls had to be postponed again! However, this is rescheduled for May so we look forward to that.

On Easter Day at 10.00am, Archdeacon Derek Chedzey will be taking our traditional Family Communion Service and we hope that you will join us.

In March, Bishop Richard celebrated communion for a good congregation, which included a couple whose banns of marriage were announced. To our surprise and enjoyment, the bishop's visual aid was a live chicken, kindly provided by Kathryn Byrne! His theme was based on the gospel in which Jesus referred to the love of God being like a mother hen protecting her chicks. As almost all our regular families were at home with covid, the little chickens-not live- hidden around the church, will await our next service for the children to find!

A feature or our congregation at St Weonards is the attendance of families and friends online who would otherwise not be able to attend. People with disabilities, family members who live in other parts of the country and those who have tested positive for covid can join us. We are so grateful to Stephen Herbert, our treasurer, who worked so hard to negotiate the many hurdles to organize wi-fi in church. We are also thankful for his technical skills at each service supported by Daniel, as they manage the camera, sound and efficient use of the power point.

On 27th April, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held at Orcop Village Hall. This will be chaired by Rev Sean Semple, our rural dean. This is open to all members of our community and is an opportunity to hear about the work of the church and the future of ministry across all our parishes. The annual report also thanks everyone who gives so generously of their time to support our church:

PCC officers and members, bell ringers, flower arrangers, musicians, cleaners, churchyard mowers, service leaders and others who quietly support our church.

We have recently received formal permission from the diocese to undertake necessary repairs to the church roof and stonework. With a 13th century building, ongoing repairs are important to ensure that our church will be available for future generations. We are grateful

to all those who support the church financially on a regular basis, as well as at special events.

The Lent lunch, raised £230 for MSF-Afghanistan, Ukraine and the Hereford Food Bank. Many thanks who supported this event.

Food Bank Donations

With the rising cost of living, we continue to collect donations for Hereford Food Bank in church. Please put goods, toiletries etc in the box in church which we will deliver each month.

Date for your diary:

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, we plan to have open 'Come and Sing', on Sunday 29th May afternoon in St Weonards Church. We shall sing, *Zadok the Priest* by Handel, the specially composed '*Jubilee Song*' and '*I was glad*' by Parry. More details nearer the time.

On Sunday 5th June, a community *Bring and Share Lunch* at 12.00 pm with a glass of bubbly, will take place at Treago Castle. We hope many people will come and join in the celebration.

Richard Mynors



Garway Primary School and Pre-school

Life at school continues to be challenging because of the number of staff and children testing positive for covid. However, a great deal of exciting and hugely varied work was on display as part of the school Eisteddfod. The cakes looked so delicious, and the art and craft showed how skilful the children are (and perhaps the parents as well!). I greatly enjoyed being on the panel of judges for the live performances. These were such fun, from the youngest pupils bravely sharing their recitations or songs, to the eldest demonstrating their musical and speaking talents. A special mention must be made of the audience. The whole school sat through the afternoon of performances, with a few 'wriggle times', showing their support for each other in their excellent concentration and enthusiastic clapping for every person.

Fiona Mynors

Ukraine Crisis

Many thanks to Ash and Andreza at The Moon, who have been collecting donations for Ukraine, before transporting them to a drop of point in Ross-on-Wye. *Ruth Maskell*



Garway Lent Lunch

Wednesday 6th April 11.30am in the Community Hall Delicious soups from the Spice Girls and home-made rolls from the school pupils, who will be there to serve you at your table.

The Garway Primary School Easter Egg Hunt is BACK!

The PSA is happy to announce that the hunt will take place in the Wilderness/Treago Castle once again on:

Saturday 9th April from 1030-1230.

Tickets are £5 per hunter, accompanying adults go free. Easter Prize for every hunter.

Delicious cakes and refreshments will be available.

Cash only, please. (All proceeds raised will go to Garway Primary School)

Treago Castle, St Weonards HR2 8QB

Garway Stitchers

This group plan to meet on April 6^{th} and 20^{th} in the morning at the Community Hall. Come and see the beautiful embroidery and join in as well.

Tribute to Mrs Sylvia Dance

The funeral of Mrs Sylvia Dance took place at Garway Church on December 30th. Her grandson, Andrew, has kindly sent this tribute to his grandmother for everyone who was unable to attend the service.

Sylvia was born at Marlas Mill, Kilpeck on the 17th of June, 1928, the elder daughter of Will and Jenny Davies. She started school at Kilpeck in 1933 but moved to White House, Lower Mascoed with her parents and younger sister, Edna in 1935 where she attended Newton School. Unfortunately, her father died in a road accident in 1940.

In 1942 she, with mother and sister, moved to Ewyas Harold where she finished her schooling. After school, Sylvia went to work at Greenlands Department Store in Hereford.

She met and married her husband Derry at a war time dance and moved to Fair View, Garway with their two children, Valerie and Nigel in 1952. She began working at Garway School in 1955, helping to serve meals in the parish hall when the meals were sent from Ross Central Kitchen as the senior pupils were still being educated at Garway before being transferred to Kingstone in 1958. She later worked as a children's supervisor during the lunch hour, and also as a part time assistant in the school, taking pupils' school dinner

money and post office savings as part of the old War Bonds for saving which equated to 1/8 of an old penny.

The new school was built with its own kitchen and opened in 1962 when she became supervisor. After working at Ross Grammar School kitchen to "learn the ropes", 125 meals were served at Garway, and meals were also sent to St. Weonards School, before they too had their new school and kitchen. "Meals on Wheels" were also sent out twice a week to Ewyas Harold and Abbeydore, Orcop, St. Weonards and Garway.

She and the kitchen staff worked happily for many years until cuts were made to the school meals service in the 1980's resulting in the closure of Garway kitchen and canteen. By then, Sylvia had worked a total of 28 years.

She also enjoyed many years of helping at Garway Church, where she played the organ for nearly 60 years, from 1956 until 2016 when ill health forced her to give up.

Her husband, Derry, died in 1995 following a short illness. In 2015 she sadly lost her daughter-in-law, Lesley, to pancreatic cancer and her son, Nigel, a few months later to bone cancer, followed one week later by the death of her sister Edna.

Valerie and Sylvia's grandchildren are now widely spread, from Hereford to Canada and Australia. They hope to be able to come together in Garway later this year for a memorial day.

The magazine team apologise for the late publication of this tribute to Mrs Dance.

Garway Coffee Morning

Tuesday 5th April 10am
Garway Community Hall



Lots of cake, tea and coffee and Egg Decorating!

Bring eggs (preferably blown) and join in! Post Office, library, refills - bring bottles

Garway Youth Group

Garway Youth Group have decided that as well as our usual fortnightly evening sessions of games, tuck shop, videos and discussions, we would like to do something to help Ukraine. So we are holding a Multithon at the end of March – sponsored biking, swimming, reading (and possibly hiking) – though not all at the same time! All money raised is going to the Disasters Emergency committee.

If you would like to sponsor our young people, please look for **Garway Youth Group on JustGiving.**

Alex Herbert



April 1st 2022 7.30pm Garway Community Hall

Ploughman's supper included Bar available

Tickets £10

From Broad Oak Garage, St Weonard's shop, and 01600 750898, thomas.team@outlook.com In aid of Garway playground



!!!!! WORLD PREMIERE OF "THE GHOST OF GARWAY HALL"!!!!

"The Ghost of Garway Hall" is the latest in a long line of Garway Ave a Go Pantomimes – with a difference. One of our starring characters (as they all are, of course) coined the word 'phantomime' for this not quite traditional panto. Thank you, Gerald!

A mix of mediaeval mystery play, melodrama, who-dunnit and, yes, knockabout pantomime, it covers a span of some 800 years as it follows the tragedies and triumphs of a long-established family, the Archenfields, in their ancient seat of Garway Hall.

At the heart of the story lie a Wishing Well, a magical Wassail Bowl and what happened when the first Lord Archenfield took a fancy to the quiet, pastoral world of Garway, as it was way back when. But the main part of the story takes place in the present day when, as they say, the chickens come home to roost.

It has all the ingredients for laughter and tears, a cast of thousands (well, 32) whose ages run from 5 years old to 80 years or more, and is full of music, song and silliness aplenty.

The Ghost of Garway Hall is the consequence of a creative collaboration between writer and devisers, Tim and Gill Bannerman, traditional cider makers of Orcop, and composer and

concert pianist, Chris Northam of Garway Hill, who has created the original score of music and songs.

First performance is at 7.30 on Thursday 7th April at Garway Community Hall and then each evening of Friday and Saturday following, with a matinee at 2.30 on the Saturday, 9th April. Tickets will be on sale at £10 for adults, £5 for OAPs and Under-16s. They can be bought in advance in the shops at Wormelow, St.Weonards and Broad Oak in the usual way or can be purchased at the door.

We hope to see everyone at this Garway World Premiere for all the family with hankies (for both laughter and tears) and comforting hands at the ready.

Whooooooooooooh!

Peter Garratt

BIG BREAKFAST

Thank you to everyone who came to our Big Breakfast in Garway Hall on February 20th. We had a fabulous turn out and even managed to enjoy cooking 180 fried eggs!

Special thanks go to Mark Farmer for his amazing effort on the barbeques - we couldn't have managed without him and thanks to all the Garway Spice Girls (and everyone else who helped out — much appreciated) - a truly lovely bunch of ladies who ran around without stopping for five hours, making toast, dishing out food, pouring tea and coffee and clearing up.

Special thanks also to Hilary, Jess, Chloe, and Ellie who manned the entrance and sold the raffle tickets (that was a mammoth task!) and to Laura for racing off to fetch extra supplies when needed. Musicians created a significant and greatly enjoyed background melody throughout.

We raised £1500 on the morning, and this was matched by an anonymous donor; so today we sent £3000 to MSF in Afghanistan, which makes it all so worth it.

A day of (we hope!) of post Covid socialising and a small contribution for those still suffering in Afghanistan.

Many, Many Thanks, Chris and Liz



FLICKS IN THE STICKS GARWAY

Tuesday April 12th 7.30pm FIRST COW Garway Hall, £5.00

FIRST COW is a gem of a film – touching, tender and original. It starts in the modern day when two skeletons are found buried together in the woods. The rest of the film flashes back to Oregon at the beginning of the 19th century and we discover the story behind the bones. Otis is cook for a ruthless band of beaver trappers. One day he finds King-Lu, a Chinese man hiding in the ferns who is being hunted down. A delicate friendship ensues with the two men hiding out together in a forest shack. They both have dreams – King-Lu to become a

farmer and Otis a.k.a 'Cookie' wanting to open a bakery to bring cakes and biscuits to frontier-land. But buttermilk biscuits need milk and the first (and only) cow in the territory belongs to the Chief Factor, a small-minded landowner who's built a fence around his Jersey cow. Secret night-time milking is the answer and soon Cookie's biscuits are selling like, well, hot cakes. Then the Chief Factor asks Cookie to produce a blueberry clafouti and it's the production of this French dessert which risks the whole enterprise. The strength of the film is the portrayal of a strong Platonic friendship between the two men and the surprisingly tense thriller element which surrounds the illicit act of milk theft and the production of the clafouti. It's also a fable about capitalism mixed with human dreams. Beautiful cinematography and a wonderful score combine with Kelly Reichardt's sensitive direction. The New York Times called it simply "a masterpiece". Do join us in April when we'll be trying to live up to Cookie's cakes with our own delights, (although we'll be doing it without the need of the clandestine milking of local cows). You can see a trailer on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/GarwayFlicks and catch up with other Flicks news.

AND FOR YOUR DIARY – Tuesday May 10th – THE DUKE, the five star British comedy starring Helen Mirren and Jim Broadbent.

GARWAY HERITAGE GROUP

Tuesday 19th April

7.30pm in Garway Community Hall very brief AGM followed by

Rhys Griffith

Herefordshire Archives and Records Centre's Senior Communications Officer will talk about 'Cathy's Bitter Homecoming' – Homelessness in Herefordshire

Free to Members, £5 to very welcome visitors

Refreshments will be served

www.garwayheritagegroup.co.uk GHGmembership@btinternet.com

Garway Croquet Club 2022

The season is starting early this year, you may have seen the courts marked out in early March. This is for the 'very keen' members, and I should say also very good players.

So don't be put off when you see them playing on the common, they are the A team. There are also many members like myself who are the fair weather players who really don't start until April at least and need far more practice to get really good. I just turn up on a Thursday evening for the social side/fun but do continue to enjoy learning more tricks from others.

Anyone can come and have a try, it only takes a couple of games to digest the rules and get the swing..... Young, old and ancient are all welcome. We have a selection of each so do come along and give it a try. Three croquet sets are kindly kept at the Pub for members to use.

m til dark, call by and just ask how we al

Thursday evenings from 6.30 pm til dark, call by and just ask how we play croquet and you will be welcomed to join in. No one is ever turned away but is welcomed to the group.

Thursday is club night and the night to start for beginners, teaching and practice, plus the chance of a meal or drink at the Moon after. So come along unless very, very wet.

You don't have to arrive with a partner, come on your own, as we all join in together and play with whoever has turned up on club night. Members are always keen to teach new members on a Thursday evening, that's what club nights are for.

You will notice others playing their matches at other times of the week, some are so keen they can still be seen out in the dark with their car lights on!

You can also just come and watch of course, spectators always welcome, bring your comfortable chairs and enjoy the evening and fantastic views from Garway Common.

Angela Farr 01600750 333 farrcottages@yahoo.com

Flags in Garway



If you drive through Garway regularly you may have noticed the flags that are flying at Yew Tree Cottage and at our own Lilac Cottage. You will be familiar with one or two, but some of them have had passers-by scratching their heads. Our neighbours, Les and Margaret Watson have been flying flags for many years and this year the addition of our flagpole to the garden has prompted more than one discussion on our flag collections.

It is far easier for Les and Margaret at Yew Tree Cottage to tell you about their flags themselves so here is their story:

My first encounter with flags involves my grandfather, who was a mariner who took part in the 'small boats' flotilla rescuing troops stranded on the beach at Dunkirk. He gave me a white naval ensign when I was around seven years old. It was well worn but still colourful with the bright red St George's cross and quarter Union Jack in the top left. I loved this flag for its bright colours and its seafaring connotations, and I like to think that he was flying that flag when he rescued the troops - it was unlike anything I had had before. For lack of a flagpole, I used to drape it over the side of the garden shed on fine days. Unfortunately, I didn't have it for long. One night it was stolen from the shed, along with a few other items that I had collected in preparation for bonfire night. I suspect it was the rival Belmont Street Gang that took it - but I never saw it again.

I was flagless for many years. Then Margaret and I made a couple of impulse purchases on holiday in the Yorkshire Dales - a well-worn full 2 yards Union Jack that was badly damaged, we imagined by being carried at the front of some important military campaign, and then a full-size stars and stripe. We still had no flagpole!

When we moved to Glasgow in 2000 and were looking for a house, we arranged to view a converted water mill on the outskirts of the city. Although we carefully followed the map provided by the estate agent, we had real difficulty finding the property and in desperation we called the owner who asked us if we could see a Union Jack flag from where we were. We saw it across the valley, and keeping it in sight managed to find the mill. It turns out that the owner was a Brigadier who flew the Union Jack every day, a brave man in Scotland! We viewed the property, loved it, and agreed to buy it. During negotiations, it turned out that he was emigrating, and although he wanted to take his precious flagpole with him, it wouldn't fit

in the container with all his other belongings. Would we like to buy the flagpole as well as the house? We did - at last, we had a flagpole.

That's when we started acquiring and flying flags. We started with a flag of the Watson family crest that we flew on high days and holidays, and of course when our relatives visited us. Although we did not fly a flag every day, whenever we came across one on our travels, we would buy it. Then we discovered affordable printed flags and acquired the Scottish Saltire, the Rampant Lion, and flags from our origins of Yorkshire and the East Riding.

Moving to Garway one of the first things we purchased was a flagpole. We didn't know it but.... "Oh Garway is a charming place and hath a bracing breeze" (extract from a poem written for the Baptist Chapel anniversary c. 1925, in Do You Remember? Joan Fleming-Yates).

So how fortunate we are to be able to fly our flags, which now include ones from Herefordshire, the EU, and the skull and crossbones in the 'bracing breeze'. Our flags are symbols of who we are and represent memories of people and places that we have known. Of course, the Yorkshire flag gets more airtime than the rest!!

Les Watson

Like Les and Margaret, our own flags reflect who we are, our own heritage and memories.

Christmas is my husband's favourite time of year, so the first flag we flew was last Christmas and was a colourful scene showing Father Christmas and his reindeer cantering through the night sky. We flew it from an old fishing rod attached to the corner of our corrugated iron shed. It received so many admiring comments that we thought it would be fun to erect a decent pole in the garden and start a collection.

We had always admired Les's Herefordshire flag so that was the first we obtained for our new pole. On February 6^{th} we flew one for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – a Union Jack with the addition of a crown on a purple circle and the dates 1952-2022. Look out for this one when we fly it again during the long holiday weekend in June $(2^{nd}-5^{th})$.

We occasionally fly the colourful flag of Northumberland, which has alternating red and gold stripes. Despite our surname of Davies and my husband's lovely Welsh accent ('What do you mean? I haven't got an accent"), he is very proud that his mother's family come from near Cullercoats in Northumberland. The design is based on what is thought to be the oldest flag in Britain. The Venerable Bede describes a banner of purple and gold which was draped over the tomb of St.Oswald, 7th century king of Northumbria.

During February we flew a pale blue and white flag showing an image of an elegant (and naked) lady riding on a horse. I grew up in Coventry and every day caught the bus to school. The bus took us to the centre of town to Broadgate, which back then was a beautiful square with a central lawn surrounded by shrubs and trees. At the centre was a plinth surmounted by Lady Godiva on her horse. I love that statue and I get very cross now when I see the centre of Coventry on the local news — Lady Godiva now rides her horse across acres of paving with not a blade of grass or tree in sight. At least in our garden she has a lovely view over the front hedge and across the common. Several passers-by enquired about this one, and it even prompted Sue and Martin Thomas to Google the story of Lady Godiva to entertain their three little grandsons.

In April, and again in September, we will be flying a flag that few will recognise – North Carolina. Just before we got married six years ago, we spent a wonderful two weeks near

Cherokee in April and loved it so much that we returned to the same place in September for our honeymoon. Flying the flag will remind us of two fabulous holidays.

We are enjoying our flags so much, that I am sure we will be adding to the collection. Keep an eye out for one or two fun ones that will be flying later in the year!

Julie Davies

ORCOP

As we receive the daily doses of terrible news from Ukraine, I am sure we all share a sense of despair and frustration that there seems little we can do to halt this awful war. I am sure Herefordshire will play its part in caring for the refugees that manage to reach the U.K.

The Pandemic has slipped out of the headlines, but there seem to be many cases of Covid 19 in Orcop, albeit probably of the less severe omicron variant. We hope that those Orcopians who have it, or will catch it, suffer only mild symptoms and recover quickly.

There are a few items in this magazine that might take your mind off this gloomy backdrop, not least the forthcoming "Phantomime", covered separately herein.

This will be a truly epic production. It has already consumed many hours of creative writing, composing and rehearsal, with Orcopians strongly represented, not least the authors/producers and composer/musical director. I am sure that Andrew Lloyd Webber is quaking in his boots. I would urge you to read the ad and explanatory note and, thus inspired (or perhaps just curious) come along and enjoy the show!

Margaret Fletcher Churchwarden

Orcop Neighbourhood Development Plan – Update March 2022

Our planning consultant has compiled a response log of all the comments received. These have been discussed with the Steering Group to enable the consultant to write the draft submission, scheduled to be completed by end of March. The comments have been very helpful, and we thank everyone who took the time to reply. Herefordshire Council needs to complete environmental and other assessments which we hope will be finalised in May. After approval by the Parish Council of our amended NDP, it will then go back to Herefordshire Council. For any questions, please contact Mark Hearne clerk@orcopparishcouncil.org tel: 01981 251887 www.orcopparishcouncil.org

Owl Good Neighbours Community Lunch 6th April at 12.30

The next community lunch will be on Wednesday6th April in Orcop Parish Hall. All are welcome to join us for a home cooked two course meal for £8.00. This will include a welcoming hot drink on arrival and a drink with the meal. No need to book unless you require a special diet such as gluten free or vegan.

Owl Good Neighbours covers the same villages as the parish magazine so if you see this you are welcome to join us. We also have a number of people from further afield who come

with relatives or friends, and they are especially welcome. All ages are welcome so come and bring a child or grandchild. For further information or to book ring *Jane* 01981 241310.

Orcop Churchyard Bingo



Friday 29th April 2022
At Orcop Parish Hall
Doors open 7pm, Eyes down 7.30pm
Everyone welcome
If anyone would like to donate to the
evening
please contact Julia Garlick tel 01981
580515

Snow Drifts, Snowdrops and Goats

It looks as though we shall have no proper snow this winter. By this I mean snow that settles, blows about and forms beautiful drifts. I, for one, shall be disappointed.

By way of consolation, the snowdrops were out early and have done well this year, forming impressive "drifts". This seems to be an appropriate collective term for snowdrops. However, if you pick a single flower and look at it closely, other possibilities come to mind.



Peter Garratt

You will see clearly a pair of lop-ears, a face, a chin and a green moustache. The ears are those of a goat and the moustache of the kind sported by Italian opera singers (although these are seldom green, I guess). The collective term for a group of goats is a "trip", so one might think of the clumps of snowdrops, not as drifts, but as trips of operatic goats. Upon reflection, the snowdrops might be offended, as this analogy fails to do justice to their beauty and profusion.

So, I'll stick with drifts

TRETIRE WITH MICHAELCHURCH AND PENCOYD

Once again, we were able to hold our Evening Service at Pencoyd, on Sunday 27th Feb, led for us by Elizabeth, our Churchwarden, with the added bonus of being allowed to sing hymns without having to wear masks. It was the first time we had used our new Clavinola

since Christmas, and we really enjoyed singing to it. Thanks again to the Snow family for such a wonderful donation.

Spring is undoubtedly around the corner, and at our Zoom PCC meeting on March 8th, we gave considerable thought to our churchyards, the gardens of our churches! At Tretire we are very lucky to have a dedicated band of helpers who strim and mow the grass, and now we have a volunteer who is kindly clipping the hedges. The Lenten daffodils are now giving way to Primroses, so mowing in the front area won't begin till the majority of those are over. They are a picture!



However, at Pencoyd, the management of the churchyard is somewhat different. The mowing is taken care of by members of the Parish on a regular basis, and we are all I'm sure very grateful to those who ensure this happens throughout spring and summer. However, there are some areas of the churchyard which cannot be managed by mowing, and Linda Miles who organises the management of Pencoyd churchyard would very much appreciate some help from volunteers, to clear ivy and brambles from the stone surrounds of graves on the left-hand side patch from under the Chestnut tree to the Birch tree. Just an hour of your time would be really helpful.

If you think this is something with which you could help, do please contact Linda on. 07905771558 or email on linda.v.miles@btinternet.com

Huge thanks to all those who keep all three of our churchyards tidy and attractive.

Our next service at Tretire Church will be Evening Prayer, at 6.30 pm on Sunday 27th March. when Rev Tiffany Jackson, curate of St Mary's Church, Ross on Wye will lead our worship. Once again, we hope to have a small band of people to clean the church on the morning of Sat 26th, so if you can help with this, please come and join us.

The service of Holy Communion on Easter Day will also be at St Mary's Tretire, at the unusual time of 11.00am, and will be led for us by Rev Brian Phillips, a retired clergyman from Ross on Wye. Once again, we will appreciate help with cleaning, and with decorating the church on the morning of Saturday 16th April.

Don't forget that there will be a Palm Sunday walk 10th April from Pencoyd Church.

We meet at Pencoyd Church at 10.00am, and after a short service when Palm Crosses will be blessed and given out, we the walk to Llanwarne Church, arriving approx 11 .00

am, where there will be a service of Holy Communion. Well behaved dogs are welcome on the walk and in church. If anyone could help with transporting folk back from Llanwarne, who are not quite up to the walk both ways, please let Elizabeth know, and also those who would like to take advantage of such a lift.

Meg Oubridge

HENTLAND AND HOARWITHY

Pax Service 10th April

On Palm Sunday, 10th April, there is the Pax Service at Hentland, when we all assemble at the lychgate and process to church, singing Ride on, ride on in majesty, to the playing of a trumpet, pausing for a prayer to the churchyard cross, to take our places in church for a service of Evensong. After the service, the Pax cakes will be distributed with the shaking of hands with the greeting 'Peace and good neighbourhood!'. The service starts at 5pm.

Holy Week Concert 13th April

Not long now to Holy Week and Easter, so time to get your tickets for Holy Week Concert on 13th April at St Catherine's Hoarwithy, when the Musical and Amicable Society are performing Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater and Nulla in mundo pax sincera* by Vivaldi. Hannah Davey soprano and mezzo Francesca Saracino are the soloists. The rest of the programme will be works by J S Bach and George Frideric Handel, so there is lots for lovers of baroque repertoire played on period instruments in a Grade 1 listed building with a perfect acoustic. Tickets are £20, obtainable at the New Harp Inn or email robin.symonds@btinternet.com Two under 17s are free if accompanied by a ticket holder.

You can hear Hannah the Saturday before 9th April in St Mary's Ross, when she joins Ross-on-Wye Choral Society as soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*, with the Musical and Amicables period-instrument orchestra. Tickets £15 from Rossiter Books, High Street, Ross or on the door.

Lent Lunch Hoarwithy

Our lent Lunch on 9th March was well attended and we were able to send £417.00 to **Care4Calais** who help Refugees.

We did not know when we decided on the charity how much more it was needed at this

Our thanks to Chris, Esther, Barbara and their team for all the work they put in.

Peter and Jeff



A peek in the bookshop

I don't know if you've come across the Japanese word "tsundoku" but I am definitely a sufferer of it. It is the art of buying books and not reading them, letting books pile up unread on shelves or floors or tables.

If you are also prone to this, let me tempt you with some titles to look out for that are getting a lot of attention.

Last year's Booker prize winner, *The Promise* by Damon Galgut, is just out in paperback, price £8.99. This worthy winner tells the story in four snapshots, each one centred on a family funeral, each one happening in a different decade. In the background, a different president is in power, and a different spirit hangs over the country, while in the foreground the family fights over what they call their farm, on a worthless piece of land outside Pretoria.

If you were thoroughly moved by **Douglas Stuart**'s debut novel **Shuggie Bain** that won the Booker prize in 2020, you'll be excited to hear his follow up novel **Young Mungo** is published in hardback at the beginning of April, price £16.99. Described in The Observer as "a gay Romeo and Juliet set in the brutal world of Glasgow's housing estates", this looks likely to be another big hit.

With the world focus on Russia and Putin, two relevant books that are selling well are *Red Notice* by Bill Browder and *Putin's People* by Catherine Belton, both £9.99. *Red Notice* is the true story of lawyer, Sergei Magnitsky, beaten to death by eight Russian police officers for testifying against Russian interior ministry officials involved in a conspiracy to steal \$230 million of taxes and his farcical posthumous show-trial. Through exclusive interviews with key inside players, *Putin's People* examines how Putin and his entourage of KGB men conducted their relentless seizure of private companies, took over the economy, siphoned billions, blurred the lines between organised crime and political powers, shut down opponents, and then used their riches and power to extend influence in the West.

Clover Stroud's new title *The Red of My Blood* has just been published in hardback, price £16.99. It charts Clover's fearless passage through the first year after her sister's sudden death. It is a book about what life feels like when death interrupts it, and about bearing the unbearable, and describing an experience that seems beyond words. Lyrical, hopeful, it is

also about the magical way in which death and life exist so vividly beside one another, and the wonder of being human.

And finally, one to highlight for children: *Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good* by Louie **Stowell**, price £7.99. Wry, witty and very funny, this is a diary-style story packed with doodles and comic strips about the frustration trickster god Loki feels at having to live trapped in the body of a weedy eleven year old boy. Perfect for fans of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* and *Tom Gates*.

The Strange Saga of the 7 KW Light Bulb

I am sure that many readers will be seeking to replace their old filament light bulbs with the very energy efficient LED variety, especially since we now face astronomic energy bills.

With this objective in mind, I recently visited a well-known DIY outlet to procure the said LED bulbs.

The chap behind the counter was pleasant and polite and sported an impressive red beard. I explained that I was seeking bulbs equivalent to the old "60w" filament standard, to which he responded (in a flash, as it were) that, these days, the output of bulbs is measured in kW and he could offer me 7kW LED bulbs. I was somewhat taken aback by this offer, because one 7 kw bulb is equivalent to about 120 60w bulbs! When I pointed this out, the demeanour of the man behind the counter changed dramatically and he insisted that the LED bulbs he was offering were indeed 7kW. I said (rather unwisely) that this was ridiculous, whereupon he started turning pink and I could see that further discussion would be pointless and indeed might end in an assault on my person. OK, I said, please show me the box in which these curious bulbs are packaged. He handed over a pack of four. On reading the small print, I spotted the source of the misunderstanding. A kW, as most readers will know, is 1000 watts and is a measure of instantaneous power. Hence, if we switched on a 7kW bulb for one hour it will consume 7kWh of energy (or 7000Wh). The LED bulbs were not rated at 7kW, but in terms of energy, at 7kWh per 1000 hours. Hence their average power consumption over 1000 hours is 7w, so very energy efficient.

So, at the root of the problem is the difference between POWER (instantaneous) and ENERGY (Power multiplied by time).

So, if you are offered a 7kW LED bulb, don't provoke the person behind the counter, but say you want a bulb that consumes 7kWh of energy over 1000 hours. What a shame that we have to make life so needlessly complicated!



Peter Garratt

Wildlife in our Garden

Our regular bird visitors have not changed much. The marsh, or willow tit has not been back for a week or two, but we do seem to have had many more gold finches. About a fortnight ago we put out a nyjer seed feeder, but although I saw one gold finch on it once, by and large it has been ignored. I have brought the feeder in again this morning and will probably mix the nyjer seed with all the rest. We see a green finch, or more usually a pair, most days. The cock pheasant has now started bringing some of his hens with him and the moorhen is quite regular.

The greatest excitement, on the 23rd February, was a visit to our low wall by a haw finch. It stayed for nearly an hour before flying off, but returned for a similar length of time later that day. We have not seen it again. We have never seen one before in this country, but did see them a few years ago in the garden of some friends in southern France. I believe they used to be rather more common in southern Britain years ago.



Not in our garden, but seen from our bedroom window, on the 22nd February, Margaret spotted a cormorant by the side of a brook, the Gamber, which flows through the field

opposite. We told our neighbours who are keen birdwatchers and watch that field much more often than us, and they said it was an unusual place to spot one; they usually see them down by some nearby lakes.

"Scratty", the squirrel with the paralysed tail, continues to be a regular visitor. We're interested to see that he is now usually accompanied by another squirrel with a not-quite-normal tail. I say not-quite-normal because, although the tail is bushy and has good movement, he or she cannot seem to get it to stay arched over its back like other squirrels. The first part attached to its rump curves upwards, but then the remainder of the tail curves downwards. It is not unattractive to human eyes, but it doesn't seem quite right. As it and Scratty are usually seen together, we can't help wondering whether they're pairing up for mating.

John Oubridge 8th March 2022

Book Review

A Rising Man by Abhir Mukherjee

Traumatized by service in First World War and the death of his young wife, Sam Wyndham, a former Scotland Yard detective, relocates to Calcutta in search of new challenges to help him forget. Expecting that he will simply continue his detective work in a new setting, Sam is instead confronted with the knotty problems of Indian politics at the highest level. He is torn between the imperative to maintain law and order and his uneasiness about the role of the British in India.

The plot centres around the murder of a high-ranking British official whose body is found outside a brothel – throat cut and with a note rolled up in his mouth exhorting the British to leave India.

Central to the plot is the Rowlatt Act, passed by the Imperial Legislative Council in Delhi in 1919, which basically gave carte blanch to the police and secret services to incarcerate suspected terrorists or dissenters without trial. Sam's conscience is sorely tried when he realizes that the secret service has earmarked a candidate for the murder, and without evidence is determined to see him hang. Sam's better nature leads him to continue to seek the real perpetrator, putting himself in danger in the process.

Race relations are to the fore in this book, including the fate of mixed-race individuals, and Sam's relationship with his Indian, British public school educated, sergeant is a little out of the ordinary for the times. They finish up sharing a flat when the sergeant (known as Surrender-Not, as none of the British can pronounce his name) is thrown out of his digs for not resigning from the police force when the massacre at Amritsar takes place. The interactions between the two highlight the differences in their moral stances and cultural influences.

Author Abhir Mukherjee is a Scot of Indian descent, and this is his debut novel. He has since written two follow-up books about Sam Wyndham.

As a whodunnit this book is merely mediocre, but as an insight into the workings of the Raj in the years running up to India's independence, it is worth a read.

Garden Notes

Having an unheated greenhouse, I never rush to sow any seeds before the beginning of March, which means that I am only now sorting out the seed trays and buying new compost. I will start tomatoes, peppers etc. in a heated propagator in one of the bedrooms, before transferring them to the greenhouse.

Last year I grew some thumb-sized sweet peppers, called Pepper Fresh Bites Red, which were so successful I was still picking perfect little peppers in January this year; I will be growing them again this year. They are such neat little plants that you could probably grow them on a kitchen windowsill. I don't normally grow chilli peppers as I use so few of them in my cooking. However, for fun last Christmas, my husband gave me a few seeds of the Ghost chilli. This is otherwise known as Bhut Jolokia and was certified the world's hottest chilli in the Guiness Book of Records. It has a Scoville heat rating of 1,000,000. Compare that with the Jalapeno for example, which has a rating of 3,000–4,500. Apparently, it is 400 times hotter than Tabasco sauce. I doubt very much if I will be using any of the peppers, but I am sure that our neighbour who loves chilli will be willing to try them. That's definitely one to be handled with, if not kid gloves, certainly rubber gloves.



Last year I was sent an extra packet of seeds with a seed order, which contained a random mix of unusual tomato seeds — tiny yellow cherries, green ones, black ones, pear-shaped ones, all sorts, some delicious, some not. It was fun to see and taste such a variety, but as I have no idea what varieties they were, this year I will be growing the same ones that I have always grown!

Last year a snapdragon seeded into a crack between two paving slabs beneath the front of the greenhouse staging. I left it to see if it would survive. Despite not bothering to water it, not only did it survive, but it flourished and grew to be a huge plant some four feet high. The flowers were a brilliant white and it is still flowering now in March. I saved some of the seed, so I will be sowing those to provide plants for the garden. I will also be sowing a generous quantity of wild primrose seeds. The garden centres are well stocked with colourful primroses at the moment, but no wild primroses. We have many primroses in the garden but they are so dainty and flower for such a long period that I want to add many more, scattered amongst all the shrubs.

Julie Davies

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Llanwarne Concert

2nd April

Llanwarne Village Hall (HR2 8JE) – 7.30 prompt start.

Rising star, Hope Cramsie, classical guitarist recently graduated from the Royal College of Music, starts an evening of musical delight. Followed by Nuadha Quartet, jazz with Chris Egan and friends. Free entry thanks to Community First Cultural Recovery Fund and Herefordshire Council. Licensed Bar. Bookings at

https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/llanwarne-village-hall/t-yrpjqx

Please do Lateral Flow Test before arriving.

Toni Fagan

Chuckle Corner



What do snowmen wear on their heads? Snow caps of course...

When is a boat like snow? When it's adrift...

What happened when the weatherman tried to catch fog? He mist...

I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous..

What's the difference between a well dressed man on a bike and a poorly dressed man on a uni-cycle? Attire....

EATING IN THE UK IN THE FIFTIES

Pasta had not been invented

Curry was a surname

A takeaway was a mathematical problem

A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time

All crisps were plain; the only choice we had was whether to put salt on or not,

A chippy was a foreign carpenter

Rice was a milk pudding and never part of our dinner

A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.

Brown bread was something only poor people ate.

Oil was for lubricating; fat was for cooking.

Tae was made in a tea-pot using tea leaves and never green.

Coffee was Camp, and came in a bottle.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Only Heinz made beans.

Fish didn't have fingers in those days.

Eating raw fish was called poverty, not sushi.

None of us had heard of yoghurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

People who didn't peel potatoes were considered as lazy.

Indian restaurants were only found in India.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognized food.

"Kebab" was not even a word, never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly, muesli was readily available, it was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of the tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it they would have become a laughing stock.

The one thing we never had on the table in the fifties ... elbows.

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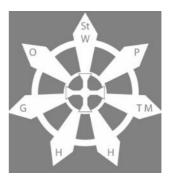
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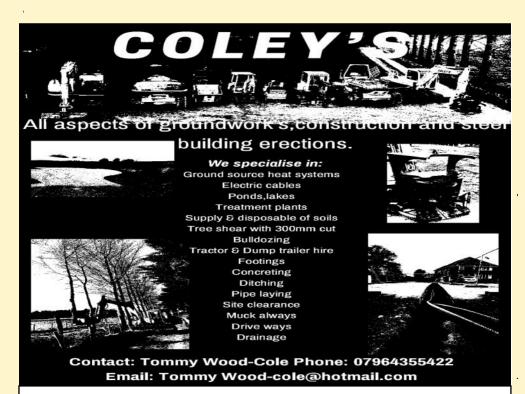
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