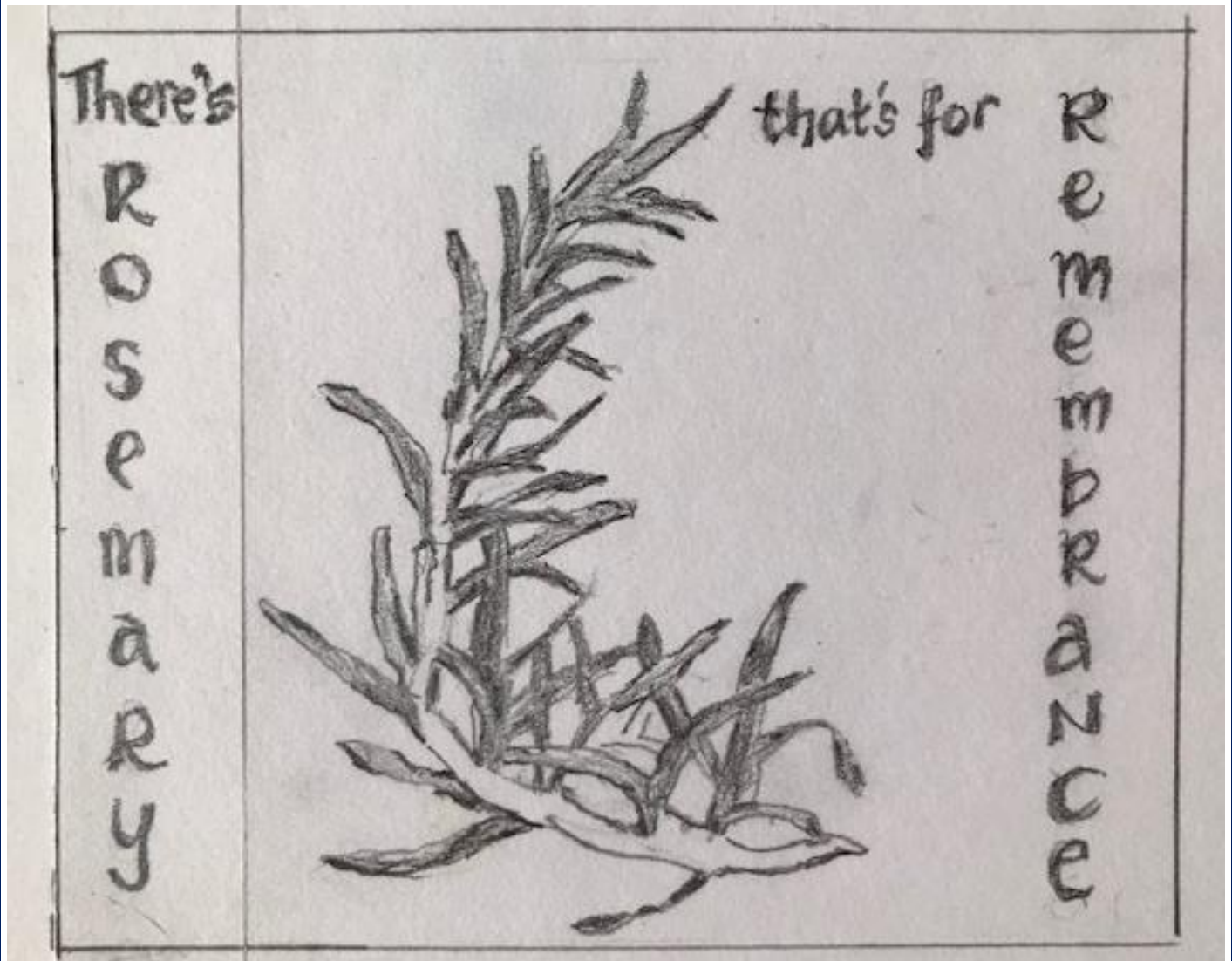


# PARISH NEWS

OF

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

NOVEMBER 2022



PAT MACRAE

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## CONTACTS IN THE ST. WEONARDS GROUP OF PARISHES

### Churchwardens

St. Weonards	Richard Mynors.....	01981 580208
	Anna Williams .....	01981 580352
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 Contacts

Editor Parish Magazine	Fiona Mynors .....	01981 580208
Group Choir	Richard Mynors.....	01981 580208
Bellringing	Peter Hallowell .....	01981 580203
Royal British Legion	Bea Morris.....	07932 068363
Orcop Evergreens	Gill Bannerman .....	01981 580685
Woman's Fellowship	June Griffiths.....	01981 580353
Youth Group, Tear Fund	Fay Rowlands .....	01600 750242
Orcop Hall Bookings	Julia Garlick.....	01981 580515
St Weonards Hall Booking	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	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 .....	116 123 free calls
.....	0330 094 5717 local call rates apply 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 **12<sup>th</sup> of the month**:

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

Contributions by email to [archenfieldmag@btinternet.com](mailto:archenfieldmag@btinternet.com)

## **PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS**

<b>Garway:</b>	Mark Hearne clerk@garwayparishcouncil.co.uk	01981 251887
<b>Orcop:</b>	Mark Hearne clerk@orcopparishcouncil.org  Parish council website <a href="http://www.orcop.wordpress.com">www.orcop.wordpress.com</a>	01981 251887
<b>St Weonards:</b>	Mark Hearne clerk@stweonardsparishcouncil.org	01981 251887
<b>Llanwarne:</b>	Mark Hearne clerk@llanwarnegrouppc.co.uk	01981 251887
<b>Ballingham, Bolstone &amp; Hentland:</b>	Nicky Mackenzie clerk@ballinghambolstonehentland-pc.gov.uk	07581 353103

**VILLAGE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND NEWS** [www.stw.org.uk](http://www.stw.org.uk)

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# PARISH NEWS

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## THE ARCHENFIELD GROUP

Rural Dean: Rev Sean Semple  
Rector of Ross on Wye  
01989 562175

Please see St Mary's Ross website for more details or contact your churchwarden

Letter from Caring for God's Acre

Looking at Lichens

November can be a quiet month for wildlife spotting apart from fungi, but have you ever taken a closer look at the lichens growing on the monuments within your churchyard? Forming a mosaic of colour these vary from simple, powdery scatterings and crusts to more elaborate leafy or even bushy structures. They are particularly rich and varied in unpolluted sites with clean air.

Lichens consist of two or more organisms living together as one. This is usually a fungus which forms the visible part of the lichen and within, protected by the fungal threads, are algal cells which can photosynthesise and provide food for the whole lichen. So, the fungus gets food and the algae gets shelter!

Churchyards are outstanding for lichens; there are approximately 2,000 lichen species in the UK, over 700 of these have been found in churchyards with half of them rarely if ever found elsewhere. Churchyard monuments provide a range of rock types with nooks and crannies caused by the monument shape and the carving of words and symbols. All of these nooks and crannies may have slightly different conditions of substrate, light, moisture and temperature which may suit different lichen species.

Lichens start to colonise as soon as something is set still, be it stone, wood or even rubber dustbin lids! Take a look at your older monuments and think how long the lichens may have been slowly growing there. The British Lichen Society has surveyed most churchyards so visit our atlas of biological records ([burialgrounds.nbnatlas.org](http://burialgrounds.nbnatlas.org)) and see how many have been found in churchyards near you.

Lichens don't need us to look after them but do need unchanging conditions so please encourage people to resist scrubbing them off, which also scratches the stone and makes it erode quicker, try and prevent ivy from smothering them and if a monument needs moving, try and erect it in the same orientation so that the conditions of light and shade remain constant. Other than that, take a magnifying glass and slip into the amazing miniature world of lichens.....

All the best, Harriet Carty

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, [harriet@cfga.org.uk](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk), [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)

### **Future Vicar/ Parish Profile/ Statement of Needs**

Discussions are taking place across our parishes to draw up Parish Profiles and a Statement of Needs to give potential candidates who would consider becoming our vicar, information about our communities. We also have the opportunity to make statements about the sort of person we hope to attract.

It would be great to have as many contributions as possible from a range of people. Please get in touch with your churchwarden to give your views.

## YOUR MAGAZINE

The magazine committee is working to contain escalating costs so that we can control the cover price in these difficult times.

The company that handles the collation and stapling has advised that it cannot hold current costs unless we advance the copy deadline by one week. If we do not do this, we will face a serious cost increase.

The earlier date will enable them to fit in the St. Weonards magazine between other jobs, which will be more efficient for them, and hence more economical for us.

So, with effect from the November issue, the copy deadline will be the 5th of the preceding month, not the 12th. Hence, please submit copy for the November issue by 5th October.

Also, if at all possible, please send WORD or PUBLISHER documents as our software cannot copy PDFs.

Thank you.

## PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION



8th November Colin Robinson 01600 750544

## Service Rota

For any changes please check the benefice website [www.stw.org.uk](http://www.stw.org.uk)

November 6th	10.00 am	Benefice Service, Pencoyd
November 13th	10.00 am	All Age Communion Service, St Weonards
	10.45 am	Remembrance Sunday Service, Kings Caple Church
	4.00 pm	War Memorial, Orcop
November 20th	10.00 am	Holy Communion and Baptism Service, Hoarwithy
November 27th	9.15 am	Holy Communion, Hentland
	10.00 am	All Age Service, St Weonards
	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer Pencoyd/Tretire TBC
December 4th	10.00 am	Advent Communion, Garway

For enquiries about baptisms, weddings or funeral services, please contact the relevant church warden.

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# VILLAGE PAGES

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## ST WEONARDS

We were delighted to welcome the Very Reverend Sarah Brown, Dean of Hereford Cathedral, to our church to lead our worship. She explained how Hereford Cathedral was 'our cathedral' and her mission was to make it an inclusive place for everyone. Many different activities take place in the cathedral, as is obvious from the list at the end of the magazine, but they must all be underpinned as part of building God's kingdom. Sarah welcomed questions and encouraged everyone to visit as she would be so glad to see us. Some families in our congregation were interested in the Messy Church activities which will take place in the cathedral over half term, so we hope to hear about those in the future.

Our annual **Harvest Service** took place in October, led by Bishop Michael Westall. Many thanks to all those who decorated the church for this festival. We heard about the Rev Robert Hawker from Cornwall who in 1875, was the first person to have the idea of celebrating the end of harvest, not just the beginning with a Lammis service as we have done in local woods. He was an eccentric character, but recognised as a gifted, somewhat unconventional priest! Afterwards we enjoyed our usual delicious supper in the village hall. Thanks to all who helped and came to enjoy this festival. This year we collected items for the Hereford Food Bank

The planned **Come and Sing Handel's Messiah Part 1** in November has been postponed until next year. But singers welcome to come and make up a choir for Christmas carols, like last year. Please get in touch. 01981 580 208 [fionamynors@btinternet.com](mailto:fionamynors@btinternet.com)

We are continuing to seek necessary permission to repair the chancel floor. It is thought that the floor rose up because of some damp making some wooden blocks stretch which made the tiles pop up! Now we need to raise funds for the repairs.

In September at the All-Age Service, we discussed what our community could offer a new vicar, and what sort of person we need. Do get in touch to let us know your ideas. **Richard Mynors**

### **St Weonards Academy School News**

The start of the new academic year has gone well at St Weonards, with the new Reception children all settling in well and enjoying their new learning environment away from home. We were delighted to see all the children and families returning with much enthusiasm and readiness for this new academic year.

September came and went very quickly and before we knew it October half term was upon us. This half term the children enjoyed picking a variety of apples and pears from the school orchard and making them into delicious crumbles and cakes, which the staff happily sampled. With autumn here we look forward to celebrating with parents and pupils at the Harvest assembly this October. The school has once again taken food donations to Ross Community Larder.

We also hosted our first Open day in two years, which was a great success. All the team at St Weonards very much look forward to building upon the solid foundations that St Weonards Academy has always provided.

If anyone would like further information about school and Shining Stars pre-school do get in touch with me, Mrs Anna Williams, Office Administrator. Tel: 01981 580352 Email: [admin@stweonards.hmfa.org.uk](mailto:admin@stweonards.hmfa.org.uk)

## **GARWAY**

### **Garway School and Pre-school**

It was an exciting start to the new school year with the opening of the new Early Years building. It's a wonderful light space with excellent facilities for the youngest children to begin their learning. I was lucky enough to visit it, and greatly enjoyed watching the delight on the children's faces as they moved from inside to outside for their free flow activities, counting, sieving sand, drawing, painting, looking intently at autumn leaves and talking with their teachers and friends with obvious joy.

The classes have moved around to make the best use of the space now available. These arrangements are working well, and the pupils as always benefit from the committed teaching team.

The list of dates for the term is impressive and demonstrates how many opportunities the pupils have to expand their world well beyond the classroom. Have a look on the school website to see the newsletters which explain all about the activities.

The Macmillan Coffee morning raised £404.63, with a huge range of tempting cakes on offer! Well done to everyone involved.

An important date for the PSA is the popular bonfire display on 6th November. Don't miss it! See the poster below for more details. **Fiona Mynors**





### **Garway Primary School PSA Community Fireworks Night**

Sunday 6th November 2022

By kind permission of Ron and Paul Evans

Treago Farm HR2 8QB

Gates open: 4pm Fireworks: 6pm

BBQ, firepit, bar, hot and cold drinks. A fantastic community event!!

Tickets on the gate. Cash only, please.

For further information, please email: [garwaypsa@gmail.com](mailto:garwaypsa@gmail.com)

### **Garway Stitchers**

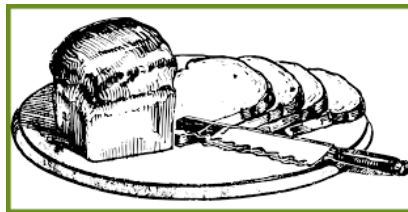


Garway stitching group meets once a fortnight on Wednesday mornings 10.30 – 12.30.

November dates are 16th and 30th. We are working on a series of community embroidery panels depicting life in Garway.

All are welcome to join us and add your own piece to the panels or bring your own project if you prefer.

For more details, contact **Tracy** 01981 580263.



### **Garway Coffee Morning**

Tuesday 1st November 10.30a.m.

Garway Community Hall

Teas, coffee, cake, Post Office, library.

Everyone welcome – all ages

We look forward to welcoming you!



### 19<sup>th</sup> November Double Bill!

If you weren't at the Hall on October 1<sup>st</sup>, you missed a treat. Although we were eagerly awaiting the return of Danny Chang, this was not to be. Due to internal frictions in the band, they cancelled, and we were left with just a few weeks to find a replacement. We were fortunate to find, at the last minute, "Old Gold" a really great tribute band who played a wide variety of covers.

This month on the 19<sup>th</sup> November, we've got two bands for the price of one. The headliners are "The Will Killeen Band", Will is an Irish acoustic blues guitarist, singer, and songwriter whose totally unique style brings together Celtic Roots with American Blues. Expect anything from early blues standards to Dylan classics. To start the evening off we have "The Broome Cupboard Band" a bunch of local musicians that will have us tearing the floor up with their energetic set.

**Date for your diary:** Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> Salsa evening! Pulsating Latin Beats. Admission only £5.

**Graham Bevan**

#### STORYTELLING

**18th November 8.00pm**

Anyone who came to hear "The Devil's Violin" on 23rd September will have been well pleased. The audience filled the hall and The Spice Girls provided excellent tea & cake.

Hugh Lupton will be coming to entertain us on 18th November at 8pm. Anyone who enjoyed "The Devil's Violin" will undoubtedly enjoy Hugh Lupton. He's been telling stories for over 40 years, and he will give us a selection from his forthcoming book: "The Heart of The Matter". Hugh always manages to slip music in when you least expect it.

Tickets: £12/adult, £6/child, £30/family

To book online go to: [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) There is no booking fee!  
Or contact Austin Keenan on 01600 750243 or email: [austin@wyrdweb.com](mailto:austin@wyrdweb.com)

## ORCOP

### ORCOP NEWS

Two months ago, we reported the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of our famous Orcop engine driver, Angus Brymer. Sadly, we have now to report his death in Hereford Hospital on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. We wished him "steam in the boiler for many years yet". Unfortunately, this was not to be, and we have lost not only a real gentleman, but also a colourful character whose distinguished career was a fascinating link to the age of steam. Angus was always ready to relate tales from his years on the footplate and he will be sorely missed. We extend condolences to Regina and all his family and friends.

The benefice service at Orcop on 2<sup>nd</sup> October was taken by Bishop Michael Westall, to whom we send our thanks. It was well attended and much appreciated by the congregation.

The annual British Legion act of remembrance will take place as usual at the cross-roads war memorial on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November. This is an important event in the Orcop calendar, perhaps especially so in a year when war is again being waged in Europe and we have lost our Queen.

**Another important date for your diaries is Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, when at 3pm, Orcop's "play for Christmas" will be performed in the church.**

Lasting about fifty minutes, it includes processional singing, a moving re-enactment of the Christmas story and a good dose of shepherds' knockabout humour. The play is medieval in origin. It was revived in the late 1800s and translated from the German, with music specially composed at the time. So, it has evolved over many centuries and was probably first performed at the time when Orcop Church was being built. So, what more appropriate venue for a pre-Christmas performance.

More details will appear in the December magazine. There will be no Christmas Day service at Orcop this year, so come and mark the festival three days earlier! **Margaret Fletcher Churchwarden**

**(Editor's Note: For your Christmas communion join St Weonards on 24<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00pm)**

### Magazine Distributor Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a distributor to deliver magazines each month along the lower road of Garway Hill. The round includes 20 properties, extending from Stoney House and Stoney Barn to Upper Moors Barn, near Bagwyllydiart. It is a pleasant job, depending on the weather of course, providing a couple of hours of exercise (if done on foot!) with numerous opportunities on the way to chat with subscribers.

If you are interested in taking this on, please email me: [garratt\\_peter@hotmail.com](mailto:garratt_peter@hotmail.com)

or ring on 01981 580418.

**Peter Garratt**

An evening with...

**ZOE HANNA  
MAY**

As seen on  
The Voice UK

+ SPECIAL GUESTS

Saturday 12th  
November  
Orcop Parish Hall  
7.30pm  
£10 a ticket

tickets sold at door on the night  
ticket price includes a free drink and snacks  
cash bar

   @zoehannamay



**Date for the diary:** November 12th 7.30pm  
ZOE HANNA MAY as seen on The Voice UK

Orcop Parish Hall is hosting a concert at 19:30 on Saturday 12th November where Zoe Hannah May from the Voice UK will be performing. Tickets are £10 which includes a free drink and snacks. A cash bar will be available on the night. Zoe grew up in nearby Shropshire and has been singing for over a decade. She did her degree at the Birmingham Conservatoire and after appearing in Tom Jones' team on the voice in 2017, she has gone on to star as the lead female in pantomimes in 2019 and 2021 at Lincoln Theatre Royale. She is a session musician, part of an all-girl trio and gigs as a solo artist. The evening will be a mix of chilled tunes and up tempo sounds so don't forget to bring your dancing shoes - a good night shall be had by all.

**Peta Long**

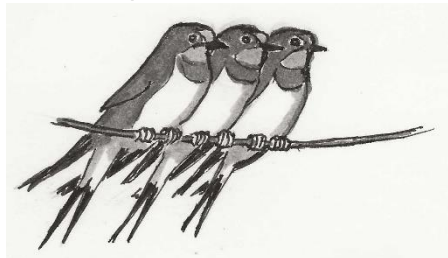
**Dates for the diary:** Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Orcop Parish Hall Christmas Bazaar, please contact petamary@hotmail.co.uk to book a table.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December the committee will be holding a quiz night, start getting your teams together.

## Hard to Swallow

### Tales of Birds and Fungi

We have had fewer swallows in recent years. This year only three pairs arrived and nested, as usual, in the wood barn. At the end of September, we counted 25 perched on the wires preparing to migrate. It appears they did rather well. One pair appeared to have reared three broods, the last three chicks being in the nest until mid-September, so we became concerned as to whether they would be ready to migrate. According to the Rev C A Johns "British Birds in their Haunts" (originally published in 1861), the migratory instinct can overcome parental affection and some late broods are left behind. He also believes that a few adult individuals



stay behind, for one reason or another, taking shelter in some sheltered nook and coming out only on warm days to feed on gnats. Anyway, from about 20<sup>th</sup> September, the three youngsters in question left the nest and could be seen lined up on a power cable beneath it. After a few days, they started flying during the day, returning at about 5pm to line up on the wire. As we were stacking firewood in the barn, we had to adjust our working hours to the daily departure and arrival of our little guests. They did not return yesterday (3<sup>rd</sup> October) so we assume they

are heading for Africa with their parents and the rest of the flock. We hope they will make it, having left the nest only a couple of weeks ago!

It has been a good year also for fungi, especially when rain finally arrived after the long hot dry spell. We have not had many field mushrooms, but lots of horse mushrooms and parasols. There are two kinds of parasol mushrooms, the "standard" kind (*Macrolepiota procera*) and the shaggy parasol (*Macrolepiota rhacodes*). The two are easily distinguished, because the shaggy parasol turns orange, then red or brown very quickly if it is cut or bruised. It turned out that ours were shaggy parasols, which are regarded as edible, but are mildly poisonous to about one person in 25. It is recommended that only a small portion is tried initially to establish whether or not you are one of the unlucky 4%. I did so and suffered no ill-effects. However, they do not have much flavour (unlike the horse mushrooms) so I have not been tempted to eat any more.



**Footnote:** *The article above is not to be construed as gastronomic advice.*

*Anyone intent on eating fungi should not do so unless they are absolutely confident as to the identity of the type they have in mind and that it is a non-poisonous species. Peter Garratt*

## TRETIRE WITH MICHAELCHURCH AND PENCLOYD

Is it just me, or do others consider that months are not as long as they used to be? It is really hard to believe that another month has passed since I last sat to write the news for Pencoyd and Tretire for October's magazine!

Ah! Now I remember! We are asked to get copy in a week earlier now, because of the requirements of the company who do the collating of our parish magazine. So actually, this month it *really is* only three weeks since last writing! So, - a reminder to all -, if you want an event, or other information included in the December magazine, and all subsequent magazines, it needs to reach our editor by 5<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Well, we have sadly waved goodbye to Frances and Les Phillips, as they move to start a new life in Ewyas Harold. We spent a very happy afternoon with a large cross section of our Benefice in St Weonards Church on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September, sharing tea, cake and chat together. We were able to present Frances with a

cheque, which will go towards erecting a shelter in the field above the house at Garway where Frances and Les lived, which she mentions in her thank you note in October's magazine. That afternoon marked the end of a chapter in their lives, and we wish them much happiness in their new home.

On Sunday October 2nd, we held our service of Harvest Thanksgiving in Pencoyd church, with Rev Brian Phillips kindly leading the service. The church which had been cleaned and decorated by a willing band the previous day, looked very festive. At the end of the service, all consumable items from the decorations were taken to Much Birch Community Hall, where we gathered for our now legendary beef casserole prepared by Mary Walton and her team of helpers, followed by delicious Apple Crumble. After supper, we moved on to another annual event; the auction of produce ably managed, as ever, by Mark Evans, which raised £257.00. Together with ticket sales and donations, a total of £598.50 was raised.

Our thanks go to all the cooks and servers, to Mark, and to all who generously donated garden produce and homemade preserves; not forgetting of course those who purchased them! Well done everyone!

Since Frances moved away, our 1st Sunday in the month service which used to be presented by her as a Zoom Communion, will now be held in each church of the Benefice in rotation. The November service is scheduled to be at Pencoyd Church, so do please come and join other parishioners as hosts at that service, on Sunday November 6th at 10.00 am. **Meg Oubridge**

## HENTLAND AND HOARWITHY

### Services for Hoarwithy

13th November 10.45am Remembrance Sunday Kings Caple Church

20th November 10.00am Holy Communion with Baptism Bishop Anthony

### St Catherine's Church Hoarwithy A Christmas Cracker of Art, Craft and Food

November 26th and 27th  
11am to 4pm

Owing to the great success of our Summer Pop-up Cafe with the H-Art artists, we are holding a similar event with our local artists to raise money for the Church Restoration Fund cakes and winter warming lunches.

More information from Chris and Andrew Wright

### EXHIBITION ABOUT THE WYE

Following the visit of "Our Lady of The Waters and the Wye" on 18th August and Sung Evensong with Ross Choir in Hoarwithy Church we are holding an exhibition about The River Wye in St. Catherine's Church during November culminating in a Winter Pop Up Café and Crafts on 26th and 27th November (see separate details). Look forward to seeing you. **Peter Pember**

## Wildlife in our Garden

The small birds visiting our low wall with seeds on it seem to have got more numerous, in numbers if not in species. On October 1st therefore, I hung up a bird feeder with seeds in. Almost straight away, some of the blue and great tits changed from visiting the wall to the feeder. I have not yet seen any other species use the feeder; sometimes some of the tits return to the wall.



One species that has taken to feeding on and around the wall in the last few days is a collar dove. These beautiful little doves with the most delicate soft grey plumage are relatively recent immigrants to this country. The first ones I ever saw were in the Seychelles in 1989. I later learned that they were native to the Indian sub-continent. A few years later I saw some in

France. A few years after that, round about the year 2000, they appeared in this country and are now one of our most common birds.

About four days ago I came across a pile of light grey feathers on the lawn. Clearly a medium sized bird, a collar dove I think, had been caught and eaten by a predator. We now wonder whether it is not just a coincidence that a lone collar dove has started feeding near the house. Perhaps they were a pair.

The moles are quite busy again. The squirrels and rabbits are making holes, though the reasons rabbits are digging shallow holes but not making warrens, is not apparent to me. I have talked of voles before. One day



in early autumn when Margaret was sitting outside on a bench facing the house, she was fascinated to watch a vole with a seed in its mouth, run down the low wall to some flower pots, emerge from between them, scurry across a gap till it reached another group of pots, across a path, then thread its way along the end of the house, behind two water butts, two wheely bins, a barbeque and over the doorstep till it reached a tiny hole in the plinth into which it disappeared. Seconds later it re-emerged, without a seed, and ran all the way back to collect another before repeating the same journey some 20 times. I later estimated the round trip there and back to be some 24 miles!

I have not seen much in the way of insect life this autumn. Usually, I am aware of some late dragon flies hunting in the autumn sunshine, and red admiral and comma butterflies enjoying the flowers on the tall verbena. Maybe numbers are down this year, or maybe I have just not been looking out for them. It makes me realise how unobservant I am, my attention so often taken up with many other matters. I really admire proper naturalists who spend hours or even days patiently waiting in hides for the wildlife to come to them!

On 4th September we had a brief visit from a tiny warbler shaped bird. It had no obvious distinguishing colours, and we could not identify it. It was flitting around some flowerpots and on a Rosemary bush for a few minutes and also pecking at the glass in the French windows, presumably to feed on the spiders that live there. I was interested to see that we had one of the same species, maybe even the same bird, on 9th August last year. **John Oubridge** 4th October 2022

## Book Review

### ***Prodigal Summer* by Barbara Kingsolver**

As always, Kingsolver writes with fluency and insightful charm, and returns once more to her concern for the conservation of nature, a theme which recurs in many of her novels.

Here we have a treatise on humankind's relationship with the natural world, wrapped up in the stories of 3 women and set in a small community in the Appalachian Mountains.

47-year-old divorced biologist Deanna Wolfe has lived for two years in isolation in a log cabin in the National Forest where she is employed to deter poachers and generally keep an eye on the welfare of the local wildlife. Totally unused to human company and absorbed in the animals and plants around her, the peace is disturbed by the arrival of hunter Eddie Bondo, 20 years her junior, with whom she begins a passionate but shaky affair, overshadowed as it is by their differing attitudes to wildlife. From being oblivious to others, Deanna finds herself slipping into thinking about how she looks and acts, as reflected by another human: "Damned thing

self-consciousness, like a pitiful stray dog tagging you down the road – so hard to shake off, so easy to get back.”

Down in the valley, in Deanna's hometown of Egg Fork, Lusa Landowski, a city-born entomologist, marries into the local Widener family, but rapidly finds herself widowed and faced with the task of keeping the family farm alive in the face of huge pressures from the in-laws to follow the traditions of tobacco farming and the liberal use of pesticides, which run counter to her principles.

Nearby elderly eccentric Nannie Rawley, who has firm views against farming chemicals and who enforces a no-spray zone around her property, tries to live peaceably alongside widowed Garnett Walker whose views clash fundamentally with hers and whose loneliness is palpable: “His body was no longer to be looked upon. If the thought caused him sadness – that he would never again know the comfort of human touch – he sensed it was merely a tributary to the lake of grief through which an old man must swim at the end of his days.”

Woven into the story of the lives of these women are set piece passages of dialogue debating the morality of our relationship with the natural world. These are somewhat marred by an artificial gender divide between the protagonists, with men generally on the side of man's domination of the natural world and the women fighting to save it. Kingsolver's skilled prose just skims on the brink of tedium in these passages, with self-righteousness always looming in the background. She just about pulls it off – but only just.

It is an interesting idea to present this fundamental debate through the medium of a novel. Thankfully Kingsolver's prose and skilled characterizations help her to carry this off. **Hilary Smallwood**

### Garden Notes

When we think about autumn colour, we imagine the glorious colours of acers, sumach, liquidamber and so on. This garden contains none of those and yet is looking very colourful right now at the beginning of October. Many of the shrubs are still green but the forsythia is a deep rich red, *Prunus incisa* 'Kojo-no-mai' too and the hostas have turned a lovely buttery yellow. There are large orange rosehips on the *Rosa complicata*, small red hips on the *Rosa glauca* which contrast so well with its grey leaves, and larger red hips on *Rosa rugosa* whose leaves are turning the same yellow as the hostas. There are large red crab apples on *Malus* 'John Downie' which I would love to harvest to make crab apple jelly, but they look so lovely that I have left them on the tree. The flowers on all the *Hydrangea paniculata* are turning from white to pink.



The fuchsias are still flowering abundantly; there are the soft lilac flowers of asters, purple *Erysimum* 'Bowles' Mauve' and the white flowers of *Echinacea* 'White Swan'; even a few primroses. California poppies in various shades of pink and orange are struggling on but will soon be destined for the compost heap.

I have been harvesting walnuts, trying to gather them before the dogs get there first. Although the nuts are small, it's the first year we have had a good crop, so being greedy I want to collect every nut that falls. Today is wet and very blustery and the nuts are raining down in profusion. I foolishly forgot to wear gloves and now have what my

husband calls gardener's hands. My nails are black and my fingers have a strange dark hue crisscrossed with black lines. No amount of scrubbing will remove it. We need to remove one of the lower branches that are encroaching on a pear arch. October and November are the months to do this and definitely not in late winter or early spring. Walnuts bleed profusely at that time of year, as we found out rather scarily when we removed a small branch one spring. We thought it was never going to stop.

Ten or more years ago, I planted three Japanese anemones (*Anemone x hybrida* 'Andrea Atkinson) in a shady spot near a large hydrangea. They never thrived – well, they disappeared completely - and I was so disappointed as I had looked forward to their beautiful white flowers enlivening a dull corner of the garden. Imagine my surprise yesterday when I spotted that one of them had magically reappeared and had flowered for the first time ever. Now that I know that it is still there, I will dig it up in the winter and take root cuttings, which I will plant in a sunnier spot and hope that they will be happier there.

I have been planting Narcissus bulbs in the borders: the ones that I grew in a large pot last year ('Minnow' and 'Rip van Winkle') plus 'New Baby' which is another dwarf daffodil just 8 inches high, with up to four flowers on each stem. The outer petals are white with yellow margins on the lower half and a bowl-shaped yellow cup - very dainty.

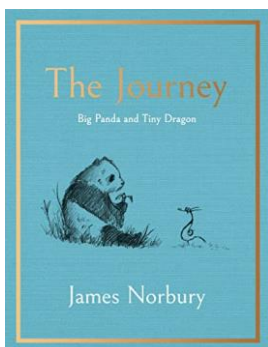
Our two old apple trees badly need pruning, but it is the one job I am unwilling to tackle on my own anymore. When our favourite tree surgeon came to trim our huge front hedge, I asked if he also pruned apple trees. 'Yes, of course' was the willing reply. That was before he had a proper look at the trees. 'Aah yes. I'll get back to you on that'. It seems that even the professionals are daunted by them. Weirdly, that was strangely comforting. **Julie Davies**



### A peek in the bookshop

The shops are heaving under the weight of all the pre-Christmas publications at the moment, with boxes and boxes of signed copies arriving daily it seems!

Some of the favourites so far have been **Richard E Grant's** autobiography **A Pocketful of Happiness**, **Shrines of Gaiety** by **Kate Atkinson** and the sequel to *The Salt Path* and *The Wild Silence*, **Landlines** by **Raynor Winn**.



We were lucky enough to have **James Norbury** visit our Ross shop last year to paint our window with designs from his book *Big Panda and Tiny Dragon* and equally beautiful is the second adventure for Big Panda and Tiny Dragon called **The Journey**. This picturesque delight is very much in the vein of *The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse* by Charlie Mackesy.

If you have young fans of the Gruffalo, they will love this **Gruffalo advent calendar**, with 24 mini books featuring much loved Gruffalo characters and with lots of fun activities.



The ever-popular **David Walliams** has a new book called **Spaceboy** aimed at 7-9 years and a new sequel to the children's classic *The Little Match Girl*, written by **Emma Carroll** and illustrated by **Lauren Child** called **The Little Match Girl Strikes Back** is proving popular. **Alex T Smith** has come up trumps with a new Christmas adventure picture book called **The Grumpus and his Dastardly, Dreadful Christmas** which looks a lot of fun too.

Don't forget the Rossiter book group from 6-7pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month. The Monmouth shop will be reading **The Lincoln Highway** by **Amor Towles** and the Ross shop **Tales from the Perilous Realm** by Tolkien in November. Contact the shops for more information.

There is a Christmas catalogue available in the shops so you can check out what else is available, do pop in and visit us soon! **Julie Hudson**



**Thanks to the BBC**

**By DH 22nd September, 2022**

**(For those of us who couldn't be there)**

I was the dandelion seed  
that floated over the head of the guard  
on the balcony at the Palace  
when he declared the Queen dead.

I was there,  
in the throne room  
with the Privy Council  
when they proclaimed the Prince King.

I was the pigeon that strutted the yard  
between the feet of the pipers  
as they played the lament.

I was the zephyr  
that stirred the green leaves  
alongside the Mall  
as they marched the slow march  
to the mournful beat of the drum.

I heard that dog  
who disturbed the peace  
as he barked at her hearse  
as it crept the Royal Mile  
to the beat of the boots  
on the cobbles  
towards St. Giles.

I was there with the thousands  
who couldn't believe  
as they filed past the coffin  
to pay their respects  
at Westminster Hall.

I was there,  
and so were we all,  
thanks to the BBC.

I saw the flock of birds take off  
and scatter as She passed  
as though released  
to guide her on her way.

Were they the 'Flights of Angels'  
who would 'Sing Her to Her rest'?  
It seemed that way to me,  
for birds are little angels.

Home to Windsor then,  
to the tolling of the bell,  
her dear horses  
the royal corgis  
the flowers along the way.  
Her beloved highland pony,  
saddled up and ready for the ride  
that would not be.

I was there,  
and so was the World,  
thanks to the BBC.

Such sombre, sorry sight to see  
As they removed the crown,  
the sceptre and the orb,  
Replaced them with the broken wand,  
That's when we knew she'd gone.

Her simple coffin lying there,  
now a child of God,  
To the fading sound of bagpipes  
she passed into history.

But never has London looked so grand  
nor been by so many seen.  
And never, ever  
was a monarch mourned by more  
than this beloved Queen!

**Arts and Crafts Community Centre**

**Seasonal Craft Fair at the Haybarn, Dulas, Ewyas Harold HR2 0HJ**

**Sunday 27th November 10.00am – 4.00pm**

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# Chuckle Corner

Am I the only person who looks at road signs and notices and considers how they could be interpreted differently?



Man struggling with umbrella?

## BEWARE CHILDREN

Scary kids - watch out?

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Is this a demand for something big or an acceptance of whatever you can offer??

As promised. Did you get these anagrams?

1. Scrub Host Son *Hot cross buns*
2. Sugared ambulances *Cumberland sausage*
3. No handy car *Chardonnay*
4. Pinch his fads *Fish and chips*
5. Fleeces so bare *Beef casserole*
6. A legal title *Tagliatelle*
7. Seems not *Eton Mess*
8. Mean trowel *Water melon*
9. Let a four backstage *Black forest gâteau*
10. Coca Cup Nip *Cappuccino*

According to a 96yr old friend, SAGA stands for?  
Sex And Games for the Aged!

## Hereford Cathedral Events

**Waste Not, Want Not: Monday 12 September to Saturday 31 December | Mondays to Saturdays, 10am – 5pm**

The exhibition this autumn in the Mappa Mundi and Chained Library will showcase items from the collections that have reused or repurposed older materials and given them a new lease of life. From old books and archives to the careful use of parchment, to reframing stained glass fragments and the reuse of silver and gems – there are many ways that the cathedral of the past ‘wasted not’. **Normal admission charges apply**

**Waste Not Want Not Creative Workshop: notebook making. Wednesday 16 November, 10am – 1pm**

This workshop will bring together a selection of found papers to make bespoke hand-stitched notebooks, perfect for jotting down lists, doodling or sketching. All materials will be provided.

**Tickets cost £30 and can be purchased via the website: [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/waste-not-want-not-creative-workshop-notebook](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/waste-not-want-not-creative-workshop-notebook). If you are unable to purchase your ticket via the website, please email [library@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:library@herefordcathedral.org) or call 01432 374 225/6**

**Waste Not Want Not Creative Workshop: bookstar making. Saturday 19 November, 10am – 1pm**

This workshop provides an opportunity to make bookstars - a three-dimensional folding star that you can hang on your Christmas tree, made from old books that would otherwise be thrown away. All materials will be provided.

**Tickets cost £30 and can be purchased via the website: [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/waste-not-creative-workshop-bookstar](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/waste-not-creative-workshop-bookstar) If you are unable to purchase your ticket via the website, please email [library@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:library@herefordcathedral.org) or call 01432 374 225/6**

**Understanding the Holocaust: problems and perspectives in the 21st century**

**- A talk by Dr Michael Gray**

**Thursday 3 November, 7pm** Dr Michael Gray explores some of the foundational themes such as the framing of the Holocaust within western consciousness and its representation in contemporary society and within a wider context of genocide. Dr Michael Gray, Headmaster of Hereford Cathedral School holds a first-class degree in History from King's College London and in 2014 he completed his PhD in Holocaust Education at the UCL Institute of Education.

**Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased via the website or contact [events@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:events@herefordcathedral.org) / 01432 374 251. [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/understanding-the-holocaust](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/understanding-the-holocaust)**

**Choral Society Concert: Walton *Belshazzar's Feast* Saturday 19 November, 7.30pm**

First performed in 1931 *Belshazzar's Feast* is undoubtedly one of the most exhilarating works in the choral repertoire, loved by both audience and those involved in its performance.

Conductor: Geraint Bowen

**Tickets from only £10 (unreserved). Up to 2 children under 16 will be admitted free of charge when accompanied by an adult. Parties of 10 or more receive a group discount of 10%. Tickets can be booked here: <https://herefordchoralsociety.org/NovemberConcert.php>**

**Phil Whiting: 'Places of Mourning in the Western World' Thursday 20 October – Wed 16 November**

Hereford Cathedral hosts the powerful work of Phil Whiting, a landscape painter. The artworks are informed by issues around conflict, memory and human rights. In April 1995 at the height of the Bosnian war, in an attempt to understand why genocidal behaviour was once again happening in the heart of Europe, Phil embarked upon a project which became known as 'Places of Mourning in the Western World'. The project had two overriding objectives: to answer the question why in Bosnia at the heart of Europe genocide is taking place when we were promised "Never Again", and to make artwork inspired by the belief that painting can best awaken and speak truth directly to a wider audience than can the spoken word.

The exhibition explores the concept that history itself is but the narrative of human behaviour. It is about what we do to one another and to our world, about what we want to believe and about what we avoid believing even if the truth that can save us in the end is the casualty.

**The exhibition will be in the North Transept from Thursday 20 October – Wednesday 16 November. No admission charges, available during cathedral opening hours.**

**You are welcome to attend a Private Viewing of the exhibition on Wednesday 19 October, in the North Transept at 6.30pm, following Evening Prayer. Please join us for refreshments and talks from Dean Sarah Brown and Phil Whiting.**

**Lego Club Wednesday 23 November, 3.30pm – 4.30pm**

Enjoy this freestyle Lego session in the South Transept with thousands of bricks and hundreds of mini figures, learn building techniques and make new friends. This after-school session lasts 1 hour and is free to attend, spaces are limited so book your free ticket via our website to ensure your space.

**Suitable for children aged between 8 and 14**

**<https://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/lego-club-nov2022>**

**Toddler Group: Mondays in term time, 9.30am** Calling all toddlers and their grownups! Join us each Monday morning in term time to play and pray in Hereford Cathedral. Listen to a Bible story, take part in a craft activity and have fun in our weekly drop-in. Come along to meet other families, make new friends and discover the cathedral. Suitable for toddlers between the ages of 1-3 years.

**Toddler Group is free to attend but donations are welcome. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Please visit [www.herefordcathedral.org/news/toddler-group](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/news/toddler-group) for more information.**

### **Escape Room**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November bookable sessions between 12pm - 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 Escape Room!

**Sessions cost £45 and are suitable for groups of up to six people. More details can be found here: [www.herefordcathedral.org/news/hereford-cathedrals-escape-room](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/news/hereford-cathedrals-escape-room)**

**Meet The Minor Prophets: a lecture series by Dr Maureen Palmer Monday 21 & 28 November, 5 & 12 December 10.30am -12pm** Each of the Twelve Minor Prophets leave a short book of prophesy which throws light on the attitude of the Jews to Social Injustice; Invasion; what it means to be Jewish

**Tickets cost £10 per session. If you would like to book onto this lecture series, please contact the library team: email [library@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:library@herefordcathedral.org) or call 01432 374 225/6 [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/meet-the-minor-prophets-a-lecture-series](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/meet-the-minor-prophets-a-lecture-series)**

### **Life & Learning in Hereford in the Middle Ages Wednesday 30 November, 7pm**

This illustrated talk will paint some pictures of education before, during and beyond formal schooling in medieval Hereford. David Thomson joined the Diocese of Hereford as an Honorary Assistant Bishop after retiring from his post as Bishop of Huntingdon.

**This event is part of the Life & Learning programme. Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased online: [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/lifeandlearning-herefordmiddleages](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/lifeandlearning-herefordmiddleages) If you are unable to purchase your ticket via the website, please email [library@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:library@herefordcathedral.org) or call 01432 374 225/6**

### **Dates for the diary:**

#### **November**

- 1 Garway Coffee morning
- 6 Community Fireworks Treago Farm, St Weonards
- 12 Come and Sing Messiah St Weonards
- 12 Concert Orcop
- 16 Garway stitchers
- 18 Storytelling
- 19 Garway Live
- 26 and 27 Christmas Cracker of art, craft and food Hoarwithy

#### **December**

- 2 Village Christmas Garway
- 4 Advent Communion Garway
- 3 Orcop Bazaar
- 10 Garway Live
- 10 Orcop Quiz night
- 22 'Play for Christmas' Orcop

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We have moved most of our clients over to cloud accounting systems, due to Making Tax Digital for VAT, including Bridging Software solutions. However, this will soon be critical, due to the need for quarterly reporting from April 2024, for self-employed businesses and property landlords, where the annual income is over £10 000. For further information, please check out our website and view all the services we provide, including our free App. Otherwise, just call us for all your accounting and taxation needs.

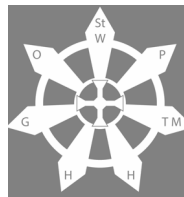
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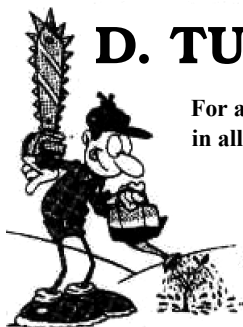
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