P&RISH NEWS

OF

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

AUGUST 2024



'GARDEN NEWT' BY PAT MACRAE

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Churchwardens

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Hentland

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VILLAGE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND NEWS www.stw.org.uk		
Samaritans	National Helpline	08457 909090

Samaritans	National Helpline	08457 909090
	Hereford1	16 123 free calls

0330 094 5717 local call rates apply

jo@samaritans.org

West Mercia Police

Safer Neighbourhood Officers: PC 21260 Martin Gillett 07970 544262, PC 21349 Chris Yarwood 07773 042896, PC 21847 Jenny Rees 07929 783693, PC 21946 Jack Davies 07971 051386.

Police Community Support Officers: PCSO 6324 Carol Marsh 07890 524667, PCSO 40259 Hayley Warne 07773 052560, PCSO 40272 Lewis Thomas 07773 051508, PCSO 40559 Tally Hunt 07773 054156.

How to get in touch: 101 to talk to your local SNT or report a crime. herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.police.uk www.westmercia.police.uk

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

PARISH NEWS

THE ARCHENFIELD GROUP

For enquiries on baptisms, funerals and wedding please contact the Vicar: Rev. Angie Kateley <u>revangiekateley@gmail.com</u> 01981 345044 **Rest day: Tuesday**.

Vicar's Letter

My friends, as I write it is a rather damp, blustery, grey summer's day, but off in the distance I spy a little patch of beautiful blue sky and the sun peeking around the clouds. I don't know about you but I find it difficult to know what to wear while the weather is so higgledy-piggledy, big warm coat or shorts and t-shirt.

The climate puts me in mind of the story Aesop told of the Sun and the North Wind who were having an argument about who was most powerful. They noticed a man walking along in his big winter coat, and the North Wind started to boast, saying "I will show you how strong I am because I will blow so hard that I'll blow that man's coat right off". Of course, the more the cold North Wind blew, the more the man pulled the coat tight around him. "Okay," said the Sun popping out from behind the clouds, "now it's my turn." The Sun shone warmly down on the man and very soon he had taken his coat off, enjoying the warmth on his skin.

And what's the moral of this ancient tale? That gentle kindness and warmth can often achieve better results than force and bluster. Or, as one C20th Indian writer put it, the powerful are not the ones who trouble others, but the ones who show mercy to others.

What do you respond to best: warmth and kindness or aggression and manipulation? To put it another way, Albus Dumbledore or Miss Trunchbull?

As the Son of God, Jesus had the power to be an almighty bully had he chosen to, all cruel force and angry bluster like the chilling North Wind. It's true that he was powerful, breaking down barriers, smashing cruel bullying systems, but he treated people with warmth, dignity and compassion. His love was and is his superpower.

Earlier this year I had four letters tattooed on my arm: GGGC. They are there to remind me of the values, a kind of Rule for Life, I try to live by every day, which are Grace, Gratitude, Generosity and Curiosity, things I see when I look at Jesus. I have them tattooed on my arm because I am prone to forget – when I'm feeling particularly meanspirited those letters are there to encourage me to be better.

I wonder what the values are that you try to live by every day, and who or what inspired them. My prayer for you is that, whatever weather this summer brings us, in your hearts you will know the true power of sunshine warmth and blue sky hope.

God bless you

Rev Angie x

SERVICE ROTA

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

Sunday 4 th August	10.00am	Garway, Benefice Holy Communion
Sunday 11 th August	9.30am 11.15am	St Weonards, All Age Communion Orcop, Holy Communion
Saturday 17 th August	6.00/6.30pm	Hoarwithy, Sung evensong. (Lady of the Water)
Sunday 18 th August	10.00am 6.00pm	Hoarwithy, Holy Communion Pencoyd Evening Prayer
Sunday 25 th August	9.15am	Hentland, Holy Communion
Sunday 1 st September	10.00am	Orcop Benefice Holy Communion

For enquiries about baptisms, weddings or funeral services, please contact the Vicar: Rev. Angie Kateley Rev. Angie Kateley @gmail.com 01981 345044 *Rest Day Tuesday*.

Sunday

August 4th Benefice Communion 10.00am

Garway Church

Blessing of pets



This is the only service in our parishes. Do join Angie and all of us to share worship.

All welcome!





VILLAGE PAGES

ST WEONARDS

We had a wonderful celebratory service to welcome Angie Kateley as our new vicar on Monday 1st July in St Weonards Church. In preparation, a team of volunteers from St Weonards' congregation gave the church a good extra clean to provide extra space for visiting clergy to robe. Glorious flower decorations were everywhere, and we were greeted by a magnificent *Quarter Peal* of bells. (More details below)

The service began with a splendid procession of clergy from Angie's former deanery and from Ross, headed up by my other church warden Anna, carrying the cross. The solemn aspect to the licensing service is when the new vicar pledges faithful service to the crown and the bishop, accepting the 'cure of souls' across our parishes. The choir from across the benefice led the enthusiastic hymn singing. They also sang the anthem and unaccompanied plainsong with skill and joy.

Afterwards, in the village hall, the atmosphere of celebration continued as we drank prosecco and ate from the fantastic array of delicious cakes and nibbles contributed by many people. Many, many thanks to all involved in making this such a special occasion.

Angie will be taking our All Age Communion on Sunday 11th August at 9.30am. Please note the earlier time.

I hope that everyone has a good break at some stage over the holiday period, even if the weather as I write seems to have forgotten about the 'summer' aspect!

Richard Mynors, churchwarden

From the Hereford Diocesan Guild of bell ringers St Weonards Monday, 1 July 2024 in 40m (10–0–24 in G) **1260 Grandsire Doubles** 1Steve Williams 2Vicky Rees 3Francesca Cinderey (C) 4Nick Cooper-Tomkins 5Peter Hallewell 6Paul Ebery Rung to welcome Revd Angie Kateley to St Weonards Before The service of licensing Angie as Priest in charge of the St Weonards Benefice by The Right Reverend Richard Jackson, Bishop of Hereford, and Installation by The Venerable Derek Chedzey Archdeacon of Hereford.

Rung by ringers representing The Abbeydore & Ross Deanerys.





Garway Church

We welcomed Revd. Angie Kateley to our parishes on 1st July. It wasn't long (24 hours), before eight of our churches' wardens gathered together to talk about plans for the future and Angie's hopes for the life of our communities. And exciting things are already happening for Garway.

On 4th August, Garway Church will host the benefice service at 10 am (a date for your diaries). The service will be a Lammas service, where traditionally our benefice gives thanks for creation, with blessings for our environment – the plants, trees, the soil, for the animals and wildlife, and for our beloved pets.



During the service there will be a blessing for our pets. Everyone is welcome to bring their dog, tortoise, hamster, or whatever pet you have, where they can receive their very own blessing.

Tracy Somerville, churchwarden



Our dates for August are 7th and 21st from 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. As always you are welcome to join us, why not add your own stitched leaf to the panel? There is plenty of help on hand to guide you. Don't forget to look at the panel which is displayed just by the bar of the Community Hall. For more details, contact *Tracy* 01981 580263.

The Medieval Banquet

A Midsummer Medieval Banquet took place at Garway Village Hall in aid of churchyard funds for Garway Church on 22/06/24. We had a feast prepared by Rich Sparey. Richard cooked delicious canapés and then succulent dishes for the main meal. Chris Davies and Liz Lloyd made the delightful lemon posset with homemade shortbread biscuits. Herefordshire hop cheese completed our repast. It was all washed down with mead, local cider, perry and other drinks from the bar. Entertainment was provided by Gerald Benjamin, Anne Lister, and the *Chepstow Tudor Syndicate*. Heralds Chris Davies and Lorraine Webb reminded us of correct 14th century etiquette. Frances Phillips' Ballad *of The Garway Templars* confirmed our links with the past. An *Olde English Words and Phrases Quiz* gave a competitive edge to the evening. £725 profit added to the success of the event.

Thank you to everyone who came and supported us and to all the helpers who made it all possible.

Lesley Whistance

Garway Coffee Morning

Tuesday August 6th from 10.15

Coffee/Tea, Cake, Library, Post Office, Friendly faces

Schools out, so bring the children and grandchildren and we'll have some fun!

Broad Oak

The first Broad Oak open gardens and village trail was a great success with over 100 visitors. There were five very different gardens to wander around - a newly designed and planted garden; an enormous garden with a multitude of roses and many beautiful features; a garden with a beautiful lawn, rare trees and a wonderful pop-up patio cafe; another with a new orchard and a polytunnel and greenhouse full of fruit and veg; and an enormous woodland garden to explore and get lost in, complete with baby chicks and mother hen. Children had the opportunity to go on a little hunt for garden features as they wandered the trails.

We raised over £800 which will help us to improve the Broad Oak common areas, where we have already installed an oak bench.



With grateful thanks to everyone who came along and to those who gave their time to make the day such a success. Thanks also to the many kind folk who baked cakes, cookies and scones for the cafe. Also grateful thanks to Treago for the loan of the marquee.

A truly cooperative effort!

We plan to put up a little history of Broad Oak on a new notice board If you have any photos or stories, please send to me at *jmartin763@btinternet.com*.

Julie Martin and Broad Oak neighbours' group.

Green Garway Book Group The Tent, the Bucket and Me by Emma Kennedy

A bit of a mixed reception to this book and perhaps the people that listened to it were slightly more positive about it than those that read it.

Emma recalls the endless disasters that happened to her and her parents on every family holiday they went on. It was completely farcical that so much calamity could happen to one family: falling down a (full) French toilet, getting food poisoning from eating raw prawns, her grandmother having to jump in a moving car that couldn't stop otherwise it would breakdown, septic feet, unwitting participants in a friend's extra-marital affair etc etc.

It's a light, easy read and if you went camping in the 70's you will surely identify with some of her descriptions. However, the fact that she seems to remember so much detail is a little unbelievable.

Rating: 2.5/5

Dates for the diary:

Monday 12 August - *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt (fiction) - BIG BOOK WARNING!! Monday 9 Sept - *Divide* by Anna Jones (non-fiction) Monday 14 Oct - *Grey Bees* by Andrey Kurkov (fiction) Monday 11 Nov - *Wasteland* by Oliver-Franklin Wallis (non-fiction) Monday 9 Dec - *Dark Matter - A Ghost Story* by Michelle Paver (fiction)

On 2 October John Lewis-Stempel is also doing an author event at Rossiter Books, Malvern to talk about his new book *England: A Natural History*.

Julie Hudson

Garway Telephone Box



A unique partnership has taken over the old phone box in Garway. Otherwise known as the K6 Arts Centre, (following its initial refurbishment in 2017), art displays and installations had had to cease because the box started leaking water through the windows and was spoiling displays. Now, thanks to an alliance with the Croquet Club the box has been repainted and now displays its new self as an event space for K6 Arts (in the autumn and winter) It is also a store for Garway Croquet Club during the croquet season. Unfortunately, the internal light is no longer connected, but there are hopes that a photo voltaic panel will catch some energy from the winter sun.

As well as having colourful ideas for new installations from October, K6 Arts would like to offer the box to other Garway organisations for month-long displays of their own and have so far approached Green Garway and Garway Live! for starters. Any other group interested in going arty in the box should write to Corinne on c.westacott@btinternet.com.

For the Garway Croquet Club, with the much-improved croquet lawn on the adjacent common, the kiosk provides convenient storage for their hoops and balls, just across the road. The club is now recognised as a successful newcomer to the circuit, with several recent wins against formidable clubs such as Swindon and Cheltenham. For the less competitive there is now a Golf Croquet group who meet every Friday from 5pm. Just turn up to learn more, friendly play 6.30pm on Thursdays and Association Croquet on Mondays from 5pm. More info from info@garwaycroquetclub.com or www.garwaycroquetclub.com

Rachel Hubbard



The hall continues to be a lively venue for a whole variety of activities from children's parties to live music, therapies to exercise classes. Information about activities in the pipeline is available on the website www.garwayhall.org where you can also make a booking by clicking on the *Hiring the Hall* tab. And you can also join the mailing list to keep up to date with what is happening.

Go to the website (<u>www.garwayhall.org</u>) where you can see what is happening, join the mailing list and book a slot for your activity.

Date for your diary: Garway Community Hall AGM will be held on Monday 23rd September 2024 at 7.30 p.m. at Garway Community Hall.

Garway Fun Day, Garway Common Saturday August 24th 2024

BBQ Musical Entertainment Bar Children's Activities Skittles Tractors Tea Tent Ice Cream Craft Stalls Dog Show Dog Agility Course Tallest Sunflower competition

AND new for 2024.....Giant Football

Bring your homemade jams, Victoria sandwiches, Bread, Paintings, crafts and don't forget your dog and enter in the competition tent or Garway Fun Dog Show.



Please contact <u>garwayspicegirls@outlook.com</u> with any queries.

SCHEDULE FOR COMPETITION ENTRIES

6-10 years

5. 4 decorated cup cakes

6. A Garden on a plate

8. A painting of my pet

Children's Section: (Free to enter) Up to 5 years

- 1. 4 decorated biscuits
- 2. A painted/decorated stone
- 3. An animal made from vegetables or fruit
- 4. A decorated egg (preferably boiled)

11-16 years

- 9. A funny photograph with a caption
- 10. A picture of my pet (any medium)
- 11. A decorated swiss roll
- 12. Something I have made from recycled materials.

Produce Section – 50p per entry

- 13. Longest Runner Bean
- 14. Biggest Marrow
- 15. 3 Courgettes
- 16. 5 Tomatoes
- 17. 3 Carrots
- 18. 3 cut Dahlias

Cookery Section – 50p per entry

- 23. 6 Plain scones
- 24. 6 Bread rolls, any variety (handmade, not in bread maker)
- 25. Victoria Sandwich raspberry jam filling, no icing or sugar on top.

Handicraft Section – 50p per entry

- 31. An Item of clothing I have upcycled
- 32. A piece of crochet
- 33. A knitted toy

- 19. 5 cut Garden Flowers in a vase
- 20. Best single Rose
- 21. Flower arrangement using a candlestick– no bigger than 45cm x 45cm x 45cm
- 22. Flower arrangement in a teacup and saucer

7. An animal made from vegetables or fruit

- 26. 6 Flapjacks
- 27. 1lb jar of chutney
- 28. 1lb jar of soft fruit jam
- 29. 1lb jar of stone fruit jam
- 30. A jar of lemon curd
- 34. A photograph an aspect of Garway
- 35. A landscape painting in any medium, A4 size maximum

All Entries to be brought on the day to the display tent between **12.30 and 14.00**. The tent will then be closed for judging at 14.00. Please put names (and age for child entries) on back of entry or inside an envelope.

ORCOP

ORCOP NEWS: AUGUST 2024

We were delighted to welcome the Revd. Angie to Orcop Church when she made her first visit as incumbent priest last week. She is assured of our full support as we embark on a new chapter in our long history, to which she will no doubt bring a breath of fresh air. We look forward to her leading her first service at Orcop next Sunday.

We are sorry to report that Margaret Gardiner is in Hereford Hospital, and we wish her a swift and complete recovery.

The General Election is now behind us, Wimbledon is on as I write this, but still there is no sign of summer. Some lucky farmers have made hay already. Others are still watching the sky and the seaweed, looking for the prospect of a few days of dry and hot weather to make the hay.

Margaret Fletcher, Churchwarden

Flower and Cleaning Rota: Mrs. W. Dudfield

OWL GOOD NEIGHBOURS FUNDRAISING TEA

SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST 2 to 5 pm

BRACKEN HOUSE, ORCOP HR2 8HD Jane Rigler 01981 241310 FREE PARKING

COME AND ENJOY TEA AND CAKES AND SEE THE FANTASTIC VIEW OF THE ORCOP VALLEY

Homes for Swifties

This article relates not to the followers of Taylor, the global pop phenomenon, but to the avian kind that scream in a similar way.

We had these wonderful birds nesting each year at Whitehouse Farm, until about 10 years ago when we replaced the barge boards on the end gable of the house and thus inadvertently closed off their nesting site. They used to fly past our bedroom window each morning uttering their wild screams and they have been sorely missed.

This year we decided to try to persuade them to return. We made a nesting box, to a very simple RSPB design, and attached to it a small loudspeaker through which we play a recording of screaming swifts each morning and evening. The speaker comes as part of a kit that includes an amplifier with a USB slot for a stick

upon which the screams are loaded. Our kit was supplied by "Peak Boxes", but there are many different versions available online. Nothing happened for three weeks, but then, suddenly, a single swift appeared. We now have up to ten, wheeling and screaming near the nesting box and even sometimes flopping down on top of it, inches from our bedroom window. Swifts return to the same nesting site each year and the same pair can do so for 15 years. The ones we are attracting are this year's fledglings, looking for nesting sites for next year. It is wonderful to have them back until they leave in August for Southern Africa. We are hopeful they will take up residence when they return in May next year.

They are fascinating birds, with incredible aerobatic skills and it is sad that they are in decline, so why not set up your own Swifties estate agency?

Swifts cannot tolerate low temperatures. The Rev. C. A. Johns, in his wonderful book "British Birds in their Haunts", first published in 1861, relates this very sad story: *At Deal, on the eighth of July 1856, after a mild but wet day, the temperature suddenly fell until it became disagreeably cold. The swifts were sensibly affected by the atmospheric change; they flew unsteadily, fluttered against the walls of houses, and some even flew into open windows. Whilst observing these occurrences, a girl came to the door to ask me if I wanted to buy a bat. She had heard, she told me, that I bought all kinds of bugs and her mother thought I might like a bat. On her producing it, I was astonished to find it was a poor benumbed swift. The girl told me they were dropping down in the streets and the boys were killing all the bats. The church, she said, was covered in them. Off I started to witness this strange sight and slaughter. True enough, the children were charging them everywhere and, on arrival at the church in Lower Street, I was astonished to see the poor birds hanging in clusters from the eaves and cornices. Some clusters were at least two feet in length, and, at intervals, benumbed individuals dropped from the outside of the clusters. Many hundreds of the poor birds fell victims to the ruthless ignorance of children.*

These days, the reasons for their decline are less dramatic, but no less sad: loss of habitat and the massive decline of insect populations brought about by pesticides. It is important that we do all we can to help this most wonderful summer visitor survive and prosper.

Peter Garratt



Save the date! Orcop Autumn Apple Pressing Saturday 12th October. More details nearer the time.

If anyone wants to book a stall at this event, and or the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 30th November please send an email to petmary@hotmail.co.uk for more details. *Peta Long*

TRETIRE WITH MICHAELCHURCH AND PENCOYD

The service of Evening Prayer at Michaelchurch on June 30th was the only service in our parishes, and we were delighted to welcome people from across the benefice. It was a lovely evening, and the door was kept open for the light. There was enthusiastic hymn singing to the accompaniment of Elizabeth's phone, as of course there is no electricity at Michaelchurch. We were very pleased to welcome Rev Simon Tarlton who came to lead the service, and preached on the gospel reading, the story of the raising of Jairus' daughter.

Many of the congregation lingered after the service to enjoy refreshments in the churchyard, and take the chance to catch up with each other's news.

The service ended with the prayer of St Micael the Archangel, after whom the church is named: *St Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world, seeking the ruin of souls.*

A group of singers then sang Howard Goodall's setting of *The lord is my Shepherd* as a beautiful reflective ending to this simple service; the only service held in the year at this beautiful redundant church, built in 1056 by Bishop Herwald of Llandaff, which is managed by the Churches Conservation Trust.

Our churchwarden, Elizabeth kindly opens the church daily for visitors, who come from all over the diocese and beyond, as the Visitor's Book reveals!

On July 7th, by kind arrangement of Christine Snell, another tennis tournament was held in Pencoyd. The logistics of the tournament were masterminded by Christine, and were mind boggling. However, play was divided between the two hard courts of the Snell family and the Inkin family. A total of 26 players took part, and matches started at 9.15 am. It was a day of sudden sharp showers, and sunny intervals, so play was frequently interrupted, so inevitably got later and later. John and I presented as spectators at Pencoyd Centre court at 3.00 pm. We were impressed with the patience and goodwill shown by all players as games got further and further behind. We watched some very good tennis, very comfortably seated on benches provided by the Snell family who also, very kindly, had erected one of their polytunnels so that spectators could shelter when necessary, and when James and Jonathon lit their BBQ and provided us all with hamburgers or hot dogs.

The semifinals were played on the Snell's court but then a break was taken to give those players a bit of a rest. Drinks and food were provided for us all before the finals were played and won by Susie de le Billiere and Harry Inkin. Our congratulations especially to them, but to all the players who remained so cheerful throughout considerable adversity, and provided the spectators with a good afternoon's play.

We are so grateful to Christine, Anthony, James and Jonathon for all they did to make the day such a success, and to so generously give all the money raised to Pencoyd and Tretire churches.

Margaret Oubridge

HOARWITHY AND HENTLAND

Benefice Communion Sunday 7th July

Our new Vicar Revd. Angle Kateley took her first service benefice communion at St Catherine's. It was a joyous occasion and was well attended from across the parishes. Thanks to Richard our organist, two choirs, those who read the lessons, did intercessions and provided us with superb refreshments to end with.

Everyone appreciated Angie and it was good to have our own vicar. We thank all those who took our services during the time we were without a Priest in Charge.

Our Lady of the Water

Once again, our Lady of the Water Statue is coming down the Wye to highlight the condition of the river. It should arrive on Saturday 17th August at the Campsite about 5.30pm. We hope to have a reception for her in St Catherine's Church followed by Sung Evensong with Fr. David Wyatt and Amici Quorum which we expect to start at 6.00pm to 6.30pm.

Please check "A Church Near You St. Catherine's Hoarwithy" nearer the time for latest information.

Peter Pember, Churchwarden



Book Review

Apples Never Fall by Liane Moriarty

Australian author Liane Moriarty weaves an intriguing tale round the life of tennis-mad Stan and Joy Delaney and their four adult children. Stan and Joy met as young tennis stars and went on to found their own training academy, making the fostering of young talent their life's work.

Now in their late 60s and newly retired from the business, their peace is shattered by the arrival on their doorstep of a young woman, Savannah, in a panicked state with a cut above her eye. They shepherd her in, dress her wound and offer her shelter, providing asylum that lasts several months and has an unforeseen impact on family dynamics.

The simmering resentments and the underlying grievances that characterize family life are the meat of this book. Joy has forfeited her tennis career to take care of the children - " her dreams didn't have the same ferocious entitlement as Stan's" and feels under-appreciated - "Only [other mothers] understood the epic nature of your trivial achievements."

"She'd never wanted his gratitude. Just his acknowledgement. Just once. Because otherwise, what had been the point of her entire life? Of all those lamb chops she'd grilled? Of all that spaghetti bolognaise? Night after night – plate after plate after plate. She'd never resented it at the time, but now she resented every moment, every single bloody lamb chop." Hindsight traps Joy in regrets: "When she looked at photos of her children when they were little, she sometimes thought, Did I notice how beautiful they were? Was I actually there? Did I just skim the surface of my entire damned life?"

But Moriarty's sympathy is not just with Joy. When Stan is implied to have made inappropriate advances, she recognises how easily society latches on to this: "*Most men carried guilt about their gender. You just had to apply a tiny flame to the kindling.*"

And there are resentments further afield that derail their lives, when Joy abruptly disappears one day. The search for her reveals the cracks in community and family life, the factions and underlying insecurities. When Stan comes under suspicion his children are faced with insoluble dilemmas – what should they say/not say to avoid implicating him? Might he really have taken their mother's life?

Moriarty skillfully knits a clever whodunnit with an examination of childhood jealousies and insecurities.

Hilary Smallwood



Our **One Foot in the Grain** over 50's farmers' social event will be held at Eardisley Park Farm, Eardisley, HR3 6NT. Join us for a lovely lunch from 12pm on Friday August 2nd to find out more about Eardisley Park Farm!

The bus will be available for those who need a lift - please let us know asap as spaces are limited. To book your place, please email: <u>wafmassist@gmail.com</u> or call 07951 871161. Please let us know any dietary requirements when you book.

Look forward to seeing you then.

Kind regards, Natalie Assistant Project Manager - We Are Farming Minds www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk Mobile: 07951 871161 SUPPORT LINE: 0808 8020070 or TEXT: 07786 203130

Garden Notes

Recently I read an article in a women's magazine on gardening more sustainably. I like to think that I garden in a very responsible way, but the article included the suggestion that we should just plant '*sustainable plants that go the distance, rather than one-season annuals. Think perennials, grasses, trees and shrubs*' and it left me feeling rather indignant. I try my best to do all I can for our planet, but no matter what I do, I am left feeling thoroughly guilty.

Most of the plants in this garden are indeed trees, shrubs, ferns and perennials but where would be the joy in gardening if we didn't grow a few annuals? The gardening police would have a field day in my garden this year. Sweet peas? Aargh! California poppies? Oh dear. Pansies, violas? Toadflax? What a sinner I am.

My (annual) sweet peas are galloping up their obelisks and the little sweet pea 'Bijou' (supposedly only 12" high) planted in an old tin bath has exceeded 12" already but shows no sign of flowering yet – I blame the

chilly weather. I love all California poppies (oops, annuals) and this year I have chosen *Eschscholzia* 'Carmine King' (single flowers in a glorious rosy-carmine colour with cream centres) and 'Appleblossom Pink' (extralarge double rose pink flowers). The handful of flowers that have already appeared show me that when the weather warms up and they finally get going, they should look stunning.



In the same bed as the California poppies, I have planted an annual toadflax: *Linaria maroccana* 'Sweeties'. This has dainty spikes of flowers like tiny, spurred snapdragons in a whole mixture of pretty colours – pink, red, yellow, white and purple. Planted in a sizable group they are gorgeous and a handful in a small vase is very pretty. They don't seem to mind the current chilly summer and are flowering their little socks off. They are also easy-peasy to grow and, feeling very rebellious and not one tiny bit sinful, I will be planting a lot more of them next year.

For whoever wrote that article, a thought to mull over - in recent years, more and more gardeners have started to grow their own vegetables, and the great majority of those vegetables are, of course, annuals. I rest my case...

Julie Davies

Wildlife in our Garden

Our apple trees are fruiting well again, in fact so many apples that a good 50% of them just fall off. A number of creatures are ready to eat, or at least, nibble them while still at this unripe stage, especially blackbirds. On the 12th June we were interested to see three squirrels, one sitting on the low wall, with small, round green objects in their hands. We assumed they were eating unripe apples. When I went out later, I looked at what was left on the wall and saw it was actually an unripe cob nut.

When we woke on 15th June and drew back the curtains, we looked out of the window to see four rabbits nibbling away at the grass in the back lawn. They seem to have become more numerous in our garden in recent years. They used to come in from the other side of the stream, but now they appear to have burrows under the summer house and in the open woodshed. We are interested and relieved that, unlike Benjamin Bunny, they never seem to eat any of our vegetables or plants other than grass. The most damage they have done so far is dig holes about four inches deep in the lawn and scatter earth about.

So far this year, two birds have wandered into the eating area of our kitchen and found themselves trapped. The first one was a glorious male bullfinch; the second a wren. It is usually quite difficult to persuade them to fly out again, as we try a softly, softly approach so as not to panic them. So it was with the bullfinch who didn't find his way out of the open window for quite some minutes. The wren, however, was much less inclined to panic when we got near, so it was quite easy to guide him or her out of the window within a short time.

We have seen several pied wagtails, but not in our garden I'm afraid. They particularly seem to like Tretire church roof where I have seen them in other years. On a walk back from the same church at the end of June, Margaret and I saw a pair of spotted flycatchers, behaving in their typical fashion darting off from a gate to catch insects and returning quickly to the same perch. She may have seen one in our garden a few days ago but is not sure. The swallows at Tretire Farm are still there. In fact on one occasion I thought they had increased from three to five. It seems a bit late for more to have flown in, so maybe they have hatched and fledged two young by now.

Red kites are now seen regularly above Tretire, and one morning we watched from our bedroom window a pair of them swooping and circling round the field across the road. I assume they must have been looking for food, but I could not see what. They are now so numerous here that I wonder whether they have started to nest this far east and not just visiting us to forage.

The *Big Butterfly Count* starts on July 12th. I shall go in for it again this year, though this latest batch of cold, windy, wet weather seems hardly likely to encourage them to come out to feed. By the time you read this, it will be too late to join, but I hope a few readers have been in touch with Butterfly Conservation and are already signed up.

John Oubridge, July 5th 2024

Peek in the Bookshop

This month a couple of new titles to tell you about for the summer and some good holiday reads. To kick us off, the very popular local author **Barbara Erskine** has a new book out in August called **The Story Spinner**. If you pre-order it through the shop or our website, not only will you receive a dedicated and signed special edition, you will also be entered into a prize draw to win a luxury food and drink hamper.

Similarly, **Elif Shafak**, author of *The Island of Missing Trees*, is set to stun us with her latest book *There are Rivers in the Sky*. It is the story of one lost poem, two great rivers, and three remarkable lives – all connected by a single drop of water.

And if you don't want to lug hardback books away on holiday, here's some great paperbacks that won't take you over your luggage allowance:

The Last Word by Elly Griffiths is the latest twisty new Ruth Galloway mystery.

Good Material by **Dolly Alderton** is a funny and exquisitely relatable story of romantic disaster and friendship.

How to Read a Tree by **Tristan Gooley** looks beautiful and will teach you rare skills in understanding shapes and patterns in trees and what they mean.

Doppelgänger by Naomi Klein is a revelatory journey into the mirror world of our polarised age.

We've got a great range of children's picture books in the shop that are buy one get one free at the moment too.

Hope to see you in the shop soon. Julie, Bookseller at Rossiter Books www.rossiterbooks.co.uk

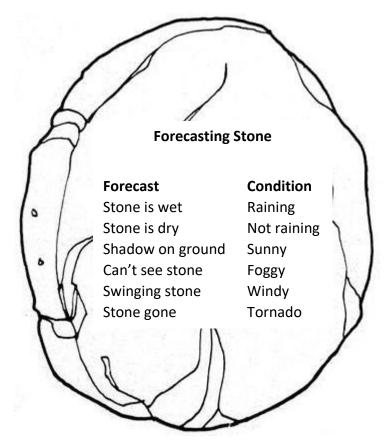


Old age is golden, I've oft heard it said, But sometimes I wonder, as I get into bed With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup, My eyes on the table until I wake up. Ere sleep overtakes me, I say to myself, "Is there anything else I could lay on the shelf?"

I get up each morning and dust off my wits, And pick up the paper and read the Obits. If my name is still missing, I know I'm not dead, So I have a good breakfast and go back to bed!

Peter Garratt (with an exhortation to keep busy!)

With acknowledgment to the Late Brigadier William Magan.



A useful guide found on Uist!

Saint of the Month

August is a month when traditionally nothing much happens. Schools are closed, families are on holiday, and offices are full of people looking out of the window and *wishing* they were on holiday. In the church, too, there are no major festivals, perhaps because in the past people were too busy in the fields to cope with big services. But, like every month in the year, August is peppered with saints' days. We sometimes think of saints as people who lived long ago with very little connection to us, but one of the people we remember in August lived during the lifetime of many readers of this magazine.

On August 14th the Church of England remembers Maximilian Kolbe. He was born on 8th January 1894 in central Poland, His father was an ethnic German, and his mother was Polish. Kolbe's life was strongly influenced by a vision of the Virgin Mary in 1906, when he was 12. The next year he enrolled at a seminary in Poland, before being sent to Rome where he attended the Pontifical Gregorian University. He earned a doctorate in philosophy and in 1918 he was ordained a priest, returning in 1919 to Poland, which was newly independent from Russia.

From 1919 to 1922, Kolbe taught at the Kraków Seminary. In 1927 he founded a new Franciscan monastery near Warsaw which became a major religious publishing centre. Between 1930 and 1936, he undertook a series of missions to Eastern Asia, visiting China, Japan, and India. In each country he founded a new monastery,

In 1941, Kolbe's monastery in Poland was closed by the Nazi authorities and he was imprisoned at Auschwitz. He became known for giving his food to other prisoners, hearing confessions and, in the face of stern prohibitions, celebrating mass -- until a prisoner escaped from the camp and ten men were chosen to be starved to deter further escape attempts. When one of the selected men cried out, "My wife! My children!" Kolbe volunteered to take his place. After two weeks of starvation Kolbe and three others were still alive, so the guards gave them lethal injections of carbolic acid and Kolbe died, on 14 August 1941. He is one of the ten 20th-century martyrs who are depicted in statues above the Great West Door of Westminster Abbey in London, and the cell where he died is now a shrine.

A lay reader from Chichester

Hereford Cathedral Events August

for more details see cathedral website

Garden Tours: Saturday 3, 10, 17, 31 August & Wednesday, 21 August 2 pm – 3.30 pm. Discover the beauty of the gardens of Hereford Cathedral. Guided tours last between 60-90 minutes and the gardens are easily accessible, with variations available for visitors with specific mobility requirements. Tickets: £6 and can be booked in advance via the cathedral's website.

Tower Tours: Saturdays 3, 17, 24, 31 August & Wednesdays 7, 14, 21, 28 August & Thursdays 15, 22 August 11.30 am & 1.30 pm Adventurous visitors can climb the 218 steps for some fine views of the city and county, and beyond. Tours may not take place if the weather is poor and may not be suitable for all visitors. Please contact the cathedral office if you are making a special journey to take part. Tickets: £8 for adults, £5 for children under 16 and £5 for full-time students from the Cathedral Shop on the day.

Cathedral Tours: Monday to Saturday, 11.05 am & 2.15 pm and also 12.30 pm on selected Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Explore the rich history and treasures of the cathedral from its Saxon origins to the present day with knowledgeable guides. Tickets: £6ph from the Cathedral Shop (01432 374210).

Stained Glass Tour: Saturday 17 August, 1 pm Discover more about the beautiful stained glass in Hereford Cathedral with this special tour. It lasts around 1.5 hours and ends with an opportunity to view up close a selection of medieval stained glass fragments from the cathedral's Library and Archives in Old Chapel. Tickets £10 - advanced booking is essential for this tour due to limited capacity and can be purchased via the cathedral's website.

Master of the Library: Monday 6 May – Saturday 14 September, 10 am to 5 pm. Exhibition in the Mappa Mundi & Chained Library explores the prestigious role of 'Master of the Library' and the individuals who have held the role at Hereford Cathedral throughout the centuries. Normal admission charges apply.

In Prayse of the Needle: 60 years of Hereford Cathedral Broderers: Tuesday 30 July – Sunday 18 August,

It's the 60th anniversary of the formation of Hereford Cathedral Broderers, a team of dedicated volunteers who create, repair and restore embroidery work on display across Hereford Diocese. To mark the occasion the Cathedral will be hosting an exhibition in the south aisle of the Cathedral nave, sharing some of the history of the group and the work they produce.

Summer Garden Party with The Hey Yahs. Friday 2 August, 7 pm. Join us on Friday 2 August for a spectacular summer evening party in the Chapter House Garden to dance the night away with popular local band The Hey Yahs. They are a fun and lively event band showcasing top class entertainment to get you in a summer party mood. Tickets £16 and can be purchased via the cathedral's website.

Lunchtime Organ Recitals Tuesdays 1.15pm. 6th- Jonathon Nicholls This week's recital is given by Jonathon Nicholls, Belmont Abbey. Free with a retiring collection.

Tuesday 13 August, 1.15 pm Marc Murray

Tuesday 20 August, Marion Bettsworth

Tuesday 27 August Simon Hogan

What we know of the early Church. Thursday 8, 15, 22 & 29 August, 10.30 am. Join Revd Canon Dr Maureen Palmer in the Old Chapel for an introduction to the early Church. This is a Life & Learning event with a suggested donation of £5 per session.

Booking is essential via the Cathedral Library library@herefordcathedral.org or call 01432 374 225/6

Creative Cloisters: Monday 12 & Tuesday 13 August, 10 am – 3 pm. The beautiful Cloisters of Hereford Cathedral have been a source of creative inspiration to musicians, artists and poets for centuries. The cathedral will be opening the Cloisters to artists to experience the space and create work in response to this very special location. Attendees will have full access to the Cloisters, College Hall and Canon's Garden which leads down to the River Wye. Tickets for Monday only cost £20. If you would like to book both Monday & Tuesday, the two-day ticket costs £30 (incl. lunch and refreshments on both days). Spaces can be booked via the cathedral's website.

A Midsummer Night's Dream Thursday 22 August, 7 pm. Chapterhouse Theatre Company presents A Midsummer Night's Dream, Shakespeare's best-loved romantic comedy in Hereford Cathedral's Chapter House Garden. Beautifully designed Elizabethan costumes, a wonderful musical score and fine performances come together to make this an evening of unmissable summer garden theatre. Tickets £20 (Adult) and £12 (Children under 16 or NUS Student). Purchased via the cathedral's website.

Open Gardens: Saturday 24 August, 10 am – 3.30 pm Discover the cathedral's historic and beautiful gardens with our Gardeners and Garden Guides on hand to answer any questions and share the history of the site. Tickets cost £6 for garden entry or £16 to include afternoon tea (advance booking essential). Tickets can be purchased via the cathedral's website.

HOS Organ Recital: Monday 26 August, 11.30 am. Herefordshire Organists' Society present their annual bank holiday organ recital. International organist Jonathan Scott performs a special organ concert of great music on the spectacular Father Willis organ of Hereford Cathedral. Free with a retiring collection.

Dates for the diary:

AUGUST

- 2 We Are Farming Minds One Foot in the Grain social event, Eardisley
- 4 Benefice Service, Garway
- 6 Garway Coffee Morning
- 7 Garway Stitchers
- 8 St Weonards village hall coffee morning
- 10 Magazine contributions deadline
- 11 OWL Good Neighbours Fundraising Tea
- 11 All Age Communion at 9.30 am, St Weonards
- 12 Garway Green Book Club
- 13 Prescription collection
- 17 Our Lady of the Water reception and Sung Evensong, St Catherine's Hoarwithy
- 18 Tea and Cakes, Hoarwithy Cloisters
- 21 Garway Stitchers
- 24 Garway Fun Day

Future events for your diary:

SEPTEMBER

- 9 Garway Green Book Club
- 23 Garway Community Hall AGM

OCTOBER

- 2 John Lewis-Stempel author event at Rossiter Books, Malvern
- 12 Orcop Autumn Apple Pressing
- 14 Garway Green Book Club

NOVEMBER

- 11 Garway Green Book Club
- 30 Orcop Christmas Bazaar

DECEMBER

9 Garway Green Book Club

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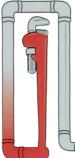


Parents and Tots **'Stay and Play'** Fridays 9:15–11:00 Includes 'Jump into Music' session with Rosie Walton

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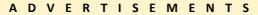


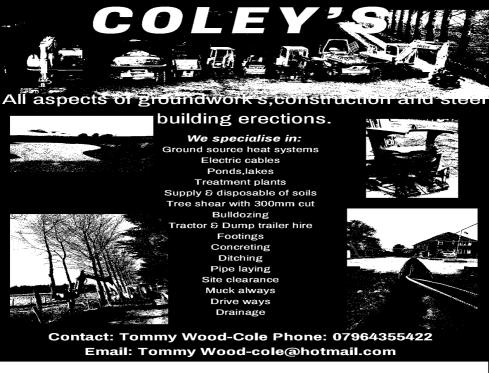
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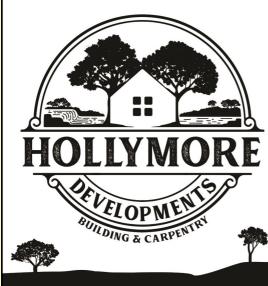
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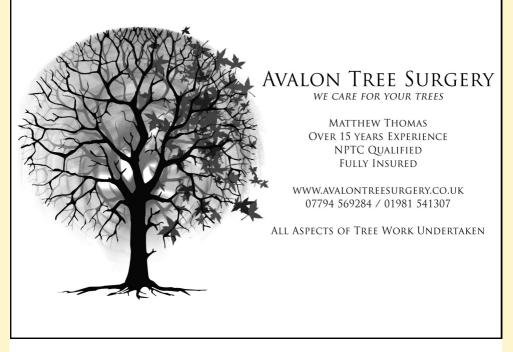
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