

# PARISH NEWS

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

OCTOBER 2024



Drawing by John Bothamley

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

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<b>Samaritans</b>	National Helpline .....	08457 909090
	Hereford .....	116 123 free calls
		0330 094 5717 local call rates apply
		<a href="mailto:jo@samaritans.org">jo@samaritans.org</a>

**HOPEline UK** (Prevention of Young Suicide)..... 0870 1704000 ..... 01978 367333

### 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](mailto:herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.police.uk) [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)

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

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# PARISH NEWS

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## THE ARCHENFIELD GROUP

For enquiries on baptisms, funerals and wedding please contact the Vicar:  
Rev. Angie Kateley [revangiekateley@gmail.com](mailto:revangiekateley@gmail.com) 01981 345044 **Rest day: Tuesday.**

### Vicar's Letter

It's that time of year when I find myself inexplicably craving period costume dramas on the tele – all those awkward stilted conversations and heaving bosoms - and big bowls of hearty soup. We all go conkers bonkers and start to dig out our cosy knits. All, we hope and pray, is safely gathered in. Another month, another tender love letter from the natural world around us, generously abundant in beauty and enchantment as the seasons roll on.

Generosity has been on my mind of late. I recently attended the funeral of a very dear friend, Sheila. With her wife Sue, Sheila lived her whole life generously. She quietly and gloriously enriched the lives of her friends and her community, and wherever she went she made new and treasured friendships, all over the world. She was ridiculously intelligent, but she wore it humbly and without show, all the while changing the world for the better. Since I've known her, Sheila has been a significant inspiration to me. It breaks my heart that she is gone. Her legacy, however, will continue, because she lived so generously.

I wonder if the greatest enemy of generosity is fear. When we live fearfully, we may cling on tightly to what we've got, pull up our drawbridges, bolster our defences. But what, then, of all the others who get left out in the cold? Fear and struggle are inevitable in life, none of us escape them. While fear can be useful in helping us to make good and wise choices, at its worst fear can also stunt our compassion. But if we can hold our fear alongside hope, gratitude, and love, it need not define us; we find ourselves with the freedom to live generously.

Maya Angelou said that when we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed, and I am minded to agree. What might living generously look like for you today? What ways might you be a blessing? Maybe with your time, your patience, your financial resources, your hospitality, your talents, your prayers, your smile? If we know what it is to struggle or to be afraid, perhaps that understanding will encourage us to recognise and respond generously to struggle and fear in others, both friends and strangers.

Now, I'm going to cuddle up in a big cardigan, enjoy some Mr Darcy, and raise a glass to my wonderful friend Sheila.

God bless you my friends

**Rev Angie x**

# SERVICE ROTA FOR OCTOBER

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

Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	6.30pm	Orcop Harvest Service
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00am	St Weonards Benefice Communion and Baptism
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	11.15am	Orcop Communion
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	11.00am 6.00pm	Hoarwithy Harvest Service Pencoyd Evening Worship
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	St Weonards Harvest Service
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Hentland Harvest Service
Sunday 3rd	5.00pm	Pencoyd Benefice All Souls Service

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

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am**

**Benefice Communion and Baptism**

**St Weonards Church**

**This is the only service in our parishes. Do join Angie and all of us to share worship and welcome a new member.**

**All welcome!**

**St.Weonards Benefice Monthly Prayer Meeting**

**We meet each month to pray for each other, our local communities, and the wider world.**

**Everyone is welcome!**

**St.Weonards Vicarage Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 7-8pm**

**PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION**



**8<sup>th</sup> October Chris Strange 07970614933**

**!!! Magazine News !!!**

*Please send WORD documents as our software cannot copy  
PDFs. Please keep fonts and presentation  
as simple as possible!*

# VILLAGE PAGES

## ST WEONARDS

We were delighted to welcome Nancy Thornley and her large family to St Weonards for her baptism in early September. Her great-grandfather Peter was our vicar in the 70's. The Thornley family and friends and our usual congregation filled the church for this special celebration, so we had an action-packed service! Afterwards we were most grateful to Anna Williams and her helpers for delicious refreshments.

The Parochial Church Council met and agreed to implement Phase 2 of the improvement to the church Audio Visual system. The new sound system works extremely well. I suspect that you have hardly noticed the new loudspeakers so carefully camouflaged on the pillars.

The next phase is to have a permanent screen available when needed, but hidden away when not in use behind the main arch, and a fixed projector discreetly mounted on a beam. At the moment we are seeking all the proper permissions to undertake this project. We will publish more details in coming months but do talk to me or members of the PCC if you want to know more about this exciting venture.

**On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October St Weonards Church will host the monthly benefice communion.** We are delighted that Elizabeth Phillips is being baptised at that service, and we look forward to welcoming her with her family.

**Our harvest service and supper is on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm.** Do put the date in your diary and come along. We are exploring ways to hear directly about farming in our community and to celebrate all those who work to provide our food and care for the countryside. If you are able to contribute a casserole or pudding, there will be a list to complete at the back of church or contact Fiona Mynors at [fionamynors@btinternet.com](mailto:fionamynors@btinternet.com). A suggested donation for the supper is £10 for adults £5 for young people, or whatever you feel able to give. The proceeds after expenses from the collection at the service and the supper will be for *We Are Farming Minds*.

Our vicar Angie is getting know us and our parishes. She meets monthly with us churchwardens, to continue the shared working of our parishes that has been developed over many years. In this way we are exploring the possibilities of how to organise the various services across our parishes and probably develop new exciting ways of working. While we have had a regular system, we need to be more flexible in the future, and the timings of services may change. We will publish them in the magazine each month, and the information is always on the benefice website.

Keep a look out for what is happening!

***Richard Mynors, churchwarden***

**Coffee Morning Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October  
St Weonards Village Hall 10.00-12.00am**



Enjoy coffee and homemade cake.

Meet old friends and make new ones. Just turn up all welcome.

***Gwyneth Williams***



**Date for the diary:** Fays Churchyard Bingo at St Weonards village hall on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Cathedral Activities**

As editor, I have the advantage of reading and organising all the material that is published each month. It has been interesting to see the increasing variety of exciting events at the cathedral. Apart from the regular services, they hold special ones for example for those who have been bereaved. All ages are catered for in the activities with Lego Clubs, toddler groups and talks from experts on many topics.

Former Archbishop Rowan Williams is talking about CS Lewis's Narnia stories, and at half term there is a special Messy Church linked to the stories.

What caught my eye this month should prove to be amazing.

**SPACE - A spectacular sound and light show by Luxmuralis Wednesday 16 – Saturday 19 October, allocated time slots from 6.20 – 9 pm.** The wonderful cathedral space will be filled with light and sound!

We can only publish a taster of what is available. Do look at the list at the end of the magazine and at the cathedral website. Consider, when you are next in Hereford, taking the opportunity to pop in to soak up the atmosphere of the prayers and services that have echoed over the generations inside its spaces. The coffee in the café is excellent too and there is even a loo!

**Fiona Mynors. Editor**

## **GARWAY**

### **Garway Church**

#### **Repairs to The Church Tower and Tower Roof**

Over the last few years the *Friends of Garway Church*, have been working hard to raise funds, and organise the work needed for essential repairs to the church tower and roof. This has meant a lot of communication between the diocese, church architect, builders, bat specialists, and others, to get the work approved and underway.

We are now very pleased to say that all the work done for this means that the repairs can finally take place during September and October.

Unfortunately, due to the proximity of the work to the entrance by the main door, this means that we will have to close the Church for the duration of eight weeks, whilst builders are on site - beginning on the 9<sup>th</sup> September.

Our apologies for this - and we thank you, and appreciate your patience, whilst this essential work to secure the life of our church goes ahead.

#### **Harvest Festival 29<sup>th</sup> September 4.00pm**

Plans for the harvest service are coming along well. As the church will be closed for critical repairs, we also now plan to have the service in Bill and Cheryl Sparey's beautiful barn. Dragons' Gate, Great Demesne, Garway, Hereford, HR2 8RJ.

The service will still begin at 4pm, followed by a short break, before the Harvest supper at 5pm

Our warm thanks to Bill and Cheryl for their generosity.

**Tracy Somerville, churchwarden**

## Garway Stitchers



Our dates for October are 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> from 10.30 – 12.30. 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.

### Coffee Morning

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October

in Garway Village Hall from 10.15

Join us for coffee, cake, tea & lively chat

Susannah will be joining us to talk about the work of the Kindle Centre

Free library and Post Office



October 12<sup>th</sup>

He's back, October 12<sup>th</sup> sees the much-awaited return of the James Oliver Band. Last time James performed here he had the audience enthralled with his guitar mastery, playing everything from rock to blues to country and lots more in between. The evening consisted of lots of well-known standards plus his own compositions, my favourite was his driving rock anthem "American Cars". As well as that, James is a consummate entertainer, keeping the audience laughing between numbers with his acute observations of village life (especially Garway). Plus Chris' delectable goodies and a full bar.

Forthcoming events produce a complete change of genre, on Friday November 15<sup>th</sup>, we welcome back after a long time, their last visit was to the old hall, "Afternoon in Paris". An evening of laid-back twenties style Parisian café jazz, think Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli.

Finally, to end the year we have our Christmas Party on Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> with the return of the popular "Soul Strutters", make sure you bring your dancing shoes.

Try not to miss any of these fantastic nights. See you there.

**Graham Bevan**

## GARWAY HERITAGE GROUP

Tuesday 15th October

Garway Hall, 7.30pm

### Malvern Radar Establishment

In May 1942 and in great secrecy, 2500 radar scientists were evacuated from the south coast to Malvern. Learn about this extraordinary story: the move, the effects on life in Malvern and the impact the scientists of the Radar and Telecommunications Research Establishment had on the outcome of WWII. Many of those scientists became household names in their later careers.

All are welcome - it's a great opportunity to learn about our local area and for a friendly chat; we will, of course, be serving delicious cakes, tea, coffee and wine. Free entry to Garway Heritage Group members (annual subscriptions are now due - £15 per person), or £8 for guests.

#### Dates for you diary:

**19 Nov - Apples and People:** the apple's travels around the world and Herefordshire's importance in its global story.

**17 Dec - Christmas Quiz:** our popular Christmas celebration with quiz maestro Mike Brewer.

**21st January 2025 - The Mormons of Garway:** a little-known aspect of Garway's history presented by Lesley Whistance.

[www.garwayheritagegroup.co.uk](http://www.garwayheritagegroup.co.uk)



TUESDAY OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup> 7.30pm

GARWAY HALL £5.

SWEDE CAROLINE

We've decided to go all out for a really fun film for our October Flicks night. **SWEDE CAROLINE** is an hilarious mockumentary about the cut, thrust and downright unscrupulous world of competitive vegetable growing, (think Garway Fun Day with dastardly skulduggery). Caroline is a divorcee who is a dab hand at growing very large marrows. Her best marrow is disqualified for a hairline crack and then, the following year, someone steals her prize specimen. Caroline hires two rather louche private detectives, (who also organise swinging parties!), to find the who's behind the horticultural malpractice. Sometimes what you need is a good laugh and that's what you'll get with this film which includes a wonderfully deadpan performance from Jo Hartley as Caroline. No swedes on offer but plenty of cake, wine, teas and coffees before the film and during the interval. And thinking ahead, here is our planned programme up until January next year: So you can plan ahead:

**November 12<sup>th</sup> – Perfect Days.** A wonderful film, hailed as Wim Wenders's lifetime masterpiece. How one Tokyo toilet cleaner has learned to live the richest of lives.

**December 10<sup>th</sup> – The Holdovers.** An unusual triangle of friendship develops in a boarding school over Christmas between a curmudgeonly teacher, the school cook and a difficult pupil. Poignant, beautiful and extremely funny.

**January 14<sup>th</sup> – Wicked Little Letters.** Who's writing poison pen, foul-mouthed letters in a genteel seaside town? Olivia Colman and Jesse Buckley are a joy to watch in one of the highest rated films from this year's Borderlines Film Festival. More details every month in the Parish Magazine and on [facebook.com/GarwayFlicks](https://facebook.com/GarwayFlicks)

**Corinne Westacott**

## Garway Funday August 24<sup>th</sup> 2024

Well weren't we lucky! The sun nearly shone for us and we had no rain after setting up in the morning in pretty miserable conditions. It was a lovely afternoon and the new layout of the common seemed very popular. We were entertained by a brass ensemble, local singing group and some fabulous local talent who took up the 'open mic' offer. There was also a display of vintage tractors to enjoy and the opportunity to meet Freddy, the Cheeky Pony.

The bbq, tea tent, bar and Kelsmor Ice cream kept everyone well fed and watered while wandering around the craft, plant and produce stalls. There was also the opportunity to buy local cider, take a punt at the Tombola stall or participate in Welly Wanging, Skittles and the netball challenge, not to mention *Guess the Weight of the Pig*.

The children had a wonderful afternoon, the new giant inflatable football was incredibly popular along with all sorts of lovely activities including a sand pit, tattoos and cress craft. Children's races and of course a Mum's and Grandma's race, were popular especially the 'hobby horse' derby.

The dog show saw a record number of entries and a wonderful array of dogs of all shapes and sizes, some of whom also tried the dog agility course which sometimes proved more challenging for the owners than their dogs.

As usual the competition tent was busy, not as many entries in the produce sections but possibly due to the strange weather this so-called summer. It was lovely to see people's faces when they viewed the judging of their entries.

The Tug of War proved competitive, controversial, great fun and a superb way to end the day,

A fabulous community spirited afternoon, it was so lovely to see so many people enjoying themselves and participating in a local community event. We raised £2300, the majority of which will support Garway School's Minibus fund and £300 to Hereford and Worcester Community First Responders, Ross on Wye.

An enormous THANK YOU to everybody who contributed in so many different ways to making this such a wonderful community event. **Sue Thomas**

### Green Garway Book Group

#### ***Divide: The Relationship Crisis Between Town and Country* by Anna Jones**

Longlisted for the 2022 Wainwright Prize, this book looks at the disconnect between rural and urban living and how our differences need to be acknowledged and respected and that it is only by collaborating and not playing the polarising blame game that any good for the benefit of all can be achieved.

She covers politics, meat farming, community and other topics in a balanced and fair way from all perspectives. She talks about the dilemma in deciding whether oatgurt or yogurt would be best for the environment and the sad irony of the farmer facing hard times who could only afford to buy a £3 'supermarket' chicken despite knowing this was the very problem that created his own financial difficulties. The frankness of the lady she interviewed about hunting also makes for an interesting read.

Rating: 4/5

If you're interested in coming along to the next book group please join our Facebook

group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/489872936450081> or send an email

to [greengarwaybg@gmail.com](mailto:greengarwaybg@gmail.com). We read books about the outdoor world, nature, social issues, travel,

fiction and non-fiction. Everyone is welcome and you can dip in and out as necessary. **Julie Hudson**

**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)



After the great success of our village Christmas fair last year please put **Sunday 17 November** in your diaries for this year. If you're interested in having a stall at the event please contact us by email at [Christmasatgarway@gmail.com](mailto:Christmasatgarway@gmail.com)

Visit our website at [www.garwayhall.org](http://www.garwayhall.org) to find out more and you can subscribe to our mailing list there too. **Julie Hudson**

## ORCOP

Thanks go to the Parish Council and especially to Councillor Barry Shaw for the refurbishment of the Copywell noticeboard. A grand job done and we can read what's on there now!

It was a pleasure to welcome back Moses and his family at the September communion service. Moses Nthukah arrived, not in a basket, but from Kenya. Moses served in our Benefice as a "House for duty" minister, before returning to Kenya in November 2008 to take up the position of Bishop of Mbeere Province. It is difficult to believe that it is 16 years since he was with us.

**Margaret Fletcher Churchwarden**

**Flowers and cleaning rota: Mrs J Brown & Mrs A Podesta**

### ORCOP HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

**6.30pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October in Orcop Church**

Please join us to celebrate the harvest.

Those so inclined will go up the hill to the Fountain Inn for a drink afterwards.

Please note that if you wish to dine at the Fountain that evening you will need to book

#### **A BIG THANK YOU TO BETTY LOVERING and CHARMAINE!**

Many readers will have enjoyed their NGS open garden event in June.

The sale of tea and cakes raised £230, which they have very generously



**Orcop Village Hall**  
**APPLE PRESSING & AUTUMN MARKET**  
**with BBQ**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 12 – 4pm**

This was so popular last year – we thought we'd do it again!

*Bring your clean, undamaged apples, and a clean empty bottle or two, and we will turn your apples into juice. **Please note:** 2K of apples will produce about 1L of juice. In order to have a sufficient quantity of apples for the press, yours are likely to be blended with others. If kept in the fridge, the juice needs to be drunk within a few days, - or you could freeze it, pasteurise it, or even turn it into cider.*

There is no charge for this service, but donations to the hall funds would be welcome!

We'll also have our regular stalls: Cakes, Produce, Preserves, Plants, Seeds, Cards, Crafts, Curios, Books  
and Award-Winning Hollow Ash Cider & Juice

Raffle & Refreshments

Growers, Makers, Stall Holders welcome –

To book a table or for more info please contact:-

[petamary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:petamary@hotmail.co.uk) or, [gill.bannerman@outlook.com](mailto:gill.bannerman@outlook.com)

**Orcop Village Hall Coffee Mornings**

**continue to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month – 10.30-12.30**

do come and join us  you'd be welcome

October 17<sup>th</sup>; November 21<sup>st</sup>

**Orcop Village Hall**   
**Apple Pressing Competition**  
**12<sup>th</sup> October 12.00**

**!!A fun competition!!**

Categories:

- 1 The Biggest apple
- 2 The Rosiest Apple
- 3 Group of three Apples
- 4 Most unusual Apple

**Best Apple Poem:** 12's and one for over 12's.

Displayed for all to see and vote for the best!

Bring your entries on the day and the winners will be announced at the end of the event. **Peta Long**

**Date for the diary:** Orcop Village Hall Christmas Bazaar, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November

Stall holders welcome to book a table. Please email [petamary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:petamary@hotmail.co.uk)

Thank you to everyone who came to support our recent anniversary concert It was great to have two live bands for our entertainment. We must thank Rick Waldron for his organising and generosity in performing for us. A special thank you to Jamie Manning for sponsoring the event, the amount raised on the night was £600. **Peta Long**

Many thanks to all those who supported Orcop Fete on Bank Holiday Monday. We were entertained by Monnow Ballet School, the Silver Swans danced a gentle Swan Lake piece and the younger members performed the Mad Hatter's tea party. The afternoon raised over £900. The winners of the quiz were Diane Green and Stuart Watkins. **Julia Garlick**

**Quiz answers:**

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Choux pastry                       | 21. Seville Oranges                       |
| 2. Garlic                             | 22. Root                                  |
| 3. Veal                               | 23. Rock                                  |
| 4. Served Raw                         | 24. Made by Small Producers traditionally |
| 5. Tomato Juice or Bloody Mary        | 25. Japanese                              |
| 6. Beef Wellington                    | 26. January 8th                           |
| 7. None - made with cheese            | 27. Omega 3                               |
| 8. Apple, Celery and Walnuts          | 28. A Cake                                |
| 9. Loganberry or Tayberry             | 29. Tea or Water                          |
| 10. Basil                             | 30. Orchid                                |
| 11. Italian cured Belly Pork or Bacon | 31. Bread                                 |
| 12. Smoked Haddock or Eel             | 32. Vodka                                 |
| 13. Cake                              | 33. None                                  |
| 14. Italy                             | 34. Four                                  |
| 15. Beer and Garlic                   | 35. A Bear                                |
| 16. Seaweed                           | 36. Haricot or Navy Beans                 |
| 17. Buffalo Milk                      | 37. India                                 |
| 18. Aubergines                        | 38. Vodka and Orange                      |
| 19. Greece                            | 39. Pepsi & Co                            |
| 20. Fortnam and Mason                 | 40. Two                                   |

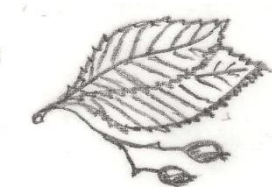
**OWL COMMUNITY LUNCH**

**Wednesday 2nd of October.**

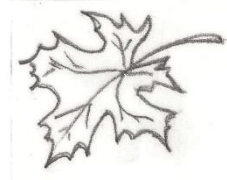
This community lunch is held in Orcop Parish Hall 12.30 for 1pm. There will be two courses and a drink for £10. All are welcome. if you have special dietary requirements, please let Jane know on 01981 241310. There will be a raffle. **Jane Rigler**



## **LAST BLAZE OF COLOUR**



*David Donaldson (poetry)*  
*Joris Boon (cello)*  
**POETRY AND MUSIC  
FOR AUTUMN**



David and Joris are back with another seasonal programme of words and the music of the cello. Follow the seasonal shifts and changes of mood from summer's *strewn riches of ripeness*, to the falling leaves and shortening days, crossing the threshold of Hallowe'en into November.

**Orcop Church 26<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm**  
Donations towards Orcop Church



## **TRETIRE WITH MICHAELCHURCH AND PENCOYD**

***Tretire with Michaelchurch & Pencoyd PCC***

***Fun Quiz with Supper***

**Wednesday 13th November 2024**

**The Red Lion Pub Peterstow. HR9 6LH**

**Drinks at 6.30pm Cash Bar**

***Delicious Supper (optional) - £22.50 (must be pre-ordered)***

***served at 7.00pm Fun Quiz at 7.30pm***

***Teams of 4***

**All very welcome, come as team or  
join a team on the night**

**Quiz Tickets £10**

**To book your place and choose your supper please contact:**

**Kathy Handby - Tel: 01989 730842 email: [kathy.handby@btinternet.com](mailto:kathy.handby@btinternet.com)**



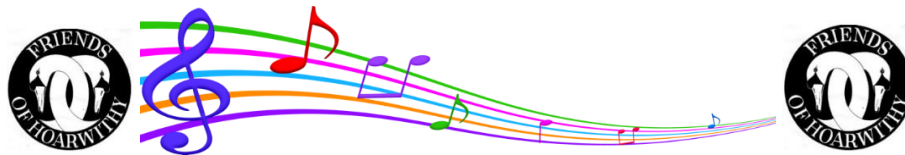
# HOARWITHY AND HENTLAND

*Our Lady of the Water* arrived down the Wye on the 17<sup>th</sup> August (to highlight the polluted state of the river) in time for the reception and Sung Evensong at the Church led by Fr. David Wyatt with Amici Choir. We would like to thank all those involve in the service, providing refreshments before evensong and not forgetting the strong arms that brought her to and took her from the church.

**Peter Pember churchwarden**

**Dates for the diary: 19 October** Oral History event. Details to Follow.

**20 October 11.00am** Harvest Holy Communion followed by Lunch at the New Harp.



**In aid of Prostate Cancer UK & the St. Catherine's Church Restoration Appeal.**

The Hoarwithy Singers Present...

## Songs We Like to Sing

*A collection of songs we enjoy singing, and we hope you will sing along too!*

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October - 7.00pm St. Catherine's Church, Hoarwithy**

**£10 per head, inc. 1st glass of Wine (or soft drink) & Canapes.**

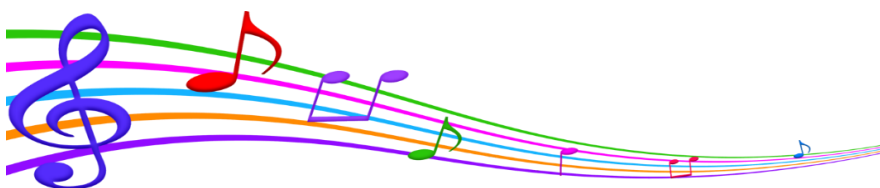
**Children under 12 free!**

**Pay Bar available for further refreshments (cash only)**

*All reservations to be booked and paid for in advance - by 28/09/24*

*To book please contact:- Derek - 07710 727003*

*or by email at :- [friendsofhoarwithy@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhoarwithy@gmail.com)*



## Book Review

### *The Last Devil to Die* by Richard Osman

There are two central conceits in this the most recent episode in the witty *Thursday Murder Club Mysteries* series – that a group of respectable pensioners in their retirement village could become sleuths, unfazed by mayhem, drug-dealing and murder – and that the dealers and killers are just everyday respectable folk, steeped in domesticity, moving to areas where there are good schools, proud to have a “son get into the Royal Ballet.”

There is so much more to this novel than a whodunnit. The wry humour is present in every line, and the language is a delight. He is a master of “show don’t tell”, allowing the reader to glean the personalities of the protagonists obliquely – the list of Christmas presents that the group shared tells us all there is to know about both givers and receivers.

But what stands out in this book is Osman’s touching, sensitive and perceptive approach to ageing, and to the sad descent into dementia of the highly intellectual husband of Elizabeth, the nominal group leader and former spy.

*“But, however much life teaches you that nothing lasts, it is still a shock when it disappears. When the man you love with every fibre starts returning to the stars, an atom at a time.”*

I can do no better than append some quotes from this rich novel in the hope that these will tempt you to partake:

*“Days of death are days when we weigh our relationship with love in our bare hands. Days when we remember what has gone, and fear what is to come. The joy love brings, and the price we pay. When we give thanks but also pray for mercy.”*

*“Mankind finds futility very hard to stomach. People find all sorts of things to give their brief lives meaning. Religion, football, astrology, social media. Valiant efforts all, but everyone knows, deep, deep down, that life is both a random occurrence and a losing battle. None of us will be remembered. These days will all be covered, in time, by the sands.”*

*“That’s the thing about Coopers Chase. You’d imagine it was quiet and sedate, like a village pond on a summer’s day. But in truth it never stops moving, it’s always in motion. And that motion is ageing, and death, and love, and grief, and final snatched moments and opportunities grasped. The urgency of old age. There’s nothing that makes you feel more alive than the certainty of death.”*

*“There comes a point when you look at your photograph albums more often than you watch the news. When you opt out of time, and let it carry on doing its thing while you get on with yours. You simply stop dancing to the beat of the drum.”*

*“There is only so much reading you can do, so many cups of tea you can make, before the loneliness crowds in around you. You breathe it in, you cry it out, and the clock ticks slowly, slowly .....”*

**Hilary Smallwood**

*Editor: Julie is on holiday, but we look forward to her return to give us her fascinating Garden Notes*



## The Saga of Louise

For the past couple of months I have written about swifts, now long departed on their annual journey to Southern Africa. This month, I turn to another bird, not swift in name but swift by nature.

Early in July we found a racing pigeon strutting confidently around our driveway. It wore a yellow ring on one leg and a red one on the other. We duly welcomed it with wild bird seed and fresh water and it became very friendly, watching the comings and goings from the top of the gatepost and retreating to the adjacent barn to roost at night. As it was clearly a racer, we named it “Lewis” after the Formula One champion.

We eventually caught it and read the number from the yellow ring. The Royal Racing Pigeon Association has a very efficient website and within an hour of sending them the number they came back with the owner’s contact details. We phoned him and he advised that Lewis was in fact a lady, whereupon she was rechristened “Louise”. She was a young lady, less than a year old, and she had gone astray on her first race. Having been released in Bath, she should have returned to her loft in Cirencester. Instead, she chose to visit us.

It turned out that the owner had recently had a major hip operation and could not drive. However, as it happened, we were about to have an item of garden machinery delivered from a company in Cirencester, located very close to Louise’s loft. After a rather strange negotiation with the said company, they agreed that their driver would take Louise back to their yard and release her from there, in the hope that she would then find her way home. Their agreement to undertake the pigeon delivery was conditional on our agreeing to take full responsibility for anything that might befall her on the journey.

The big day arrived, with landing net, laundry basket wooden prop and string all prepared for capturing Louise. By this time, she had grown wise to our intentions and we think she rather liked it at Whitehouse Farm, so she fixed us with her beady eyes and refused to be caught. The delivery driver seemed rather disappointed to be returning empty handed.

So, Louise continued to enjoy her Herefordshire holiday.

A couple of weeks later, having refined our capture routine and equipment, we succeeded in catching her and drove her back to her owner, who was very grateful. The first thing he did was to remove the red leg ring, which apparently contained a steel pin to automatically record her race time. We noticed that Louise found this encumbrance uncomfortable, and we guessed that a race time of about two months might be embarrassing, both for Louise and her owner. She will now remain in her loft, with her parents (both champions) until next April, when she will be given another crack at a novice sprint race. In the process of reuniting her with her owner, we learned a lot about pigeon racing, ranging from the perils of peregrine falcons and goshawks to the disorientation of pigeons caused by 5G phone signals.

We miss her and hope we might once again find her strutting around the drive next year.

**Peter Garratt**

## A Peek in the Bookshop

The Cheltenham Literary Festival takes place from 4-13 October and some big names will be in town from Bob Mortimer, Barbara Kingsolver and Boris Johnson to Zandra Rhodes.

We've also got lots of our own events coming up at Rossiter Books including John Lewis-Stempel on 3 October in Elmslie House, Malvern talking about his new book *England: A Natural History*. If you pre-order the book or buy a ticket for the event, you'll automatically be entered into an exclusive prize draw for a Fortnum & Mason Hamper.

We'll also be hosting events in Monmouth in October with novelist Kate Mosse and gardener Carol Klein to chat about their new books.

Two new cookery books from big names are coming out soon: Nigel Slater's *A Thousand Feasts* and *Simply Jamie* by Jamie Oliver are always popular writers with our customers.

*Our Evenings* by Alan Hollinghurst is a dark, luminous and wickedly funny portrait of modern England through the lens of one man's acutely observed and often unnerving experience. It is a story of race and class, theatre and sexuality, love and the cruel shock of violence, from one of the finest writers of our age.

Sally Rooney fans will be pleased to hear her new novel *Intermezzo* comes out at the end of September. This is an exquisitely moving story about grief, love and family.

If you have children who love *The Detective Society* series by Robin Stevens they will love *The Most Ladylike Puzzle Book* that features codes to crack and fiendish puzzles and riddles.

And finally *Turtle Moon* by the best-selling Hannah Gold takes us on a journey to the heart of the jungle and buried secrets, perfect for 9-12 age group.

Hope to see you in the shop soon.

**Julie, Bookseller at Rossiter Books** [www.rossiterbooks.co.uk](http://www.rossiterbooks.co.uk)

### **Please can I talk about babies?**

We anticipate the arrival of a baby with such excitement and joy, but a baby who is uncomfortable, crying all the time, unable to feed with ease can turn the experience into a nightmare.

Since my early twenties, I have been involved with childbirth and babies. I accompanied many women through the birth of their babies and supported them in the early days of parenthood. I have worked as an antenatal teacher for the National Childbirth Trust, then as a tutor for new antenatal teachers.

When I trained as a craniosacral therapist, it was as though a new thread had been woven into my involvement with birth. I learned how to support babies as they resolve the strains and discomforts of their birth and unfold like little flowers into comfort and peace. My ambition is that every new mother knows about the wonderful resource of craniosacral therapy and cranial osteopathy to help their babies find comfort and relaxation after the adventure of being born.

Women talk a lot about the experience of birthing their babies, but the babies themselves have no words to tell their story, but, if their birth was uncomfortable, they can cry, curl up in discomfort, or turn away from the breast despite it being their lifeline. I have met so many women who tell me "I couldn't breastfeed my baby." Often, though, it is the baby, for whom the twists and turns of birth have been overwhelming, leaving them with inactive tongues, jaws that can't open widely enough or a misshaped palate that doesn't allow enough room in their mouth for the breast. Feeding from a bottle is also difficult for these babies. They take in too much air and then have sore tummies.

Lucy is three weeks old. She wakes every hour and seems reluctant to take the breast. When she does, she only has the nipple in her mouth and lets it go very easily. She will only sleep in the day if she is carried or in a sling.. She is gaining weight, is strong and healthy, but not comfortable or happy.

With my hands very gently on her head, I invite Lucy to tell me her story. Her head and neck are feeling compressed, one shoulder is uncomfortable and the muscles under her tongue aren't able to move fully, making it difficult for her to suckle.

Gradually as we converse together through touch, her body starts to relax and open up. Her neck gets visibly longer, her fists unclench, her arms relax. She explores the possibility of using her tongue, sticking it out and moving it around. She does some yawns that seem bigger than she is. Before she leaves, she has a feed, sucking confidently and effectively at the breast. I will see her again next week, but I think life for Lucy and her family will be more comfortable now.

**Vivien Ray** RCST Craniosacral Therapy 01981 580577

## Wildlife in our Garden

Throughout August, we have seen very little activity in the garden. The only signs of nature are what various creatures have left behind them. The most obvious signs are the occasional little heaps of hedgehog stool on the lawn which I have to avoid treading in. It is nice to know hedgehogs are still about in our garden, even though we rarely see them; as a general rule they're only out at night.

Another sign is broken open nut shells. These are mostly hazel or cobb nuts, much beloved by squirrels. They seem to eat them when they're still quite green and often leave two halves of the shell lying about. Squirrels are also burying nuts at this time of year, but it is quite hard to see where they are buried. Sometimes even the squirrel can't find it again! Occasionally we will find a hazel nut shell with a hole in it. The holes are neat, round ones about 1 centimetre in diameter at the end of the shell. This sort of hole is made by either a vole or an ordinary mouse. Apparently, if you see one with a hole on the side of the shell with tooth marks running parallel to the edge, this indicates a dormouse. I have never seen one in this garden, but it is hardly surprising if there are no dormice here, seeing how we are so surrounded by farmland.

Then there are holes in the ground. We have a lot of these, often spoiling our lawn! The tiniest are made by insects, many of whom, including bees, spend much of the winter in underground nests. The most troublesome are the ants which not only burrow but heap up quantities of sandy soil in mounds all over the lawn. The mounds are not so big as those of moles, at any rate not for a year or so, but they are much harder to remove. I wish a hungry green woodpecker would come and eat some of the ants!

Next size up are vole holes. These are about one inch across and are much tidier; they don't make piles of earth outside the burrow. I wonder where the voles put the soil they excavate; it must go somewhere.

Then there are mole hills. I think everyone is familiar with these. I have reached a compromise with moles over the years. I just remove the soil and leave the hole undisturbed, on the grounds that if their burrow is intact, they are less likely to dig further. This is partly true, but sometimes they burrow such a lot, and raise up so many tunnels just under the surface, that in desperation I set a trap. It is amazing what a lot of burrows just one mole can make.

Finally there are rabbits. There are only two places where they seem to have living quarters, under the summer-house and in the wood-shed. Everywhere else they scratch shallow holes, about ten centimetres deep and ten in diameter, but generally rather untidy. They do not seem to be attempting to start a burrow, so why do they do it? Is it exercise, practice for burrowing, sharpening their claws, or is it just that they enjoy digging? **John Oubridge**, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

# Chuckle Corner

Given the variety of weather we have had over the summer- was it summer I asked myself, I'm afraid I have to include some jokes about it. Sorry! *Fiona. Editor*

How do you prevent a summer cold?

Catch it in the winter.

What does a cloud wear under his raincoat?

Thunderwear.

What did one lightning bolt say to the other?

"You're shocking!"

My cat seems to like stormy weather...

when it rains, it purrs.



Our next FREE Mental Health Awareness Workshop will be on Wednesday October 16th at The Duchy of Cornwall Offices, New Barn, Dewsall, Hereford HR2 8DA.

**Choose from either a morning or afternoon session:**

Morning session - 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Afternoon session - 1.30pm to 4.30pm

This workshop is open to anyone living or working in/with the farming community in Herefordshire.

*Booking is essential* - please email [wafmassist@gmail.com](mailto:wafmassist@gmail.com) On booking, please let us know if you have any accessibility requirements or if you need any accessible course material.

**Natalie, Assistant Project Manager** - *We Are Farming Minds*

[www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk](http://www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk) Mobile: 07951 871161

**SUPPORT LINE: 0808 8020070 or TEXT: 07786 203130**

## Hereford Cathedral

(also see their website for many more exciting events!)

**Seeds of Eternity: Monday 23 September 2024 – Saturday 5 April 2025.** The latest exhibition in the Mappa Mundi & Chained Library celebrates 17th century poet Thomas Traherne who is known for his extraordinary writing about nature connecting humanity to the divine. **Normal admission charges apply. The exhibition will be closed throughout January for essential cleaning and conservation work.**

**Cathedral Seedlings – Toddlers Group Thursdays in term time, 10 – 11.30 am** Calling all toddlers and their grown-ups - join us to play and pray in the Old Chapel - Hereford Cathedral. Listen to a Bible story, take part in a craft activity and have fun in our weekly drop-in. To add to the experience, refreshments, delicious cakes and healthy snacks for children will be provided by Hereford Cathedral Café. Suitable for toddlers between the ages of 1-3 years and younger siblings are welcome. **Toddler Group is free but children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.**

**Cantilupe Lecture – Luxmuralis Space by Peter Walker Wednesday 2 October, 3 pm** As a sculptor and artist Peter Walker's work adorns towns and cities both nationally and internationally. His art work consists of large-scale sculpture, commissioned and bespoke sculptural works as well as paintings, drawings, film, sound and light installations. **The annual Cantilupe Lecture is free, but pre-booking required via the cathedral website or by calling 01432 374 225**

**Lego Club Space. Tuesday 8 October, 3.45 – 5 pm.** Our monthly Lego Club gets an intergalactic makeover as we build all things outer space! From rockets and spaceships to aliens and other planets, come and be inspired to build something out of this world. **This after-school session is free no booking required.**

**Afternoon Music - Beyond the final frontier. Saturday, 12 October, 3.15 – 3.50 pm.** October's Afternoon Music will boldly go where few have gone before in a slightly extended length sci-fi special. Free event.

**SPACE - A spectacular sound and light show by Luxmuralis Wednesday 16 – Saturday 19 October, allocated time slots from 6.20 – 9 pm.** Experience Hereford Cathedral in a whole new way as you walk amongst the stars and planets. Discover the creation story and the Big Bang within this sacred space and view the final image of Earth as if looking back from space under a galaxy of stars.

**Tickets cost Adult £9 | Children (3-16): £6 | Under 3's: FREE and are available to purchase from The Courtyard, Edgar Street, Hereford HR4 9JR in person, by calling 01432 34055 or online:**

[www.courtyard.org.uk](http://www.courtyard.org.uk)

**Becoming as Little Children: C.S. Lewis, Narnia and the Theology of Storytelling: Dr. Rowan Williams Friday 25 October, 7 pm.** We are delighted to welcome one of the world's most pre-eminent theologians, former Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Rowan Williams to deliver this a talk as part of our Narnia Week events. **Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased via the cathedral website.**

**Online Narnia talk with Dr Jem Bloomfield. Monday 28 October, 7 pm – Online.** In this talk, Jem Bloomfield will explore the way Narnia weaves together literary and theological meanings. He'll point to moments where Narnia is enriched by literary allusions to medieval poetry, renaissance epic and detective novels. The talk will highlight the way the novels enchant the world around us and draw us towards a mystery beyond the Narnian horizon. **Tickets £5 via cathedral website or 01432 374 225.**

**Narnia Storytelling Night. Tuesday 29 October, 6.30 – 8.30 pm** Step through the ancient doors of Hereford Cathedral and into the wardrobe for a journey through the timeless tales of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. This magical storytelling event will invite guests to delve deeper into the connections between these magical tales and the Christian story. **This event is free but booking is essential via the cathedral website.**

**Narnia Messy Church Thursday 31 October, 12noon – 2 pm** Come and take part in a Narnia themed Messy Church, including crafts and activities for all the family to take part in! Messy Church is church for families and all. It is Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.

**This event is free to attend and booking is not required.**

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## Dates for the diary:

### OCTOBER

- 1 Coffee Morning, Garway Village Hall with Talk Hub and Post-Office
- 2 Garway Stitchers/ OWL lunch
- 4 Orcop Harvest Festival and Supper
- 5 Hoarwithy Singers – Songs We Like to Sing
- 8 Garway Flicks in the Sticks – Swede Caroline
- 10 St Weonards Coffee Morning
- 12 Apple Pressing and Autumn Market, Orcop with BBQ
- 14 Green Garway Book Club
- 15 Garway Heritage Group
- 16 Garway Stitchers
- 16-19 Lux Morales, Hereford Cathedral
- 17 Orcop Coffee Morning
- 25 St Weonards Harvest Celebration and Supper
- 26 Last Blaze of Colour – Poetry and Music
- 29 Garway Harvest Festival and Supper
- 30 Garwy Stitchers

### NOVEMBER

- 11 Green Garway Book Club
- 12 Flicks in the Sticks Garway, Perfect Days
- 13 Tretire and Pencoyd Quiz Night at the Red Lion
- 17 Christmas Fair at Garway Hall
- 19 Garway Heritage Group
- 21 Orcop Coffee Morning
- 29 Church Bingo, St Weonards
- 30 Orcop Christmas Bazaar.

### DECEMBER

- 9 Garway Green Book Group
- 10 Garway Flicks in the Sticks—the Holdovers
- 11 Garway Live! The Soul Strutters
- 17 Garway Heritage Group Christmas Quiz.

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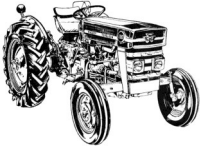
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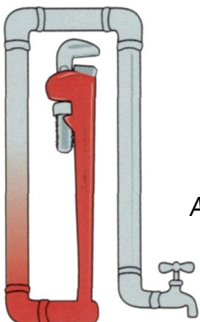
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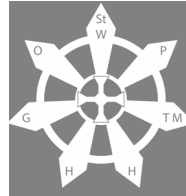
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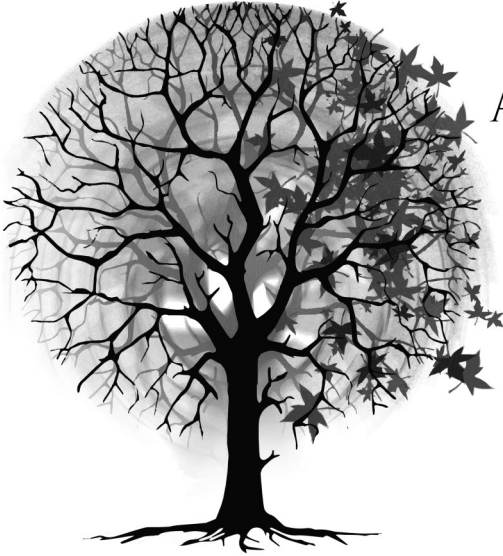
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**Pigsty Studio, Saddlebow Hill, HR2 8HD**

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**James: 07891 444195**



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# THE New Harp INN

Pub of the season  
Autumn 2024

01432 840 900 / Booking@thenewharpinn.co.uk

## OPENING HOURS FROM 1ST OCTOBER

MONDAY AND TUESDAY : 5PM - 10PM  
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY : 12 - 3PM / 5 - 10PM  
FRIDAY, SATURDAY : 12PM - 11PM  
SUNDAY : 12 - 8PM  
Closed - 18th - 26th November

## EVENTS CALENDAR : OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

### Restaurant and Bar:

Open 7 Days a week for bookings of up to 50 people, whatever the occasion we have a great selection of locally sourced food and drink and can cater for any dietary needs. Daily Specials featuring alongside a classic pub menu, children's menu and doggies menu to keep the whole family happy.

### Burger Nights Every Tuesday:

Build you own burger, with a large choice on offer to make it your own delicious creation, all homemade and using local produce! ONLY £12 every Tuesday although the menu runs every day!

### Jamaican Nights Every Thursday:

New for Winter 2024! Every Thursday evening come along for a Jamaican treat with classic authentic dishes available to eat in the restaurant or take away!

### Fresh Fish Fridays including Takeaway:

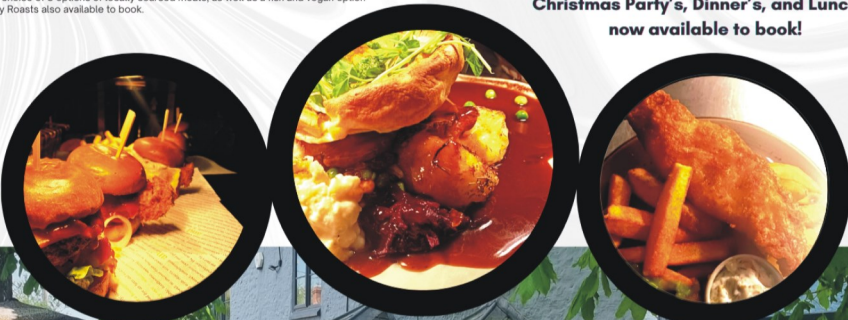
Fresh haddock with a crispy beer batter, chunky chips and peas. Only £15 with a free house beer, wine or soft drink along with other fresh fish specials available every Friday!

### Traditional Sunday Roasts

Every Sunday 12pm - 3pm and 5-7pm we serve traditional Sunday Roasts from £16.95pp. Always a choice of 3 options of locally sourced meats, as well as a fish and vegan option. Takeaway Roasts also available to book.

- 18th October Live Music - Hannah May  
FREE entry - Music starts at 8.30pm
- 23rd October Quiz Night  
Teams of 2 - 6 people - Free Entry - 8pm start
- 31st October Kids Halloween Party  
3 - 5pm £10 per child includes buffet and entertainment and gift to take home
- 31st October Halloween Murder Mystery  
7.30pm Start - £45 per Adult includes 3 course menu and entertainment - Booking essential
- 1st November Halloween Party - Adults  
8pm Start - FREE entry - Fancy dress - Live music from the Forfells.
- 5th November Bonfire Night fire pit  
5 - 7pm - Fire Pit - Mulled Wine - Hot chocolates - marshmallow toasting - sparklers
- 13th November Quiz Night  
Teams of 2 - 6 people - Free Entry - 8pm start
- 15th November Live Music  
FREE entry - Music starts at 8.30pm

**Christmas Party's, Dinner's, and Lunches  
now available to book!**



[www.thenewharpinn.co.uk](http://www.thenewharpinn.co.uk)

[f New Harp Inn](#)





Church Street,  
 Monmouth, NP25 3BU  
[www.monmouth-savoy.co.uk](http://www.monmouth-savoy.co.uk)  
 01600 772467

**PETE FIRMAN: TrikTok**

UK's Top Comedy Magician Sun 6th Oct at 7.30pm

**KATE MOSSE**

In association with Rossiter Books Wed 9th Oct at 7pm

**THE LION AND THE UNICORN**

New play about Churchill Sat 12th Oct at 7.30pm

**ROBIN MORGAN: The Spark**

From The News Quiz Sun 13th Oct at 7.30pm

**JOE PASQUALE: The New Normal**

A Night of Comic Mayhem Fri 18th Oct at 7.30pm

**STEELEYE SPAN**

The Green Man Tour Sat 19th Oct at 7.30pm

**OTHELLO: from Shakepeare's Globe**

ON SCREEN Tues 22nd Oct at 2pm & 7pm

**AMERICAN COUNTRY GREATS**

"Legends of American Country" Wed 23rd Oct at 7.30pm

**KIRI PRITCHARD-MCLEAN**

From Live at the Apollo Sun 27th Oct at 7.30pm

**HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR**

A Fang-tastic Family Show Thurs 31st Oct at 1pm

Films in October - check the website for details

**FIREBRAND** (15) Fri 27 Sept - Wed 2 Oct

**LEE** (15) Fri 4 - Thur 10 Oct

**OZI: The Voice of the Forest** (pg) Sat 5th & Sun 6th Oct

**THE CRITIC** (15) Fri 11 - Thur 17 Oct Not Sat 12

**TRANSFORMERS ONE** (pg) Fri 25 - Thur 31 Oct

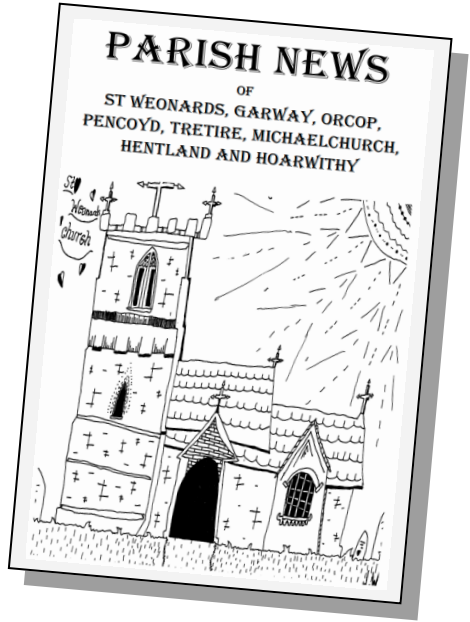
**JOKER: Folie a Deux** (15) Fri 25 - Thur 31 Oct

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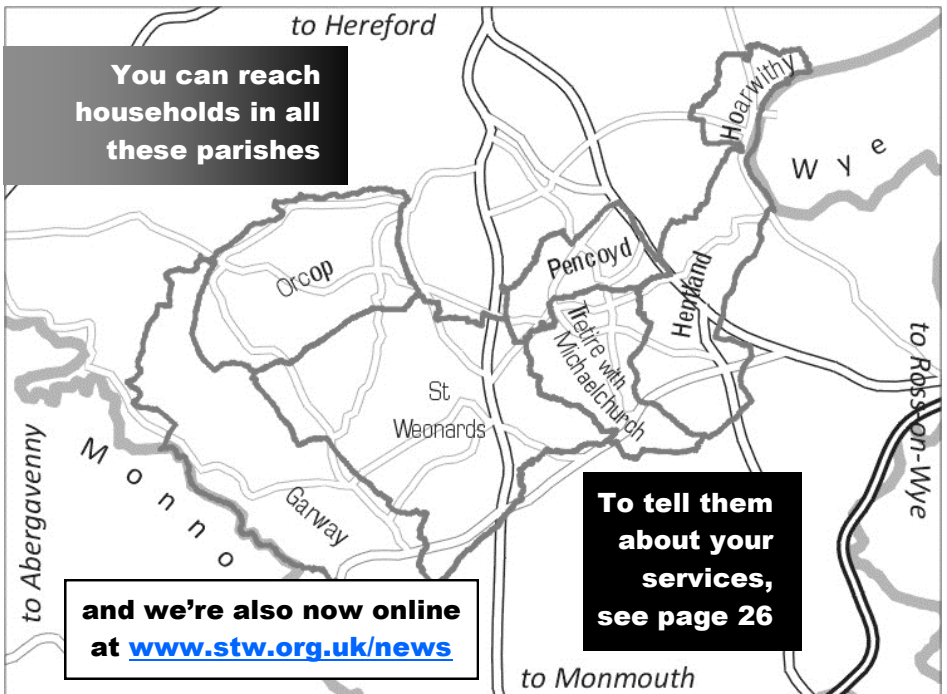
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£44	Quarter of page (landscape)	4.8	13.0
£88	Half a page (landscape)	9.6	13.0
£88	Half a page (portrait)	19.2	6.5
£176	Full page	19.2	13.0

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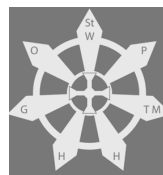
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