

The
Parishioner
YARPOLE LUCTON CROFT BIRCHER BICTON

October 2023

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And all our regular features





Thanks to Maura Bowden for the photo on the left of the blue moon over Yarpole and to Nicola Castanet for the moon photo above, taken a few nights later.

Advent Calendar Windows 2023

Would you like to decorate an advent window for Christmas? We have been doing these in the village for 3 years. 25 households create a Christmas-themed window display, one for each day of advent. It is lovely to walk round the village and see the new windows pop up each day. A map of the window locations is produced and last year we had walking Christmas carol singing taking in the windows.

We would like to encourage new villagers to take part this year as well as regulars. Get in touch with me and I will allocate a number and you then design your window and reveal it on that numbered date. So that late numbers can be seen for longer, anyone allocated a number 15 or over can reveal it on the 15th. We hope to see lots of new interest.



To participate this year, please email [Katie Daniels, ktd2561@gmail.com](mailto:ktd2561@gmail.com)

Thanks to Carol Clare for the photo of alpacas at Lucton on the front page.

From the Editor's chair

I am very sorry to have to report that my co-editor, Brian, has had to retire from the newsletter owing to health issues. Brian and I have worked together for seven years and I shall miss him very much. I'm sure that all readers will want to join me in sending huge thanks and best wishes to him. Of course we'll now be looking for someone else to take over the joint editorship - please contact the email address below if you might be interested, or grab me in the village if you'd like to have a chat about it. It's a very enjoyable and satisfying job, on alternate months, just 5 times a year as we don't go to print in January or August. The bulk of the work is done between the 10th of the month (deadline day) and the 22nd when it goes off to the printers. You would of course get plenty of guidance and support.

We are still receiving emails at our old email address. Although we can still check it at present, it will soon disappear, so please use:

newsletter@yarpole.org

Please be sure to delete the old one from your email system, and when you type the new one into your browser, check that it doesn't revert to the old one.

On the subject of email addresses to use, it is best to use this address for all emails, rather than the editors' personal email addresses. We have a great deal of material coming in each month, and it is less likely to get lost if everything arrives in the same place. I know some people like to send it to the editors' email addresses as well for back-up, and that is fine, but hopefully with the new email address we won't have the problems that some people experienced with the old one. Many thanks.

Hetty

To send in articles and news items, please e-mail us at:
newsletter@yarpole.org

Or leave in the box at the shop

**The deadline for all submissions is
THE 10th OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH**

ADVERTISEMENTS

To place a commercial advert, please email us at the address above and we'll send you more information

Prices start at £5 for a 1/8 page ad, with discounts for multiple insertions

We also print small ads for parishioners for which we suggest that a small donation is left in the yellow collection box in the shop.

Stay in touch: Yarpole WhatsApp Group

Enjoy chatting and sharing photos with members of our community via the Yarpole Whatsapp group. We now have over 90 members!



To join this group, please send a message to:
Katie Daniels 07786515922 with your mobile number.



Don't miss out on what's happening!

To be added to the events mailing list, email:
events@yarpole.org



Calling Facebook Users

To obtain Yarpole news on Facebook, search for 'Yarpole Community'.
See what's on! See what matters in Yarpole! Contribute to the page.
Like us and become a friend.



The Parishioner on audio disk

The Parishioner is also available as an audio disk for parish residents with sight problems. If you'd like to receive it in this format, or know someone who would, please let us know at newsletter@yarpole.org.



Adverts are not read out in the audio version, so here are contact details for some essential services.

Electricians: KC Electrical 07446 130883; Ian Mackay 07736 303297 or 07396 578662

Gardening: Shaun Yapp 01568 780929 or 07876197770

House cleaning: Pristine Clean 07733194057

Oven cleaning: Oven Wizards 01885 400337, 07817 477850

Chimney sweep: Phil Mundy 01568 780417 or 07837 935102

Firewood: Pete Merriman 01568 780414; Steve Mantle 07980 775838; Dave Ward 07866 441154

Mobile hairdresser: Dawn Goodwin 01568 770387

Foot health: Stacey Gardner 01568 368306 or 07540566871

Osteopaths: Leominster Osteopaths 01568 610610

Solicitors: Gabbs 01568 616333; Norris Miles 01584 810575

Funeral services: Victoria Allen 01584 879035; Oak Tree 01568 250030

Yarpole Welcome Packs

If you are aware of new residents who have moved to the parish, don't forget to inform Sue Langley to be sure they receive a pack. Email susanmarylangley@gmail.com.

What's on

What's on

ADVANCE NOTICE – FOR YOUR DIARY

MADE IN HRG
IS BACK!

After a four year break Yarpole's popular festive

Art and Craft Fair

will be held on **Saturday and Sunday 25th & 26th November** at **St Leonard's**.

**Come and browse the wide range of hand-made items –
Just in time for Christmas!**

Free admission

Gallery Café and Yarpole Community shop open both days



COMMUNAL CRAFTERS

Next meeting

Monday, 16th October, 2.30pm

In the Gallery Cafe, St.Leonards, Yarpole

£2 per session.

Everyone very welcome - we are a friendly group
who meet once a month to craft together and
enjoy a good chat !!

We look forward to welcoming you !



What's on

What's on

arts
aLive

Pentabus and Thickskin

Yarpole Parish Hall

Saturday November 18th, 7.00pm

Book online at artsalive.co.uk
or phone 01568 780849 or email
kinseyjeanette@gmail.com

Tickets £12

10 free tickets for under 25s

Suitable for age 12+

DRIFTWOOD

A new play by Tim Foley



This theatre production is touring the country for 5 weeks and Yarpole is lucky to have secured the show as part of the Arts Alive calendar.

Two brothers on a beach need to figure out what to do with their dad - but the sea has other ideas. These are the shores of Vikings, Victorians, van drivers and visions. The tide is out but the chips are hot. Mark and Tiny go for walks along the beach at Seaton Carew. Their dad is dying, and their town is crumbling. Family rifts and political divides try to pull them apart, and a figure made of driftwood stalks the shore at night... An inspiring, expansive story about hope, love, belonging and the tides within us.

Pentabus and **Thickskin** present this intoxicating and mystical new play by award-winning writer **Tim Foley** in a distinctive physical and cinematic production.

Winter Churchyard Community Clearing

It's time to strim and clear the churchyard for the winter. Having cleared it in July this should be relatively straightforward as the growth is not long.

JOIN THE COMMUNITY CLEARING EVENT!

Can YOU come? **Saturday 21st October from 2.00pm.**

Bring strimmers, rakes, wheelbarrows, shears and YOU!

(Cakes also welcome!)



What's on



What's on

Mrs Harris Goes to Paris



Sat 7th Oct - 7.30 pm
Yarpole Parish Hall

Admission: Adults: £13 Child: £10
Enquiries: 01568 780250 and 07495 437359

This is a Flicks and Food presentation. Film £5; Food £8. Food must be booked before. You can just see the film if you wish.

A widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress, and decides that she must have one of her own.

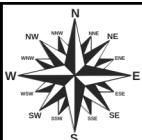
Starring: Lesley Manville, Lucas Bravo, Jason Isaacs, Lambert Wilson

Cert: PG - 92 mins



FLICKS IN THE STICKS

FLICKS IN THE STICKS



Walking Group

We meet regularly on the 2nd Friday and 4th Sunday of every month, normally at 10:30 by the church.

October walks: Friday 13th and Sunday 22nd

All are welcome to join our walks but please phone to check details. if you are not on the email list.

Contact: Viv and Brian 782271 or seiftonbatch@gmail.com

What's on

What's on



Come and **Be Still**



Some music, a reading, a prayer and time for your own quiet reflection.
Monthly, on the first Wednesday, 5.30 - 6pm
St Leonard's Church, Yarpole
All are welcome



Yarpole Computer Café



The Gallery Café, Yarpole
Runs weekly on Thursdays starting from 2.30pm

**Would you like some friendly free help to use your
computer, tablet or mobile phone?**

Set up your device

Set up an email account

Set up and use Facebook

Make a call on Zoom or Facetime

Online grocery shopping

Keeping safe online (security)

And much more!

Call us on 0800 008 6077 to join us or find out more

Appointments must be booked - sign on sheet in café or call number above

*Making Herefordshire & Worcestershire a great
place to grow older*



Police Community Support Officer meetings

Our local (Leominster) PCSO Steph Harper aims to visit the Gallery Café every 5 weeks on a Wednesday at 11.00.

Her next visit, is scheduled for Wednesday October 11th. Join her in the café for a coffee and chat.

Pete Lloyd



Quote of the month

Old age, believe me, is a good and pleasant thing. It is true you are gently shouldered off the stage, but then you are given such a comfortable front stall as spectator.

Confucius

What's on

What's on



Save the date.

Wednesday 29th November 3 - 5 pm in St. Leonard's Church.
Come & join us for a very special celebration.
Everyone welcome.
Details to follow nearer the time.



THE BIRCHPOLE SINGERS



St. Leonard's Church
Wednesday evenings 7.10 - 9.30 pm

Autumn term restarts on Wed. 13th. September with choruses from Les Misérables.
We are a friendly village choir who meet weekly for an eclectic mix of music,
from Verdi to Simon and Garfunkel!

New members are always welcome and there are no auditions.

Do come and join us!

Contact: Deborah Rackham deborahrackham@aol.com 01568 780614



Charity number: 511181

Coffee Morning

*The Haywain, Lyde Arundel,
Nr. Hereford HR4 7SL*

by kind invitation of Lydia and Tomáš Alexovi

Thursday 5th October 2023

From 10am 'til 12 noon

Cakes, Preserves and Produce Stall. Raffle.

*If you're unable to attend but would like to make a donation, please send
cheques payable to: HHCT c/o Mrs Sue Burleigh, Stansbatch House,
Stansbatch, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 9LG - tel. 01544 267368*



What's on

What's on



Ladies Fashion Show AND Pop-up Shop!

SHOP YOUR FAVOURITE HIGH STREET BRANDS
AT 50% OFF OR MORE!

Colours.

[FUN]DRAISING
FASHION SHOWS



Tuesday 17th October 2023

Friends of the Mortimer Medical Practice

Reg charity no: 1100183

In aid of medical equipment for Kingsland, Leintwardine & Orleton GP Surgeries

Kingsland Coronation Hall, Kingsland, Leomister, HR6 9SQ

Doors open 7pm, show starts 7.30pm

Tickets: £5 *includes a welcome drink*

Tickets to be purchased in advance

Raffle: FABULOUS prizes to be won at the show!

Contact Helen Coverley 780189

What's on

What's on



Orleton Craft Group



We are now meeting twice monthly:

5&19 Oct, 2&16 Nov

(First and Third Thursdays).

Orleton Village Small Hall, 1.30-4.30pm, £3.

Bring along any sewing, knitting, craft work.

Enjoy a chat, tea & cake!

We plan to include workshops from time to time

All welcome

Further information 01584 831324 sue.a.turner@gmail.com



Orleton Evergreens Autumn 2023

October 26: Quiz Afternoon, led by John & Kate Smith

November 30: Steve Hollinghurst, Festive Songs

December 7: Christmas Meal (venue to be confirmed)

All welcome (50+).

Hall meetings at Orleton Village Large Hall 2.30pm.

Further details contact Sue Turner 01584 831324.

sue.a.turner@gmail.com.



Bin it? No way!

First Saturday of the month 10.00 - 12.30. Next session: October 7th
Leominster Community Centre, Church Street, Leominster, HR6 8NJ

Refreshments now available

Free parking, access via Broad Street car park

Bring along your:

Mechanical Household Electrical Toys Furniture Sewing repairs

Tool sharpening service

For more information email: repaircafeleominster@googlegroups.com

Or find us on Facebook.

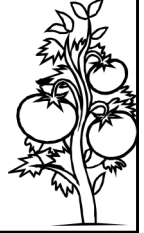
LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

Church Plant Stall

We have closed the plant stall for this year, raising just over £850 supporting the Church funds.

We wanted to thank everyone who has kindly contributed plants this year and to thank all of those who bought the plants.

Janet, Leslie and Gilly



Bonfire laws in England & Wales

The law on domestic bonfires in England and Wales is very simple: there isn't one; there is, however, a law against any subsequent nuisance that having one might cause. As the Government puts it:

You can't get rid of household waste if it will cause pollution or harm people's health. This includes burning it.

However, the legal principle is that any nuisance must usually happen on a regular basis to be considered so.

Your council can issue an 'abatement notice' if a neighbour's bonfire is causing a nuisance. A bonfire must happen frequently to be considered a nuisance.

So, the occasional bonfire should be fine and you abide by the following two points:

You must make sure that the smoke from your bonfire doesn't blow across a road and so cause danger to the traffic on it.

You don't burn anything that could cause pollution or harm to public health. That rules out burning anything like plastic, rubber, old engine oil, and anything else that might produce poisonous fumes. Burning stuff like this won't just harm your health and that of anyone else around you, it is also likely to be a criminal offence.

A bonfire can be an environmentally sound way of getting rid of garden material. Of course it's better to compost vegetative waste where you can, but as long your fire is carefully planned the result is carbon-neutral waste disposal, which isn't something that can be said of hauling it to the tip in your car or having the council collect it in a truck.

Julian Stokes

Maths Tutor

Experienced maths teacher, specialist in exam preparation and bespoke teaching (tailored to suit individual learning style).

£35 per hour.

Online or in-person, SY8 Area

First 30 minute lesson free.

Contact : Sarah Boland 07561 555218



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ian.gf.mackay@gmail.com

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LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

Email addresses for Yarpole Groups

If any group in Yarpole, such as the Church or Parish Hall, would like a separate email address this is something which is easy to set up @yarpole.org.

The Newsletter and Events use this facility. It has the advantage of not needing a personal email address which needs changing when the responsible person leaves.

Any address at yarpole.org is possible. (eg. volunteering@yarpole.org).

If you would like to make use of this facility please contact me at julianstokes@gmx.com.

Household Support Fund: £500 Grants Available

Submit your referrals now

Grants of **up to £500** are available to help struggling households cope with rising energy costs and to buy white goods.

As winter approaches, concerns about paying heating bills will be paramount. To help those most in need, including disadvantaged families with young children and those who are elderly or disabled, the grants will go towards energy bills, water bills and essentials such as cookers, fridges and washing machines.

Local referral organisations are invited to make applications on behalf of those facing difficulties.

Please apply as soon as possible by filling in the form at sforce.co/3Qddvdh

Who can apply?

We accept applications on behalf of struggling households from a wide range of sources including Citizens Advice Bureau, local food banks, social workers, health workers, debt advisors, employment coaches and so on.

Can I apply for a household which has received a grant before?

Yes, you can re-apply for a past beneficiary, provided it's been more than 12 months since their last successful grant application.

Who can I speak to if I have further questions?

Please get in touch if you need any advice, we're always happy to help: **01432 272550**, grants@herefordshirecf.org

Where is the funding from?

Funding for the grants comes from the Household Support Fund, which we are administering on behalf of Herefordshire Council and which is provided by the UK Government's Department for Work & Pensions.

We look forward to hearing from you

Best wishes

The Herefordshire Community Foundation team

Thanks to Barbara Nurse for sending this in to The Parishioner.

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

Yarpole Parish Seasonal Recipe Book



A merry band of enthusiastic Yarpole volunteers is creating a new seasonal recipe book and is looking for tasty recipes for starters, main courses and desserts. So we are hoping that you will seek out your favourite seasonal recipes along with any background information about the author or history of the recipe, eg. Grandma's special roast duck, as well as interesting anecdotes, poetry and facts to bring extra life to the recipe book.

How can I contribute?

Please place your recipes in the special drop box in the church, outside the village shop or email them to gordon.ewing@icloud.com. We plan to launch the new seasonal recipe book in the Spring so please let us have your recipes and other contributions by November 15th 2023. We cannot guarantee that your recipe(s) will be included but thank you in advance for helping us. Please place your name and contact details on each recipe, in case we need to check something. A suggestion as to which season you think the recipe suits would also be helpful,

All proceeds will go to the Parochial Church Council and St Leonard's Management to protect our beautiful historic church and enhance our village's future.

SMALL ADS

SEARCH FOR LAND TO PURCHASE

I am looking for 1 to 2 acres of relatively flat agricultural land to buy but would also consider leasing. If you are interested in selling or leasing some land, please call Anne on 07733367732.

A Seton-Sykes

Late entry for Limerick competition

This Limerick from Eileen Minton arrived just too late for judging, but I'm printing it because I like the sentiment!

I'm trying to make myself thinner
And I think I am on to a winner
I've got a good neighbour
Who has admirable behaviour
So I think I will give him my dinner

I hope the lucky recipient of Eileen's dinner is our judge, Jim, who certainly deserves a reward for his hard work and generous provision of prizes! Ed.

Need a building surveyor?



RICS

- Structural surveys/costings
- Architectural drawing
- Planning permissions
- Listed building consents
- Building regs applications

Particular sympathy for older properties

Barrie Morgan MRICS MCIQB
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YARPOLE COMMUNITY SHOP

NEWS



October 2023

Stamps are up.

As you will have seen in the news recently the Royal Mail is changing the price of some stamps on the 2nd October:

First class stamps will be £1.25, up from £1.10, and first class large will go up from £1.60 to £1.95.

Second class large will be £1.55, up from £1.15, but second class ordinary stamps will remain at 75p.

Existing barcoded stamps will remain valid - so maybe don't miss out on the stamp hoarding opportunity and stock up at the current price to beat the increase!

Return to sender

Remember the Post Office does process Amazon returns, as well as those for other companies, and every transaction we do benefits the shop through the PO Remuneration scheme. So do remember us when you are returning items - but also remember that we don't offer a wrapping service here as we have limited space, so all items must be wrapped ready to post. We will do the rest!

Snuffling time

With Autumn coughs and colds returning we are well stocked with over-the-counter remedies - as well as tissues and hand wipes!

Warming soups are easily made with our range of lentils and vegetables and should you feel of a mind to make All Souls Cakes on the 31st (a traditional treat which is a delicious halfway house between a cake and a biscuit, filled with currants and mixed spice) then pop into the shop to pick up a recipe and the requisite ingredients!

Thanks for the shed

A big thank you to the Men's Shed group for, appropriately enough, the excellent new roof on the storage shed behind the church.

Cash is still cool!

It seems some people may have read the item in the last Parishioner about paying off account balances using BACS as meaning we no longer accepted cash.

Apologies if that wasn't clear but just to reassure that we are still very happy to accept cash payments for your shopping.

Sharing our story - so far.

We have been asked, by Plunkett (the national charity supporting community owned businesses), to take part in a webinar to share our story of the shop in the church.

60 people around the country have signed up and are interested in how we became the first to establish a full time shop in a church still used for worship.

We will be joined in the webinar by another group who have more recently made that journey and will share their story.

Jon & Rowena

SHOP AND POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS

	Shop	Post Office
Monday - Friday	9am - 5pm	9am - 12noon
Saturday	9am - 1pm	9am - 12noon
Sunday/Bank Holidays	closed except for pre-ordered newspapers	

Tel: 01568 780148 E-mail: yarpoleshop@mail.com

Website: www.yarpole.com



Gallery Café, Saint Leonard's, Yarpole

YOUR COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Café is an important gathering place for the village and generates valuable income towards the running of the church; thank you to all our customers for your ongoing support.

Opening times:

Monday-Wednesday 10.30 - 12.30 for drinks, homemade cakes and scones.

Saturday Brunch 10.30 - 12.30 for our tasty bacon rolls, croissants and the famous "revved up" cheese scones.

Thursday and Friday, 10.30 - 15:00 with light lunch to eat in or takeaway, between 12.00 and 2.00pm. Computer Support Club 2.30 - 4.00pm on Thursdays.

Payments accepted in cash and card.

Check www.yarpole.org WhatsApp, Yarpole Facebook and the noticeboard for updated information and events.

Contact details: Tel: 01568 780594, or in person in the café.



Call today to have your oven, hob, extractor, microwave or Aga professionally cleaned

Colin Hadley

01885 400337 07817 477850

Email: colinhadley@ovenwizards.com

Grafted Apple trees

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In pots - £20 (discount for bulk)

Trees in pots are easy to look after until you've decided where to plant them!

Discovery, Ashmead's Kernel, Russets, and many more...

Root stock: M25 vigorous; M111 & M106 semi-vigorous

Advice on tree/orchard management also provided

Contact Chris, **01584 831195**

Waterloo Farm, Orleton Common

www.applewoodcourses.com

CHURCH MATTERS

October 2023



October brings us fully into Autumn. The beginning of this month is the Jewish feast of Succoth (Tabernacles) which is the final harvest celebration of the biblical feasts. After the disruption of Covid, we are now able to resume our own harvest thanksgiving with a service on the afternoon of the 8th October. See the separate notice below.

Right at the beginning of November are All Saints and All Souls days, and on All Souls day, the 2nd November, we will have a time of remembrance for those who have died. Again, see the separate notice on the next page.

We continue with our Be Still times on the first Wednesday of each month, as a time to just sit in silence (surprisingly difficult!) and meditate on some reading, sometimes with some gentle music.

The House Church meetings on Tuesday evenings will not continue this autumn. Instead we are suggesting that people attend Marion Forrester's series on prayer, that begins on Wednesday 20th September at Orleton Church. See the notice outside the church.

At Croft, we managed, with some ingenuity, to remove the ancient cobwebs from the roof. There will be a lunchtime concert there on 19th October by pupils of Lucton School; see the events page of the Yarpole website for further details. For advance warning, in November the *Made in HR6* craft fair will be held in Yarpole church on the weekend of 25th and 26th and so the 4th Sunday service of November will be in Croft instead of Yarpole.

The Feast of Tabernacles, which I mentioned above, is the third of the third set of the biblical feasts. The feasts all have prophetic meaning. The spring feasts, which are Passover, Unleavened Bread and First Fruits, were all fulfilled by Jesus in his first coming. The second, the Feast of Weeks, which for us is called Pentecost or Whitsun, was fulfilled by the coming of the Holy Spirit on the church. The final set, which are the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles, will all be fulfilled in the time of Jesus's second coming, when He will return to set up his kingdom over the whole earth. This will be God's harvest time to bring in to himself all who belong to him.

Oliver Elphick

Harvest Festival

After the disruption of Covid, there will at last be a harvest festival again. This will be on Sunday 8th October at 3 pm. Please come and give thanks with us for the harvest.

Your gifts can be brought before the start of the service and laid around the font, or brought up during the service.

Gifts of non-perishable food will be passed on to Leominster Food Bank. Fresh produce is given to St Michael's Hospice.

Following the service, we invite you to join us for refreshments where there will be an opportunity for you to share with us how the church can better meet your needs.



Tea, cake, entertainment – and a chance to meet the team

St Leonard’s is your church, and St Leonard’s Management runs the building on your behalf. Do you know what we’re responsible for? Do you understand where the money comes from and how it’s spent? Are you confused about the difference between St Leonard’s Management and the PCC? We’re organising a ‘meet the team’ session on **Sunday November 5th, 3pm** where you can find out the answers to all these questions and more. If you’ve got anything you’d like to ask about how we operate, or if you have suggestions about how you’d like to see the church building maintained and developed for the community, come along on **Sunday November 5th, 3pm**.

Afterwards – and this is the important bit! - we’ll be serving tea & cake, and some local talent will be entertaining us. For more information visit our website, www.stleonardsyarpole.com, or email Andrew Prail (enmorevet@outlook.com) or Sue Russell (suetrustee@btinternet.com)

We’ll look forward to seeing you on **5th November at 3pm** in the church.



**Old St Peter's Church
Lucton**



**St Leonard's Church
Yarpole**



**St Michael
& All Angels Church
Croft Castle**

All Souls Day remembrance

All Souls Day falls on Thursday November 2nd. It is an occasion for remembering those who have died. This may be unfamiliar to many of us. A textbook on Anglican belief and practice says, “The prayers appointed for that day remind us that we are joined with the Communion of Saints, that great group of Christians who have finished their earthly life and with whom we share the hope of resurrection from the dead.”

On Thursday 2nd November, from 5:30 to 6:00, there will be a time of prayer in St Leonard’s Church, Yarpole, to remember those whom we have lost. For a fortnight beforehand a book will be available on the bier in the church for you to write the names of those whom you wish to be mentioned in those prayers. Their names will be read out during the service. If you have photographs, you are invited to display them on the board by the pulpit.



PARISH HALL

October 2023

Programme for October 2023

Regular Weekly Activities

Mondays	Zumba	6.00 - 7.00 pm
	Yoga	7.30 - 8.30 pm
Tuesdays	Tai Chi	10.00 - 11.00 am
	Pilates	6.00 - 7.00 pm
Wednesdays	Tai Chi	10.00 - 11.00 am
	Art	2.00 - 4.30 pm
Thursdays	Pilates	10.45 - 11.45 am
Fridays	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30 pm

Other Events in October

Tues 3rd	Yarpole Group Parish Council meeting	7.00 pm
Sat 7th	Flicks in the Sticks	7.30 pm
Thurs 19th	Mortimer Community Benefit Society AGM	7.00 pm
Friday 27th	The 4 Cs	11.00 am

**To make a booking please contact Amanda Hordern
01568 701996 / amandahordern@aol.com. Or go to www.yarpole.com
and click on 'Church & Parish Hall Bookings' to book online.
If you are interested in joining one of the classes, please email Amanda who
will put you in touch with the class organiser.**

200 Club

The 200 club winning numbers for September were:-

125 £50, 31 £20, 128 £15, 38 £10.

Good luck in the next draw.

Pete Lloyd.



PARISH HALL

October 2023



200 Club

Thank You Pete!

Pete Lloyd originally started our Parish Hall 100 club, almost ten years ago and has been running it ever since. Over the ten years Pete has worked tirelessly to keep the club going, and it has become so popular that it is now the 200 club.

Pete has decided however that it's now time to 'retire,' and hand it over to somebody else. I'm sure you would all like to join us in saying a great big THANK YOU to Pete for all his hard work and efforts, the results of which have contributed significantly to the everyday running costs of our Parish Hall.

You can probably pre-empt what we're going to say next! Yes, you've guessed – we'd now like somebody to volunteer to take on the running of the club and hopefully, join our Parish Hall committee. We meet approximately every three months and are a very friendly group, who very much work as a team. Although we'd like somebody to take on responsibility for the club, you would be well supported by others with the work being shared. Each month you would be responsible for holding the lucky number draw and distributing the winnings. We then have to submit a return to the lottery commission every four months and obviously once a year, collect subscriptions with a lot of support from others.

If you think you might be able to take on this role and would like to know more about it, please ring Jill on 01568 780250 or email jill13.grant@gmail.com and we could meet for an informal chat to see what you think. Please help us to continue the great work which Pete has been doing.

Once again, THANK YOU PETE and thank you in anticipation for somebody to step forward and help us with our 200 club, we look forward to hearing from you.

Jill Grant & the Parish Hall Committee



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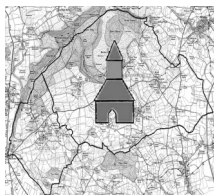
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Yarpole Group Parish Council October 2023



14 members of the public were welcomed to the September meeting. Councillors agreed to write to Planning Enforcement at Herefordshire Council about potential planning breaches at the development *Land Adjacent to Maunds House P160075/F*. The interruption to the electricity supply, disconnected due to the development's proximity to an 11,000-v supply line, was discussed. Updates and information received by the Parish Council will be posted as News items on its website. To receive email alerts, please subscribe on www.yarpolegroupparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Concerns were raised about bonfires. On sunny days smoke forces residents to take in their washing and retreat indoors, and, even with windows shut, the smell of smoke pervades. At night, smoke from smouldering fires is detrimental to those sleeping with windows open. They pose a fire risk. In Lucton the Fire Brigade was called out recently due to out-of-control bonfires. Please be considerate if lighting a bonfire. You could dispose of waste through the Biffa Green Waste scheme, through composting or at the Leominster recycling centre.

A letter drafted by the Welsh Water Working Group has been sent to Mr Steve Wilson, Managing Director for Wastewater Services seeking a resolution to the longstanding sewage problems in the village.

Thanks were recorded for three generous donations to the Parish Council. £1,000 from Mr and Mrs Clive Sheridan and £100 from Mr William Daniels will help fund a seesaw for the Community Meadow, and £354 from Cllr Audrey Bott will fund a bench at the Meadow. The picnic table, funded by a grant of £452 from The Yarpole Community Shop, is proving to be a great benefit to residents, and is being well used.

A new volunteer Tree Warden was appointed and welcomed. The Warden can be contacted via the Clerk.

A decision was taken to remove the dog waste bin at The Community Meadow due to its misuse. The bin is regularly overfilled causing unpleasant odours, and the expense of having it emptied every week, rather than fortnightly, is too high. The children's play area will be more pleasant without a dog bin close by. A notice will be put up, and dog owners are asked to take faeces home or use the bin on the corner of Green Lane.

Four residents have volunteered to help plant trees, shrubs, and hedges at the Meadow. If you are interested in joining in, please contact the Clerk.

The new post and handrail at the Community Meadow steps was hit by a vehicle and damaged beyond repair. It has been removed.

The Parish Council would be grateful if all homeowners and landowners could arrange to have hedges on their boundaries cut back so that pedestrians can safely use the pavement and not have to step into the road.

Upcoming meeting dates Tuesdays 3 October, 7 November, and 5 December. There is no scheduled meeting in January 2024. Residents are encouraged to attend and can speak at the start of the meeting.

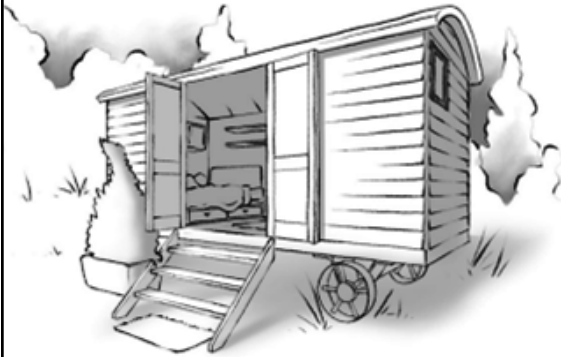
Mrs Maggie Brown clerk@yarpolegroupparishcouncil.gov.uk

Yarpole Group Parish Council continued CORRECTION

Page 22 of the July/August edition. Paragraph 2, Community Meadow.

Thanks are due to Keith Smith and Laura & Martin Lewis for their invaluable assistance in helping with preparation, priming, and finishing three benches and the circular picnic table for the Community Meadow, and to Mr Poole, Courthouse Farm, for providing a covered facility in which to work. They are all thanked wholeheartedly for their contributions without which the project would not have been completed.

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The Mortimer Community Benefit Society

The committee of the Mortimer Community Benefit Society very much regret the decision by our tenant, Iain Dixon, to close the Bell.

The committee will be meeting with Iain to try to explore what options there are to find a solution.

As soon as I have any information about the future of the Bell the MCBS will inform shareholders and the community. I hope that by the time of the AGM the committee will have a clearer understanding of what the future of the Bell might be.

We need new Board Members to help with the management of the MCBS. If you are interested in joining us then please complete the application form on our website at <https://themortimercbs.org/documents/>

You can also purchase shares in the MCBS on the same web page and help ensure the survival of our pub. To vote at the AGM you must be a registered shareholder.

The AGM for the Mortimer Community Benefit Society is on Thursday, 19th October at 7.00pm at the Parish Hall. The agenda is listed below. We need as many people as possible to attend.

- Apologies.
- Minutes of the last AGM held on 1st September 2022. To read the minutes visit the MCBS website.
- Chairman's Report. A review of the progress made in the last 12 months since the previous AGM.
- Treasurer's Report. Presentation of the Financial accounts for 2022.
- Approval of Kendall Wadley as auditors.
- To agree that the 2023 accounts may be prepared without an audit and presented with an accountant's report.
- Special Item for Approval. The MCBS committee would like to propose the adoption of the current Plunkett Foundation Articles of Association. To see the proposed changes visit the MCBS website and follow the links.
- Election of Board Members.

Stay and have a drink with us after the meeting and chat to any of your Board Members who have worked hard over the year safeguarding the Bell at Yarpole.

Julian Stokes, Chairman of the MCBS



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Email: dine@thebellatyarpole.



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Cheers Iain & Ceri.



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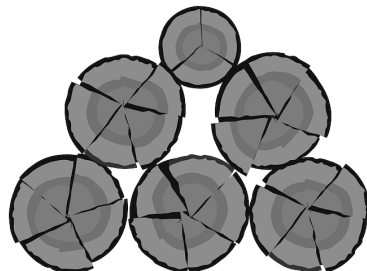
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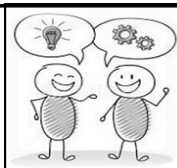
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Yarpole Parish Good Neighbour Scheme



Yarpole Talk
Community

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday October 10th
Gallery Café
4.00pm

We welcome all our volunteers and clients to review what we have been doing this year and to join us for a drink afterwards.

If you think you could join us, we are welcoming new volunteers; you are very welcome to this meeting.

The 4 Cs

An interesting surprise for 4Cs in October.

Come along, and find out what it is.

Parish Hall, 11.00am, Friday October 27th.

Be there!

If you need a lift, please ring Val on 01568 780607

or Avis on 01568 780874

Ring 07885 525776 for help with simple tasks, a lift, forms, computers, etc



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October 2023

ON BEING STUCK BEHIND A TRACTOR!

Hoorah!! It is harvest time again!! There you are, hurtling through the lanes in your car on some mission of huge national importance, muttering venomously at cyclists in helmets shaped like wasps' bottoms, inconsiderate enough to want a bit of your road, rounding a bend and coming up behind the ponderous majesty of a tractor and trailer. On closer inspection over the next ten minutes you conclude that it is actually a convoy of three tractors and two trailers and the glory of the aforementioned ponderous majesty begins to wear a bit thin! Hoorah! It is harvest time again. And I would wager a considerable sum that most of you do not at this point start singing songs of everlasting thanks and praise to our great God for his generous provision, or blessing the farmers for the work they do to put food on our plates!

So here is your challenge for harvest and beyond. I've learned to do it and if I can manage it anyone can. If you get stuck on your travels behind a tractor or a combine or a plough or any other mysteriously shaped implement of the sod, (by which I mean, of course, the soil!) take it as an opportunity for reflection, for thanksgiving and for praise.

Why should you bother? Firstly, because praising God for what He gives us should become a matter of habit in all of us and secondly because as a nation we owe a huge debt of gratitude to the farmers who are taken totally for granted by most of us who have become emotionally and practically detached from the source of our food.

We cannot and must not take national food security as a given. Climate change and population growth mean that it is more difficult to produce enough grain for the world's needs. The situation in Ukraine is calamitous for the food security of millions in vulnerable nations. Global markets will sell to the highest bidder regardless of need. Political mismanagement and the power of global enterprise in the inherently local business of food production are putting countless family farms out of business.

So when you get stuck behind that tractor take a deep breath, smile and wave at the farmer, even if he does stare back at you with blank amazement, and ask for God's blessing on his family and work. Reflect on our corporate relationship to food and the land as the God-given source of all our well-being and praise God from whom all blessings flow.

And if the vicar rushes in late to take your service on a Sunday morning you will understand why!

Happy harvest to you all.

I hope to see some of you at your harvest service.

Dean Sarah

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ORLETON AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

August Show

Our Annual Show results, with photographs, appear on our excellent website. The entrants and winners across the classes are too numerous to name individually.

On the day the poor weather forecast caused some last minute reorganisation yet all was well and set up in the hall. This was a friendly and accessible local show with classes for vegetable, fruits, flowers, home baking and beverages (some alcoholic) and there were numerous entries both from beginners and more seasoned gardeners. There was a real feel that everyone could have a go at presenting the 'fruits!' of their gardening efforts. Congratulations to the winners and our Parish did exceptionally well with Jane Cross winning the Millenium Cup – highest number of points in show and Helen Wooley winning 2 cups, the Banksian and Taylor Cups for the highest number of points in various classes.

Thanks go to everyone involved in the organisation including on the day, setting and clearing up, serving refreshments, the plant and produce stall and in judging the classes.

On Tuesday 31st October Mellie Lewis will be giving a talk entitled '**Aeoniums in Habitat and Cultivation**'. Mellie has been studying and collecting Aeoniums for the best part of forty years. She says it is a bit of a succulent obsession and she has always been 'potty about plants!' She couldn't wait to get her first house so she could have her own garden.

Doors open 7.15pm for 8pm start. Non-members welcome at £2.50 per person including tea and coffee. Annual Membership now £15. www.orletongardeningclub.co.uk.

THE CURIOUS GARDENER

Edible trombones

Last Christmas my nephew gave us a packet of Tromboncino courgette seeds. In a fit of enthusiasm I sowed the whole packet and was rewarded with more than a dozen stout plants. They looked so strong and willing that I was tempted to plant half a dozen or so in the greenhouse, but by the time I'd put in the tomatoes, the bush courgettes and the basil there wasn't very much space left so I settled for planting just one.

Thank heavens I didn't plant more. The Tromboncino didn't pause for breath: it took off like a whippet, filling the space allotted to it in no time flat. By June it was climbing along the roof struts and was 15' across. By July it had started growing in the opposite direction as well and was weaving its way through the tomatoes. I couldn't believe the number of fruits it produced. It carried up to 20 at a time, in all sorts of configurations: the ones dangling down from the roof were straight like shillelaghs, whereas those forming in more constricted spaces curled themselves round into hoops. Their ability to grow bigger seemed unlimited. Peter picked some one evening and put their ends in water to keep them fresh, and blow me - they grew overnight. The book said they are edible at any length up to three feet, but even a relatively modest two foot's worth of Tromboncino is enough to feed a large family.

I don't think we've ever had so much fun from a packet of seeds. If you fancy growing something different I can thoroughly recommend them: just don't plant more than one.

Sue Russell

See photo on page 39



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Limerick Competition

Congratulations to first-time winner Paul Humphrey, who has recognised one of the downsides of slimming. We hope his own diet doesn't prevent him from drinking his prize.

I'm trying to make myself thinner,
Said the portly young gent from Old Pinner.
I've given up pies,
And fat chicken thighs,
But, oh, what a miserable dinner!

With a dozen entries it seems the idea of losing weight isn't entirely unfamiliar to our writers, and it was difficult to pick out the best. However, the following would win the Order of Merit (if we had one) and are to be congratulated. Please note that these were all seen by Mr A without attribution, so the fact that Mrs A is included is purely coincidental. And it would be unusual if David Cheshire weren't in there too.

I'm trying to make myself thinner
And some days I'm onto a winner
But try as I might
When there's chocolate in sight
I suddenly turn into a sinner.
(Susanne Frank)

"I'm trying to make myself thinner",
Said a girl with her friends all agin her.
She cut out the carbs,
Ignored all their barbs,
And turned out an absolute winner.
(Val Ainsworth)

I'm trying to make myself thinner
Will it work, if I don't have my dinner?
I'll eat tripe, which I hate
Spit it out on the plate,
Then resort to a whiskey for dinner!
(Rosie Sheridan)

I'm trying to make myself thinner
By cutting out big meals – like dinner.
Thanks to beer, chips and cheese
I'm fairly obese.
And have been since moving from Pinner.
(David Cheshire)

Next time, we invite you to complete the following:

I think of myself as quite sporty

If you get the syllable count right, and don't make it too serious, you will be in with a good chance. And there is no rule (because we don't have much in the way of rules) against submitting more than one entry. It depends how eager you are for a free bottle of wine. All entries for the November newsletter should be sent in by October 8th.

Jim Ainsworth

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Hello everyone! Welcome to a new edition of 'Lisa's Book Nook'. A few months ago, I recommended some books about King Richard III, and that provided me with inspiration for this month's theme. I am therefore going to recommend a few non-fiction books to you. Not only that, but they are also all about the medieval period in one way or another. I hope you enjoy them.

The Red Prince: The Life of John of Gaunt, the Duke of Lancaster by **Helen Carr** -

This beautifully written biography tells the life story of John of Gaunt, a man whose name will no doubt be familiar to a lot of you, but whose story is not as well-known as you might initially think. Using meticulous research, Helen Carr delves deep into the life of this most intriguing historical figure, a man who, unfortunately, has built up a somewhat negative reputation over the centuries. What emerges from the pages is a fully fleshed out individual, who is placed firmly into the context of his time. By understanding the world in which John of Gaunt lived, as well as the people who surrounded him, the reader is able to start viewing him as a real human being, and a lot of the myths surrounding him get busted as a result. A particular highlight of this book is the exploration of John's relationship with his eldest brother, Edward of Woodstock, now forever known to history as the Black Prince. Their relationship was a refreshingly positive one and went a long way to shaping the man that John of Gaunt became. If you want an entertaining biography that will teach you some things that you didn't already know, please give this a try. You won't be disappointed.

The Time Traveller's Guide to Medieval England by **Ian Mortimer** -

If you have ever wondered what life in 14th century England would look like, this is the book for you. Written in the form of a travel guide by acclaimed historian Ian Mortimer, this takes you on a deep dive into daily life in the latter part of the medieval period. There is a lot of information contained within its pages, but Mortimer writes in such a way that it never becomes dry, and you never feel overloaded. What is particularly enjoyable about this book is that it puts the common people into the spotlight, and seeing as a lot of books tend to overlook them, this makes for a refreshing change. Entertaining from the very first page, this is a compelling and novel way to connect with the past. Also, if you enjoy this book, you will be pleased to hear there are two more books in this vein, which cover Elizabethan and Restoration England.

Edward II: The Unconventional King by **Kathryn Warner** -

Edward II is not a man you associate with good medieval kingship. After all, this was an individual who drove his kingdom to the brink of civil war numerous times in less than twenty years, led his army to one of the most humiliating defeats in their history, relied heavily on hugely unpopular male favourites and was eventually forced to abdicate by his scorned wife Isabella and her lover Roger Mortimer. On paper, he was one of the worst kings this country has ever seen. But was he really as awful as the history books suggest? Is there more to this story than we have previously been told? These questions, and more, are what this book sets out to address. Using mostly fourteenth century sources, Kathryn Warner provides a vivid, thoughtful and balanced re-evaluation of a deeply flawed man who has been somewhat demonised in the centuries following his death. She also dispels some of the myths that have built up around him, including the infamous "red hot poker" incident. If you are looking for a book that provides a fresh take on a well-known historical figure, this is a very good place to start.

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The Day I came clean

That I drank from the dirtiest glass in the world was shocking (see last issue). But it was hardly surprising in the context.

I'm sure it is how people (not just in France) lived for centuries: without washing. This farming family merely continued the tradition because there didn't seem any reason to change. In the vineyard, I knew when any one of them was within three or four rows of vines. My nose told me; yes, I do have conversations with it now and again, we keep in touch.

Since they didn't need soap and water, why would we, the pickers? Imagine you have spent a day in the hot sun, your hands and face sticky from grape juice, your smelly feet kicking up a coating of dust, sweat adding to the mix. Then imagine doing it for a week. You'd probably want a shower, right?

Sadly, it was an alien concept on the farm. Like anyone outside this family, I like to keep reasonably clean, nearer the godliness end of the spectrum as it were. What we had in place of a well-furnished shower cubicle was a cold tap on an outside wall in the farmyard, about the same height as a bunch of grapes (see last issue). That was it. No warm water, no soap. We could rinse our lower legs and feet, but anything else was challenging. We may have had a communal towel, if memory serves; but, like the single bedsheet each of us was issued for the five-week duration, its usefulness was limited.

Thankfully it took only a modicum of ingenuity to nick a length of hosepipe from the press house, find a watering can rose to attach to one end, then engineer a hook just above head height to sling it over and, as the French say, *voilà!* It was still a bit awkward with a mixed crew taking turns, and it had to be done in the evenings after work, outdoors, well into November. But given the chill, it meant that 7 or 8 people got the business over in about 20 minutes.

Despite all this, I'm sure our olfactory profile began to resemble that of the family by the end of five weeks, although it was difficult to tell: we had become so accustomed to the pong we could no longer discern the origin.

Our final afternoon in the vineyard was marked by a celebratory piece of cake (bought specially for the occasion, certainly not home-made, see last issue), a glass of fizzy wine (likewise) and the realisation that we were free to go. Bed and board had been deducted from our meagre wages, so none of us made any money out of it, but on the plus side it was unforgettable.

I drove away wondering if any hostelry would take me in – one smell and they'd suddenly be fully booked – but I found a cheap pension somewhere and proceeded to luxuriate in the best warm soapy bath I have ever had, bar none. Me and my nose slept soundly that night.

Jim Ainsworth

Thanks to Jim also for the following which appeared in *The Times* earlier this year:

A Dean of St John's College Cambridge, Canon Mark Oakley, is often required to steer theological discussion at High Table. He writes in the *Church Times* that conversation recently turned to purgatory. 'Will I go to purgatory?' one irascible old fellow asked. 'Oh John,' replied a weary neighbour, 'it just wouldn't be purgatory without you.'



Thanks to David Rackham for this photo of Yarpole Walking Group, out walking near Hammish on August 27th.



These are the Tromboncino courgettes from Sue Russell's 'Curious Gardener' article on page 32.

Thanks also to Carol Clare for the photo below of the last days of combining at Brookhouse Farm.





Croft with Yarpole and Lucton

Parish Church Services Oct & Nov 2023



Date	Service	Church	Time
OCTOBER			
Sunday 1 st Oct	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Croft	9:30
Sunday 8 th Oct	Harvest Festival	Yarpole	3:00pm
Sunday 15 th Oct	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Yarpole	8:30
Sunday 22 nd Oct	Themed non communion service	Yarpole	9:30
Sunday 29 th Oct	Joint Parishes Service	Yarpole	10:30
NOVEMBER			
Sunday 5 th Nov	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Croft	9:30
Sunday 12 th Nov	Holy Communion	Yarpole	9:30
Sunday 19 th Nov	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Yarpole	8:30
Sunday 26 ^h Nov	Themed non communion service	Croft*	9:30

*The Arts and Crafts exhibition "Made in HR6" will be in Yarpole church on 25th -26th November

Anyone wishing to contact a priest please phone or email:

Rev. Matthew Burns on 01568 614399,
teamvicarwest@leominsterteam.org.uk

To book a funeral, interment, wedding or baptism and for other information please phone: Priory Office 01568 612124

Monday to Friday 9.30 – 1.00

Churchwardens: Oliver Elphick (01568 515303)

Jane Higgins (01568 708390)