

The Parishioner

YARPOLE LUCTON CROFT BIRCHER BICTON

May 2024

In this issue:

Preparing a New Local Plan for the County.....	9
Agenda: Annual Members’ Meeting, Yarpole Community Shop.....	12
Crunch Time for the Gallery Café.....	15
Maths Challenge.....	19
Prize Giving Day.....	32
Threads through Creation	35



CAR TREASURE HUNT

- 2 June 2024
- 10.00am meet at The Bell, Yarpole
- Ticket price £12 pp
- Price includes a ploughman's lunch
- Minimum 3 people per car
- Enter your classic car and earn an extra point



Negotiate around the villages solving the clues and gathering items along the way.

We are restricted to 12 cars—so get yourselves into gear and enter your team.

To book call into the village shop for your entry form.



Thanks to all our photographers this month. Front page: Threads through Creation panel
This page: Yarpole Walking Group—Dave Bradford; Easter Spring Colour—Carol Clare;
Bluebells at Croft Ambrey - Mike Norris; Yarpole

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

It's good to report that we continue to receive donations to the newsletter's printing costs. We are really grateful to those of you who have responded to our appeal; your generosity will safeguard the newsletter for the future. And if you would like to make a contribution but haven't got round to it yet, it's not too late! There's a reminder of how to donate on page 38 of the April newsletter.



We would also very much welcome your suggestions about the content of the newsletter. What sort of articles would you like to see? And how often would you like to see them? Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts about what we could do to improve the reader's experience.

You can email us at newsletter@yarpole.org or leave your feedback and suggestions in the box outside the shop. Your views are very important to us.

If you are thinking of submitting an article or photograph for publication, don't forget that the deadline is the 10th of the previous month.

Lynne

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**

There is no newsletter in January or August

ADVERTISEMENTS

**To place a commercial advert in The Parishioner, please email
newsletter@yarpole.org and we'll send you more information**

Prices start at £5 for a 1/8 page ad

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.

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; here are contact details for some 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

Plastering and damp proofing: Daniel Newman 07701 097 897

Bookkeeping: Emma Mantle 07773 708 845

Handyman: Simon 07846 259549

Stay in touch: Yarpole WhatsApp Group

Enjoy chatting and sharing photos with members of our community via the Yarpole Whatsapp group. We now have well over 100 members! To join this group, please message Katie Daniels 07786515922 with your mobile number.



Calling Facebook Users

To get 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.



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.

Don't miss out on what's happening!

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

Friends of Mortimer Medical Practice invite you to a Colours fashion show

Wednesday 15 May at Kingsland Coronation Hall

Doors open at 7.00 pm for a 7.30pm start.

In aid of vital equipment for Leintwardine, Kingsland and Orleton surgeries

Please support this fundraiser where high street clothing will be on sale for 50% of retail price.

Tickets £5 (to include a drink) from Helen (780189)



THE BIRCHPOLE SINGERS

St. Leonard's Church

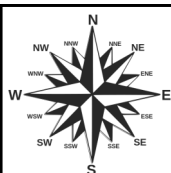
Wednesday evenings 7.10 - 9.30 pm

We are a friendly village choir which meets weekly for an eclectic mix of music, from Verdi to Les Misérables!

New members are always welcome and there are no auditions.

Do come and join us!

Contact: Steve Walter, stevewltr7@gmail.com Tel: 07791490439



Walking Group

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

May walks: **Friday 10 & Sunday 25**

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

Contact: **Viv 782271** or seiftonbatch@gmail.com

N.B. See our new programme for the year at www.yarpole.org. Those on the mailing list will receive it by email.

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, all being well, will be on **Wednesday May 15**.

Join her in the café for a coffee and a chat.



Pete Lloyd



Orleton Evergreens Outings 2024

April 25: Visit to Trentham Gardens £11/£13

May 30: Spring Lunch £19 two courses/£22 three courses

June 27: Visit to Dr Jenner's House, Berkeley & Slimbridge Wetland Centre
This visit now only £18/£20

July 25: Return visit to National Memorial Arboretum
Coach fare + Land train £17/£19

August 29: Georgie's Canal Cruise, Penkridge, Stafford
Coach fare + 2h Fish & Chip Cruise £35/£37 Max 28—open to members first

We are very grateful to Orleton Parish Council for granting us £500 to cover the coach cost to Berkeley & Slimbridge

THANK YOU VERY MUCH OPC!

All welcome (non-members £2 extra)

Please contact Sue Turner for further details :
sue.a.turner@gmail.com Phone 01584 831324

Arts Society lectures

Lively and interesting illustrated lectures on arts-related topics at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, 2.15 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Lectures from nationally recognised experts last about one hour.



Next meeting on **Wed 15 May 2024**

The Culture of Ukraine, Rosamund Bartlett

Visitors are welcome, paying £8.00 on the door. Membership, which buys you eight lectures and reduced fees for outings and study days, costs £45.

More information: <https://www.theartsocietytemevalley.org.uk>

For help with transport contact:



Bin it? No way!

First Saturday of the month 10.00 - 12.00 (last repairs). Next sessions: 4 May, 1 June

Online bookings open two weeks before: <https://leominsterepaircafe.org.uk>

Leominster Community Centre, Church Street, Leominster, HR6 8NJ

Refreshments available

Mechanical, household, electrical, toys, furniture, sewing repairs & tool sharpening

For more information email: repaircafeleominster@googlegroups.com

Or find us on Facebook.

Singing
the Faith



House Church

Come along and sing (optional) a couple of familiar hymns and look in detail at the text and what it means to us, and how it can fit in with our everyday lives.

2nd and 4th Tuesday in the month

Next meeting 14 May, 7.30pm in St Leonard's Church. Everyone welcome.



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



COMMUNAL CRAFTERS

Next meeting

Monday 20 May 2-4 pm

In the Gallery Cafe, St.Leonard's, Yarpole

£3 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!

Future meetings:

Monday 17 June, Monday 15 July, Monday 19 August

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

MORTIMER MEDICAL PRACTICE

Patients' Participation Group (PPG)

Covid-19 Spring Booster Vaccination Those eligible are people aged 75 and over by June 30 2024, residents in care homes for older adults and those aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed. Depending on vaccine availability clinics will run on April 27 and May 11. If you are eligible you should receive a confirmation text or letter by April 22. If not, you should phone reception.

Mumps and Rubella Vaccination Those aged 12 months - 25 years who are not vaccinated or only partially vaccinated should contact the surgery to book an appointment.

Did not attend appointments (DNAs) In March 2024 there were 125 DNAs equating to 2.5 days of clinic time wasted. If you are unable to attend an appointment **please contact the surgery** so that the appointment can be given to someone else.

Repeat Prescriptions Please allow 72 hours for your prescription to be ready. (This does not include weekends and Bank Holidays.) It needs to be dropped off before 2.00pm (Mon—Fri) to guarantee the 72 hour turnaround.

Training Afternoons The practice will be closed from 12 noon on July 17 and Oct 17. A receptionist will field all calls until 6.00pm. After 6.00pm, ring 111.

Patients' Participation Group The date of the next meeting is May 15.

Up to date information is available on the website, www.mortimergpsurgery.co.uk or search Facebook for Mortimer Medical Practice.

Gilly Lloyd 01568 780328 gillymi.lloyd@yahoo.com



Leominster Area Branch of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust invite you to join their first talk: **'Can our rivers survive?'**, an informative talk from Andrew McRobb of Herefordshire CPRE.

Hear about the risk to our rivers, the impact of the work already happening and find out how you can get involved to help.

Thursday 2nd May at 7pm

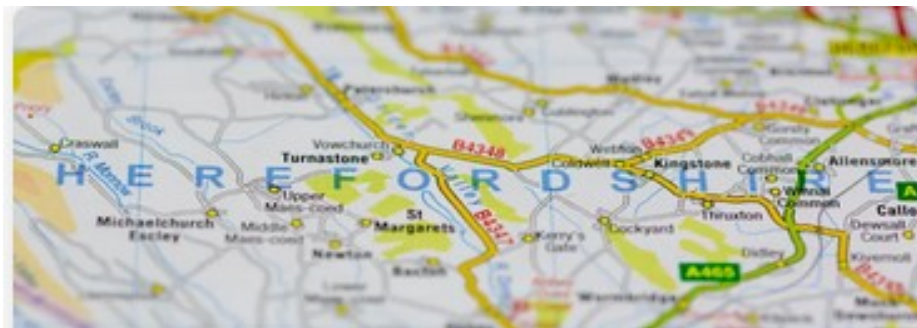
Leominster Baptist Church, Etnam Street, Leominster, HR6 8AJ

Refreshments will be available

Suggested donation on the door: £2 wildlife trust members/£3 non-members.

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

Preparing a New Local Plan for the County



Herefordshire Council is currently reviewing its Local Plan which will set out the housing, economy, and environment proposals for the County, from now until 2041. This exercise is required by the Government and is carried out every 5 years.

Yarpole is included in that plan with a target of approximately 15 more houses by 2041. Once this plan, currently in draft form, is confirmed then we shall have to review our Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), against which the Parish Council reviews local planning applications and makes submission to the County Planners.

You can see a draft of the County Local Plan online and make comment here: <https://hlp.commonplace.is>. The Parish Council will be reviewing it and making a response, but it is important that anyone who has a view makes their own submission as well. The more views expressed, the more weight they carry. If you do respond and wish to share your views with the Parish Council for consideration as part of its response, please send them to clerk@yarpolegroupparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Please note that this consultation ends on Monday 20 May.

Maggie Brown, Clerk. clerk@yarpolegroupparishcouncil.gov.uk

A presentation which focuses specifically on the changes in the overall rural settlement hierarchy and why this has been revised can be viewed here:

<https://youtu.be/2LzAn2Od3qc?si=8LqnXdu1u9BM8T7n>

Diane Hill

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Café - Freshly prepared meals to order showcasing the amazing quality products our area and team product.

Cakes, traybakes and treats available all day along with a vast array of drinks including freshly ground luxury coffee and our speciality thick milkshakes.

You don't need a main course to enjoy our **Deluxe Whippy ice-cream** in a classic cone or as a sundae pot.

We've also teamed up with a number of dealers bringing a great range of **salvage items** and **garden accessories** as well as a number of **artists** and **crafts professionals**.

Open Wednesday to Sunday 9.30am to 5pm (Saturday and Sunday 4pm Close)

BOOKKEEPER / ADMINISTRATOR

Self-employed, looking to take on additional clients.

Whether you are snowed under with paperwork and don't know where to start, require help managing your business accounts or perhaps you're self-employed and need help to become compliant in time for MTD, I can help. Flexible and professional service.

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YARPOLE COMMUNITY SHOP ASSOCIATION LTD.



Annual Members' Meeting

To be held on Thursday 6 June 2024 at 7.00pm
at St Leonard's Church, Green Lane, Yarpole HR6 0BB

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Approval of the minutes of the AMM held on 15 June 2023
4. Matters arising from the minutes of the 2023 AMM
5. Chair's Report
6. Report on the state of membership and the membership strategy
7. Receipt of the Financial Accounts for 2023
 - a. Acceptance by the members of the 2023 accounts
 - b. To agree that the 2024 accounts may be prepared without an audit and presented with an accountant's report.
8. Appointment of Accountants for 2024
9. Election of the Management Board

A summary of the 2023 unaudited accounts will be posted on the shop website at www.yarpole.org prior to the meeting. A full set of the 2023 accounts will be made available for inspection at the shop after the AMM.

Nomination forms for election of members to the Management Board are available at the shop and on the shop website at www.yarpole.org. Completed forms must be returned for the attention of the Company Secretary, Lindsay Slade, via the shop or emailed to laraffle@hotmail.com by Friday 24 May 2024.

Please stay with us for a glass of wine or a soft drink after the meeting.

Yarpole Community Shop Association Ltd., St Leonard's Church, Green Lane, Yarpole HR6 0BB.
Tel: 01568 780148. Registration No. 29911R (Registered with the Financial Conduct Authority)
Registered in England and Wales.



May Bank Holidays

The shop and Post Office will be closed on both Bank Holidays - 6 & 27 May.



Leaving winter behind.....

Lane Cottage Salad Leaves are once again back in stock. These popular bags of salad leaves are always a welcome sign that Spring at least is under way - not a day too soon! Grown locally near Lingen in Herefordshire and hand sown, picked and packed without any artificial fertilisers and pesticides these salad leaves are - to quote Lane Cottage - good for you and good for the planet too! They arrive ultra fresh too and keep very well in the fridge. The bags they come in are also recyclable - so don't forget to bring the bags back once empty and pop them in the cardboard recycling bin bearing their name which is located just outside the shop.

Another excellent local supplier....

We are also very pleased to now be stocking Monkland Cheese. Made in Monkland, just outside Leominster on the Brecon road, this beautifully flavoured local cheese is made with milk from local dairy herds and vegetarian rennet. Both soft and hard cheeses are already proving very popular.

Parcel drop...

Did you know that if you order stuff online you can ask for your parcel to be delivered to Yarpole Post Office? Often this is a cheaper option - as several very pleased Yarpolians have discovered - and it also means that you don't have to wait around for your parcel to be delivered. It is also great news for the shop as every transaction we do results in a small contribution to us which helps with our running costs.

Jon Pitts

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 Email: yarpolshop@mail.com



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CHURCH MATTERS

The Spring is a time of two festivals of great significance in the life of the church, Easter and Pentecost. March and April saw our commemoration of the death and resurrection of Jesus, who died on the cross to take our sins away, and rose from the dead on the third day.



May begins with Rogation Sunday, followed by three rogation days on Monday to Wednesday. Rogation (the word comes from a Latin word that means to ask) is a time for asking for God's blessing on the crops, and it often involved a procession round the borders of a parish, called "Beating the Bounds". The rogation days were days of fasting and prayer. Sunday 5 May will be a group Rogation service for the western parishes at Ivington.

The Thursday of that same week is Ascension Day, which remembers our Lord's ascent into Heaven after teaching his disciples for the 40 days following his resurrection.

Ten days after that (19 May) is Pentecost or Whit Sunday, which remembers the day when the Holy Spirit first came on all the believers. It is, effectively, the birthday of the universal church. It is the Holy Spirit of God who lives in each believer, unites us into one body and enables us to live a life that can please God.

Finally the 26 May is Trinity Sunday, which calls our attention to the mysterious nature of God, who is both the one and only God and yet is also eternally three persons: the Father, the Son (who became the perfect man, Jesus) and the Holy Spirit. Frankly, this is beyond our understanding and can only be accepted as plainly taught by all the scriptures taken together.

We continue our Be Still sessions for half an hour on the first Wednesday of each month. These are times to sit and meditate in quiet, perhaps with some music.

On Monday 15 April we began a course called Christianity Explored, which is an introduction to the content of Christian faith. This is for anyone who wants to know why they should bother with Christianity, and also for believers who want to consolidate their understanding. It is being led by Phillippa Wright, who is currently being trained for the priesthood.

From the scripture:

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:15-21

Oliver Elphick



Crunch time for the Gallery Café

Last month we highlighted the worrying shortage of volunteers in the Gallery Café that we are experiencing. Since then, our position has become more serious. By the time you read this, our fantastic manager, Sarah, will have left us. She has been undergoing treatment for a serious health condition and is no longer able to continue to work. Sarah has been a powerhouse of energy and enthusiasm, and we will miss her very much indeed.

So now we are not only without a manager, but we are so short of volunteers that we are having to cut back on what we do. Our remaining volunteers are over-stretched and in need of some new comrades. We are particularly short of people willing to help serve lunches on Thursdays and Fridays.

If we have to stop offering lunches it will be a huge blow for those members of the community for whom a hot meal and some friendly company is a key part of maintaining their well-being. It will also affect us financially: the café is the major source of funds for St Leonard's Management.

The Trustees and volunteers have been working together to decide how best to fill the gap left by Sarah's departure. We are considering a number of options, including employing another manager, or employing a cook and having a management team of volunteers. We hope that, by the time you read this, we will have a strategy and direction in place. But without more volunteers the Gallery Café faces a very uncertain future.

Can you help us? Please, please don't wait for someone else to do it – get in touch today. You can either drop in to the cafe and speak to one of the volunteers, or email either Andrew Prail (enmorevet@outlook.com) or Sue Russell (suetrustee@btinternet.com).

We can't over-emphasise the value of our café to the community. It's been running for over a decade: don't let 2024 be the year that it collapses.




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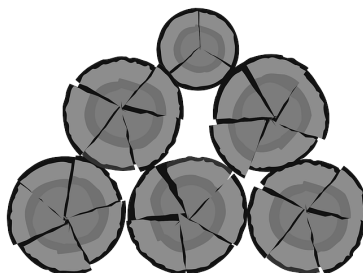
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PARISH HALL

May 2024

Programme of Regular Weekly Activities

Mondays	Zumba	6.00 - 7.00pm
	Yoga	7.30 - 8.30pm
Tuesdays	Glyn Whiting Art Class	10.00 am—12.00 pm
Wednesdays	Tai Chi	10.00 - 11.00am
	Art	2.00 - 4.30pm
Thursdays	Pilates	10.45 - 11.45am
Fridays	Bowls (not Friday 29 March)	7.30 - 8.30pm

Other Events in May

Thurs 2 May	Police & Crime Commissioner Elections	All day
Tues 7 May	Parish Council Annual Meeting	18:45-21:45 pm
Wed 8 May	Private event (Committee Room only)	3.30—5.30 pm
Friday 24 May	The 4 Cs	11.00 am - 12.00pm

To make a booking please contact Amanda Hordern

01568 701996 / parishhall@yarpole.org 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.

Reminder of Future Dates For Your Diary

22 June – Summer Evening BBQ

28 September – Flicks & food

23 November – Flicks & food

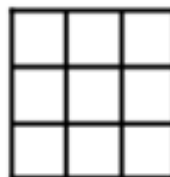
14 December – Christmas Party with a bring & share buffet

THE MATHS CHALLENGE

Magic Squares

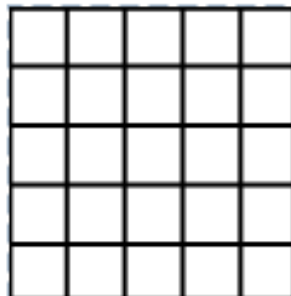
My primary school maths teacher, Mr Rowe, taught me a special method to fill a number square with consecutive counting numbers so that all the rows each add up to the same total, all the columns each add up to the same total and so do both diagonals.

So can you use the counting numbers 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 only once in this 3x3 square so that all the rows, columns and diagonals each add up to 15? (N.B. there may be more than one solution.) One correct solution is provided on page 34.



BUT his method only works with odd numbered squares, i.e.. 3x3, 5x5, 7x7, 101x101, 103x103, etc. I can complete any odd number sized square and get the rows, columns and diagonals to always add up to the same total using Mr Rowe's method.

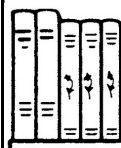
Those who solved the 3x3 square may want to challenge themselves by attempting the 5x5 square using the numbers 1 to 25 once each so that each row, column and diagonal adds up to 65. (Solution available on page 34.)



200 Club

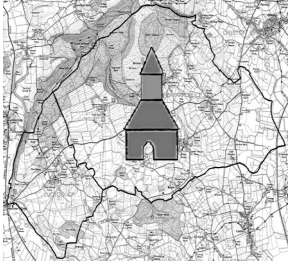
The winning numbers for April were:- 104 £50, 68 £20, 153 £15, 167 £10

Jan Tandy



Don't forget that books can still be taken out from the Parish Hall library whenever the building is open for an event. Just sign in the book and there is no time limit. DVDs and Blu-rays of recent Flicks films are also available to borrow.





YARPOLE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on 2 April at the Parish Hall. The following is a short report; for further information please read the Minutes which are available on the website.

The Parish Council was pleased to welcome Cllr Diane Hill who was co-opted as a member for Croft & Yarpole. Cllr Hill will continue in the role of Tree Warden.

Residents and councillors were encouraged to continually report potholes to Herefordshire Council.

The council discussed two planning applications: a retrospective application for a small field shelter and change of use for a dog exercising field at Stocking Barn Farm Lucton, and a proposed affordable dwelling and garage/workshop at Bicton House. The council had no objection to either application but is concerned at the preponderance of retrospective applications being received.

Concerns over raw sewage spills were raised. No update had been received from Welsh Water. Cllr Hurcomb agreed to follow this up, and the clerk will ask when the promised water butts, recommended to help reduce surface water entering the drainage system, will be provided.

Updates had been received from Herefordshire Council Traffic Management about Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) requests made by the Parish Council.

a) Cockgate. The merits of the proposal were acknowledged by Traffic Management. Consideration around removal of the centre line, new edge of carriageway markings and speed roundels was mentioned, but no works are proposed this year due to lack of funds. The Parish Council was asked if it would commit to funding the scheme. Cllr Hurcomb agreed to follow this up, particularly if the stretch of road is to be re-surfaced.

b) Request for introduction of 40mph speed limit on the B4362 near junction with Croft Lane U92600. Traffic Management confirmed it is unable to approve this request. It suggested "the possibility of 'SLOW' markings may be appropriate at this location to enhance the current warning signage already in place". Traffic Management would support this should the Parish Council seek to pursue treatment works through the Community Commissioning Model.

A Public Meeting with British Telecom (BT), to discuss digital telephony, has been arranged on Tuesday 30 April 2024, 3.30pm at the Parish Hall. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for Tuesday 7 May when the Annual Parish Meetings for both Lucton and Croft & Yarpole will also take place, and Tuesday 4 June. Please note that all Parish Council meetings will now start at an earlier time of 7.00pm.

Maggie Brown, Clerk. clerk@yarpolegroupparishcouncil.gov.uk



GALLERY CAFÉ

Tasty Tuesday at the Gallery Café

We are really enjoying our Tasty Tuesday events with our customers who are so supportive. For May we are bringing a taste of spring in our menu with a seasonal theme. It will be on Tuesday 14 May at 1.00pm. It will include our usual offering of a home-cooked hearty lunch and a dessert along with a hot drink. Places will be limited so please book early.

Main course:

Chicken and spring vegetable casserole or spring vegetable casserole served with garlicky fondant potatoes

Dessert:

Orange cake served with a chocolate sauce or a cake from our selection

£12.95 for a main course and hot drink /£14.95 for both courses and a hot drink

Please inform us of any allergies. We are happy to cater for individual needs where possible. To book please see contact details at the bottom of this page.

Payments accepted in cash and card

Can you give a little time to help at our café?

We desperately need more volunteers to help us serve customers, prepare lunches and provide a warm welcome in the café. Our café is a place where people can enjoy home-cooked food and cakes in a beautiful setting. It helps us keep the building maintained and is kept going by fantastic volunteers.

Working at the café provides an opportunity to gain new skills and make new friends. Volunteering can include a range of tasks such as setting up the café, welcoming and serving our customers, and clearing away at the end. We also have volunteers who prepare the light lunches. You can do as much or as little as you want and will be given all the training and support you need. Shifts are typically between 2-3 hours. The café is full of laughter and chat and it is a great way of meeting new people.

Open: Monday – Wednesday 10.30-12.30 for drinks & cakes
Thursday – Friday 10.30-3.30 serving lunch 12-2pm
Saturday 10.30 -12.30 for brunch

To enquire, call into the café or email gallerycafeyarpole@outlook.com

Alternatively, call the café during opening hours on 01568 780594

or drop in to see us in person.

Check www.yarpole.org

Yarpole Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GalleryCafeYarpole/>



The Mortimer Community Benefit Society, owner of the Bell at Yarpole. Managed for the benefit of the community.



Who thought running the Bell would be easy?!

Not only do we have to deal with the problems from the building; occasionally we have unfortunate customers whom we try to help.



This car ended up on the grass. It has been a very wet few months and the area at the back of the pub is very soft and wet.

However, a quick tow and we managed to send it on its way!

We would appreciate bookings so that we can plan our meals and limit wastage. To book, please complete the booking form on our website, <http://thebell@yarpole.co.uk> or telephone us on 01568 601110. Please let us know of any food allergies or requirements when booking.

If you have enjoyed your visit to the Bell please leave us a review on Trip Advisor rather than the Yarpole WhatsApp group. We need to try to spread the word further afield.

Once again, a huge thank you to all our volunteers. We are still looking for someone aged 16 or older who might like to have paid work at the Bell. We are also looking for someone who could regularly do bar work; this is also a paid role. Contact us for more information. We would really appreciate someone prepared to help with the grass cutting at the pub.

Summer is coming; the clocks have gone forward. Come along for a relaxed drink and enjoy the garden at the Bell.

Grass cutting in the Churchyard

This year the churchyard will not be mowed during May, as part of the 'No Mow May' campaign.

This also makes it easier for the volunteers who cut the grass on a regular basis throughout the summer months.

As always, new volunteers welcome.

Please email julianstokes@gmx.com if you can help.



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**LOOK OUT FOR 'BOB-A JOB' WEEK COMING SOON!
Let's get all those little jobs done at last!**

**TALK COMMUNITY: We are working on increasing the profile of
the Yarpole Hub – watch this space!**

*If you would like to make a donation towards our work, please leave it in the shop
- thank you*

The 4Cs, Yarpole Parish Hall, fourth Fridays, 11.00am – 12 noon

MAY 24th

Sebastian Bowen will share some of his long-service experiences as a Councillor, with more than 25 years of representing Bircher Ward.

JUNE 28th

Linda Finney and Janet Knight will share their secrets of flower arranging; you might like to try your skills here too.

Come and join us, for 4Cs, COMPANY, CHAT, COFFEE AND CAKE, lots of cake. Ring Avis on 780874 or Val on 780807 if you need a lift.

***If you need us or want to join us, the number is above – we will be glad
to hear from you either way!***



THE CHURCH
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DIOCESE OF HEREFORD

May 2024

Dear Friends

May marks the end of the Easter season and the beginning of what is affectionately known as 'ordinary time' in the Church calendar. The pivot happens at the feast of Pentecost on May 19 this year. Every Sunday is always a celebration of the resurrection, so its hard to see what is ordinary about it. The events of the Christ's death and resurrection are the turning point of history. It is a world-shattering event that means life can never be the same again. The book of Acts tells us how the disciples' lives were turned upside down by it. In their grief at the loss of Jesus a number were considering returning to their previous occupations. Once they encountered the risen Lord, they decided to change the world instead!

However, it was not just historical events which changed things. It was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Christian faith has always been a supernatural one. In the struggles to fill rotas, find volunteers, maintain buildings and serve our communities we can easily forget this. If the Christian life was just a set of rules to obey, religious acts to observe and an institution to maintain, it would not have lasted very long.

Trusting in the Holy Spirit to empower and lead is less safe than seeking to control events ourselves. Periodically in the history of the Church the Holy Spirit has broken through in ways that have upended our conventional way of doing things. It happened in the Wesleyan revival of the 18th century, numerous mini revivals in the church (some of which happened in our diocese) and in the great outpouring in Azusa Street in 1906 that gave birth to Pentecostalism. This is now the third largest stream in the Church today. In many ways it is hard to see how our current institutional predicament can be served by strategic thinking alone. I am praying for another (likely messy!) outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Diocese of Hereford. Only the Holy Spirit can give us the courage we need for the evangelistic challenge. Only the Holy Spirit can turn the hearts of those currently indifferent to Christian things to help see their need for the Lord. So, 'Come Holy Spirit and kindle the hearts of your people with the fire of your love'. Today, we need that more than ever.

+Richard



ORLETON AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

THE ART OF FORAGING

On 26 March ODGC welcomed Liz Knight, one of the country's leading wild food experts. Liz, who lives in the Black Mountains, is an author and runs foraging workshops and foraging walks. Although her subjects are known as wild, many grow in our own gardens. Liz brought plants with her and after describing their uses passed them to a club member, an able *sous chef*, to chop them for a salsa verde.

Dead nettles, red and white, are members of the mint family. Good for pollinators, they are rich in iron and vitamin C. An infusion of red nettle tea is warming and good for the circulation. Ancient Greeks used stinging nettles as a cure for many ills including arthritis, eczema and prostate problems. An infusion in water has a floral taste. They are high in protein and rich in iron, calcium, vitamin C, iodine and serotonin. A nettle omelette will provide all one's nutritional requirements. In Turkey they are rolled to neutralise the stings and eaten raw with olive oil and lemon.

Cleavers, or goosegrass, is a member of the coffee family and supports immunity by ridding the body of toxins. Infused in water it makes an excellent skin toner, nature's botox.

Hardy camellia flowers are edible and camellia oil tastes delicious. Magnolia buds and flowers are also edible, the buds tasting of cardamom and the petals a mixture of cardamom and ginger. Happily one can have one's cake and eat it as the fading petals can be used after enjoying the tree in flower. Young leaves taste of lemongrass and may be stuffed with cream cheese as a base for canapes. Magnolia bark is used medicinally for anxiety.

March and April are the worst months for depression when the body is depleted of minerals and that is when these plants are at their best. Others include wild garlic and ground elder, the latter used and grown by the Romans and eaten as a soup in Scandinavia today. Liz urged caution when picking wild garlic to avoid confusing wild garlic leaves with the emerging leaves of wild arum and autumn crocus which are both toxic.

It is wasteful to pick more than is needed. The art of foraging is to pick a little at a time so that afterwards one cannot see where one has been.

Annual Plant Sale at Orleton Village Hall Sunday 19th May 2.00—4.00 pm A wide range of plants will be for sale. Tool sharpening. Refreshments will be served. Free admission.

On **Tues 28 May** Sue Maberley will present **Wild Gardening at Nant-y-Bedd Garden** where she has gardened wildly and enthusiastically for over 43 years. (The club is visiting this garden in August.) Doors open at 7.15pm. Plant stall and raffle. The speaker starts promptly at 8.00pm. Non-members welcome at £2.50 per person including a drink. Annual membership £15.

THE CURIOUS GARDENER

His and hers

I know perfectly well that marriage is supposed to be about sharing. Once we are married, 'yours' and 'mine' cease to matter – we hold everything in common. "All that I have, I share with you", as the modern marriage service expresses it. But whoever wrote those marriage vows has clearly never had to share garden equipment.

We are a multiple-wheelbarrow and -bucket household. When we moved here we brought with us a stack of plain black plastic buckets and two standard grey metal builders' barrows. They were all indistinguishable from each other, so there was no question of 'his' and 'hers' – they were just to be shared.

You might have thought that an easy enough task. So answer me this: why was it that whenever I wanted a bucket or a barrow I found that every single blasted one was full of my other half's bits and pieces? One barrow might be loaded with fence-mending equipment, while the other contained spades, forks and rakes. One bucket would be full of twine, soft-tie and scissors, two more might contain stones picked out from a bed he was preparing, while several others would inevitably hold murky water in which offsets of unidentifiable plants lurked. It's not that I minded him using all the buckets and barrows. It was just that he never, ever emptied them when he'd finished.

To begin with I quietly removed his kit from a barrow or bucket when I needed one. Then I started to get cross about it and made pointed remarks. I even tried making a scene. Nothing made any difference. Finally, I'd had enough: I had to get my own equipment and find a way of stopping him using it. Experience had taught me that writing my name on things made no difference. So that is why, gentle reader, if you visit me while I'm gardening you'll find me wheeling a luminous pink wheelbarrow with matching buckets.

Sue Russell

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Prize Giving Day

I used to belong to group of tearaway young wine writers (oh yes) called The Octagon, in an effort to distinguish itself from the staid and boring Circle of Wine Writers to which every vinous scribbler belonged. There was no entry fee, and no meetings apart from one every year, when we rented a room in a London restaurant and each brought along a bottle of something unusual, interesting or just plain weird.

We also awarded prizes, mostly to fellow scribes (usually from the Circle) for their achievements during the year. They were rarely present, because we thought it best not invite them to the humiliating proceedings.

There was, for example the VC, bestowed for extreme laziness. Sometimes a PR for a drinks company would hand round a blurb extolling their client's excellence whilst completely ignoring the shortcomings, which any self-respecting journalist would have felt compelled to question. To gain the VC (*Vieille Corde* in French, 'Old Rope' in English) the winner would simply have to submit the unaltered blurb under their own name to their Editor and get paid handsomely for it. No work involved apart from copy and paste.

There was also the Octagon MUG, which I won once. On many freebie trips, especially those to a single big producer, we would be given a parting gift or goodie bag, emblazoned with the company's logo, to remind us where we'd been, in case we'd forgotten when it came to writing it up: a Bolly broly perhaps, or a pair of socks (headscarf for the ladies). I came back from a trip to Chile with a pair of gold-painted spurs in my bag – this was before airport scanners – which seemed more toy-like than useful. It was of so little relevance to me, or to wine, or to writing, that it won the Most Useless Gift prize that year.

Then there was the Green Award for the most environmentally friendly writing, that is, for the one who most successfully recycled his or her own work during the year. Editors always wanted a piece on alcohol-free drinks in January, something on port just before Christmas, Pimms in summer, and so on. After a couple of years of this, you can imagine how tedious it gets. After ten years you lose the will to write, so sooner or later everybody has to go over old ground. The only saving grace is that readers (if they're still with you) won't remember what you've written before anyway. There was never any shortage of contenders, but one year Edmund Penning-Rowse romped away with it.

He wasn't so much a champagne socialist as a claret communist: to the left of Marx, with an unrivalled knowledge of, interest in, and penchant for, red Bordeaux, particularly the more expensive kind. Trawling through his regular columns in the *Financial Times* we came across two that were exact copies, word for word: the same column, in other words, printed twice. It wasn't his fault, just some dozy sub-editor on a Friday afternoon, but it was impossible to beat and he won *summa cum laude*.

So if someone claims to be an award-winning writer, it may be as well to check what the award was for.

Jim Ainsworth

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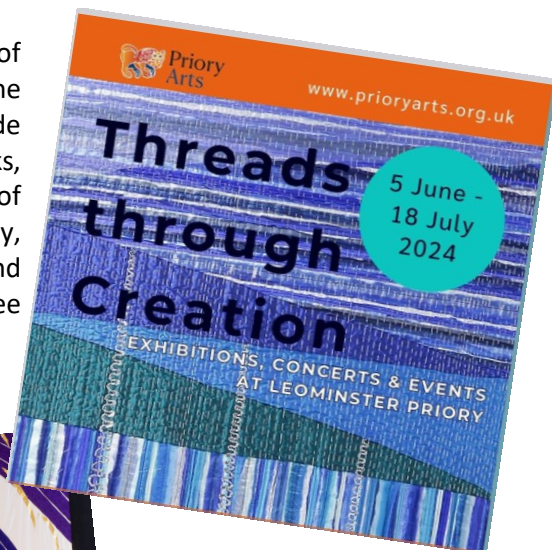
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Threads through Creation



Priority Arts Leominster has announced a wide-ranging programme of concerts, church services and workshops to accompany **Threads through Creation**, a spectacular textile installation by artist Jacqui Parkinson that will be on display in Leominster Priory from **5 June to 18 July 2024** as part of a national tour. It is one of the largest textile projects ever undertaken by a single artist. Entry is free.

A number of events (many of which are free) accompany the installation. These include concerts, craft sessions, talks, and walks, exploring questions of ecological concern, creativity, community, identity and spirituality. For more details see www.prioryarts.org.uk.



Two special village trails have also been created to complement the events at the Priory. From June the trails will be available from the Priory, village churches and local shops, Leominster's Tourist Information Centre, and the Priory Arts website.

Croft with Yarpole and Lucton
Parish Church Services for May and June 2024



Date	Service	Church	Time
MAY			
Wednesday 1st May	Be Still	Yarpole	17:30
Sunday 5th May	Rogation Sunday group service	<u>Ivington</u>	10:30
Sunday 12th May	Holy Communion	Yarpole	9:30
Monday 13th May	Course – Christianity Explored	Yarpole	19:30
Sunday 19th May - Pentecost	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Yarpole	8:30
Sunday 26th May	Themed non-liturgical service	Yarpole	9:30
Monday 27th May	Course – Christianity Explored	Yarpole	19:30
JUNE			
Sunday 2nd June	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Croft	9:30
Wednesday 5th June	Be Still	Yarpole	17:30
Sunday 9th June	Holy Communion	Yarpole	9:30
Monday 10th June	Course – Christianity Explored	Yarpole	19:30
Sunday 16th June	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Yarpole	8:30
Sunday 23rd June	Themed non-liturgical service	Yarpole	9:30
Monday 24th June	Course – Christianity Explored	Yarpole	19:30
Sunday 30th June	Group service	<u>Ivington</u>	10:30

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:
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Churchwardens: Oliver Elphick (515303) Jane Higgins (708390)

A new local Transport Plan for Herefordshire.

Herefordshire Council want to understand peoples' priorities for improving transport in the county 2024-2041. They have launched an online survey for you to share your views. It closes on 21 May so you haven't got long! You can have your say at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/ltp.

Rose Jenkins