

PARISH NEWS

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

OCTOBER 2025



**Contrary to expectations (see August cover) it has turned
out to be a good year for mushrooms!**

PETER GARRATT

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VILLAGE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND NEWS www.stw.org.uk

Samaritans	National Helpline.....	08457 909090
	Hereford	116 123 free calls
		0330 094 5717 local call rates apply
		jo@samaritans.org

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

West Mercia Police

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

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

How to get in touch: 101 to talk to your local SNT or report a crime.

herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.police.uk www.westmercia.police.uk

Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger. Otherwise call 101.

PARISH NEWS

THE ARCHENFIELD BENEFICE

For enquiries on baptisms, funerals and wedding please contact the Vicar:

Rev. Angie Kateley revangiekateley@gmail.com 01981 345044 **Rest day: Tuesday.**

Vicar's Letter

Autumn is well and truly underway and harvest celebrations abound. Church festivals, community suppers and lunches - what's not to love! In Archenfield Benefice we try to encourage creativity in our harvest services: poetry, prose, skits, music, artwork, displays of flowers and produce. I'm really looking forward to it all.

October also brings us National Poetry Day on Thursday 2nd. I love how poems can make me laugh, cry and wonder. They can comfort, protest, satirise, challenge and shock; be powerfully held within a prescribed form or dance to their very own tune. And it can be so much fun it can be to have a go yourself.

I was recently reminded of a lovely poem by local poet David Donaldson called 'Hentland', which tells the remarkable history of that beautiful church and the saint whose name it takes.

*All legend now. And resonance of old names
Grown apart. As the land of the hedgehogs
Lies curled up in the name of Archenfield.*

*So, as growth rings within ever-widening
Circles, the vanished settlement south
Of the Old Church, itself the Gospel*

*Taken root here centuries before
The ministries of Rome. Long past also,
Dubricius, Hentland's Patron saint,*

*His pregnant mother thrown into the Wye,
Only to survive and still deliver the child
Destined to heal the leper-king, her*

*Dishonoured father and long buried
The favoured irchen at Dubricius' feet,
And his monastery of the brethren nearby.*

*Stories, like leaves bedded down: rich
Nourishment to connect with what remains:
The lip well, still flowing, threading its way*

*Through shade beside this later church
And subsiding graves, part a managed
Wilderness. Is it favoured of hedgehogs?*

*And beyond the churchyard wall
Meadow grasses where the settlement
Once stood and the air whispering*

In ancient trees.

If you want to hear more of David's poetry, you'll have to come along to our Orcop Harvest Festival, and if you you've never seen the church that inspired this verse, do pay Hentland a visit.

My own attempt at a verse about Dubricius was rather less convincing:

*There once was a man called Dubricius
whose mother was treated most vicious.
He rose to the top
of the clerical crop
and was sainted, this man so propitious.*

Why not have a dabble yourself?

Rev Angie x

CHURCH SERVICES ROTA FOR OCTOBER

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

Wednesday 1 st	7.00pm	Hentland, Compline
Sunday 5 th	10.00am	Tretire, Benefice Holy Communion
Friday 10 th	6pm	Orcop, Harvest Festival
Sunday 12 th	9.30am 11.15am	St Weonards, All Age Communion Garway, Harvest Festival
Wednesday 15 th	7.00pm	Garway, Compline
Friday 17 th	6.00pm	St Weonards, Harvest Festival
Sunday 19 th	11.00am 6.00pm	Hoarwithy, Harvest Festival Pencoyd, Sung Evensong
Sunday 26 th	9.15am 9.30am 11.15am	Orcop, Holy Communion St Weonards, All Age Service Hentland, Harvest Festival
Sunday 2 nd November	10.00am 3.00pm	Hoarwithy, Benefice Holy Communion Orcop, All Souls Service.

At our All Souls service on November 2nd, we will light candles and remember our loved ones who have died. It is a poignant and gentle service to which all are invited and will be warmly welcomed, 3pm at Orcop Church. Look out for lists at the back of our churches where you can write any names you would like to have read out during the service.

Enquiries about baptisms, weddings or funeral services, please contact the Rev. Angie Kately
revangiekately@gmail.com 01981 345044 **REST DAY TUESDAY**

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

Garway Hill Methodist Chapel: Sunday 26th October 3.00pm- Harvest Festival Adrian Williams

Sunday October 5th
Tretire Church
Benefice Communion
10.00am
All are welcome



7th October Carolyn Trew 01600750227

!!! Magazine News !!!

***We welcome general interest articles or
recipes. Please send in Word.***

VILLAGE PAGES

ST WEONARDS

Last month I commented on the lack of rain, and I spoke too soon! We were away for two weeks at the beginning of September and were astonished to find how green everything was upon our return. Autumn has arrived so quickly with the heavy downpours, but it is a relief that the trees seem to be recovering from the drought.

It was lovely to be able to welcome Bishop David and Jean back to our All-Age Communion at the beginning of September. The theme of the service was *Lost and Found*. This related to the story told by

Jesus about the shepherd who looked for his one lost sheep and the woman seeking out a lost coin, as God cares for each one of us. Bishop David helped us to link this to our own lives.

Many of you will have met the new family running the village shop and living in the house above. They are Alok and Ashita Patel and their two children. Alok and Ashita's family are used to the importance of local shops in the community, as they have been involved in running shops in the Forest of Dean for some years. Their children have already started in local schools, and we hope that they will enjoy their life in our community.

6.00pm on 17th October. We will be celebrating the harvest, giving thanks for the food on our plates and for all that farmers provide for us. Don't forget to put the date in your diary. The festival starts in church, followed by a friendly bring and share supper in the village hall. Do come to share a lovely meal and community time.

If you are able to contribute some food for the supper, please let me know on 01981 580 208 or fionamynors@btinternet.com.

A suggested donation for the supper is £10 for adults and £5 for children. For any harvest gifts, please bring non-perishable items for the Hereford Food Bank.

See below for two other village events and for your diary the ever-popular Bingo in aid of the Churchyard Fund in November.

Fiona Mynors on behalf of the PCC.

Thursday 9th October.

St Weonards Village Hall 10 am- 12 noon.

Coffee Morning

Wear pink and support Macmillan Breast Cancer Charity!

Enjoy coffee, homemade cake, and raffle.

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

All welcome.

 **St. Weonards Village Hall**

 **Saturday 18th October 7.30pm**

 **Cheese, Chat & a Truly Epic Challenge**

Join us for an evening of delicious nibbles and great company as Sam Weale shares his incredible journey of completing the **hardest triathlon in the world**.

 A tale of getting from London to Paris the hard way!

Support local Sam Weale in his efforts to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy

 Suggested donation: **£10 per person**  Plus **raffle** with great prizes!

Come for the cheese, stay for the story, leave inspired!

Date for your diary: 28th November, St Weonards, Churchyard Bingo.

GARWAY

Ann Clark

On the 7th of September the community came together with family and friends in memory of Ann Clark.

Ann was very well known in the community through her charity work and the kindness that she showed everyone. Her charity work with those in need kept her busy, alongside being very active in the community and her love for Garway church

October services

Harvest Festival 12th October 11.15 am in Garway Church

Change to plans: as Garway Village Hall is not available, our harvest festival will now be in our wonderful church, which will be followed by the Harvest lunch.

We will be treated to singing by the *Singing Tree* and a song or two from Gerald Benjamin, which are always worth listening to.

Lunch will follow and will be buffet style. We would be very grateful to receive any contributions towards the buffet, sweet or savoury.

If you would like to help decorate the church for harvest with seasonal produce and foliage, any help will be really appreciated.

Compline service Wednesday 15th October 7pm

Compline is a gentle, short service of contemplation and a lovely way to end a busy day. Everyone is welcome.

Tracy Somerville, churchwarden

Garway Fun Day 2025

Many thanks to all those who turned out in force to enjoy the hugely successful Fun Day on August 23rd and to all the local businesses who supported the event with raffle prizes and donations.

The weather smiled on us, and our visitors were treated to a non-stop round of entertainments.

The performance space was in action all afternoon with singing from the *Singing Tree*, Gerald Benjamin and *Tot of Grog*, and some superb brass playing from the Pye family - plus the brilliant folk fiddle of young Donald Bruce, who has just been accepted into the National Youth Folk Ensemble!

The Dog Show as always was efficiently run and proved very popular, attracting many four-legged friends and their proud owners. Good grub was available all afternoon and thanks are due to all those who baked and grilled and boiled the kettles – and did the washing up!

There were lots of fun activities for the children, including the ever-popular sand pit; and welly-wangers and skittlers were much in evidence.

Another happy Garway event which raised around £2,500 for local projects and £500 to local triathlete Sam Weale for Muscular Dystrophy UK.

Hilary Smallwood

The Spice Girls invite you to the

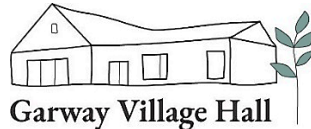
October Coffee morning

in Garway Village Hall,

7th October at 10 am

Tea, coffee and homemade cakes

Nicky Heath will be with us to talk about the new café at Oldfield Forge.



We hope everyone has had a good summer and is raring to go after a much-needed rest.

All of our regular weekly activities are back up and running:

Mondays 9.20am -Garway Barre: Fit with Jodie

Tuesdays 9.15am - Pilates with Vikki

Tuesdays 10.15am - Talk Hub / Coffee mornings

Wednesdays at 7pm - Legs, Bums & Tums with Vikki

Thursdays at 9.15am - Yoga with Vikki

Thursdays at 5.30pm - Table Tennis club

Thursdays at 7pm - Qi-Gong with Caroline

Flicks in the Sticks is back on the second Tuesday of the month and Garway Heritage Group on the third Tuesday of the month.

A couple of other events to tell you about:

Saturday 27 September Sally Saint Wise Woman Retreat

More info available on www.garwayhall.org website

Saturday 18 - Sunday 19 October Mysteries of the Knights Templar Conference

If you're interested in starting a group at Garway Village Hall we'd love to hear from you, do get in touch with us via our contact page on our website.

Remember that we send out a monthly email newsletter so if you want to be in the know of what's going on, head to our website www.garwayhall.org and subscribe!

Julie Hudson

Green Garway Book Group

***Wavewalker* by Suzanne Heywood**

This is a real high seas girls own adventure story that we enjoyed discussing at book club last night.

When Suzanne was six her parents decided to circumnavigate the world on their boat Wavewalker to commemorate Captain Cook's voyage 200 years previously. With sponsorship from the hotel group Trusthouse Forte, they set sail in 1976 and intended to be at sea for three years.

A decade later, Suzanne finally broke free and embarked on her own life journey studying zoology at Oxford instead of following the dreams of her parents.

In writing this book she reveals the truth behind this big adventure and from her perspective it wasn't the thrill and wonder that we may imagine at all. She was treated differently from her brother, and as a girl expected to be cleaning and cooking below deck. Her parents were neglectful, almost abusive, leaving her brother ashore with a family for five days as he wasn't ready in time when they set sail. They expected her, aged 12, to be able to handle a revolver when some robbers tried to come aboard, advising her to shoot for the kneecaps. Added to the PTSD she suffered as the result of a terrible storm, it is no wonder she resorted to calling Childline in desperation.

Reading a memoir about trauma so soon after the revelations about *The Salt Path* made us all a bit more cynical about how much truth there is. It led us to check what the rest of the family had to say about Suzanne's version of events, which you can read in MailOnline. Suffice to say there are many versions of truth depending on whose perspective you are reading.

Rating: 3/5

Next group: Monday 13 October - *The Outrun* by Amy Liptrot. If you're interested in coming along to the next book group please join our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/489872936450081> or send an email to greengarwaybg@gmail.com. We read books about the outdoor world, nature, social issues, travel, fiction and non-fiction. Everyone is welcome and you can dip in and out as necessary.

Julie Hudson

GARWAY HERITAGE GROUP Tuesday 21st October Garway Hall, 7.30pm

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, the October meeting will not be as previously advertised. A new talk is being planned so be sure to join our mail list for further information: www.garwayheritagegroup.co.uk

All are welcome - it's a great opportunity to learn about our local area and a chance for a friendly chat; we will, of course, be serving delicious cakes, tea, coffee and wine. Entry free to Garway Heritage Group members (£15 annual subscription) or £8 for guests. DIARY DATE; 18 November—The Golden Valley Railway—the Great Western Years—Bob Steele



**TUESDAY OCTOBER 14th
7.30pm GARWAY HALL £5.00
A REAL PAIN**

Sharp, funny and emotional, *A REAL PAIN* somehow manages to combine sharp one-liners with real depth of feeling. The film follows ill-matched cousins David and Benjii on a week-long tour of Poland which they are visiting in memory of their Holocaust survivor grandmother.

David is an uptight, overly stressed advertising salesman from Brooklyn - Benjii a drop-out without partner, job or home who nevertheless deeply loved his grandmother. He is genuinely seeking to connect with her past and honour her memory. He's completely uninhibited about saying what he thinks or blurting out the inappropriate comment to the aghast tour group and tour leader.

Funny and alarming at the same time, Kieran Culkin, (who was Roman Roy in *Succession*), is magnificent as Benjii. Jesse Eisenberg as David trails behind his outrageous cousin, both loving and hating him at the same time. The balance of humour and trenchant emotion is something of a triumph for Jesse Eisenberg who also wrote and directed the film. With a soundtrack of Chopin, played by the Canadian-Israeli pianist Tzvi Erez, *A*

REAL PAIN somehow manages to tackle the question of how current generations confront the reality of the Holocaust with a deft light touch that shows intelligence, humour and compassion and is never trite.

As ever, there'll be a chance to catch up with friends and enjoy teas, coffees, wines and award-winning local juices before the film and during the interval.

All welcome – so do come and join us. **Corinne Westacott**



National Theatre Live

On Friday 24th October, we will be having our next performance from "National Theatre Live". After the last performance of "*A Streetcar named Desire*" we had several complaints about the quality of the sound, I would like to stress that there is nothing wrong with our sound system. The problem arose due to the superb performance of the lead actor, Gillian Anderson, whose portrayal of a southern American plantation owner's accent was so good that our British ears found her hard to understand, and she had most of the dialogue.

However, that will not be a problem this time as we will be screening "*Inter Alia*", a new play from Susie Miller and director Justin Martin, starring the wonderful Rosamund Pike. She plays Jessica Parks, a smart Crown Court Judge at the top of her career. Behind the robe she is a karaoke fiend, loving wife and supportive parent. When an event threatens to throw her life completely off balance, can she hold her family upright? This play has received nothing but praise from the top theatre critics and will be something that you should not miss

The hall will be open from 6.30 with the programme starting at 7.00. There will be a full bar and nibbles available with all the seating being laid out in our usual relaxed manner. Admission will be £10 on the door.

Graham Bevan

ORCOP

Please see the separate item about the Orcop Harvest arrangements.

Both the service and the harvest supper afterwards will feature creative inputs from parishioners and friends. Do come and do a "turn" or exhibit your vegetables, art work, craft items etc. to celebrate not only the harvest, but also the rich diversity of talents that are equally deserving of our thanksgiving.

Alternatively, just come along and enjoy the service, the supper and the entertainment.

Thanks to all those who so generously helped when my car broke down, near the Fountain Inn, fortunately!

Margaret Fletcher, Churchwarden

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



Orcop Harvest Service and Supper

6pm Friday 10th October

(to be followed by Harvest Supper in the Parish Hall)

"Season of mellow fruitfulness" (John Keats 1795-1821)

The Orcop Harvest Service and Supper will, of course, be focussed on thanksgiving for the harvest and all that our wonderful farmers do to produce the crops and bring them in.

There is another aspect of "fruitfulness" that is very strong in the Parish of Orcop, namely that of the mind and soul, and we aim to celebrate this too, through music, song, readings, poetry or the exhibition of garden produce or Orcop crafts, such as wood-turning, graphic art, pottery, flower arranging etc. etc.



We invite everyone to come along and participate in this harvest celebration. If you would like to take part in any (or all!) of the above ways, please email Angie (revangiekateley@gmail.com) soonest, so that your contributions can be woven into the service.

The Harvest Supper will feature appropriate light entertainment, with an agricultural theme!

Orcop Village Hall

APPLE PRESSING

Saturday 11th October

12 – 4pm

Ice Creams, Hotdogs, Refreshments, Raffle
fun competitions (see below) and a variety of stalls and games

If you would like us to juice some of your apples, please bring clean, undamaged fruit, and a clean empty bottle or two – before 3pm please. **Please note:** 2K of apples will produce about 1L of juice.

*In order for us to have a sufficient quantity of fruit for the press,
your apples may need to be blended with others.*

*The juice will need to be drunk within a few days if kept in the fridge
- or you could freeze it, pasteurise it, or even turn it into cider.*

We don't charge for this service, but welcome donations to hall running costs!
Fun competition categories – with winner certificates!

The rosiest apple.

The biggest apple.

The most unusual apple

A group of three apples.

A poem or short story (under and over 12s) about an apple tree -

Growers, Makers, Stall Holders - If you would like a stall, or for more info, please contact:-

petamary@hotmail.co.uk or, gill.bannerman@outlook.com

OWL COMMUNITY LUNCH

Wednesday 1st October

This event is open to all, and is a two-course meal and a drink for £10.

We meet at 12.30 and eat at 1pm. There will be a raffle to raise funds for Owl Good Neighbours. No need to book unless you require a special diet such as gluten free.

Contact number 01981 241310.

Jane Lockhart.

Calling all stall holders

Orcop Village Hall has two lovely community events coming up, and we'd love you to be part of them!

Saturday 11th October – Our Apple Pressing Festival

Saturday 29th November – Our much-loved Christmas Bazaar

We'll have all the usual favourites – homemade cakes, tasty refreshments, and a raffle – but we'd love to see even more stalls to make these events extra special.

If you'd like to have a stall, come along and join us – simply email petamary@hotmail.co.uk for more details. It's always a wonderful community atmosphere, and a great chance to meet people and sell your wares.

Peta Long

ORCOP VILLAGE HALL

Autumn Coffee Mornings

will continue on the 3rd WEDNESDAY of each month

10.30 – 12.30

(Oct 15th, Nov 19th, Dec 17th)

Do come along for a local catch-up.

Everyone is welcome - whether new to the area or life-long resident.

Gill & Tim Bannerman 01981 580685

Garway Hill Methodist Chapel

Sunday 26th October 3pm

Please join us for the

Harvest Festival.

Followed by refreshments

All welcome!

TRETIRE AND PENCOYD

If I attempt to list all the people who contributed to our Cream Teas afternoon at Michaelchurch, I shall certainly offend one person or many by miss-attribution or omission. You know who you are, cooking, selling, pouring, washing up, providing equipment and furniture and more. But most especially thank you to everyone who came along ate scones and cake joined in the natter and helped to raise over £600.

The Harvest Service will have passed when you receive this and fingers crossed, we will have collected a helpful contribution to the Food Bank.

Harvest Drinks & Canapes - Friday 3 October, 6pm to 8pm at Michaelchurch Cottage – Tickets £10 each. Wine, soft drinks and amazing home-made canapes. Please come and join us and catch up with old and meet new friends. There will be a 'Chinese raffle' so you can sway the odds to the item(s) you really want to win. All contributions welcome - but your presence is the best contribution and we very much look forward to seeing you.

Sunday 5th October we are Hosting the Archenfield Benefice Communion Service at TRETIRE at 10:00.

Sunday 19th October the **Ross Choir** will be with us again at PENCOYD for sung Evensong at 6pm.

GLEAM CLEAN – at PENCOYD Church on Friday 17 October 10:00 to 11:30 a big extra special 'spring' clean with as many as possible to lend a hand. Bring long handled cobweb brushes, dustpans & brushes, buckets, cloths and polish. The more the merrier and the quicker the job is done!

All Souls – if you have a friend or member of the family you would like remembered at the All Souls Service on 2nd November at Orcop at 3.00pm please leave name on the pages at the back of the churches or let your Church Warden know.

Elizabeth Malcolm, churchwarden

HENTLAND AND HOARWITHY

Despite the low water level of the Wye "Our Lady of the Water" arrived a little early. I would like to thank all those who helped to get her out of the water and into Jeff's Pickup (which was a great help) and then carrying her up to the church. The Choral Evensong with Father David and Ross Choir was well attended. "Our Lady" stayed in the church until the Thursday and then went overland to Newnham-on-Severn for an event that evening.

The Friends of Hoarwithy held a Family Funday on Sunday 31st August which was well supported, and despite the dark clouds around thankfully there was little or no rain. Although the Bar-B-Q was cancelled due to weather. The Duck Race was won by Owen Fitzpatrick.

Don't forget the Hoarwithy Singers charity concert on 17th October at 7.30pm "*Songs from around the World*" in aid of *The Brain Tumour Charity*.

Look forward to seeing you at The Bishop's Spiritual Question Time on 21st October at the New Harp Inn 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Peter Pember Churchwarden

Book Review ***Frank and Red* by Matt Coyne**

Frank is a grumpy old man. Red is an endearing and intelligent six-year-old boy who moves in next door and whose irritating presence becomes apparent to Frank as he sits in his garden.

"It was the most annoying sound he had ever heard. It sounded like a squeaky toy being dry-humped by a donkey. Apparently, the new kid next door owned a trampoline."

Red and his mother have moved in reluctantly following his father's exit from their home to replace his wife with a younger model. So she is sad. And Red too is sad – a new home that he did not want, a lost

friend who meant a lot to him, a sad mother and, worse still, a new school where he becomes the butt of bullies.

Following advice from Frank about how to stand up to bullies, Red finds himself invited to remove himself from school for a week and, in the absence of anyone else to look after him while his mother is at work, Frank becomes reluctant carer to this strange but appealing child.

Frank has had almost no contact with the outside world since the death of his wife Marcie and his estrangement from his son – to the point where agoraphobia has set in.

But Red is on a mission now – a mission to restore the relationship between Frank and his son, and one that he pursues with the naivety of youth – the certainty that a solution can be found to anything if you just stick with it.

This is a sad, but uplifting book. It manages to skim the shores of mawkishness by its humour – it is simply hilarious in places. It's a good read – in fact a better read than the well-known *A Man Called Ove* by Swedish author Fredrik Backman which pursues a similar theme but is darker and harbours pretensions of literary greatness. I preferred Coyne's lighter touch which nevertheless reached the heart of the shared sadness of these two unlikely friends.

Hilary Smallwood

Regular readers will remember that Ruth Davis, who helps us with magazine is currently in the USA. She has generously sent us another glimpse into life over the pond. **Fiona Mynors**, editor.

Another letter from America

Very nearly a whole year has gone by living here in Boston and it has flown. I think I can safely say we're feeling settled now. Six months ago I was thinking that living in Boston is definitely different but not really 'foreign' and the longer we're here the less foreign it feels.

We swapped England for New England, geographically the closest bit of America to Herefordshire - 3,170 miles in fact – but it's not just the relatively small distance which makes us feel not so far away, it's that Old England is still very present here. The place names in Massachusetts (officially The Commonwealth of Massachusetts) for example; at the weekend we went to a pretty seaside place called Manchester, near Gloucester, in the county of Essex. There's a Tewkesbury in Middlesex county, there's Worcester close to Shrewsbury. There's even a Ludlow and Leominster (said Leminster) and many, many more. I live in Roslindale (named after Roslin in Scotland) which is in the county of Suffolk.

Now I was born in Suffolk, UK and spent most of my school holidays near Bury St Edmunds and a lot of my family still live there. The Suffolk accent is very distinct and elements of that accent remain strongly in the local Boston accent. We all know Americans use a hard R sound e.g. 'caR'. In Boston it is said 'caH', no strong R. Other often quoted examples of the accent would be 'birds of a feathah flock togetha' and 'pahk yuh cah in hahvuhd yahd' (park your car in Harvard Yard). It's still very much an American accent of course (think Mark Wahlberg, Matt Damon, Ben Afflick) but when I catch the local accent with a hint of East Anglia, it makes me smile.

We haven't really been that far afield on holiday yet. We're busy making plans to see the Fall foliage in Vermont but for our first break we chose to come back to the UK for a couple of weeks. It was a complete joy to be with our friends and family and to eat again favourites such as custard creams, pork pie, toast and marmalade etc. I thought I'd jump in the car and immediately feel at home driving on the left but no, I didn't, oh well. It was hot and sunny for the fortnight we were back, so we were glad we weren't missing out on any Boston sunshine (but we did miss our central air conditioning).

It was very painful waving goodbye to everyone for a second time, but we had to get on that plane. I didn't give it much thought as to how we'd feel when we landed (besides tired) and as the taxi drove us back along familiar streets, I realised there was a definite feeling of 'phew, we're home, I'm happy to be here'.

Ruth Davis

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Garden Notes

Every year I have planted up a galvanised tin bath which originally came from my grandparent's farm: bulbs for spring followed by annuals for the summer. It is plonked on top of an old tree stump but, being nowhere near the other pots in the garden, I have to admit that I frequently forget to water it. Elsewhere I have a few sempervivums in a shallow pot, and the thought occurred to me that I could move these to the tin bath and add a few more. They are virtually indestructible and will thrive on the inevitable neglect. I am going to create a crevice garden in the tub, a far more interesting way of growing these (or other alpine plants) than a traditional rock garden.

Alpine plants that come from rocky habitats have extensive root systems that can penetrate through crevices to reach moisture and nutrients deep down. The concept of a crevice garden is very simple: instead of a pile of hefty rocks on a mound of earth, it is constructed from flat stones set vertically and close together to create a series of narrow, deep crevices for the plants to grow in. They contain more rock than a rock garden (typically 50% more rock than soil) and the crevices are very narrow, as little as ½ to 1 inch. The aim is to create something that looks like rock strata that have been naturally lifted and tilted vertically or at a very slight tilt from vertical. The stones need to be flat to be able to create narrow crevices. Broken slate can look very effective for a tiny crevice garden in a pot and, on a grand scale in the garden, broken paving slabs can be used. They look best if they are in a mounded shape and, if in a container, mounded above the rim.

I will only need tiny plants for those narrow crevices, and I will wash the soil off the roots before planting, partly to be able to squeeze them into the crevices and partly because they are often planted in unsuitable compost. The crevices guide the roots downward, creating a deep, drought-resistant root system which is insulated from heat and cold. The crevices will be filled with a fast-draining nutrient-poor sand and grit mixture or with an equal mixture of John Innes No.2 and grit and topped with gravel, allowing water to drain away quickly leaving the crowns dry and preventing them from rotting in wet weather. I am planning to place the stones diagonally across the tub, which looks more interesting than straight across.



Crevice gardens can be huge affairs or can be exquisite scaled-down creations in a pot or trough – a sort of bonsai version of a mountain. Unlike some of my other projects, this one should be fun and easy to create (and cheap too) and I should be able to produce something presentable in just a couple of hours.

Julie Davies

Date for the diary: A pre-Christmas treat - Enjoy singing the Messiah? Come along on Saturday 29th November from 10 – 2 to sing the choruses in the glorious setting of **Dore Abbey all for £20.**

More details next month, or contact. **Carey Godwin** 07970 911115 cigbd@aol.com;

Sarah Roberts ciderbarnsarrah@hotmail.co.uk;

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TECH House Team: 10:45-11:15

Short talk about helpful gadgets in the home (Snug with TV visuals)

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Chuckle Corner

A few corny (but hopefully moderately funny) one-liners:

Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.

What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead give-away)

The man who fell into the upholstery machine is fully recovered.

You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.

If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.

With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

These are from the Melbourne Comedy Festival, 2019:

I've just been on a once-in-a-lifetime holiday. I'll tell you what; never again.

I was walking along the other day, and on the road, I saw a small, dead, baby ghost. Although, thinking about it, it might have been a handkerchief.

A man tried to get into a nightclub, but the bouncers said, *You're not allowed in without a tie*. So, the man returned to his car, got a set of jump leads and tied them around his neck. He went back to the bouncers and, pointing to his jump-lead tie, said *"Is this alright?"* The bouncers replied *"Yeah, but don't start anything"*.

I bought a packet of crisps today. On it was written *"sealed for your protection"*. So, I've never opened it.

And, finally, one from Billy Connolly:

Why on earth do people say things like *"my eyes aren't what they used to be"*. So, what did they used to be? Ears? Wellington boots?

Peter Garratt

EVENTS AT HEREFORD CATHEDRAL

Cantilupe Lecture: Seeking, seeing, knowing: Julian of Norwich and the unity of Divine Love Thursday 2 October, 4 pm In the 14th century Julian of Norwich wrote a substantial text on the relationship of love between God and humanity. A mystic and anchoress of the Church, she is seen as one of the great Christian contemplatives. This lecture is given by Dr Sheila Newman Free event, no pre-booking required. Tea from 3.30 pm in College Hall.

An Evening of Pink Floyd at Hereford Cathedral Friday 3 October, 7.30 pm

Let Me In Presents a UK Cathedral Tour, this autumn, of An Evening of Pink Floyd. It promises to be a spectacular live show featuring a full live band, vocalists and a string & brass ensemble. Find out more details on the cathedral website.

Pub Theology - The Orange Tree Wednesday 8 October, 7 pm A relaxed and informal monthly gathering in the Orange Tree where over drinks and crisps we'll chat about issues related to God, faith, life, theology, philosophy and anything else you want to talk about. have a loose focus, but we feel free to go off on tangents. All welcome (18+).

Baby Loss Awareness Week 2025 Thursday 9 until Wednesday 15 October.

Led by multiple charities, including Sands and Hereford Sands, this week unites bereaved families and parents. Throughout the week the ribbon memorial will be in place on the west gates of Hereford Cathedral and at the County Hospital. You are invited to tie a ribbon in memory of babies gone too soon. On Wednesday 15 October, to mark the end of baby loss awareness week, we welcome all families and friends to attend a vigil service at the cathedral. We will light candles at 7 pm to join in with the global wave of light.

Never Forgotten Friday 10 October, 7.30 pm

Never Forgotten, organised by the Herefordshire branch of SSAFA, will bring together musicians from across Herefordshire and the Marches for an incredibly special concert to celebrate and commemorate 140 years of SSAFA and 80 years since the end of World War Two. A range of music from wartime classics to contemporary favourites before closing with a 'last night of the Proms' style finale. Tickets cost £5 - £20 and are available to purchase via the cathedral website, in person at the cathedral ticket desk or by calling 01432 374 202

The Jeremy Maule Lecture 2025 Saturday 11 October, 3 pm.

Time and Dependence in the work of Traherne will be given by the Dean of Chelmsford, the Very Revd Dr Jessica Martin. Reserved seats £9, unreserved seats (subject to seating) £10. All payments on door. To reserve a place contact Hilary Rosankiewicz on 01432 761588 or email hilary.jackson@talktalk.net

Afternoon Music Saturday 11 October, 3.15 pm

Everyone is welcome to join us for a short concert of beautiful music played on the Father Willis organ. Afternoon Music takes place from 3.15 - 3.40 pm on selected Saturdays during the year. Admission is free with a retiring collection.

Lego Club Tuesday 14 & 28 October, 3.40 – 5 pm Test your skills at creating crazy constructions and superstructures with Lego in the inspiring surroundings of Hereford Cathedral. Enjoy this freestyle Lego session in The Rear Nave with thousands of bricks and hundreds of mini-figures, learn building techniques and make new friends. This after-school session is free to attend, and booking is not required for this event.

Friends' Autumn Lecture Tuesday 14 October, 7 pm

Dr Richard Fisher will give an illustrated talk entitled 'Three Choirs and a Reformation: English Cathedrals under the Tudors', explaining how the nineteen cathedrals of medieval England were administered and funded, including their curious division into two very distinct organisational groups.

Wine/soft drinks/savouries are included: £11 per member in advance (£15 guests / door). Email friends@herefordcathedral.org for more details

Bereavement Café Wednesday 15 October, 2.30 pm – 4 pm

Everyone is welcome to join us for an informal and friendly gathering for those who have been bereaved, recently or long ago. Join us in College Hall on the third Wednesday of the month from 2.30 - 4pm for coffee, cake and conversation. Run by volunteers, this is a welcoming environment to share experiences and support.

Magna Carta: The greatest charter? Thursday 16 October, 7 pm

Dr Claire Breay will uncover the history of the most famous document in English history to explore how it came to be granted and what it really says. She will explain why Magna Carta was annulled, then revised and reissued three times by 1225, and how it evolved over the centuries into an international symbol of liberty, human rights and democracy. Tickets £15 to include refreshments and opportunity to view Hereford Cathedral's 1217 Magna Carta and the 1215 King's Writ. To book your place, visit the cathedral website or call 01432 374225

Magna Carta - One Weekend Only! Friday 17 & Saturday 18 October, 7 pm

The Magna Carta is one of the most famous documents in English history and it still resonates today with many people for its role in the defence of rights and freedoms. Hereford Cathedral will be displaying their copy of the 1217 Magna Carta and the only known surviving copy of the 1215 King's Writ in the Mappa Mundi and Chained Library Museum on Friday 17 and Saturday 18 October. This will be the only opportunity to see the originals of these incredibly important documents in 2025. Normal admission charges apply and tickets can be booked in advance via the cathedral website.

150 Male Voices Saturday 18 October, 7 pm

Hereford Police Male Voice Choir are hosting an evening of music accompanied by the Worcester Male Choir and Cotswold Male Choir. Hereford Cathedral will be filled with the music of the combined choirs singing an eclectic mix of choral music. Proceeds from the evening are supporting St Michael's Hospice, Hereford. Find out more details via cathedral website.

Messy Church Thursday 30 October, 12noon – 2 pm

Messy Church is a free drop-in event with no pre-booking required. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult and grown ups are more than welcome to get involved in all of the activities. This event is free to attend and booking is not required.

www.herefordcathedral.org

Dates for the diary:

OCTOBER

- 1 OWL Community Lunch
- 3 Harvest Drinks and Canapes Michaelchurch Cottage
- 7 Coffee Morning, Garway
- 9 Coffee Morning, St Weonards
- 10 Harvest Service and Supper, Orcop
- 11 Apple Pressing, Orcop
- 12 Harvest Festival, Garway
- 13 Green Garway Book Club
- 14 Talk Hub Garway
- 14 Flicks in the Sticks – A Real Pain
- 15 Coffee Morning, Orcop
- 17 Harvest Festival and Supper, St Weonards
- 17 Gleam Clean, Pencoyd church
- 18 Cheese, Chat and Challenge, St Weonards Hall
- 18 Knights Templar Conference, Garway
- 19 Knights Templar Conference, Garway
- 19 Harvest festival Hoarwithy.
- 21 Garway Heritage Group
- 24 Garway Live! National Theatre Live, Inter Alia.
- 26 Harvest Festival, Garway Hill Methodist Chapel.
- 26 Harvest Festival, Hentland.

NOVEMBER

- 11 Flicks in the Sticks
- 18 Garway Heritage Group – The Golden Valley Railway
- 19 Coffee Morning, Orcop
- 29 Xmas Bazaar, Orcop
- 29 The Messiah, Dore Abbey.

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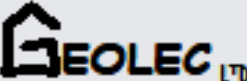
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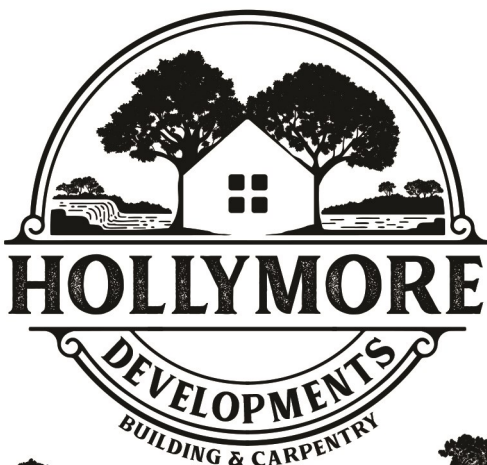
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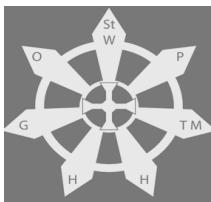
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