

# The Parishioner

YARPOLE LUCTON CROFT BIRCHER BICTON

June 2025

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And all our regular features





Thanks to the following for their photos:

Front cover: Keith Smith - Phantom horse, Bircher.

This page: David Cheshire - Gunnera spike at Brobury Gardens.

Brian North - Redstart at Croft Castle.

Paul Faulkner - long-haired fallow deer in woods by Bircher Common (see letter - page 11)

Carol Clare - a cascade of Clematis.

# FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

Greetings to all our readers!

It has been a month of celebratory events in our parish, and consequently we have been sent a wonderful range of photos. As a one-off special, we have included extra colour pages at the centre of the newsletter showing photos of the VE day celebrations in the parish and the volunteers' celebration in St. Leonard's. Many thanks to everyone who has sent them in and I'm sorry that the ones in the VE celebrations double spread are not individually credited; many were sent as collections and I was not always sure who had taken them.

We are always pleased to receive feedback about the newsletter. If you have any comments, positive or negative, or ideas for other items of relevance to our community that we could include, please do get in touch using the email address below.

Last month, Lynne reported on changes to the arrangements for producing the audio version of our newsletter. The new provider that she mentioned has produced the May edition, financed by the RNIB, but disappointingly this assistance will not continue into the future. It has been agreed that we can finance two more issues out of our own funds, but unfortunately this is not sustainable in the long-term. It gives us a bit of time to explore ways of producing the audio-version ourselves and we are very grateful to those in the parish who have offered to help (and to those who have helped already!)

We will continue to keep you informed through these pages, and also with direct communication with the local residents who receive the newsletter in this format. We are very committed to ensuring that The Parishioner is accessible to every single member of our community.

Hetty

**To send in articles and news items, please e-mail us at:**

**[newsletter@yarpole.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 USB stick

The Parishioner is also available on a USB stick 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](mailto: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

**Builder:** Colin Vickress 07968 768011 / 01568 612699

**Handymen:** Simon 07846 259549; Andy 07855 813303

**Gardening:** Shaun Yapp 01568 780929 / 07876197770

**Oven cleaning:** Oven Wizards 07817 477850

**Chimney sweep:** Phil Mundy 01568 780417 / 07837 935102

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

**AppleMac Mechanic:** Lee Jones 07875 267790

**Mobile hairdresser:** Dawn Goodwin 01568 770387

**Foot health:** Stacey Gardner 01568 368306 / 07540566871

**Osteopaths:** Leominster Osteopaths 01568 610610

**Homecare:** 07375 520646

**Solicitors:** Norris Miles 01584 810575

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

**Catering:** Jackie Thomas 01584 77190 / 07526 12176

**Vets:** Mortimer Vets 01544 388262

**Waste Management:** Maygothling 01544 230364

**Pest Control:** HWS 01544 231509 / 07818 034301



WhatsApp

## Stay in touch: Yarpole WhatsApp Group

Share local information & news, relevant to our community, via the Yarpole Whatsapp group. We now have over 150 members! To join send a message with your mobile number to: Katie Daniels **07786 515922**



WhatsApp



## 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](mailto:susanmarylangley@gmail.com).

## Don't miss out on what's happening!

To be added to the events mailing list, email [events@yarpole.org](mailto:events@yarpole.org).



## WHAT'S ON

## WHAT'S ON



### CHESS IN THE GALLERY



Monday afternoons, 2.00 - 5.00pm at the Gallery Café, St. Leonard's Church.

All welcome, including beginners. Refreshments provided. We look forward to seeing you.

For more information contact John Nurse: [bandjo@btopenworld.com](mailto:bandjo@btopenworld.com)

### 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 **4 June**. Join her in the café for coffee and chat.

Pete Lloyd



### 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



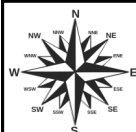
### Do you like singing ?? If so,

there is a friendly choir on your doorstep, which welcomes new members

### The Birchpole Singers

rehearse every week in Yarpole Church (Wednesday 7.15pm)

For more information, contact Steve Walter: [stevewltr7@gmail.com](mailto:stevewltr7@gmail.com); 07791 490439



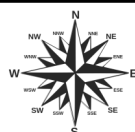
### Walking Group

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

June walks: Friday 13 & Sunday 22

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

Contact: Viv 01568 782271 or [seiftonbatch@gmail.com](mailto:seiftonbatch@gmail.com)



## June Exhibition at St. Leonard's

### 900 Years of Norman Churches 5 - 22 June

To celebrate the 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Leominster Priory there will be a do-it-yourself trail around the churches in the Deanery - including Yarpole - from 5-21 June. Come and see our bell tower exhibition and the displays in the church about the history of the church plus stories from the burial ground.

#### And a special treat!!!

On **Saturday 21 June** we shall be ringing the bells at 11.30am and 2.30pm.



## Parish Hall Summer BBQ & Ceilidh

28 June - see page 26 for more details



## COMMUNAL CRAFTERS

Next meeting

Monday 16th June - 1.30-3.30pm

At Yarpole Parish Hall, Green Lane, HR6 0BL

We invite a small voluntary donation per session.

We are a friendly group of crafters of all abilities who meet once a month to craft/knit/stitch together and enjoy a lovely chat !

**NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME !**

Please contact me - Jane Goldman on 01568 780859 or email at [janegoldman1960@gmail.com](mailto:janegoldman1960@gmail.com) for more info.



**Herefordshire  
Historic  
Churches  
Trust**

Music in Quiet Places, in conjunction with Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust, are delighted to present a recital by the wonderfully talented, classical guitarist Carlo Fierens in St Mary's church, Almeley on 18th June at 19.00.

Born in Finale, Italy, Carlo is now full time professor at the 'G F Ghedini National' Conservatory in Cuneo, south of Turin. He began playing guitar at an early age and has won awards both at home in Italy and internationally. He performed for us at Colwall last year and returns by popular demand.

Tickets are £12.50 and, together with more details, are available via [www.hhct.co.uk](http://www.hhct.co.uk)



## Orleton Evergreens 2025



26 June: 60th Anniversary tea

28 Aug: Dragonfly Cruises, canal boat trip Brecon

25 Sept: Malcom Penny, talk about National Trust, Brockhampton

All Welcome (50+)

Hall meetings at Orleton Village Large Hall 2.30

Further details contact Sue Turner 01584 831324, [sue.a.turner@gmail.com](mailto:sue.a.turner@gmail.com)

## 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 take about one hour.

Next meeting on **Wed 18 June 2025**

The Minoans of Crete: the first Europeans  
Steve Kershaw

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.

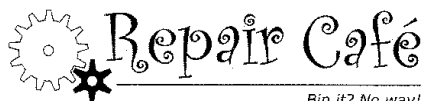
More information: <https://www.theartsocietytemevalley.org.uk>

For help with transport contact:

Membership Secretary Jeff Walker on **01694 781489**

**Orleton Village**  
COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR  
**SUMMER FETE**  
**SATURDAY 14th JUNE**  
Activities begin  
at 12noon

Dog Show – Stalls – Games – Archery  
Tug of war – Crafts – Cakes  
BBQ – Ice cream – Entertainment



*Bin it? No way!*

First Saturday of the month 10.00 - 12.00  
(last repairs). Next session: 7 June

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

Leominster Community Centre, Church  
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For more information email:  
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Or find us on Facebook.

# EVENTS DIARY FOR JUNE

## Events this month

Date	Venue	Event	Time
3rd	Parish Hall	Parish Council meeting	7.00-9.00pm
4th	Gallery Café	Police Community Support Officer meeting	11.00am
4th	St. Leonard's	Be Still	5.30 - 6pm
10th	Gallery Café	Tasty Tuesday	1.00pm
10th	Parish Hall	Yarpole Parish Hall AGM	6pm
13th	Various	Walking Group	10.30am
16th	Parish Hall	Communal Crafters	1.30-3.30pm
22nd	Various	Walking Group	10.30am
27th	Parish Hall	4Cs	11.00-12 noon
28th	Parish Hall	Summer BBQ & Ceilidh	From 7.00pm

## Regular Weekly Activities

Date	Venue	Event	Time
Mondays	Parish Hall	Move it or Lose it!	11.00-12 noon
	Gallery Café	Chess	2.00-5.00pm
	Parish Hall	Zumba	6.00-7.00pm
Tuesdays	Parish Hall	Move it or Lose it!	11.00-12 noon
Wednesdays	Parish Hall	T'ai Chi	10.00-11.00am
	Parish Hall	Art Group	2.00-4.30pm
	St. Leonard's	Birchpole Singers	7.15-9.30pm
Thursdays	Parish Hall	Pilates	10.45-11.45am
Fridays	Parish Hall	Bowls	7.30-9.30pm

Note: Modern Jive is pausing for the summer; It will resume in the autumn.

See 'What's on' pages for more details of events

Check [www.yarpole.org](http://www.yarpole.org) for up to date information and any changes



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

## LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

### St. Leonard's Church and Community Hub

Our church and community hub is a superb venue for your next celebration or special event – whether it be for an exhibition, an illustrated talk, a musical soirée, a family gathering, a special anniversary or a public event.

With flexible space, outstanding acoustics, an atmospheric setting and superb support from a team of volunteers, it is a unique location for you.

For booking enquiries email us at : [yarpolechurchbookings@gmail.com](mailto:yarpolechurchbookings@gmail.com)

### YARPOLE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Up to 24

Any young person aged less than 25 years and living in the ancient parish of Yarpole (Yarpole, Bircher, Bircher Common, Croft, Bicton) may apply to the charitable trust for a grant.

The trust may assist eligible candidates with fees and costs associated with secondary and tertiary education as well as with initial professional training. Support can be given towards a wide variety of needs such as:

- \* tuition fees
- \* tools & equipment
- \* course books & software
- \* costs toward school/college trips or independent travel of an educational nature.

The trustees meet three or four times a year to consider applications. Applications should be received three months before the grant is needed, although urgent cases will be considered.

For further information or to request an application form please contact The Trust Secretary on 01568 780945 or by email: [yarpoletrust@gmail.com](mailto:yarpoletrust@gmail.com).

### Grafted Apple trees

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR



My name is Patrick Faulkner and I live on Bircher Common. I was pleasantly surprised to see the picture on the front page of the April Parishioner of Fallow deer standing out in the open on top of the common.

I worked for the Deer Initiative for 22 years as a deer management advisor covering the West Midlands and Wales and occasionally all over the UK carrying out endless woodland impact surveys, training deer stalkers to successfully pass their level 1 competence certificate, shooting skills, talks and cooking demonstrations of venison all over the UK.

Attached is a photograph my son Paul took of a Long Haired Fallow in the wood at the rear of my house. (*See page 2*)

Few people are aware of these unique deer as the Mortimer Forest is the only known place in the world where they exist. Reading university carried out several years' work studying them and eventually concluded that they were not a sub-species as first thought but a genetic freak.

If it was felt of interest I would gladly deliver a presentation on wild deer in the UK at some point.

Yours sincerely

Patrick Faulkner

Are you interested in piano or violin lessons?  
Whatever your age or ability, contact  
Miriam for more information.



Miriam Graham MusB (Hons) LRSM DipABRSM  
Fellow of the Independent Society of Musicians

[miriamfgraham@gmail.com](mailto:miriamfgraham@gmail.com) 07929 444 231

Based in Yarpole



### **LEOMINSTER SHOPMOBILITY**

Did you know that you can borrow  
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# YARPOLE COMMUNITY SHOP

June 2025



## **AMM final notice**

A reminder that this year's Annual Members' Meeting of the Yarpole Shop Association is To be held on Thursday 5 June 2025 at 7.00pm. We look forward to seeing as many shareholders, and others, at the meeting as possible.

## **A recent party**

It was lovely to see around 100 people turn out for a really enjoyable get-together in the church recently to celebrate volunteering in our community. Extraordinary to think that for a small parish so many different activities take place, all creating the vibrant caring and connected community that we are - and all depending on volunteers!

The excuse for the gathering was that it is 20 years since the formal founding of the shop and this aroused the interest of the BBC (again) who sent a reporter out to do a lovely piece on the shop with interviews with Rowena & Rose. They then requested a live interview on BBC H&W radio. There may be a further BBC connection later in the year but we can't say any more about that now. The reporter who came out said she was so taken with the village and the sense of community that she wants to live here!

## **Daily Bread**

Following the sad news of the closure of Bread2Bake the shop is now stocking bread from Bloomers Bakery near Shrewsbury. We are hoping to also get bread in from another local bakery in the near future! Bloomers fills the market for an "everyday" bread and we are stocking their brown, granary, white, multiseed and tiger breads. Their Chelsea, Swiss and Belgian buns are also being very well received as a sweet treat!

## **Salad Days**

Lane Cottage salad leaves are now back in stock and as ever we sell them at a more competitive price than other local suppliers. For those new to these wonderful bags of mixed salad leaves they are sown, grown, picked and packed in North Herefordshire and are grown without any pesticides or fertilisers - making them an extremely popular choice. You can even return the bag to them for recycling!

## **Job vacancies - but they are not well paid (at all)!**

Don't forget that the shop committee is looking for a Treasurer and a Secretary next summer to join the committee and keep our wonderful shop running - more details in following issues or please have a chat with us at the AMM, or any other time, if you think you could fill one of these vital roles. Thanks!

Jon & Rowena



# GALLERY CAFÉ

June 2025



Tasty Tuesday will be on TUESDAY 10 JUNE at 1pm

Places will be limited so please book early.

**Lasagne with mixed salad, followed by rice pudding**  
**gluten free and vegetarian available**

Please inform us of any allergies; we are happy to cater for individual needs where possible. To book please email: [gallerycafeyarpole@outlook.com](mailto:gallerycafeyarpole@outlook.com), call the café during opening hours on 01568 780594 or drop in to see us in person. There will be a booking sheet on the tall cupboard.

The Gallery Café is open every day except Sunday, so you can meet friends, old and new, enjoy our excellent cakes, scones and lunches, and - very important - keep us open!

Hope you have enjoyed our recent events: VE Day and Afternoon Teas  
Bookings welcome, just contact us.

Thank you to all the people who support the café – you are helping to keep us open

Anna Morley

## Gallery Café Opening Hours

Monday – Wednesday 10.30-12.30 for drinks & cakes

Thursday – Friday 10.30-3.00, serving lunch 12-2pm

Saturday 10.30 -12.30 for brunch

For enquiries/bookings, drop in to see us in person or

email [gallerycafe@yarpole.org](mailto:gallerycafe@yarpole.org), phone 01568 780594 (during opening hours only)

Check [www.yarpole.org](http://www.yarpole.org) or <https://www.facebook.com/GalleryCafeYarpole/>

## SHOP AND POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS

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

Tel: 01568 780148 Email: [yarpoleshop@mail.com](mailto:yarpoleshop@mail.com)

Website: [www.yarpole.com](http://www.yarpole.com)

# MORTIMER VETS

Mortimer Vets is an independently run and owned vets.

Here's a bit about us:

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## CONTACT US AND FIND US:



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Opening hours: Mon-Fri - 8.30am-5.30pm  
Out of hours emergency service available.

FOLLOW US ON:



**Farm Shop** – stockists of local and bespoke products of the finest quality and affordable prices. As well as many products home-cooked on site with any quantities able to be made for event/gatherings.

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

**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)**



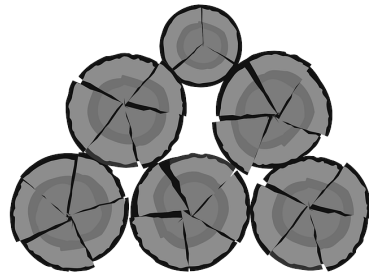
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### Pray for peace and reconciliation

As I write this in May we have just had the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day celebrations on 8 May, however as the daughter of a woman who was born in Jersey and lived through the German occupation of the island, my thoughts were very much on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Channel Islands. I thought a lot about my mother and some of the things that she told me about her experiences of the occupation. One story that I always recall was of her telling me that as a 4- year-old child walking with her grandfather around St Helier harbour, the area was strafed by Luftwaffe aircraft. Thankfully she survived the experience, but the trauma of it stayed with her for the rest of her life, as I witnessed when many years later on holiday on Jersey she experienced a panic attack whilst visiting an exhibition which recreated the scene from that day with loud bangs and flashing lights.

Whenever I think of what happened to my mother, I think of the many children who are experiencing the horror of war today and the trauma that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. The trauma of physical injury, the trauma of extreme fear, the trauma of losing loved ones, especially parents, the trauma of homelessness, disease and starvation. Children in a war setting are true innocents, they have no say in the politics that lead to war and they are powerless to end it and yet they are often the ones who suffer the most.

I ask myself what can I do about this? I can give money to charities who are sending aid to refugees in war torn areas, sign petitions and boycott goods from countries which are waging war, but often I feel that this is not enough and that I am powerless to make a difference. In these times I realise that the most important thing I can do is to pray and to keep praying for those who are suffering as a result of war, to pray for peace and reconciliation and to pray that those with the power to end war will do so. I also ask God to give me the strength to have forgiveness in my heart, as true peace and reconciliation only come when both sides are able to forgive each other.

One thing I do remember of my late mother was the fact that I never recall her ever being resentful towards German people. It is ok to hate the bad things that some people may do, but it is better not to let that lead us to hate others.

*Almighty God, who through your prophets foretold a day when swords will be beaten into plowshares and who in Jesus Christ made peace through the blood of the cross, pour out your Spirit on all people everywhere so that we may be delivered from hate, hostility, and self-seeking, and find our peace in your will. In your mercy make us instruments of your peace, that your name may be hallowed, your kingdom come, and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

From Liturgy and Psalms (Reformed Church in America,1968)

Jane Higgins



## **‘The Inspector Calls’**

St Leonard’s Church and Bell Tower were the subject of their five year (quinquennial) inspection in early December last year and we have just received the full report. The intention of the inspection is to report on the state of the buildings and to recommend phased steps for ongoing repairs and maintenance over the next five years. The overall summary of the general condition of our two historical gems was

*‘The Church is generally in fair condition but repairs are required in order to prevent the fabric from deterioration. The main items of concern are the rainwater goods and the masonry. Both of these elements will require attention within the quinquennium. In the longer term, the Tower will need reroofing and the opportunity should be taken to carry out repairs and repointing of the masonry at the same time’.*

Our church and Bell Tower are standing up to the tests of time well overall and, given that they are part of a thriving community hub as well as a place of worship, they experience more wear and tear than many of their compatriots in other villages. Our current range of exhibitions and the increased number of visitors is testament to the hard work of numerous volunteers in celebrating the church and Bell Tower’s many qualities. I observed three visitors talking about the Bell Tower recently and as they entered into the tower, with its stunning new exhibition; one lady’s response was ‘Oh Wow! This is amazing!’ So well done to everyone over the years for looking after this unique historical gem – the tenth oldest wooden structure in England. All that said, the inspector’s report (all 43 pages) has listed a range of minor repairs, major works and ongoing maintenance that will be needed over the next 5 years. SLM has estimated that such works will require upwards of £90,000 over 5 years to move the condition of our two buildings from a fair condition to good overall. Our trustee, Stefano Street, has oversight of the maintenance and repair of both buildings so he will be as busy as ever working with volunteers and contractors in the coming 5 years. Rest assured, all the trustees are continuing to do all they can to secure grants from key organisations and charities to raise funds towards these necessary works. As important is the continuing success of our brilliant Gallery Café as its proceeds provide 40% of our running costs each year. It looks a daunting task but when the going gets tough ..... and the Yarpole community is renowned for its commitment to protecting our heritage and building its future.

Gordon Ewing - Trustee



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Thanks to David Cheshire for the photos on this page:  
 The volunteers' 20 year celebrations in St. Leonard's on 25 April.  
 One of the new wall hangings in the church depicting the worn murals behind.





# VE Day Yarpole 2025

Many thanks to everyone who sent in photos!







# VE Day Yarpole 2025

Many thanks to everyone who sent in photos!







Thanks to the following for the photos on this page:

Gill Humphrey: The newly set-up St. Leonard's Churchyard Wildlife Group after a session cutting back brambles in the churchyard.

Carol Clare: The village choir put together as part of the musical entertainment at the afternoon tea at St. Leonard's on 14 May in Hereford Histories Week.

Trevor Edwards: the Men's Shed helping to build the VE Day bonfire and constructing their new shed (see article on page 31).

Val Ainsworth: MIOLI (see article on page 33).

David Ward

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## PARISH HALL

June 2025



### MID SUMMER BBQ & CEILDH Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 7.00pm onwards



Come and join us for a great midsummer event

Live music with a caller for ceildh dancing – all abilities & ages catered for  
Midsummer feast of burgers, sausages, vegetarian options, variety of salads and baked potatoes, all topped off with fresh strawberries and cream.

Music, dancing, raffle, licensed bar throughout the evening.

Bring your friends and let's make a night of it!

Prices are just £18.00 per person

Tickets are limited so book now through **Jill Grant tel: 07531599700**  
or **Amanda Hordern on 07470 246405** or email [parishhall@yarpole.org](mailto:parishhall@yarpole.org)

Look forward to seeing you!

### YARPOLE PARISH HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on Tuesday 10th June 2025 at 7.00 PM  
at Yarpole Parish Hall

#### AGENDA

1. Welcome.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Approval of minutes of AGM held on 26th June 2024.
4. Matters arising from the minutes of the 2024 AGM.
5. Chair's report for 24/25.
6. Treasurer's report on financial accounts for 24/25 and acceptance of accounts.
7. Election of committee members.
8. AOB.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible and thank you for all your support throughout the year. Jill Grant & Hall Management Committee



Don't forget that books can be taken out from the Parish Hall Library whenever the building is open. Just sign the book and there is no time limit.

DVDs and blu-rays of recent Flicks films are also available to borrow.





## PARISH HALL

June 2025

### 200 Club

The winning numbers for May were:

30: £50, 132: £20, 97: £15, 96: £10

Thank you for all your support with the 200 club over the past year and well done to all the winners that we've had.

Subscriptions finish at the end of June, so if you would like to renew or take out a new subscription to join us from July '25 – June '26, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Subscriptions remain at just £12 for the year, with a prize draw each month. Prizes start at £50, with other money prizes as well. You can pay by BACS – sort code **40-28-13**, Account no. **81438298**, Yarpole Village Hall, or by cheque or cash. Please see the separate flyer with all further details.

Your subscriptions are invaluable to help support the running of your Parish Hall and remember, 50% of all money collected is given back in prizes drawn each month.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and we look forward to hearing from you.

Jan Tandy– Lottery Administrator for the Parish Hall & everyone on the Parish Hall Management Committee



### Future Parish Hall dates

27 September	Flicks & food
22 November	Flicks & food
13 December	Christmas Party night with bring & share buffet

Parish Hall activities are on our events calendar (on page 8 this month)

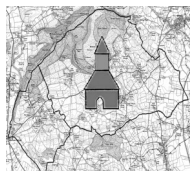
To make a booking please contact Amanda Hordern

01568 701996 / [parishhall@yarpole.org](mailto:parishhall@yarpole.org). Or go to [www.yarpole.com](http://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.





## Yarpole Group Parish Council

On 6 May, the Parish Council held both its annual and scheduled meetings, marking the start of a new civic year with updates, elections, and forward planning. Cllr Ian Salmon was elected Chairman, and Cllr Duncan Grant was appointed Vice Chairman.

Residents are warmly invited to attend upcoming Parish Council meetings, which will take place at 7pm on the first Tuesday of each month. There are no *scheduled* meetings in August 2025 or January 2026. The dates are: 2025: 3 June, 1 July, 2 September, 7 October, 4 November, 2 December and in 2026: 3 February, 3 March, 7 April, 5 May (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council).

The Council approved and signed the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2024–2025. This will now be submitted to the external auditor, PKF Littlejohn LLP. An unaudited version will be available on the parish website before the end of June, with the Notice of Conclusion of Audit due by 1 October 2025.

A single planning application was reviewed: P250864/L – Listed Building Consent for Home Farm Croft (Threshing Barn & Machine House), HR6 9PW. The proposal includes repairs to storm-damaged 18th-century agricultural buildings. The Council voted to support the application.

Flood reports concerning Yarpole Lane submitted by Cllr Hill will be passed to Herefordshire Council, Cllr Dan Hurcomb, and the Luston Group Parish Council clerk.

Concerns were raised over erosion and silt build-up along the stream adjacent to the C1039. The risk of further damage will be highlighted to householders. The roadside bank will be reported to Balfour Beatty as it is being damaged by heavy vehicles.

Letters will be sent to residents regarding hedge maintenance on Green Lane, and Balfour Beatty asked to confirm hedge ownership and assist with hedge cutting at Green Lane Crescent.

A new Parish Notice Board for Bircher will be ordered to match those at Bircher Common and Lucton.

The Lengthsman contract with Herefordshire Council for 2025/26 was approved.

The Public Rights of Way Officer recently received training and equipment from Herefordshire Council. These tools will be added to the Asset Register, with ongoing discussions regarding provision of additional personal protective equipment.

Community Meadow. The Council opted not to purchase additional play or exercise equipment at this time. Improvements have been made to the car park entrance, and mowing of the path will be closely monitored. Future path surfacing options will be discussed in 2026. It was agreed that the gate should be kept open, locked to a new gatepost. Signage for Brook Lane warning of children playing will be explored. Other decisions included additional protection against rabbit damage for young trees; white lining of parking bays and weed suppression work; purchase and installation of two Earth Anchors (to stabilise a bench) and a new gate post. Quotes will be sought for a gazebo, and the Clerk will investigate planning requirements.

Discussions with Herefordshire Council will take place regarding signs for Lucton, two “No Parking – Passing Place Only” notices, one near the telephone box and one in Church Road.

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **3 June 2024 at 7pm**, to be held at Yarpole Parish Hall. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Maggie Brown, Clerk. [clerk@yarpolegroupparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@yarpolegroupparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## **News from our County Councillor**

I am writing this at the conclusion of a week of activity across Bircher Ward, Herefordshire and the wider country to mark VE Day. I have been amazed at the number of events in every parish and although I have not been able to make as many as I would have liked I have attended where I can. Eighty years since the end of the war in Europe is an important milestone for many reasons and I hope that in amongst the celebrations you found time to remember and share memories of those loved ones who played their part in those Second World War years.

Last month I received reports that, although the timetable had been restored, the buses were still disrupted and I have had assurances this is no longer the case and the full timetable is running smoothly (apart from the odd unavoidable sickness, breakdown or delay). If you have experienced otherwise then please do let me know using the details below.

As I write this, the road resurfacing works on the B4361 near Luston are coming to an end and what a difference it has made! Whilst the fresh tarmac and smooth surface are clearly the best bit, I have spent some time on site looking at the drainage works completed at the same time. I am pleased to report, ditches have been dug properly, gullies rediscovered and cleared out, new drains installed and lost pipework reconnected. All of this together should make the world of difference. I only wish these assets had been maintained properly in the first place and then perhaps we wouldn't have had to have the road resurfaced! The next stop for the tarmac lorries will be Kingsland and you are likely to see disruption in parts of the county so please do check your routes before you travel.

You may have seen the recent news that Herefordshire Council is introducing a Food Waste and Garden Waste Service from May 2026. This is a legal requirement under the Environment Act and we are hoping that government funding will be forthcoming to deliver the Food Waste Service. The Garden Waste Service on the other hand will be funded by individuals who subscribe (much like the current Biffa Brown Bin Service locally) and the initial rate will be set at around £20 cheaper than the commercial alternative. It is the Council's intention that this service will reach more residents than the current one. If you would like further information then please let me know.

On a final note and on a personal level, I would like to thank the wonderful staff at Hereford Hospital. At the end of April I lost my Grandfather shortly before his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday and whilst he had been ill for some time, the care he received in his final days was truly heart-warming. If you are reading this and you work in the NHS or have a family member that does – thank you!

As always if you have any concerns, issues or would just like a chat then please do get in touch.

Dan Hurcomb

[dan.hurcomb@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:dan.hurcomb@herefordshire.gov.uk) 07837 726821



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



The first day of Summer is officially 21 June. It feels like we have had a head start, so let's hope the sunshine continues. Our new garden furniture has now arrived: allowing more people to sit outside enjoying the lovely gardens at the Bell. We are so grateful to Paul & Gill Humphrey for their efforts in looking after them on behalf of us all.

We were delighted and somewhat overwhelmed by the response to our VE Remembrance evening. It was wonderful to see so many villagers using the pub. We plan to have more BBQ events over the summer. The bonfire has created a much larger flower bed than anticipated! If anyone has any spare shrubs we can plant, do please let us know

**BREAKING NEWS.** The Bell moves to our summer hours from Weds 28 May, opening on Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes from midday until 3pm for lunch and drinks. This is in addition to our usual opening hours. Of course, it has to be financially viable to do so and will be regularly reviewed

It is our financial year-end at the end of June when we will have to start thinking about the next Annual Members Meeting. We have 2 committee members standing down after sterling service which puts the management group in a difficult situation, as we will urgently need people to step forward to help. Without it, maintaining the pub as it is, will not be possible. Much of the really hard day-to-day work of sorting out regulatory issues, infrastructure and purchasing equipment etc has been done by the current committee. If the community and the village really wish to ensure the continued progress of the pub, then we will need your support. Please feel free to talk about the available roles with any of the committee.

We have plans to repair the Dutch Barn in order to make it safe and usable for future events. Many of the timbers have rotted and the whole building has shifted. Having cleared it for the VE Day evening we can now start to work on the structure. We have long term plans to install utility services to the barn which allows us to install an outdoor cooking and bar area. It will also allow us to provide a greater family area. There have been requests for an outdoor games area. Watch this space!

Fiona is now taking over more of the day-to-day running of the Bell. This allows some of the committee members to step back a little from the full-on service and concentrate more on the machinery of running the business on behalf of the members and customers.

We are still exploring starting a weekly 'Meals On Wheels' service every Wednesday lunchtime. In order for it to be cost effective, we need up to 30 customers to subscribe. It will include a home-cooked main course and a dessert for just £12.00. Please let us know if you are interested. ALL our meals are available to take away and can also be delivered locally. Email us on [dine@thebellatyarpole.co.uk](mailto:dine@thebellatyarpole.co.uk) or call 01568 601110

There is something for everybody at **YOUR** local pub. Details are on the website, or our Facebook page. We also try to get as much info out via old fashioned posters, so keep your eyes peeled.

Graham Whitlock

***You can now book a table directly via [thebellatyarpole.co.uk](http://thebellatyarpole.co.uk) and get instant confirmation.***

# MORTIMER MEDICAL PRACTICE

## Patients' Participation Group (PPG) June 2025

The practice is now able, with the help of a charity, to send medication that patients no longer require, to Ukraine. The medication has to be in its original blister pack or bottle, in date and unused. If anyone has any unused medication it can be delivered to the dispensary; ask for it to be given to Gene.

Missed appointments are still causing problems. From January to April 460 appointments that had been booked were not attended. This is roughly 9 days of clinic time. There is at present a 3-week wait for non-urgent appointments but urgent appointments will always be prioritised. The practice asks patients to inform them if their contact details change as a text is usually sent the day before appointments are due as a reminder. They also realise not everyone has a mobile phone.

Protected Training afternoons 2025 will be from 12.30 pm on Thursday 10 July and Tuesday 14 October. Surgeries will re-open as normal the following day. A GP and receptionist will be available for emergencies; the dispensaries will also close at 12.30 on those days. So please plan ahead if prescriptions need to be collected.

All three dispensaries are facing many challenges at the moment with staffing, recruitment and medication suppliers. The practice is looking at additional roles within the department and at Kingsland they are trialling a counter assistant. A new dispenser started on 1 May.

The practice asks patients to be understanding during this difficult period.

Our next meeting is Thursday 3 July 2025

Gilly Lloyd 01568 780328 gillymi.lloyd@yahoo.com



### Yarpole Men's Shed

**Our Shed.** Building a shed from scratch is, as we have been finding out, a more complex project than you might think; after all, this is more of a substantial timber structure than just 'a shed'. There are discussions on design, size, materials and location, requiring quite a few meetings at the Gallery Café. It's just not possible to do all the necessary planning without tea, coffee and cake! Then there's the process of constructing The Shed which, as well as a lot of hard work in sometimes inclement weather, also involves a fair amount of 'Well, how are we going to do that?' conundrums. Eventually, with excellent teamwork, imaginative solutions, good natured banter and more tea and biscuits it all starts to come together.

As well as building our Shed, we also undertake other projects that support our local community. In the Yarpole Men's Shed we create opportunities to get together, share our knowledge, skills and experience and enjoy the companionship of the group.

If you're interested in The Men's Shed group, then get in touch at [yarpolshed@gmail.com](mailto:yarpolshed@gmail.com) and find out more about who we are and what we do.

Trevor Edwards

*See photos on page 24*

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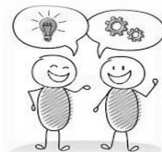
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## **YARPOLE PARISH GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME**

*Our mission: to provide the kind of  
practical assistance and support that a  
good neighbour would offer.*



**Yarpole Talk  
Community**

### **CAN THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME HELP YOU?**

Perhaps your garden needs an hour's attention, or you need help with a form, a little job around the house, or a lift to an appointment?

We'd love to help – give us a call .

**07885 525776**

**Thank you for your donations; they pay our expenses and keep us going.**

Anna Morley

## **WHAT'S ON AT 4Cs**

On 27 June we will, by popular demand, hold a coffee morning when all can truly appreciate the COMPANY, CHAT, COFFEE AND CAKE which make up our 4Cs name.

We are exploring several possibilities for July, one of which could be an outing. Let your preferences be made known to any one of our helpers, or to Val and Avis.

Val 780807 or [valainsworth006@gmail.com](mailto:valainsworth006@gmail.com), Avis 780874

Come along on the 4th Friday of each month and join in the fun. 11.00 in the Parish Hall. Need a lift? Contact us in advance.

## **MIOLI**

That is what we now use to abbreviate Move it or Lose it, as it saves on space!

It's happening every Monday and Tuesday. We can still squeeze one or two more into our Monday session, but anyone who has already attended may choose to come on either a Monday or a Tuesday in the Parish Hall at 11.00.

Our leader, Kath, brings something fresh to every session, and, besides the considerable health benefits, there is a lovely group enthusiasm by all participants, and lots of laughter. Not bad for £5.

Contact Kath: [kathproctor89@gmail.com](mailto:kathproctor89@gmail.com), or Val: on 780807 or [valainsworth006@gmail.com](mailto:valainsworth006@gmail.com)

Val Ainsworth



# ORLETON AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

## No Dig Gardening

On 29<sup>th</sup> April ODGC welcomed Stephanie Hafferty, a leading authority on 'no dig' gardening, who has grown her own produce for over thirty years and worked as a professional 'no dig' kitchen gardener and designer for over fifteen.

'No dig' is not a new concept, it has its roots in cultures across the globe but has gained more converts in the UK as our knowledge of soil increases. Initially it was thought that deep digging was required to aerate the soil, now it is realised that chopping and mixing soil layers destroys beneficial organisms such as mycorrhiza and also releases carbon into the atmosphere. Applying a thick mulch reduces the need to weed as digging brings weed seeds to the surface and an undisturbed soil sequesters carbon.

Stephanie moved to her present home four years ago and set about making her kitchen garden from an area of lawn. This was mown closely and covered with a layer of overlapping cardboard which was well watered and covered with a thick layer of compost. Bark paths were laid between the beds. A mulch is applied once annually.

Many materials make suitable mulches, depending on what is being grown. Vegetables benefit from well-rotted garden compost or farmyard manure from a source uncontaminated by harmful chemicals. 'Chop and drop' vegetation such as nettle and comfrey is suitable for more robust woody plants but would attract slugs to delicate seedlings. Green manure makes an easy and cheap mulch; mustard, buckwheat and phacelia will increase biodiversity and shade the soil as well as protecting against erosion. Intercropping with rapidly maturing crops such as spinach, salads and radishes increases what can be grown.

Stephanie has a greenhouse and a polytunnel so that she can harvest year round. Cloches and mini-greenhouses within the polytunnel provide a warmer micro-climate.

Clearly 'no dig' is a beneficial concept both to the soil and to gardeners' aching backs.

*Ghislaine Arundale*

Tuesday 24 June Catrina Felton presents a talk entitled

### **Grown in the Past, Sown in the Future.**

She is head of the The Heritage Seed Library at Ryton, Warwickshire. She will explain their important work and her role with heritage vegetables.

Orleton Village Hall. 7.15pm for 8pm start. Refreshments, Raffle and Plants for sale.

Non-members £2.50. Annual membership £15

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

## **STOP PRESS**

Croft Castle is hosting two mornings for prospective volunteers.

Friday 13 and Saturday 14 June at 11am - 1pm.

Free access to Croft after the sessions for those participating.

Refreshments provided.

For more information and to register: [rory.cooper@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:rory.cooper@nationaltrust.org.uk); 07977752069



**National  
Trust**



# THE CURIOUS GARDENER

## The Great Illusionist

Last month, while visiting a garden in North Yorkshire, we saw a plant that we used to grow years ago but haven't seen for ages. It used to be a great favourite of ours, with so much of interest: exquisite stems, magnificent foliage, astonishing flowers – and an unbelievable smell. It was *Dracunculus vulgaris*, the Dragon Arum.

Once seen, this plant isn't easily forgotten. It's a bulb that throws up a three-foot-high stem in spring, spotted and streaked with purple. The lobed leaves are 12" or more wide, and are strikingly splashed with silver. But it's the flower that will knock your socks off: a dark red spathe, anything up to 2'6" long, with an evil-looking, black, shiny spadix sticking up from the centre. The texture of the flower is like dark velvet, and the edges are slightly puckered.



The really interesting thing about it is its pollination method. It's pollinated by flies, and what do flies like best? Rotting meat, in which they can lay their eggs. So the Dragon Arum, as well as designing its flower to look like flesh, gives off the unbelievable stench of a corpse, attracting flies in great numbers. Amazingly, the plant completes the illusion by warming up the base of its flower, imitating the heat that accompanies putrefaction. The flies crawl down to the warm, stinking flower base hoping to lay their eggs. They don't find what they're looking for so they crawl out again and fly away, sadder and wiser flies, but while down there they pollinate the plant, which is what the illusion is all about.

It looks like something from a disturbing fairy story and the smell is something else. Although it's native to Greece, it's perfectly hardy in the UK. If you want a real talking point in the garden, you can buy bulbs from bulb merchants in the autumn. Just don't plant it too near a window!

Sue Russell



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# Bus News

Good news for Yarpole bus users, and in general for North Herefordshire passengers, as Sargeants Brothers have reinstated all the suspended bus services. This included missing buses on the **490** bus route between Leominster and Ludlow. This means Yarpole has 3 buses passing through on weekdays. 7.54 am and 9.34 am to Leominster and 3.01 pm towards Ludlow. (Other chances to board or alight from a bus at Bircher Turn are available!)

One of the most useful buses for a trip to Leominster is the **489** passing at 9.11 am and returning at 12 midday on Tuesdays and Fridays only. Bus passes can be used on this bus before 9.30.

**On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June we are planning a stroll round Leominster to appreciate the historic buildings travelling on the 489 and would love people to join us. Meet at 9.05 at St. Leonard's.**

Sadly only 13 people responded to Pete Lloyd's recent appeal for people to register their interest in using and hopefully improving Yarpole bus services. An older resident wrote him an email including the phrases "Are people so short sighted that they cannot see the value of a reliable bus service?" "Perhaps they are complacent about their health? You'd think that anyone of retirement age (most of Yarpole!) would have considered the possibility of not being able to use a car." I know of only about 8 people who use the buses regularly.

This is therefore a call for everyone to make an effort to occasionally use the bus services because with increased usage an argument could be made for routing more buses through Yarpole.

Timetables are on Sargeants website [www.sargeantsbros.com](http://www.sargeantsbros.com) or on [traveline.co.uk](http://traveline.co.uk)

Nancy Morgan and Pete Lloyd



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## News from the Leominster Area Branch

### Green Mapping

The Leominster branch of the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is actively involved with local application of the Government's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) which states that existing wildlife sites should be bigger, better, and more joined up!

*(Readers will remember that this was reported on in the April edition of The Parishoner, following the well-attended meeting in the parish hall on 27 March - Ed).*

We are starting to survey the green patches within the Leominster area and will feed in this information. We have already identified some small areas where we could help improve the habitat for plants, insects, birds and small mammals, and are in the process of seeking permissions from the landowners.

Do come and meet us in Corn Square for the Plant Fair on 24 May where we will be sharing a stall with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust; we can tell you more about our aims and you might be inspired to join in!

Diana Emes - Communications Secretary

[LeominsterAreaBranch@gmail.com](mailto:LeominsterAreaBranch@gmail.com)

As previously reported, you can view the map at [Herefordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy \(LNRS\) – Herefordshire Council](#) and add your own feedback, either through the website or you can email [NatureRecovery@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:NatureRecovery@herefordshire.gov.uk) - Ed

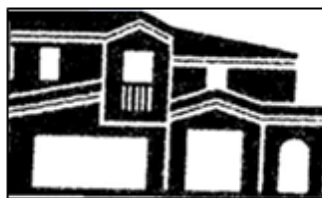


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# The Day I Nearly Died

‘Fancy coming for a sail?’ a friend asked, ‘across the Channel.’ It was something I’d never done, so of course yes. We’d already pootled around bits of the Cornish coast in his 25-foot yacht, but he had ambition. He had been to evening classes, studying for a Master’s Certificate, to prove that he knew all about winds, tides, navigation by the stars, and how to cook bacon and eggs on a tiny stove in choppy seas.

The exam vessel was a wooden ship around 70 feet long, more a galleon really, skippered by the teacher, who actually looked more like a pirate, but I suppose that comes with the territory. The group, about a dozen of us, set off from the Hamble, a stretch of water near Southampton, heading for Alderney in the Channel Islands: round the Isle of Wight, then straight across, can’t miss it.

We enjoyed a leisurely lunch on Alderney, interrupted only by the skipper suddenly saying ‘We’ve got to leave NOW, there’s a storm coming!’ So we did. The plan was to get back to the Hamble before bad weather moved in, and before dark; and as a plan, it had much to recommend it. The trouble was, we hadn’t even reached the IOW before the wind whipped up, waves followed suit, and we found ourselves in a Force 9 (severe gale), with wind and rain speeds of 50mph, a roiling menacing sea with 30 foot-high waves, and lots of terrifying noise we could have done without.

The thing with a sailing ship, you probably know, is to make sure that, in such conditions, all the sails are down, otherwise the ship will get blown over on its side. Unfortunately, the pirate who was running the show neglected to do this, so we very soon keeled over at a frightening angle and couldn’t make what you might call progress. And all the safety harnesses in the world would have been no use if you tried to haul in the heavy wet sails at this stage. By now it was getting dark.

At that point, someone shouted that a fire had broken out below deck. I ask you! My first thought, as a landlubber, was ‘Not a problem. The water will put the fire out. It’ll be fine.’ My second thought was ‘Aaaarrgh! What if it spreads and we all have to jump overboard into these mountainous, green, white-foamed waves that throw our stomachs up in the sky one moment and down into the depths the next?’ It didn’t spread, but it was some kind of electrical fire, which knocked out the electronic navigation and all the lights. So there was no way of steering the thing, and we couldn’t see where we were going in any case, except momentarily when the lightning flashed. The choice seemed to be to either just sink, or crash into the rocks and then sink.

As you may have guessed by now, I didn’t die, none of us did. The storm eventually moderated to Force 6 or 7, which seemed quite calm, and we tied up just before midnight. It had taken longer to get round the IOW than it had to sail the 85 miles from Alderney. The sailors were all late for work next day, but they all got their Certificates.

Jim Ainsworth



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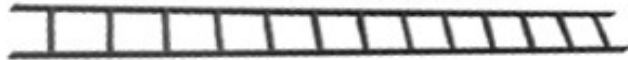
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## Those were the days....

A while ago, Audrey Bott kindly loaned me some back copies of the Yarpole Parish Newsletter, stretching back to 1992, coincidentally, the same time Gill and I first came to live in Herefordshire. I thought it might be interesting to have an occasional column in today's *Parishioner*, looking back to the early days of the newsletter, starting with the issue of 30 years ago. To put this in context, Tony Blair was prime minister at the time and *Unchained Melody*/White Cliffs of Dover by Robson and Jerome was number 1 in the charts.

The Newsletter for June 1995 opened with an adage:

*June damp and warm  
Does the farmer no harm*

There were congratulations to the oldest Parishioner, Marian Behr, of Bircher Common, who had celebrated her 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. After an early life of travel while in service, she moved first to Yarpole, to Dingleddale, opposite the Bell, and then back to Bircher where she lived with her son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Georgie Behr.

There was a coffee morning in aid of the Cobalt Unit Appeal Fund, presumably for a new scanner, while we were invited to venture to Lucton School to Watch the Zagreb Guitar Trio 'Direct from Croatia', and probably glad to escape from that war-ravaged region.

Amazingly, the Orleton and District Gardening Club was already thriving and hosting a Rose and Sweet Pea show. Judging was 'by members', and doubtless hotly contested.

There were excerpts from the funeral address of Albert Niblett, father of David, of Brook House Farm, while, on a happier note, the Yarpole WI were to take a coach excursion to Llangollen, with a combined boat and train trip, all for £7. The Yarpole Playgroup was fundraising through a cake stall in Leominster's Corn Square and a sports day was+ to be held in Eileen Thompson's garden, now divided between Ryelands and Oldfield.

The big fund-raising event of the month, however, was the St. Leonard's Country Fayre, held over two days from 17-18 June. The appeal was already out for gifts of plants, preserves, sweets and crafts. Several village gardens were to be opened and there were homemade teas and a raffle (of course!). Meanwhile, Richard Fletcher and Andrew Thompson were appealing for people to help maintain the churchyard. (Some things never change!)

Under 16s were encouraged to bring plants to the Eye Church flower festival, everyone taking part to receive a certificate. Those not involved could anyway enjoy the balloon race.

The newsletter closed with this final message from the Vicar, Jen Pollock: "May the Holy Spirit be among us and may it free us to love and serve one another in this place."

Yarpole 30 years ago, a caring, thriving, bustling community then, as now.

Paul Humphrey



Thanks to the following for their photos on this page:  
 Keith Smith - paeony & crab apple; Brian North - pink moon over Yarpole; Val Ainsworth -  
 wisteria in her garden; Avis Denny - rambling rector rose in her garden.

**Croft with Yarpole and Lucton**  
**Parish Church Services for June and July 2025**



Date	Service	Church	Time
<b>JUNE</b>			
Sun 1 June	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Croft	9:30
Wed 4 June	Be Still	Yarpole	17:30
Sun 8 June Pentecost	Holy Communion	Yarpole	9:30
Mon 9 June	Café Church	Yarpole	19:30
Sun 15 June	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Yarpole	8:30
	Celtic Evening Prayer	Yarpole	16:30
Sun 22 June	Non liturgical service	Yarpole	10:30
Mon 23 June	Café Church	Yarpole	19:30
Sun 29 June	Team service	The Priory	10:00
<b>JULY</b>			
Wed 2 July	Be Still	Yarpole	17:30
Sun 6 July	Group service - William's first administration of communion	Yarpole	10:30
Mon 7 July	Café Church	Yarpole	19:30
Sun 13 July	Holy Communion	Yarpole	9:30
Sun 20 July	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Yarpole	8:30
	Celtic Evening Prayer	Yarpole	16:30
Sun 27 July	Non liturgical service	Yarpole	10:30

*Anyone wishing to contact a priest please phone or email:*

Rev. Matthew Burns on 01568 614399, [teamvicarwest@jeominsterteam.org.uk](mailto:teamvicarwest@jeominsterteam.org.uk)

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