

www.orletonvillage.co.uk

ORLETON VILLAGE MAGAZINE



December 2025

How to be included in Orleton Village Magazine

This magazine will be published on the first day of each month on the Village Website:

www.orletonvillage.co.uk.

Notification of publication, together with a link, will be given on Nextdoor and Orleton Village Chat (Facebook)

Articles of general interest, club or association reports and advertisements for community events may be included without charge. Commercial advertisements are charged, dependent on size. (Rates available on request from: orletonmagazine@gmail.com)

Small private sale advertisements may be accepted without charge if space allows

All content is accepted at the discretion of the editorial team. Articles that are disrespectful or prejudicial will not be accepted.

Copy should be submitted as Word or PDF files. If hard copy is submitted there may be a charge for scanning and input.

All copy must be accompanied by the name, address and telephone number of the author, although this will not be included unless incorporated into the article. Articles for publication should be emailed to: orletonmagazine@gmail.com by the 20th of the month prior to desired publication

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Editorial

WOW! We were not expecting that!

Following the publication of the New Orleton Village Magazine, the daily "hit rate" on the Orleton Village Website increased by over 500%. This does not mean that this magazine is an instant hit, but it does show that there is considerable interest in what we are doing.

Hopefully, those who were curious to see what we are all about will be sufficiently satisfied with the content of the Orleton Village Magazine to follow-up the subsequent monthly issues.

We have tried to cover all Village activities, to let villagers, old and new, know what is going on, to promote our local clubs and societies

and other groups serving our Community. If we have left any out please let us know.

If you have views on the magazine please let us know. This is a new venture and we are learning as we go. Your comments, criticism and suggestions will be welcome.

We will be publishing the following content:

- Reports from local organisations.
- Free adverts for events open to the community.
- Paid adverts from local businesses
- Free private for sale adverts

The last two categories will be limited as we do not want to swamp the magazine with advertising. Our production costs are low so only a few select adverts from local services or sale items will be accepted each month

Folk at the Boot

Not just folk but all genres of music
Performers always welcome



It's always 2nd Thursday of the month at 8.00pm

Coffee Morning

Every Wednesday – Orleton Village Hall
10.30 – 12.00*

Pop along, meet your friends & make new ones too. Parents and Grandparents are welcome to join us, with toddlers. We have a small selection of toys for them to play with.

We have a good choice of freshly-baked homemade goodies including gluten & dairy free, all slices are currently only £1 each. Beverages including Fairtrade are £1 for a cuppa with a free refill.

*Please note that we do not open throughout August, and we have two weeks off during the Christmas holidays.

- Visiting Library – last Wednesday of the month
- A relaxed informal group with no membership fees.
- Foodbank box for local foodbank
- We make charitable donations to local groups



Are you a local group who would like to run a fundraising coffee morning? Please Contact our Chair Cathy Hardwick via email at cathy.hardwick@hotmail.co.uk

Orleton Evergreens

We had the pleasure of welcoming Nigel Gibbons as our speaker in October; he is a Blood Biker in the Shropshire, Staffordshire and Cheshire Blood Bikes (SSCBB) team. All the Blood Bikers are volunteers who have passed the Institute of Advanced Motorcyclist (IAM) test to ensure their safety on the road. Some of the bikes have names in memory of loved ones who have benefitted from this vital service.

The Blood Bikers provide a free urgent delivery service to hospitals, hospices, blood banks, milk banks and a range of NHS departments, carrying a variety of items from blood samples to medical notes, medicines, prescriptions, frozen breast milk and faecal matter. Sometimes they work in relays with other Blood Bike teams across the UK ensuring delivery is quick and efficient.

The SSCBB also have four cars which are used as back up, particularly when the temperature outside is less than two degrees.

Their running costs are all met by donations - £119k per year is needed just for the bikes.

As usual, Evergreens gave a donation to our speaker; we also raised an amazing £140 from personal donations.

Anyone in the 50+ age group is welcome to join us on the last Thursday in the month; our Christmas Lunch is on 11th December at The Fountain, Oldwood, Tenbury Wells, 12 for 12:30pm; menu choices and payment (£25 two courses, £29 three courses) by 1st December please.

For further information contact Sue Turner: 01584 831324, sue.a.turner@gmail.com



Contacts

Adopt a Footpath Group	Martin Bradford	emimart@hotmail.com	01568 780151
Allotments Assoc	Nick Ford		01584 875834
Art Group	Geoff Trotter	Geoffrey.a.trotter@gmail.com	
Caring for God' Little Acre	Barbara Mark		01568 780842
Church Wardens	Liz Mackay		07484 679671
	John Berry		01568 780321
Cubs	Lisa Davies		01584 831356
Dance Fit	Pauline Woodward		01568 780950
Doctors			01584 831300
Evergreens	Sue Turner		01584 831324
Gardening Club	Nick Russel		01568 780678
Good Neighbour Scheme			07467 535503
Herefordshire Councillor	Cllr. Dan Hurcomb	dan.hurcomb@herefordshire.gov.uk	07792 882147
Land Drainage Group	David Lane		01568 78036
Orleton Relief in Need	Barry Rogers		01584 831514
Orleton Junior Football Club	Mel Williams	cherry.brook@me.com	07511 920515
Orleton Todlers	Bethan Jenkins	bethan.i.edwards@hotmail.co.uk	07534 726222
Orleton Young Farmers Club	Bell Beaumont	orleyonyfc@hotmail.com	
Parish Council		clerk@orleton-pc.gov.uk	
Pre-School	Tara Morris		01568 780143
Primary School			01568 780366
Primary School PTA	Nicola Goodman	nicolagoodman1989@gmail.com	
Rainbows	Carly Morgan		07788 236628
Recreation Association	Graham Shaw		01568 780783
Village Hall		bookings@orletonvillage.co.uk	01568 780583
WI	Sue Copson		01568 780956

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now!

The Calendar, featuring the winning entries from the Village Photographic Competition is now in production and will be available at a cost of £6.50.

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Orleton Village
WHAT'S ON

Join in with
village life at
Orleton
Village Hall!

COMING UP... (All events are in Orleton Village Hall unless stated otherwise)

Saturday 6th December – Stars & Angels Festival 11am-4pm – St Georges Church (See poster for details)
Tuesday 9th December – Quiz Night 8.00pm at Orleton Village Hall 8pm - £2 entry plus Raffle

Dates for your diary...

Saturday 7th March – Ludlow Concert Band return to the Village Hall

The REGULARS Monday – Thursday ...

- Orleton Toddlers** Every Monday morning 10-11:45am
Contact: Bethan 07534 726222 or Charlotte 07964 981036
- Orleton WI** 2nd Monday of the month, October to March at 2:30pm
Contact: Sue Copson susancopson934@gmail.com
- Tai Chi** Every Tuesday 10:15-11:15am Contact: Rose
- Bowling Club** Every Tuesday at 2pm
Contact: Sue Copson susancopson934@gmail.net
- Rainbows** Every Tuesday in term time 4:30-5:30pm
Contact Kaye Harrison kayemharrison@yahoo.co.uk
- Gardening Club** Last Tuesday of the month 7:30-9:30pm
Contact: Monica 01568 613361 orletongc@hotmail.co.uk
- Yoga** Every Tuesday evening 6:30-7:30pm (Commences again in September)
Contact Rosie 07834 851656
- Coffee Morning** Every Wednesday at 10:30am-12:00 (Closed in August)
Contact: Cathy Hardwick cathy.hardwick@hotmail.co.uk
- Library** Last Wednesday of the month at Coffee Morning 10:30-11:45am
Contact: Sue Rogers 01584 831514
- Sequence Dancing** 3rd Wednesday of the month – 2-3pm
Contact: Amy Whitby amyelwynwhitby@gmail.com
- Evergreens** Last Thursday of the month – 2-4pm
Contact: Sue Turner sue.a.turner@gmail.com
- Craft Group** 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month 1:30-4:30pm (No sessions in August)
Contact Sue Turner 01584 831324 sue.a.turner@gmail.com
- Table Tennis** Every Thursday at 7:30pm
Contact: Geoff Lewin geoffnlewin@gmail.com

Hall available for private bookings

Contact Barry Gandy 01568 780583 or bookings@orletonvillage.co.uk

To include your event or amend an entry in the Dairy,

Please Email orletonhandmade@gmail.com by the 12th of the month

All entries are, as far as we know, correct at the time of going to print.

Charity

Quiz
NIGHT

TUESDAY 9TH DECEMBER

AT 8.00PM

IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Hosted by

DAN HURCOMB

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ENTRY £2 PLUS RAFFLE

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Orleton Craft Group



This was our amazing stall at the Handmade & Gift Fair on 15th November, such a variety of items, all original and handmade.

Our Craft Group lunch will be in January, date and venue to be confirmed; we usually meet on the first and third Thursday afternoons at Orleton Village Small Hall, although we only meet the once in December on the 4th, 1:30 to 4:30 and in January 2026 there is a slight change - we will meet on 8th & 22nd.

Visitors are always assured of a warm welcome. Come and join us with your chosen craft and enjoy tea, cake and a chat along the way.

Further information contact:
sue.a.turner@gmail.com 07840 023856

Orleton WI

Orleton WI meets on the second Monday of every month (except August) in Orleton Village Hall –

2:30pm in Autumn and Winter,

7:30pm in Spring and Summer.

Visitors are always welcome.

Our speakers cover a wide range of topics; and our future programme includes a hands on decoupage workshop led by our President Sue Copson; a talk with Amy Johnson from St Michael's Hospice.

Our AGM in April will include a local cheese and wine tasting.



In November Orleton WI provided refreshments at the Handmade & Gift Fair, and we are also taking part in the Stars & Angels event at the Church in December. We are very much part of the community!

If you would like further information, please contact our President, Sue Copson on 01568 780956 or susancopson934@gmail.com

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Safer Neighbourhood Team

Leominster Safer Neighbourhood team have had a busy few weeks, not only with community events and surgeries, but also with incidents happening on our patch.

We carried out a joint operation with animal welfare and community protection officers from Herefordshire council, stopping agricultural and livestock vehicles to check vehicle and animal documentation. We also looked in vans and picks ups for any rogue trader evidence, such as unlicensed waste or stolen tools etc. We also spoke to a couple of drivers about unsafe loads. We have also carried out a partnership operation with immigration, Hereford and Worcester Fire Service and licensing officers from

Herefordshire Council. The details of this operation will be published by our corporate communications team in due course, but I can say it was successful.

Crime prevention. As we are entering the winter months, make sure you leave a light on when leaving the property in the hours of darkness. A small timer switch is only a couple of pounds from the internet. If you are going to be away from the property, ask a friend or neighbour to keep an eye on it for you.

If you see anything suspicious please contact 999/101.

If you have any questions or queries for Leominster Safer Neighbourhood team, please contact us at leominster.snt@westmercia.police.uk



Boot Inn

Traditional 16th Century timbered inn, now owned by the local Orleton Community.

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- a fine dining menu using the best seasonal produce in its atmospheric beamed dining room
- a wide selection of wines
- a range of real ales, ciders and craft gins and other spirits

Large Beer Garden with Pergolas

Large Car Park at rear

Reservations: 01568 780228

Orleton Short Mat Bowling Club

Why not come and join us on Tuesday afternoons 2.00 – 4.00 pm at Orleton Village Hall from September through to April. We are a small group meeting each week for a friendly game and the opportunity to socialize.

Everyone is welcome, whether you have played before or would like to learn please come along support us and the Village Hall. We have lots of space available, unfortunately numbers have dwindled this season and we really do wish to keep this group open

If you think you might be interested please come along and see what the game is all about. We operate on a pay as you go basis, two games during the afternoon with a refreshment break half way.

For any further information please contact:

David or Sue Copson 01568 780956
susancopson934@gmail.com

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- COSTS ARE VERY MODEST AND MUCH MORE REASONABLE THAN COMMERCIAL VENUES.
- YOU CAN CHOOSE YOUR OWN CATERER TO USE OUR EXCEPTIONAL KITCHEN AND YOUR OWN BAR PROVIDER.



Orleton

Stars & Angels Festival



Back by popular demand

Saturday 6 December

11am-4pm (free entry*)

St George's Church, Orleton

Craft activities for all ages

Beautiful decorations

Lego Christmas Village

Visit Santa's Grotto

Enjoy delicious refreshments

(soup, rolls, mince pies, apple pies, gingerbread, warm drinks)

*Donations welcome; charges for Grotto and refreshments

Brought to you by Orleton Village Hall, Orleton Recreation Association and St George's Church. Enquiries welcome in the Village Shop

Orleton Charity Quiz Nights

December 9th	Village Hall	April 14th	Maidenhead
January 13th	Maidenhead	May 12th	Boot Inn
February 10th	Boot Inn	June 9th	Village Hall
March 10th	Village Hall		

All proceeds go to support local organisations in Orleton Village or recognised National Charities.
Special Event: John Robbins Memorial Quiz at Orleton Village Hall on a Saturday evening. Watch for the date!

Teams of up to six members. 7.30 for a 8.00pm start
Pre-booking of tables at:
the Boot (01568 780228) and the Maidenhead (01584 831686)

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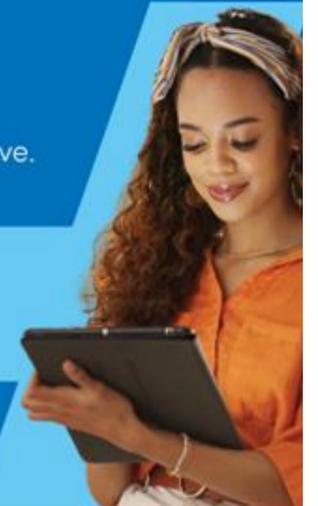
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Report from your County Councillor Dan Hurcomb

I am glad to report that after expressing my frustrations for two and a half years over the state of the road markings on the B4362 / B4361 between Mortimers Cross and the A49, the Council has finally agreed to repaint those areas which were not resurfaced this year. As part of this they have also agreed to resurface 250m from Mortimers Cross Junction back towards Lucton. I have challenged them to go further and at the very least undertake patching works on the worst bits before you reach the turn to Lucton. I am pleased to say they have agreed to increase the scope of the works to include some of the area proposed. The work is due to start on the 24th November so by the time you read this it may well have been completed.

In last months column I wrote about the financial situation Herefordshire Council was facing due to the government funding review and rising demand for temporary accommodation and adult social care services (amongst other things). The chancellor's budget at the end of November and the publication of the Draft Local Government Finance Settlement in December will bring greater clarity to the situation and I will of course update you in the next edition of this Magazine.

In May 2026 I will have been your ward councillor for three years. Over that time we have made significant progress on the local highway network (and yes there will always be more to do!), road safety and flooding. On that score, I am pleased that further improvements to the B4361 / Ashley Moor Junction are planned in the new year with

reprofiling of the verge and a relocation of the BT pole currently planned. I can also report that the flood alleviation proposals continue to gain momentum and I thank those local landowners and residents who are supporting this activity.

Finally, I was unable to attend the Remembrance Sunday service in Orleton as I was attending the service in Kingsland instead. It is important that we continue to recognise and remember the sacrifice of so many for the freedoms we currently enjoy. On a related note, thanks are due to the Parish Council for ensuring the village was tidied and swept prior to Remembrance Sunday.

As always if you have any concerns, issues or would just like a chat then please do get in touch. It only remains to say, Merry Christmas and to wish you and yours a happy and prosperous new year.

Dan Hurcomb

dan.hurcomb@herefordshire.gov.uk
07837726821



The Good Neighbour Scheme supports our community using a team of volunteers to help people who are experiencing difficulty in their own homes essentially, by just doing things that good neighbours do for each other.

Orleton Good Neighbour Scheme

Examples of how the scheme can help:

- Fetching prescriptions
- Occasional lifts to the surgery or hospital
- Shopping and running errands, such as posting a letter.
- Practical tasks around the home, such as changing a light bulb or hanging a picture

Contact Number 07467 535503



Family Services



All in St George's Church:

December

14 December, 3pm (Christingle)

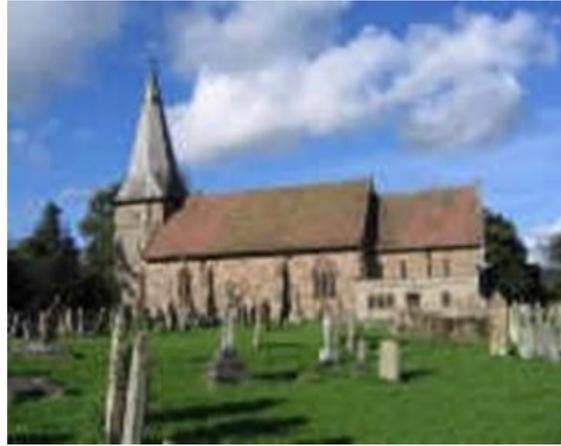
24 December, 3pm (Crib Service)

January

11 January, 3pm (Meet the Kings and have a New Year's Party with music & games)

Orleton Church & Chapel News

Unsurprisingly, Christmas is a busy time of year for St George's and the Place-holder for picture Barry has to include Chapel. Our Christmas services can be found below. All are very welcome to come to any or all of them. We are also delighted to once again be working with the Recreation Association and Village Hall on the return of the Stars & Angels Festival, on 6th December at St George's, 11am-4pm. Come along to see beautiful displays, try out a range of crafts, visit Santa, and see a Lego Christmas village. Our other Christmas social event is an event being put on jointly by the Orleton History Group and the St George's Community Association: on Saturday 13th December at 7.30pm in St George's, we explore: From Mince Meat to Mincied Meat: sample mince pies made using recipes from across the centuries, alongside some of the choicest wines of the age! Tickets



need to be bought in advance from the Village Shop - £5 up to 8th December, and £8 from 9th December onwards. Updates on our other activities, including a report on the Remembrance services, an update on our Family Services, the Orleton History Group, Singing for Fun, Caring for God's Acre, food bank donations, and the 100 Club winners, can be found in our full newsletter, at: <https://stgeorgesorleton.org.uk/news/news>, and click on 'Church & Chapel News'.

December 2025 Services & Times at St George's & Chapel

There will be no Prayer Meetings during December. They will resume on Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 4.30pm

Date	Time	Location	Service	Readings
Sunday 7th December 2 nd Sunday of Advent	9.30am	St George's	BCP Holy Communion	Isaiah 11.1-10 Romans 15.4-13 Matthew 3.1-12
Sunday 14th December 3 rd Sunday of Advent	10.30am	Chapel	Chapel Service	Isaiah 35.1-10 James 5.7-10 Matthew 11.2-11
	3pm	St George's	Christingle	
Sunday 21st December 4 th Sunday of Advent	6pm	St George's	Carols by Candlelight	Isaiah 9.1-6 Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-14
Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve	3pm	St George's	Crib Service	
	11.30pm	St George's	Midnight Mass/Communion	
Thursday 25th December Christmas Day	10am	Chapel	A celebration of Christmas	Isaiah 9.2-7 Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-14[15-20]
Sunday 28th December 1 st Sunday of Christmas	10.30am	Chapel	Chapel Service	Isaiah 63.7-9 Hebrews 2.10-18 Matthew 2.13-23

Further information

For further information about Church, Chapel, services or activities, or if you would like to get involved either socially or as a member of the congregation then please contact:
Matthew Burns (Vicar, St George's): 01568 614399,
teamvicarwest@leominsterteam.org.uk

Rev Denise Hargreaves (Methodist Minister):
01584 318628, dkah26@gmail.com, Ludlow Church
Office 01584 879233
Also, why not check out the St George's website: <https://stgeorgesorleton.org.uk/>

ORLETON FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS

For those of you who live around Orleton you will have seen our handiwork...the refurbished red telephone box, the refurbished street signs, the galvanised fully opening pedestrian gates that we've fitted on a lot of our local footpaths to make it easier to get out and about.

We're a group of volunteers male female from a variety of backgrounds who enjoy being out in our lovely countryside, doing practical stuff, and having fun while we are doing it.

We all help each other and are learning new skills as we go.

We got going in 2023 and have undertaken repairs and replacements of stiles, of fingerpost direction markers, field waymarkers, clearing of overgrowth, installed flights of wooden step plus the refurbished the red phone box and street signs.

We have done this work in over 40 different locations mostly in and around Orleton.

Our main time is spent looking after Public Rights of Way which are the field footpaths and bridleways.

If any ladies or gentlemen fancy joining us/seeing what we do please get in touch with Martin Bradford at emlmart@hotmail.com



Motorhomes to return for the New Year

Members of the Van Club whose Rally was held in Orleton last June, are to return to see in the New Year at Orleton Village Hall.

Club Secretary, Christa, commented that members had received a warm reception in our Village Shop and two pubs, and even had residents greet them as they walked through the village. Their visit had been most enjoyable as they felt welcomed.

They had found Orleton most attractive with its ancient church and black and white buildings. The bus service to Leominster and Ludlow enabled them to leave their vehicles on site and visit these towns.

Orleton was an ideal location and they have already made a reservation for next May.



Photo below: June's Country & Western Night in Orleton Village Hall



PIZZA AND GAMES

FRIDAY

12 DECEMBER 6-8PM

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The waiting is over

The 2026 Orleton Calendar has arrived

£6-50 each
or
5 for £30-00

Orleton Christmas Services

Join us to celebrate a traditional Christmas

14th December, 3pm: Christingle & Family Service, St George's

21st December, 6pm: Carols by Candlelight, St George's

24th December, 3pm: Crib Service, St George's

24th December, 11.30pm: Midnight Mass/Communion, St George's

25th December, 10am: Christmas Celebration, Chapel

1st January, 3pm: Meet the Kings & Family Service



Giving Thanks for the Birth of a Baby

This is the season to be thankful for the birth of children! As we celebrate Jesus's birth, it is a good time to ask the question: would you like to give thanks for the birth of a baby in your family, without the commitment of Baptism.

This is something that we can offer at St George's.

On 9th November, we were delighted to celebrate our first Thanksgiving Service for the birth of a baby. It was a lovely occasion, enjoyed by all.

If you're interested in a Thanksgiving Service for the Birth of a Baby in your family, please get in touch at: orletonstgeorges@gmail.com

Let's Beat the Scammers

Reports of Courier Fraud incidents continue to be prevalent in our region and the public need to be aware of this method used by Fraudsters to defraud their victims. Courier Fraud occurs when a fraudster contacts victims by telephone usually claiming to be a police officer, bank official or other law enforcement official. The caller may also be able to confirm some easily obtainable basic details about the victim such as their full name and address. The caller will try and build up trust with the potential victim before proceeding. Their aim is to get the victim to reveal their PIN, credit or debit card and /or bank details, and more than often will target the elderly as potential victims.

There are reports of a resurgence in WhatsApp scam messages, which contain dodgy links that lead to malware being downloaded onto your device. It begins with a WhatsApp message promoting a sham version of the messaging service called 'WhatsApp Gold,' which has special features that can be unlocked by clicking a link. This link will lead to malware being downloaded to your device. Another version of this scam features a message which warns of a video called 'Martinelli' installing malware to your device if opened. However, there is no evidence that this video exists. You can report a WhatsApp message by selecting it in your conversation and tapping 'report'. To report the sender on WhatsApp, open up the chat, tap on the sender's contact details and select 'block and report'. Whether it's the 'Hi Mum and Dad' scam, fake job offers or even an account takeover scam, WhatsApp also enables people to call contacts and use video, audio and images in messages. These features are sometimes exploited by fraudsters who impersonate brands, friends and family members in convincing scam messages in an attempt to con you out of your money. If you haven't done so already, add an extra layer of security to your WhatsApp by setting up two step verification (2SV).

FAKE GIVEAWAY SCAM MESSAGES

A scam message impersonating M&S offering vouchers and free products regularly circulate on WhatsApp. They typically take you to a malicious website and ask you to complete a survey before attempting to gain your personal and financial information to 'post your prize'. The messages often also ask you to reshare the message to a number of your WhatsApp contacts, to keep the scam spreading.

Tip: never trust an offer that is too good to be true and avoid clicking on links in text messages.

Exclusive Groups can also be scammed. Fraudsters have exploited WhatsApp's ability to allow you to create groups featuring up to 1024 members to groom potential victims into scams. Dodgy investment scam adverts lead to WhatsApp groups where you're given free 'stock trading advice' for weeks before being asked to pay for this guidance. Action Fraud has warned of the use of WhatsApp groups by fraudsters. This is through scammers infiltrating existing groups by calling a member of the group pretending to be a genuine member themselves using a fake profile picture. During the call, the scammer will say that they're sending over a one-time passcode to allow them to join an upcoming video call for group members. After this, the fraudster will ask them to share this passcode so they can be 'registered' for the video call. However, if the scammers are given this code, they'll be able to take over the victim's account to impersonate them and scam other members of the group.

Tip: there are lots of ways someone could have got your number to add you to an 'exclusive' group, this doesn't mean their intentions are genuine and you should be wary of any unsolicited messages.

Finally if you have fallen for fraud. Report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via actionfraud.police.uk

Stay Alert, Be Aware,
Protect your money.

Mortimer Medical Practice

Total Triage

The introduction of Anima online consultation and the move to Total Triage has been a major change in how the Practice operates. As expected, there have been a few teething problems, but the system seems to be settling in well. The Practice has received many positive comments and helpful feedback, which is being used to continue improving the service.

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) has been working hard to provide ongoing support during the transitional period, and thanks are also due to the Friends of Mortimer Medical Practice Charity for funding the iPads now available in each surgery. These iPads can be used by patients to fill in their Anima forms, with assistance from the Reception Team if needed.

Practice News

This month, the Practice bids a fond farewell to Dr Verity Jones (Oloro) and Mrs Jackie Hodnett, who is retiring after an incredible 34 years of service at the Practice. We wish them both every success and happiness in their next adventures. At the same time, the Practice is delighted to welcome several new members to the team: Sharon and Amanda in Dispensary, as well as Kim, Raighan and Millie on Reception.

Building Work

Building work is currently underway at the Kingsland surgery to create a new consultation room. As the Practice continues to grow, this expansion will help meet increasing demand and continue providing high-quality care for patients.

Practice Training Afternoons

Please note that the Practice and Dispensaries will be closed from 12:00pm on the following afternoons in 2026 for essential and mandatory staff training:

- Wednesday 14 January 2026
- Thursday 16 April 2026
- Tuesday 14 July 2026
- Wednesday 14 October 2026

For urgent care during these times, please call Reception on 01568 708214 before 6:30pm. After 6:30pm until 8:00am the next morning, call NHS 111 for medical advice or assistance.

Flu and COVID Vaccinations



It's not too late to book your flu and COVID vaccinations. Please call Reception on 01568 708214 to make an appointment and stay safe and well this winter.

The next PPG meeting is on January 21, 2026. In the meantime, if you have any issues or concerns, please contact Kate Best on 07740 177370 or Sue Plant on 01584 831105.



Meet the Kings
Family Service & Party Tea
3pm Sunday 11th January
St George's Church
Join us as we continue the Christmas story as the kings travel to the stable
Followed by a party tea



From Minced Meat to Mincemeat
Saturday 13th December, 7.30pm
St George's Church

Sample a range of mince pies from across the ages
Alongside some of the choicest wines of the age!

To allow us to cater (and purchase wines) for appropriate numbers, this is a ticketed event.

Tickets £5 if purchased by Sunday 8th December from the Village Shop. £8 if purchased on 9th December or later.

Brought to you by St George's Community Association and Orleton History Group



Orleton Village Shop & Post Office

	Shop	Post Office
Mon- Fri	0745-1800	0745-1800
Sat	0830-1230	0830-1230
Sun	0830-1230	Closed

Whenever possible stock is sourced from local suppliers and below is a small selection;

- Tudge's bacon and sausages and hams (from Richard's Castle)
- Locally made cheeses, cakes and bread
- Variety of wines, beer and spirits
- Sweets, newspapers, magazines and local information
- Fresh fruit and vegetables
- Pet food
- Cards and stationery
- Amazon and Evri collection and drop-off
- Plants
- The shop also stocks all the household basics and a good range of Fairtrade and eco-friendly products.

Post office services include;

- Personal Banking
- Foreign Currency Exchange
- Pensions and Allowances and much more

Debbie Gates

07966 061205

Professional Painting & Decorating

Interior & Exterior Airless Spraying

Foundations
Site clearance

Excavations
Concrete work

Edward Royle

JCB Hire

All types of groundwork

Small jobs undertaken

01584 831418
07890 136426

Concrete breaking
Drainage/Septic tanks Driveways/pools

Orleton History Group Update

Our October event on the History of (Parish) Church Music was a fascinating exploration of the history of music in the Parish Church. Did you know that churches had organs before the Reformation, and that most then lost them and didn't regain them until the Victorian period? Read our detailed report on the History Group pages at www.stgeorgesorleton.org.uk. Our November talk on 900 Years of Faith has yet to take place as I write. You can also find our series of studies into the lives of the men named on the War Memorial, either in folders in the Church or at the History Group pages on the website: www.stgeorgesorleton.org.uk. Our upcoming talks & events are below. The talks are all free, donations invited for refreshments & heating.

Saturday 13th December, 7.30pm, St George's Church: From Minced Meat to Mincemeat, the strange story of the mince pie, accompanied with Christmas wines from across the ages: sample a range of mince pies from across the ages, starting with the original savoury minced meat pies and ending with our current sweet pies; all washed down with some of the choicest wines of the age! To allow us to cater (and purchase wines) for appropriate numbers, this is a ticketed event. Tickets £5 if purchased by Sunday 8th

December from the Village Shop. £8 if purchased on 9th December or later.

Saturday 24th January, 2.30pm, St George's Church: Bitten by Pigs and Struck by Lightning: How Coroners' Rolls can Expand our Knowledge of Life in the Late Middle Ages' The role of the Coroner was introduced in England in 1194, and it was his role to investigate all deaths that occurred in unusual or suspicious circumstances, as well as any deaths that occurred in prison. These investigations or 'inquests' were recorded, and a considerable number still survive. The description of each death provides a snapshot of how people were living at that time, offering a rare insight into life in the Late Middle Ages.

Saturday 28th February, 2.30pm, St George's Church: "Bongs in the Belfry": How St George's bell keeps us on time, hour by hour. Terry Tandler, with Len Vidler, will tell us the fascinating story of St George's bells.

You can also read reports on previous talks at the history group page at: www.stgeorgesorleton.org.uk (and then click on 'Orleton History Group').

If you would like further information about the group, please contact Liz Mackay on

e.e.mackay@gmail.com, or 07484 679671.

Antique & Fine Art Auctioneers

The leading Antique Auctioneers in Herefordshire and the Welsh Borders. Specialising in Jewellery, Silver, Oriental Ceramics & Art, Fine Paintings, Prints & Maps, Clocks & Barometers, Rugs, Furniture, Taxidermy & Natural History, Medals & Militaria, Model Railways, Collector's Models, Tribal Art & Antiquarian Books.

Why not give us a call for a free valuation on 01568 600929

Orleton Young Farmer's Club

Orleton Young Farmers' Club is delighted to share an update on a vibrant and eventful few months, marked by new leadership, successful competitions, growing membership, and strong community spirit.

New Committee Appointed at September AGM

September saw the club begin its new year with the Annual General Meeting, where a fresh committee was elected.

- **Chairman:** Bell Beaumont
- **President:** Jonathan Crofts
- **Secretaries:** Alisha & Jess Davidson

The club extends thanks to outgoing committee members and looks forward to an exciting year ahead under the new leadership.

Ploughing Match Success

Also in September, members took part in the annual Ploughing Match. The day brought good competitions, a few prize cards making their way back to Orleton YFC, and even some ploughing managed to take place! The event was enjoyed by all and highlighted the club's continued enthusiasm for traditional agricultural skills.

October: New Members and Club Competitions

October kicked off with a lively New Members' Evening, a fun-filled event that welcomed six new members into the club. It was a fantastic opportunity for potential members to meet the team and get a taste of what Young Farmers is all about. The club was also proud to have juniors taking part in the Junior Quiz competition, showing great enthusiasm and strong entries from our younger members.

Rounding off the month, members embraced the Halloween spirit with a pumpkin carving night. The creativity on display was outstanding, with some truly impressive and imaginative artworks produced.

November Bonfire Draws 1,400 Visitors and Supports Local Causes

November brought the club's biggest event of the year - the Orleton Bonfire Night, held in the centre of the village. An incredible 1,400 people attended, making it one of our most successful bonfire celebrations to date.



Generosity from the community allowed Orleton YFC to support several local charities and groups. Donations included:

£250 to *Luctonians Charity Group Food Bank Collection*

£500 to *Orleton and District Junior Football Club*

£500 to *Orleton Recreation Association*

The club extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped, attended, or supported the event in any way.

Looking Ahead

Orleton YFC is excited for the festive season and winter months ahead. In late November, members will once again have organised the Christmas Light-Up Tractor Run, proudly helping to kick off the Ludlow Christmas Light Switch-On. This popular event always brings festive cheer and showcases the club's creativity and community spirit: In December, members will be rolling up their sleeves for an important environmental project: planting a new hedge on the recreation ground in Orleton, beside the bonfire field. This will support local wildlife, enhance the area, and leave a lasting positive impact on the village.

With such a strong start to the year, Orleton YFC remains committed to providing opportunities for young people in the community to learn new skills, build friendships, and support local causes.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Orleton YFC through our social channels or speak to any committee member.

ORLETON AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB



STONE SOUP

On 28th October ODGC welcomed back Kevin Alviti. No stranger to the club Kevin lives on a five acre smallholding with his wife and three children. He has fifty two vegetable beds, an orchard and coppice and keeps chickens and bees. He is a carpenter and craftsman, a scoutmaster and contributes articles to woodworking magazines as well as giving gardening talks.

Following time honoured tradition Kevin began with 'Once upon a time...' recounting the story of an old man who, arriving in a village at nightfall, told the locals that he was going to make stone soup for supper. Drawing a silk purse from his pocket he slipped a stone from it into a pan of boiling water. Intrigued the villagers gathered round and each was gently persuaded to contribute an ingredient to add to the pot thus creating a delicious soup. The moral being that the magic ingredient was not the stone but the communal effort and variety of ingredients.

Modern diet is largely derived from thirty or so ingredients available in supermarkets. Kevin showed us that we can make tasty and nutritious meals from plants from our own gardens which otherwise would be composted. He makes a delicious soup from young nettle leaves in Spring and stock from the pods of broad beans and peas. Broad bean tops are steamed and served with butter.

Butter makes ingredients go a long way and is good with wild garlic. Kevin makes a tasty supper from tomato leaf pesto, crushed garlic, olive oil, cider vinegar, toasted salted peanuts and crispy bacon served with pasta. Pea tendrils and leaves are good in salads. Soup can be made from the leaves,



growing tips and blossoms of squash cooked with garlic, basil, mushrooms and crispy pork fat.

Elderflower blossoms coated in a light tempura batter and cooked in butter make a delicious pudding dredged with icing sugar. The early leaves of blackcurrants are used to make cordial and herbal teas can be made from the leaves of Sweet Cicely, nettle and mint. Haws are stewed then sieved and mixed with fifty percent of apples to make a fruit leather. Windfall apples are cooked to provide pectin and unripe plums are combined with sugar to make cheong.

Adding the proviso that correct plant identification is crucial Kevin demonstrated that with a little ingenuity, instead of a stone, tasty and unusual meals can be made to enliven the modern diet.

Ghislaine Arundale

There will be no talk during December. Club members who have booked are looking forwards to their their annual Christmas meal at The Riverside Aymestrey on December 9th. Details of the 2026 programme will be posted on our website in due course.

www.orletongardeningclub.co.uk

Doors open 7.15pm for 8pm start. Non-members welcome at £2.50 per person which includes tea or coffee.

Annual Membership £15.0

www.orletongardeningclub.co.uk