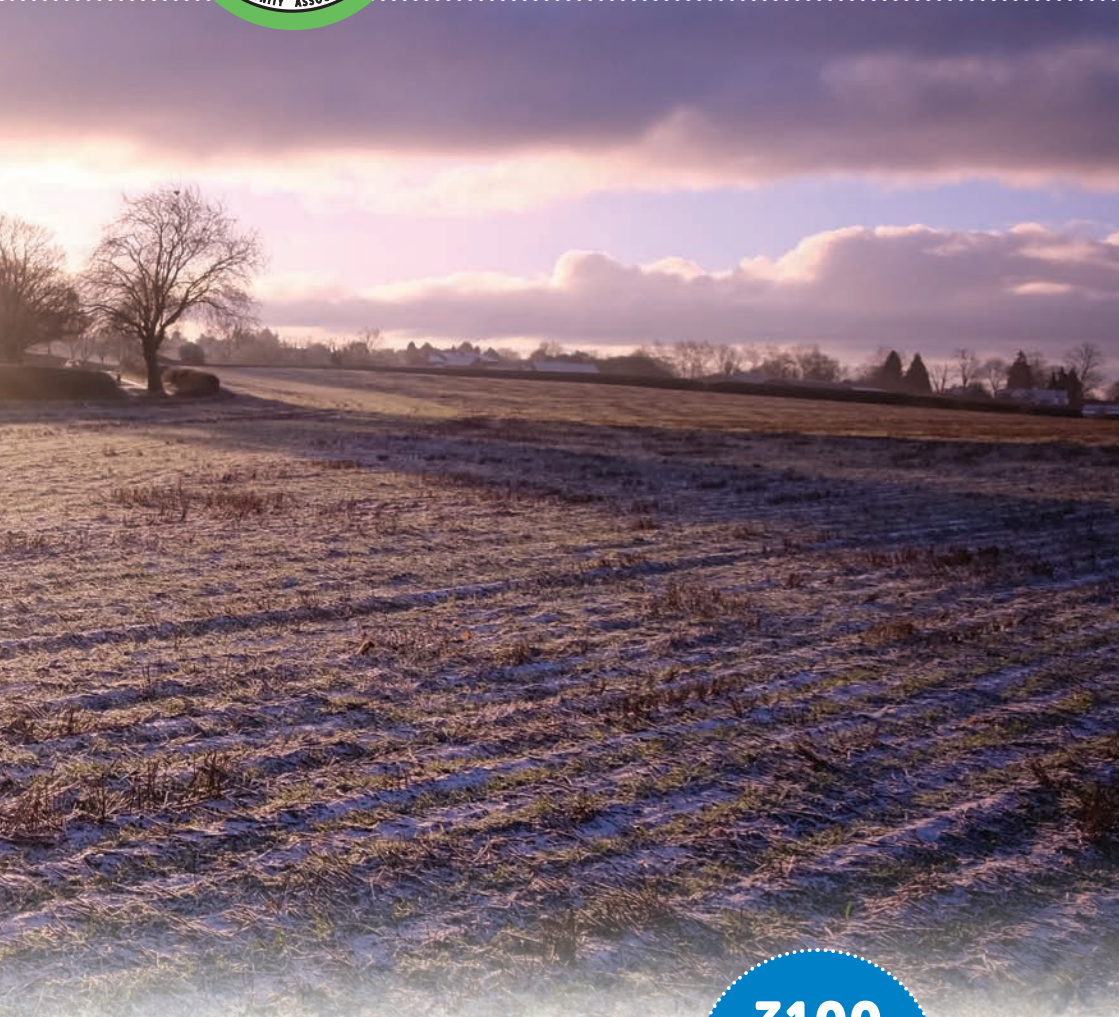




HAGLEY

JAN 2025

VILLAGE NEWS



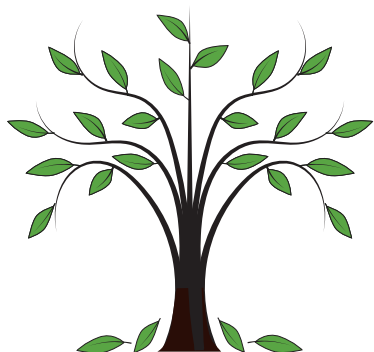
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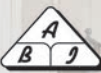
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Happy New Year!

Welcome to 2025! And to celebrate January and the start of this new year we have a very atmospheric wintry photo featuring on our cover. Many thanks to Aaron for sending us this stunning shot

So first and foremost we'd just like to quickly remind you that the HCA's AGM will be held this month - please see page 6 for more details and do pop along if you can.

We have an interesting report from the Royal British Legion bringing us up to date with the results of 2024 Poppy Appeal. Head over to page 29 to read more about this and to find out who the winners of the Poppy Window Dressing Competition were.

Now here's one for you - if you love beautiful big greyhounds then we strongly recommend that you read Home Run Hounds' latest article on page 32. Handsome Hughie is a gorgeous six year old chap with a strong penchant for puppucinos and car windows and guess what? Yep - he's looking for a loving home!

Hagley Library have available the dates for this years Healthy Walking Group. And also some information about Active Tots - a fun group for 2-4 year olds. Details of these along with the many other valuable services provided by our lovely library can be found on page 38

We have an appeal on behalf of Hagley Helpline - a voluntary organisation in the community which helps get Hagley residents to medical appointments. They really could use some more volunteer drivers to enable this service to continue - so if you think you could spare a little time to help out every so often then please see page 8 for more details of how to go about it.

As we head into 2025 we'd like to wish you a good year ahead and as always we'll keep you updated each month with what's happening here in Hagley and also our neighbouring communities. Take care folks and we'll catch up again with you all in February.

Alison Akers Editor

*Cover photo courtesy of **Aaron Ackling***

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COMMUNITY CENTRE TIMETABLE 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ACTIVE SENIORS Happy Hearts 9.30-10.30am			LITTLE TREASURES 10.00-11.30am	PILATES WITH YASMIN 9.45am (Female Fit) 10.30am (Mummy & Me)	HAGLEY MARKET Last Saturday in the month 9.00-1.00pm
ACTIVE SENIORS Strength & Balance 11.15-12.15pm	ACTIVE SENIORS Strength & Balance 1.20-2.20pm 2.45-3.45pm		ACTIVE SENIORS Strength & Balance 2.45-3.45pm	WEST GLEN HTM DOG TRAINING 2.00pm	
	ACTIVE SENIORS Tai Chi & Qigong 4.15-5.15pm		ACTIVE SENIORS Tai Chi & Qigong 4.15-5.15pm		
ART CLUB 2nd Monday of each month 7.30pm	MC PAWS DOG TRAINING 7.00pm	GLOWING MAMAS 7.00pm	VERVE TAEKWONDO 7.00pm	DECLAN DOUBLE Martial Arts 7.00pm	

Active Seniors: 07512 546480 MC Paws: 01562 633045
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HAGLEY HISTORICAL AND FIELD SOCIETY

On 7th of January, we welcome Phil Downing presenting 'Harvington Hall: Discover the House of Secrets'. Only 6 miles from Hagley, Harvington Hall has one the country's finest collection of priest hides. During the reign of Elizabeth I, wealthy Catholics had to come up with ways of keeping priests safe from the priest hunters, who were permitted to search houses looking for them. Priest hides were secret places built within the house for a priest to be hidden, sometimes for over a week! Conditions would be cramped, cold and dark. It must have felt terrifying hiding in the pitch black aware that when the house fell silent, the priest hunters were waiting to hear any sound. It was a real-life game of hide-and-seek, with dreadful consequences for any priest caught. Phil, who is the manager of Harvington Hall (and has spent 36 hours hidden in one of the hall's priest hides) will share his experiences and tales from 'The House of Secrets' in what is bound to be an entertaining talk.

On 4th February we welcome Mary Bodfish, presenting 'Early Years at Soho'. You may be familiar with the gilded bronze state of three

entrepreneurs which stands in Centenary Square Birmingham, known locally as 'the Golden Boys'. In the 1760s, entrepreneur Matthew Boulton chose a site near Hockley Brook, Handsworth to build his home and factory. At first, he made small metal goods called 'toys', pioneering mass production on the assembly line principle. Later, when he met James Watt and William Murdock and the factory expanded to produce the steam engines that pumped water out of mines. This lively and fascinating talk will acknowledge the pivotal role Boulton, Watt and Murdock and the Soho factory had on the start of the industrial revolution.

Visitors are most welcome at all our events. See hhfs.org.uk for more details and contact information.

Rachel Paget - Secretary



ACTIVE SENIORS

Happy New Year to you all. Wishing you all a Happy and active 2025! Are you making any resolutions this year? Will it be another case of 'I'll do more exercise this year' but then in a couple of months it becomes another forgotten intention?

So why not do it differently this year and try a class? You may even find you enjoy it! Exercise can make such a difference to our health both physically and mentally – just an hour a week can begin to make a difference. There is no pressure on anyone to do more than they can manage as everyone just does as much as they can and misses out anything they can't. Over a period of time stamina builds and strength and balance improves and then you find you can do more.

We have classes at the community centre on Monday morning and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and there are strength and balance classes as well as Tai Chi if you fancy something a bit different.

If you haven't previously tried a class, we offer a free taster session – just call Angela on 07512 546480 to book a slot to try. We look forward to seeing you in a class soon.

Angela - 07512546480



HAGLEY SCOUT HUT TIMETABLE 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Jess PERFORMANCE HUB 8.30-1.00pm
	Wayne PILATES 11.00-1.20pm		Wendy YOGA 11.00-12noon		
Sarah CONEXUS TUITION 4.00-6.00pm	Nicola HALESOWEN DANCE ACADEMY 4.15-7.00pm				

Nicola 07855 134062 Jess 07825 535627 Wendy 07767 883277

Sarah 07879 442422 Wayne Edgar: 07969 797709

HAGLEY RAMBLERS SCOUT HUT Enquire at hagleyramblerscout@btinternet.com



AGM

17th January 2025 @ 7:30pm
Community Centre

Come and see what we do and the plans for the Community Centre.

Contact editor@hagley.uk for further details

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[LIFECENTRALCHURCH.ORG.UK/SUNDAY](https://lifecentralchurch.org.uk/sunday)

HAGLEY PROBUS CLUB

On November 26 did anyone see Sir Oliver Cromwell in Hagley? Well, I did, along with 44 others who were members and guests at our November meeting. His presence was in the persona of Max Keen, a retired history teacher, who dressed in the uniform of Cromwell, complete with spurs and helmet.

Before becoming involved in politics, Cromwell (nee 1599) was a farmer in Huntingdon, married with 9 children. These were turbulent times, with the country divided by religion and the King at odds with Parliament. In 1629 Charles I dissolved Parliament and at this point Cromwell, being opposed to the King's autocratic rule, joined the uprising against him and Civil War broke out. Cromwell raised an army, and the first battle of the War was fought at Powick Bridge. Subsequent battles were fought at Marston

Moore and then at Naseby in 1647 when the Royalists were routed. Charles I was executed, and Charles II became King but was defeated at the battle of Worcester and fled to France. England then became a Commonwealth. Cromwell died in 1658.

Hagley Probus Club offers a warm welcome to professional and business gentlemen from Hagley and district. Activities include a monthly lunch time meeting with speaker and occasional outings and social events. Please contact Alan Hess **07967 590219** for further details.



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To book a journey please use the same number. All journeys must be pre-booked. The service offers trips to Stourbridge, Longbridge and Kidderminster. For each trip there are normally 2 services (depending on demand) and the times are:

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COST : RETURN £6 OR £4 WITH BUS PASS

WEDNESDAY: Longbridge (Retail Park)

COST : RETURN £8 OR £6 WITH BUS PASS

FRIDAY: Kidderminster

COST : RETURN £6 OR £4 WITH BUS PASS

ROSE AND HER FAIRY SHOES - BY GRACE

We are delighted to say that we have some wonderful up and coming young talent within our midst. Ex Hagley Primary and Haybridge student, Grace Cotterell-Moore has written her own children's book called Rose and her Fairy Shoes. A lovely book about a sweet little fairy who is lonely because she is different to all the others.

Grace has complimented her lovely book throughout with her own beautiful vibrant and colourful illustrations of Rose and her journey in the forest.

It's now been published and is available for purchase in paperback from Amazon, Waterstones, other bookstores and also for download on Kindle.



HAGLEY HELPLINE NEEDS HELP PLEASE!

- Occasional volunteer drivers urgently needed
- Choose your day/time/trip/availability
- Very flexible
- Help hagley residents to get to medical appts

For those of you who live in hagley, you may be aware of Hagley helpline, a voluntary organisation which since 1992 has been able to take hagley residents to hospital and other medical appointments. However, at the moment we are very short of volunteer drivers and are having to turn down some requests and were wondering if anyone would be willing to do some occasional voluntary driving for us. If so could you please talk to Helen Jackson on **01562 884311** or ring the helpline office on **01562 886696** between 10am and 12 midday, Monday – Thursday.



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HCK BADMINTON CLUB

HCK Badminton's season is over halfway through now, with many matches being played in both the Cradley and Worcester leagues. For members and visitors (please contact us first if you wish to visit), play is on Tuesdays from 7pm to 10pm, and on Fridays from 8pm to 10pm, at Hagley Catholic High School Sports Hall. Membership is subject to availability at the time of applying, as we occasionally operate a waiting list.

Following the success of our first tranche of adult coaching sessions for beginners and improvers, which ran up to Christmas, we are pleased to confirm that further sessions are taking place in 2025. Sessions will initially run from January, and then again during the summer months. We would encourage anyone who is interested in attending to contact us, to secure their place. Registration is on a first come first served basis, so please

contact us by e-mailing info@hckbadminton.club. This is a great opportunity for anyone looking for a chance to get into the game, or to improve their game, to do so in a friendly, informal environment.

Own equipment is not necessary, but please let us know if you need to loan a racquet for the sessions when you sign up.

We are a sociable club, with social events taking place throughout the year, so whether you are an absolute beginner, or an experienced player, you can be assured of a warm welcome.



HAGLEY HOBBLERS

The group, now largely self run, was established in 2022 under a wider walking football initiative by Bromsgrove and Redditch District Council, with support from Hagley Parish Council. Initial funding paid for the necessary equipment (footballs, playing bibs etc). The group was brought together and run for the first 3 months by volunteer Alex Cooke and since then has been largely self run with District and Parish Council support. The facilities at Hagley Playing Fields, both the Pavilion and the playing fields, are provided by Hagley Parish Council, and West Hagley Football Club supply goal posts and flags. Games take place every Tuesday at 10.30am (weather permitting). Everyone who turns up is guaranteed a game - the number in each team and the size of the pitch is adjusted accordingly. The only rule is 'just turn up on Tuesday for 10.30am' - no prior notice or future commitment required. The rules of walking football are fairly simple, with some appropriate adjustments from ordinary football - mainly 'no running'!

BLAKEDOWN & HAGLEY TENNIS CLUB

In case you were wondering if we put our feet up during the winter, the answer is definitely NO. There are still the usual friendly mix-in sessions each week on Friday and Sunday mornings 1000-1200 and Monday evenings 1800-2000. We also have regular men's, women's and mixed team matches in the Hereford and Worcester League. We are always being told how important it is to keep fit and enjoy the outdoors, both for our physical and mental wellbeing, especially during the winter months when the tendency is to hunker down and stay indoors. Playing tennis is a great way to get out there and

have some fun. Whether you are a seasoned player, haven't touched a racquet for a while or a beginner you would be most welcome. If we have whetted your appetite just head over to our website <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BlakedownTennisClub>. See you on court!**Sandy Thomas**



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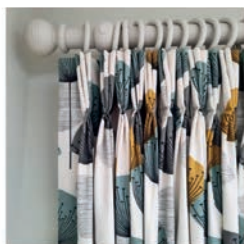
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HAGLEY STRING ORCHESTRA

The New Year is a time for reflection and renewal. Here at Hagley String Orchestra, it will be a time to put away the pieces we worked on in the Autumn term and look at some fresh repertoire. It is always exciting to play through a new piece that is unknown, for the first time, to discover its delights and possibilities. More generally it is a time when we all look at the possibility of doing new things, and taking up interests and pursuits that we have always wanted to. As always, if you are a string player and would like to join our friendly and easy-going orchestra, you would be welcome to join us. However, even if you don't play an instrument, there are plenty of opportunities to join choirs around the area. Halesowen, Brierley Hill and Stourbridge (apologies if I'm unaware

of others) all have choral societies that are friendly and welcoming, even if you don't read music very well. There are also plenty of community choirs available.

As usual, we continue to meet on Tuesday mornings between 10am and 12, midday. We are always keen to welcome new members. For further details please contact Haydn Thomas on **01562 885252**

Rory Freckleton



HAGLEY WI

Oh My Goodness, I've just sat down to write the Hagley WI article and for the first time had to write 2025! It was quite scary!

I'm all in favour of progression, it's necessary, but sometimes I want to shout..... Slow Down! I'm sure we all feel the same and unfortunately every New Year we have a mixture of feelings for both looking forward and looking back!

When I look back over 2024 I see just what a fantastic year it was for Hagley WI. We raised money for Macmillan Nurses, such a worthy cause. We raised money for Breast Cancer Now. We raised money for a turtle sanctuary in Mexico. And We raised Money for Mary Stevens Hospice. Plus knitting for Hospital Neo-Natal wards, And Fistula Clinic in Ethiopia

Yes, these things may have happened in 2024 – last year – But, our achievements last year fill me with warmth, happiness and pride. I want to keep that feeling throughout 2025.

So, it's not about looking back with a feeling of where has the time gone, but, looking back with a feeling of what we did and importantly, What We Are Going To Do! So Everybody, have a great 2025 and achieve your goals. Happy New Year Everybody

We meet the second Monday of each month at Hagley Community Centre 2.00pm till 4.00pm. If you want to know more about Hagley WI, please contact Judi on **Tel: 07890 117097** or email: **judipriest1@gmail.com**

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The Rotary Club of Hagley were privileged to a rich program of speakers and entertainment in November and December.

AbenGarth provided an evening of Irish Folk music on guitar and banjo. Our cabaret evening with Dugie Parker completed the month with our coffers in good order ready for the December local charity contributions.

The Christmas celebrations were completed with much wrangling over the Dirty Santa Game which has become our tradition and January looks most promising with the Ukraine Ambulance project being well supported with the generosity from Hagley residents.

For Rotarians the month of December is dedicated to fighting and preventing disease. Disease Prevention and Treatment is one of Rotary's Six Area of Focus. Disease and illness results in pain and injury which affects quality of life of the less fortunate at home and

overseas. Rotary and Rotarians are committed to helping people to live healthy lives, so if readers would like to have fun with a purpose, consider joining our club which holds its meeting at 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm on Monday evenings at the Blakedown and Churchill Golf Club. Alternatively try visiting our website at <https://hagleyrotary.wixsite.com/website>

The Rotary Club of Hagley in Fellowship with Rotary International Dedicated to Good Health and Happiness for All.

Call Martin Freckelton: 01562 700 391 or Dave Santus: 01562 886 529

They will be delighted to tell you more about our club and share a friendly word.



GIRLGUIDING IN HAGLEY

As we start 2025 it is time to reflect on the year we have had in Girlguiding as leaders start to plan for the new term. 2024 saw a wealth of opportunities for girls involved in Girlguiding in Hagley.

Units have taken part in visits to; museums, a pantomime, Lush at Merry Hill to make bath products, the Christmas Market in Stratford, The Think Tank, Cinemas, Swimming Pools and Water Parks. Through Girlguiding girls have tried; sledging, tubing, climbing, zip wires, high rope trails, canoeing, paddleboarding, cooking on a fire, baking and making many sorts of crafts. They have taken part in community events, had fun with other units from the wider area with County Fun Days and Region Events. Girls have slept in tents of course but also, in halls, at adventure centres, on a canal barge, in a shark tunnel at the Sea Life Centre

and in the Imagination Street soft play venue. Girls have represented their County in Mexico and been selected to represent their County next year in Finland.

One of the mottos of Girlguiding is that "Girls Can Do Anything", there is no doubt that girls in Hagley have proved this to be true in 2024. In short, they have had lots and lots of fun and some amazing adventures. None of this would be possible without the dedicated volunteers who give up their time to run meetings and activities. If you are interested in joining our team please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the instructions on how to join us.



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HAGLEY SURGERY PPG

At the November PPG meeting several local issues were discussed primarily around administration and management of the surgery. These issues will be taken forward to our January meeting with the surgery's senior Clinician and Management Team.

This time of year, is always a good opportunity to look back at what the PPG has achieved, and I'm pleased to have seen that the PPG has continued to help and support the surgery, and we have seen many advances and positive outcomes over the last 12 months or so. The surgery continues to be performing well and hitting its performance indicators. The group has warmly welcomed its new members and said a sad farewell but sincere thanks to a few members who have left the group.

There is undoubted pressure across the NHS and healthcare services, including GP surgeries and I believe that the PPG is ideally placed to act as a critical friend for the surgery team. I regularly see positive messages about our surgery and where there are the few not so positive comments, I'm happy that they are dealt with directly by the team. As always there is room for improvement and if you do have concerns, I would urge you to contact the surgery management directly; they are there to help.

**Steve Colella - Chairman
Hagley PPG**

HAGLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

According to West Mercia Police 'Top reported Crimes' for October 2024 Hagley and Rubery | Your area | West Mercia Police | West Mercia Police there were 37 Violence and sexual offences, 21 Shoplifting crimes, 18 Vehicle crimes and 12 Anti-social behaviour crimes reported in Hagley.

I have asked the Policing Team to do their 'drop-in' sessions at the monthly Hagley Village Market as I feel that this gives a much greater opportunity to engage with more people and increase the Policing Teams visibility in Hagley.

I have once again raised the request for regular speed checks to be held on the A456 outside Webbs Garden Centre, especially following the latest road traffic accident at the junction of Broome Lane and Kidderminster Road.

On a similar note, I'm continuing to press for the establishment of a Community Street Watch here in Hagley. The response I have

most recently is that the scheme has been paused and the relaunch date is unknown.

Generally, I would like to see more activity and support from the Policing Team in terms of the Neighbourhood Watch and what this could achieve given greater support.

A further initiative I can see benefiting from the principles of the Neighbourhood Watch is to work with partners in areas of being a neighbourly watch over the health and wellbeing of the most vulnerable, elderly and isolated members of our community. How this can be rolled out is being discussed with some community partners.

**Steve Colella
Hagley Neighbourhood Watch
Co-ordinator**

HAGLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Following the recent redecoration of parts of the centre, we have drawn up a list of priorities to be done next over the coming months.

These priorities include some works on the roof, the outside cladding, replacing the curtains, and to reseal and revarnish the hall floor. Following completion of these priorities we will see what else needs to be done and what monies we have left for the future look of the centre.

Recent activities in the community centre included the marvellous Hagley Art Club exhibition, the Village November Market and the Village Christmas market. Coming in January includes the WADS performance of

'A Christmas Carol' 10th and 11th January and promises to be the perfect end to Christmas.

A date for your diary is our AGM on 17th January where everyone is welcome, and we would love to hear your views and comments about the centre and have a chat over wine and nibbles. I hope to see you there.

Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and safe and happy New Year, let's hope it's a good one. We look forward to seeing you over 2025, do stop and say hello.

**Steve Colella - Chairman
Hagley Community Association**



Hagley Community Centre

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Contact Nick at bookings@hagley.uk

Please visit the HCA website www.hagley.uk
for more information on past, current and future events

THE ANCIENT CRAFT OF BELLRINGING

MORE FOR YOU TO KNOW ABOUT THIS BEAUTIFUL ART

FOLLOWING ON FROM THE ARTICLE IN THE SEPTEMBER 2024 HAGLEY VILLAGE NEWS, I DECIDED THERE IS MORE TO OFFER.....

I mentioned the weight of the tenor bell at St Leonard's, Clent. This is the heaviest of the eight bells at just over 11cwt, nearly 600kg with a diameter of approx. 41 inches, just over 104cms. It was cast in 1743 during the reign of King George the Second. The rope that controls the bell is attached to the headstock that holds the bell by means of a wheel. The rope is made from hemp, a natural fibre with great strength. The upper part is made from pre stretched polyester and is spliced to the hemp length. The fluffy woollen part known as the sally is used by the ringer to control the hand stroke and is woven into the lower part of the rope. The wheel is made in two parts and constructed from oak, elm and ash. All having different properties necessary for successful ringing.

There are many terms used in bellringing that seem to come from a different language. Hand stroke, sally stroke, tail stroke, back stroke. Headstock, not a device for punishment. Cannons, not for firing. Gudgeons, nothing to do with fish. Shrouding, twiddle pins, stays and dingers are some others.

When you hear church bells ringing, do you wonder why they are ringing, who is ringing them or how many? Can you count them?

Then we have door bells, cycle bells, telephone bells, cow bells, hare bells, bathing belles, jingle bells, alarm bells and hand bells with their associated skills and terminology. Legato, vibrato, ottava and accidentals. We have a team of handbell ringers at Clent and there is a group at St John's. St Leonard's Ensemble have

played for Harvest Festival services at Clent and Fairfield and are booked to play for Advent services at both St Leonard's and St Mark's. Anyone know of a cheap tour bus?

You may have noticed no mention of the term "campanology", an often-misused term that is more to do with the scientific and musical study of ringing.

Handbell music can be written in different formats whilst tower bell ringers commit to memory the work of their bell, whether it be for a quarter peal, full peal or whatever the chosen method is. This is done without written cues, sometimes for three hours or more. No mean feat!

Carillons are mainly found on the continent and consist of a number of bells hung in a frame and rung by a carillonneur who operates a lever that controls a clapper that strikes the bell.

Bellringing is a serious commitment and is a thoroughly enjoyable hobby. We are very grateful to the incumbents of the churches where we ring to further the call to worship and to keep the bells ringing. Should you like to explore further with gentle exercise thrown in for free then please contact either Martin Whittaker **07769 817495** or Richard Scarth **07768 273545**. No musical knowledge is needed, just patience and a willingness to learn a different ancient craft.

Martin Whittaker
Tower Captain - St Leonard's, Clent



"BELLRINGING a serious commitment,
a thoroughly enjoyable hobby"

PHOTOGRAPH: A BEAUTIFUL BIG BELL OF ST LEONARD'S, CLENT

VILLAGE LADIES

Hi Village Ladies. Hope you've all had a lovely Christmas holiday wherever you were and whoever you were with. Now we look forward to 2025 but first we look back to our two meetings in November 2024. The first, on 12th, was when Clare Weston came and told us about the beginning of 'The Black Country Museum' and explained about all the exciting developments happening now. Unfortunately our speaker for the 26th had to cancel his visit due to illness so out came the standby Bingo set and a fun evening was had by all. Now we move on to the new year and this month on 14th Alan Peace's title is 'Never Work with Children or Animals' and

on 28th we are having a Quiz Evening. We meet in St Saviour's Church Hall at 7.30 for 7.45 start on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month.

For further details please ring Anne Poole **01562 885556** or Ann Pagett **01562 882692** or email **annpagett@tiscali.co.uk**

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year.

Ann Paget



BEE KEEPING

For humans, it's autumn, but for insects, it marks the Fruiting period - a time to prepare for Dormancy. Soon, by the end of October, they will enter a season where survival against the cold and damp becomes critical, waiting until the days lengthen and temperatures rise again. The honeybee colony, in particular, reduces in size to around ten thousand bees. To endure the winter, they form a tight "winter cluster" on their combs, generating warmth through sheer numbers and sustaining themselves by consuming the honey collected during the warm Flowering season. As long as they stay dry and sheltered from the wind, they can thrive through the winter. If you want to learn more about the fascinating world of beekeeping, why not enroll in a Beginner's Course in Beekeeping next February? Details are available at **www.hsbka.org**.

HAGLEY COUNTRY DANCERS

Following our Christmas break, we restart on January 13th at 2 p.m. as usual and on Monday afternoons until Easter. Country dancing is enjoyed by dancers of all ages and all abilities. There is a vast range of material to call on, from the simple dances some of us remember from our junior school days to the more challenging figures of some of the Playford and modern dances. Whatever the selection, we think that our dances tick all the boxes. We have gentle activity, memory work and, most importantly, a good social atmosphere where everyone is made welcome. For anyone who would like to try something different for the new year and would like to make new friends, Hagley Country Dancers offers an opportunity to spend an enjoyable Monday afternoon in friendly company. There is plenty of parking via Chapel Street. There is no charge for a first visit, subsequently the cost is £3.00 per person. For more information, ring June Waterhouse **01562 700639**

HAGLEY COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

Happy New Year to everyone from Hagley Community Orchestra! Our rehearsals begin again on Thursday January 9th, with 3 more rehearsals this month on January 16th, 23rd and 30th, all in the upper room of Hagley Free Church, 5.30-7pm. We will be practising for our concert in St Anne's Church, Bewdley, on March 30th at 3pm. If you would like to join us in the orchestra, please text or phone **07545 773 139 - Cynthia Downes, Musical Director**

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

By the time you are reading this, Christmas will have passed, and Remembrance and the Poppy Appeal will be a long time ago. Planning for the 2025 events is now underway, and so the cycle goes on. It is time to report on the results for 2024, for the Poppy Appeal and our Remembrance Window Dressing Competition. The total (as at the end of November) for the Poppy Appeal stands at £8,833.38 – about 20% up on last year – of which nearly £7,000 came from the Pop-Up Poppy Stall in the village and the stall at the Village Market. My first thanks go to Rebecca Core and Sharon Dennison who took over as Poppy Appeal Organisers this year, my second to all the volunteers who manned the stall, as well as support behind the scenes, and my third to the generous people of Hagley who donated to this worthy cause. We look forward to seeing you all again in October! We would also like to thank the eleven shops that took part in the Poppy Window Dressing Competition, which was judged by callers at

our Poppy Stall and volunteers. Results were close, but the winners were as follows:

1st :Flowers of Hagley

2nd : County Sports Hagley

3rd : (Joint) Lily Blue and Lex Allan Grove.

A thank you to all those that took part in our Remembrance events in 2024, especially Rev'd Tim Mullings and his team at Hagley Free Church. And a final offer to Club Treasurers and anyone running a fundraising event in the village. We have a coin counting machine that is used a lot around the Poppy Appeal, but sitting in a box for the other 50 weeks. If you are running an event where counting cash is a pain, we are more than happy to lend it out, perhaps for a small donation to the Poppy Appeal. Contact Jon Plant on **(07813) 785496** for details.



ART CLUB

January is so-called after the two-faced god Janus as he looks backwards and but also forwards to the future. And yes, we are looking back to our Annual Exhibition and remembering our opening with footballer-turned-artist Jody Craddock picking his choice of favourite pieces which incidentally also mirrored the paintings that won the popular vote. The highest number of votes went to Gerry Stokes with his lovely nostalgic painting "Three's a Crowd", second place went to the atmospheric "Snow Showers" by Jacqueline Bradley and third place, was "Uncle Harry's Cottage" by Bob Swinger.

So now to the looking forward, and continuing our reflection of our industrial heritage, after seeing Keith Turley's excellent Industrial Landscape we move on to Architecture with a talk by David Birtwhistle on his Art/Historic Architecture/Landscape. What an intellectual group we are becoming! Remember to check

out our other exhibition at Himley Hall, which has been moved from October to 12 December. There's no hurry, though; it's on until 4 April.

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Contact us at **hagleyartclub583@gmail.com** or turn up at Hagley Community Centre 2nd Monday of every month 7.30 start. (£5 guest fee) If you love all things arty you won't regret it. Or visit our painting circle, on Tuesday afternoons, ring Sue on **07831487648** or email for details Why not join for £25 per year and a small entrance fee? We are incredible value without compromising on the calibre of visiting artists.

Sallie Gurney - Website Editor



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HOME RUN HOUNDS

Happy New Year! This month we wanted to tell you more about handsome Hughie, a 6-year-old black boy who is one of our longest stayers. We would love nothing more than to see him properly start his retirement in 2025!

Hughie is a real character who is still learning about the big wide world. So far, he has discovered a taste for puppuccinos and a love of admiring the view through the car window (he travels very well in the car). Always excited to go for a walk, he demonstrates his best high jumps at the sight of his lead! He has great manners though never jumping at his human friends rather standing patiently while his lead and coat are put on. He is growing in confidence around other breeds, although needs much more experience to control his anxieties, if it all gets too much, he will take shelter between his walkers legs.

We think Hughie would enjoy a calm household, he does love to play though so might enjoy a family with older children or teenagers. To meet Hughie or any of our greyhounds please get in touch!

Katy Rees (Volunteer)

Hello@homerunhounds.co.uk



WORDSLEY AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY - WADS

Happy New Year everyone! Hope to see you all at Hagley Community Centre on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th January 2025, where we will be performing the seasonal classic "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, adapted by Mark Edwards. 7.30pm start. Tickets are £10 (under 12s£5). Call our box office on **01384 270228** or via email on wordsleyamdram@outlook.com. Tickets may be purchased on line via **www.wordsleyamdram.co.uk**.

We are looking forward to joining you once again in Hagley so see you there for this heartwarming tale on a winter's evening

Jane Goldsmith



HAGLEY VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS

Storm Bert really did a number on many of the plots at the allotment last week. This 12 months of inconsistent weather has really challenged the yield of crops and the spirit of many an allotmenteer!

Even speaking to my colleagues and friends with allotments in other areas, we all came to the same conclusion that it been a bad year!

It therefore felt rather cathartic picking the last of the produce (leeks and red cabbages) before putting the ground to bed for a few months and clearing the site.

We have covered much of the plot in the hope of making headway into controlling the couch grass. When doing some research into couch grass (or witch grass, one of the other names for it), I read that medieval Northern Europe used the dried rhizomes as a type of incense when other resins types were not readily available. So my next question, 'is the Hagley Village Market ready for incense made of Hagley allotment witch grass?!' We had planned on just leaving the plot covered for the winter months, but I couldn't resist the pull of a little bit of growing. We have some onions and shallots to go in as well as some gifted brassicas - the timing of the planting is seemingly a little tricky at present with the rotating chance of snow or torrential rain and wind - but I am hoping for a few hours of neither of these that also coincide with not being at work at the time. Keeping everything crossed!

A rather drier indoor activity has been planting my Matucana sweet pea seeds. These were a phenomenal success in my garden last year, so I plan to put some of the plants in the plot this year too. They have an incredibly intense heady scent and will bring some lovely colour to the allotment. Not long til Spring!

James and Anna



THE ARTS SOCIETY - STOURBRIDGE

Our next lecture is entitled "On The Weaving" Life In The Carpet Factories Of Kidderminster". This interesting talk, making extensive use of images and sounds from the Museum of Carpet archive in Kidderminster, explores first the historical background to carpet making in Kidderminster and charts the rise of this great industry. We then go through the gates to explore the workings of a 20th century carpet factory in the town and the work and lives of the generations of Kidderminster people who were 'on the carpets'. Our speaker, David

Laverty, was Head of History for 21 years at King Charles I School, Kidderminster. If you're interested in finding out more about joining us or simply coming to this lecture please contact Neill Robbon on **07484 830487** or email neillrobb@btinternet.com.



ST JOHN'S BELLRINGING

Clangley Bells was formed from the bands of St. Leonard's in Clent & St. John's in Hagley. Ringing is a very sociable activity which expands and promotes your physical and mental well-being as you learn the skills along the way. It serves the community and is a beautiful old english tradition, but most of all it's fun. If you would like to try it there are a few limited spaces available for anyone interested on Monday & Wednesday evenings. Please contact either of the tower captains to give it a go or to arrange a group session.

Martin Whittaker and Richard Scarth
Clent & Hagley Tower Captains

mjwhittaker@talktalk.net
07769 817495

hagleyringers@gmail.com
07768 273545



St. John's
Hand & Tower
Bellringers

WYRE FOREST & DISTRICT CENTRE NATIONAL TRUST

WFDCNT is your local support group which raises funds for the preservation of National Trust properties for the Nation whilst having fun with others, attending talks and a chance for an outing or two during the summer months. Why not come along and enjoy. Our first talk of 2025 will be on January Wednesday 8th at 2.30pm at Blakedown Parish Rooms , 18 Belbroughton Road, Blakedown DY10, 3JG. Our speaker is Chloe Walton - Stenson, from West Midlands Safari Park. Speaking on their conservation/ breeding programme. Please note this is an

afternoon meeting, other meetings through the year are at 7.30pm and on Tuesdays. Why not come along as a visitor and see if you enjoy the meeting, there is a modest charge. For further information please visit **www.wyreforestntcentre.co.uk**

Toni Allison on behalf of WFDCNT



HAGLEY U3A

Winter Solstice rather disrupted our programme for the second half of December, but the bright side is that the prospect ahead is only – well – brighter. And how better to celebrate the passing of what John Donne called “the year’s midnight” than to visit our craft exhibition of members’ work on Wednesday, 8 January in St Saviour’s Church Hall (13.30 for 13.45). Rumour has it that cake making also counts as a craft and there will be free samples! Our Secretary argued that home brewing should also count but was

overruled... Outings planned for the following months include morning tours of Hagley Hall (14 February) and of the new glass museum in Wordsley (14 March).

Further details will follow on our web page at **<https://hagley.u3asite.uk/events>** or via our Chair on **01562 888219**.

u3a Hagley

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Established 1905



In Isaiah 40:8 God says, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever”. The Bible withstands the test of time, as God’s truths are as applicable to our society today as they were to people hundreds or thousands of years ago. 2025 is here and we

can face our rapidly changing, uncertain world with a truly positive and confident outlook, if we hold tightly to the God who does not change and whose eternal truths are utterly certain! A very happy and peaceful new year to you all **Revd Tim**

SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2025

Date		Morning 10.30am
05th January 2025	Communion	Rev. Tim Mullings
12th January 2025		Rev. David Tennant
19th January 2025		Rev. Tim Mullings
26th JANUARY 2025		Rev. John Maile

BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER GROUP Is meeting every Friday 2:30pm in the upper rooms.

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CHURCH OFFICE MONDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY: 8.30am - 12.00pm
Contact **07922 508014** or Email: **hfc1905@btinternet.com** for all enquiries and bookings.
Visit us at **www.hagleyfreechurch.org.uk**

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CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Here for Christ. Here for the challenge of the gospel. Here for the community around us.

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THE PARISH OF HAGLEY

St John the Baptist with St Saviour's
www.hagleycofe.co.uk admin@hagleycofe.co.uk
Tel: 01562 886363
Facebook: search for hagleycofe



We wish everyone a very happy new year. This month we will be celebrating Epiphany (when the wise men visit Jesus) on 5 January at 10.30 am at St John's, Our monthly Family Service – planned and led by our families – is this month at St Leonard's.

SERVICES FOR HAGLEY AND CLENT - JANUARY 2025

Date	Services 10.30am
05th January 2025 Epiphany	Holy Communion at St John's Worship 4 All at St Leonard's
12 January 2025 Baptism of Christ	Holy Communion/Sunday Club at St Saviour's Holy Communion at St Leonard's
19th January 2025 Epiphany 2	Holy Communion at St John's Family Service at St Leonard's
26th January 2025 Epiphany 3	Holy Communion/Sunday Club at St Saviour's Holy Communion at St Leonard's

Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to enquire about a baptism or wedding or to receive our church magazine "Contact" or weekly Pewsheet (details as above). Holy Communion is held in St Leonard's at 10.30 am on the 1st Wednesday each month, and in St Saviour's at 10.30 am every Thursday.



TODDLER GROUPS - parents/guardians stay

MONDAY STAY & PLAY 0-5 Romsley Scout Hut 9:30-11.00am Call Laura 07525 476339 BOUNCE & RHYME 0-2 Hagley Library 10-10.30am and 11-11.30am Email: halib@worcestershires.gov.uk ACTIVE TOTS Hagley Library 2.15-2.45pm	TUESDAY LITTLE BABS PLAYGROUP St Kenelm's Church Hall, Romsley 9:30-11.00am Call Laura 07525 476339
WEDNESDAY TODDLERS Hagley Free Church 9:30-11:15am Call Zsuzsi 07852749268 BOUNCE & RHYME 0-2 Hagley Library 2.15-2.45pm Email: halib@worcestershires.gov.uk BELBROUGHTON TODDLER GROUP Belbroughton Church Hall 9.30-11.30am PRE=SCHOOL PLAY Clent Parish Hall 10.30-11.30am	THURSDAY STAY & PLAY 0-5 Churchill Village Hall 9:30-10:30am and 10:45-11:45am Call Laura 07525 476339 LITTLE TREASURES Hagley Community Centre 10.00-11.30am STORYTRAIN Hagley Library 10-10.30am Email: halib@worcestershires.gov.uk
	SATURDAY LEGO CLUB 5+ Hagley Library 2.30-3.30pm

ADVERTISING AND EDITORIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

THE COPY DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BOTH EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING IS:
Before noon on 1st of preceding month
(i.e. before noon June 1st for July edition)

ADVERTISING

Adverts must be in the following format:
300dpi jpeg or pdf

- 1/8 Page - 46mm x 64mm (HxW) Landscape
- 1/4 Page - 92mm x 64mm (HxW) Portrait
- 1/2 Page - 92mm x 128mm (HxW) Landscape

Payment in full on submission of copy, a charge may be made for midterm alterations.

Email artwork for adverts to:
advertising@hagley.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Editorial may be reproduced on the village website

PLEASE MENTION THE HAGLEY VILLAGE NEWS WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS.

HAGLEY VILLAGE NEWS is distributed FREE to households in Hagley. Advertising revenue pays for the printing but the Editor, Advertising Manager, Distribution Manager and distributors are all VOLUNTEERS. THE HAGLEY VILLAGE NEWS ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SERVICE, PRODUCTS OR OTHERWISE OF ADVERTISERS AND CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS PUBLICATION. FULL DETAILS - PLEASE SEE THE WEBSITE www.hagleyvillage.org and our Facebook page

HAGLEY LIBRARY

We have lots of exciting children's activities at the library for your little ones. Bounce & Rhyme is for babies and children age 0-2 years on Mondays 10-10.30am and 11-11.30am. We also run a session on a Wednesday 2.15-2.45pm. Active Tots is for children age 2-4 years on Mondays 2.15-2.45pm. All sessions are Term time only and involve rhymes, songs, puppets, musical instruments and fun! Storytrain is for children age 2-5 years on Thursdays 10-10.30am. Come and listen to a fun story and make a simple craft to take home. Lego Club is for children age 5 years and above and runs every Saturday 2.15-3.30pm, come and make a Lego creation linked to a weekly theme. All our activities are FREE and run term time only, apart from

Storytrain and Lego Club which run through the school holidays too. Please book a place by emailing halib@worcestershire.gov.uk or phoning us on **01905 822722** or popping into the library. We also have a great selection of books for readers young and old, you can browse our catalogue on our website at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/libraries and order books for collection, renew your books online and have access to many online resources, including our popular e-books and magazines. The library offers free computer use and we have a printing service too, 15p for a black and white printout, 50p for a colour. Our friendly staff and volunteers are always happy to help you we look forward to seeing you soon!

THE HAGLEY LIBRARY HEALTHY WALKING GROUP

Want to get more active and socialise at the same time? Then we're here to help! Walking is a great way to get fit and explore what's on your doorstep. Our friendly group meets in the library on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.30am. We have two experienced Walk Leaders in the group who will take you on some lovely one hour long walks around the local area.

Our walks in 2025 are: 15th January, 5th & 19th February, 5th & 19th March, 2nd & 16th April, 7th & 21st May, 4th & 18th June, 2nd & 16th July, 6th & 20th Aug, 3rd & 17th Sept, 1st & 15th Oct, 5th & 19th Nov, 3rd & 17th Dec

CALLING ALL PEOPLE WHO LOVE TO CRAFT

Hagley library has a 'knit and natter' group on Fridays at 10-11am. Come along with your knitting/crochet/embroidery project and chat to others while you craft. It's a great way to meet new people in a warm, welcoming environment.

ACTIVE TOTS

Do you have a 2-4 year old who loves songs, rhymes and musical instruments? Then come along to Active Tots! We meet in the library every Monday (term time only) at 2.15-2.45pm to bounce our teddies, sing and move around to action songs and have some fun! We look forward to seeing you soon.

READING GROUP

Our Hagley Library Tuesday Afternoon Reading Group is looking for new members. Do you enjoy reading? Would you like to meet others in a relaxed, friendly place to chat about books? Please come along and join our Tuesday Book Club, everyone welcome! We meet once a month at 11.45am in the library.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

ACTIVE SENIORS: Angela.....	07512 546480
BLAKEDOWN AND HAGLEY TENNIS CLUB: www.blakedownhagleytennis.co.uk	blakedownhagleytennis@gmail.com
HAGLEY ART CLUB: Bob Haywood-Lister	hagleyartclub583@gmail.com : 01562 700078
HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL: Mr B McArdle.....	01562 883193
HAGLEY COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA: Cynthia Downes.....	downlyn@gmail.com
HAGLEY C of E: Sue Priest.....	admin@hagleycofe.co.uk : 01562 886363
HAGLEY CRICKET CLUB:	07834 157035
HAGLEY FREE CHURCH:.....	hfc1905@btinternet.com : 07922 508014
HAGLEY GUIDES, BROWNIES, RAINBOWS: Fiona Drewett.....	waltond2024@gmail.com
HAGLEY HELPLINE:	01562 886696
HAGLEY HISTORICAL & FIELD SOCIETY: Rachel Paget.....	07807 361092
HAGLEY NETBALL CLUB:	07789 514382
HAGLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL:	07488 253537
HAGLEY RAMBLER SCOUTS: Sue Corlett	hagleyramblersgs@gmail.com
HAGLEY STRING ORCHESTRA: Haydn Thomas	01562 885252
HAGLEY WI: Judi Priest	hagleypres@wfedwi.org.uk 07890 117097
HAND OF FRIENDSHIP: Mrs Jean Deacy	office@hagleyprimar .worcs.sch.uk : 01562 885760
HCK BADMINTON: Paul Scrivens	07731 744467
HOME RUN HOUNDS: Katy Rees	hello@homerunhounds.co.uk : 07488 253537
LIFECENTRAL HAGLEY: Location Pastor.....	0121 5013542
MC PAWS: Mark Collins.....	01562 633045
PILATES WITH YASMIN: Yasmin	yasminpilates@gmail.com 07747 787832
PROBUS CLUB: Alan Hess	07967 590219
ROTARY CLUB: Godfrey Partridge.....	hagley.rotary@gmail.com : 07496 796332
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION: Helen Roberts	01384 378934 : 07962 980446
ST JOHNS HAND & TOWER BELLRINGERS: Richard Scarth	07768 273545
THE STOURBRIDGE ARTS SOCIETY: Neill Robb	01562 885300
TUESDAY TEA CLUB: Sheila Munden.....	01562 636333
UNIVERSITY OF THIRD AGE: Ian Charnock.....	ianjcharnock@hotmail.com : 01562 884843
VERVE MARTIAL ARTS: John Swift.....	07989 980155
VILLAGE LADIES: Ann Pagett	01562 882692
WEST GLEN HTM: Pat Sidaway	01384 637085
WORDSLEY AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY: Jane Goldsmith.....	07512 568321
WYRE FOREST NT: Toni Allison.....	01562 884079
WEST MERCIA POLICE GENERAL CONTACT NUMBER.....	0300 333 3000
CRIME STOPPER LINE (CONFIDENTIAL) Freephone.....	0800 555111
HAGLEY LIBRARY.....	01905 822722
HAGLEY MEDICAL PRACTICE.....	01562 881700

LOCAL COUNCILLOR/MP CONTACTS

HAGLEY PARISH COUNCIL: Hagley Pavilion, Hagley Playing Fields, Victoria Passage, Hagley DY9 0DA.....	01562 885253
HAGLEY (& FURLONGS) COUNTY COUNCILLOR (CLEMENT HILLS DIVISION): Karen May	07818 085140
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR FOR HAGLEY WEST: Steve Colella	01562 882996
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR FOR HAGLEY EAST: Ruth Lambert	r.lambert@bromsgrove.gov.uk

""We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day"

Edith Lovejoy Pierce



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