

On the 6th April I received the following email from Chris Reading. Normally I try to introduce newcomers and welcome them to the village, but I have been beaten to the punch. Anyway welcome Les & Chris to Yazor. Cal

We are Les and Chris Reading. We have recently moved into Barn cottage Yarsop.

Our daughter and son in law Alice and Paul Frazier along with their three children live in The Dingle House and have Oaktree Stoves.

This is such a beautiful place to live. We love seeing all the wild life and no road noise! And so many lovely walks.

I was very pleasantly surprised to receive the Foxley news, what a lovely way to keep in touch and communicate. Thank you so much.

We are both Hereford born and bred, we have been together 30 years, married for 21 years.

We have moved from Kingstone, previous to that we had a farm in Eaton Bishop. Les had Hereford Windscreens before retirement this year. We are both 70. Our hobby is our Morgan horses we breed and show to a high standard.

We have two dogs a Basenji and a Shih-tzu.

We have quite a big garden here at Barn cottage and keen to give growing our own vegetables a go. I love gardening but quite novice so the gardening club sounds very interesting.

Regards Chris

I have recently met and had a friendly chat with Graham Smith who now lives in The Old School. He was telling me that his wife called Hebe is currently out of the country, but used to work for British Telecomms in Global Sales. In recent years she obtained a BSC and followed it with a Masters degree.

Graham is a conservationist and ran an organic farm in South West Wales near Carmarthen for 26 years finally retiring having reached the age of 70 years. They have three large dogs, black German shepherds. Hopefully more information when Hebe get back.



Firewood for Sale

Please contact

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The next four Coffee Mornings
are on

Not on at the moment but keep
watching 'cos we will be back
Between 10.30 and 12 noon.
join us for a chat. All Welcome



' Marie Curie for Herefordshire. ' Sarah Harris, the local Community Fundraiser is asking if people can spare just two hours to help support their biggest campaign the Great Daffodil Appeal. Marie Curie provides care and support for people living with a terminal illness, through their Hospices, Nursing Care, Information and Support Line and research. Contact Sarah on 0121 703 3741 / 07850 916414 / sarah.harris@mariecurie.org.uk



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Hedgehog Erinaceinae

OK so this is a subject very close to me. The little mammal that everyone loves. I ended up being much more involved with them after moving here and going to a Lacy ladies talk when Mo was there. Mr and Mrs Hog as they are now known kindly taught me everything I know and let me get very hands on with them. Most of you will be aware of Hollycroft rescue and will of probably used them at some point. Hogs deal with a lot on a daily basis. Because of fences they cant go through gardens. More tarmaced or gravel gardens. Perfectly manicured gardens with no messy areas for them to nest, hybernate or feed. Dealing with pesticides, dogs, cars and Strimmers. It's a lot for these little guys to put up with. On top of that dry weather can make finding food and water a problem. Slug pellets should be a definite no. In fact as of April this year using slug pellets with metaldehyde is illegal. I personally don't feel there is a place for chemicals at all in Gardens. Just to have a pretty flower to look at, a good Lettuce or a very green lawn I don't feel is ok if it comes at a cost to our wildlife.

Ponds also can be death traps. Although they are actually good swimmers they have little legs and need slopes to get out of anything deep. In the cities and suburbs they are actually doing ok, probably as many people feed birds and leave water out. But their numbers are still dropping in rural areas. Probably down to heavy pesticide use on farmland and removal and loss of good hedges.

The hog is nocturnal and will wander up to 2 miles a night searching for food. Their food is mainly made of up beetles and caterpillars. Then a mix of worms, birds eggs and anything else they find. Mealworms if you put food out for them should be avoided as they can cause metabolic bone disease.



Scientists in Spain found the hogs earliest relatives where around 125 million years ago.

They have between 5 and 7 thousand spines which when they roll into a ball helps protect them. While at Hollycroft Mo found out that if they were comfortable with a person the spines where fairly straight but if they were with someone unknown to them the spines went very criss cross. Much more touchy to handle! Interestingly they are immune to snake venom, proteins in their blood neutralise it. So these little ones sometimes need our help. If you ever come across a disturbed nest do not handle the hoglets. Pick up the whole of the nest and mum and

transport to a rescue. If you handle the baby's the mum will smell this and more than likely kill and eat them.

If you see a small hog out in the day or a large one unsteady on its feet it's time to rescue. A large hog out in the day in summer might be mum in need of extra food. If she's on a mission leave alone. Any hog out in the day in winter especially a small one say tennis ball size they need scooping up and checking over. Autumn is a very busy time for rescue centres as Autumn juveniles are out. They are too big to be with mum and too small to hibernate. There's a lot of information out there about these lovely mammals and whatever you can do in your garden will make a difference to them. I haven't really mentioned their natural predator, the only one they have is the Badger. That's because I feel that we are having the biggest influence on them and unnaturally so. The Badger is a natural predator that they have lived next to for thousands of years. There's much more I could of written but hopefully I've given you the helpful stuff. The photo is one of my rescues which I over wintered and released last year.

Angela Starling

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Firewood Scheme to Help Local People

Herefordshire-based Certainly Wood has been working with a small community group near Ludlow to help them save money on firewood thanks to its Community Buy Scheme. Ludlow resident, Graham Edwards, rallied his local community and got 20 people on board, to make a staggering saving of £1,800. By clubbing together, the group were able to place a large, bulk order on kiln dried logs, which was then divided up between everyone, resulting in huge savings. What's more, Certainly Wood then delivered the logs directly to everyone participating.



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Number One Idiot

I am a medical student currently doing a rotation in toxicology at the poison control centre. Today, this woman called in very upset because she caught her little daughter eating ants. I quickly reassured her that the ants are not harmful and there would be no need to bring her daughter into the hospital. She calmed down and at the end of the conversation happened to mention that she gave her daughter some ant poison to eat in order to kill the ants. I told her that she better bring her daughter into the emergency room right away. Here's your sign, lady. Wear it with pride.

Number Two Idiot

Early this year, some Boeing employees on the airfield decided to steal a life raft from one of the 747s. They were successful in getting it out of the plane and home. Shortly after they took it for a float on the river, they noticed a Coast Guard helicopter coming toward them. It turned out that the chopper was homing in on the emergency locator beacon that activated when the raft was inflated. They are no longer employed at Boeing. Here's your sign, guys. Don't get it wet; the paint might run.

Number Three Idiot

A man, wanting to rob a downtown Bank of America, walked into the Branch and wrote this, "Put all your munny in this bag." While standing in line, waiting to give his note to the teller, he began to worry that someone had seen him write the note and might call the police before he reached the teller's window. So, he left the Bank of America and crossed the street to the Wells Fargo Bank. After waiting a few minutes in line, he handed his note to the Wells Fargo teller. She read it and, surmising from his spelling errors that he wasn't the brightest light in the harbour, told him that she could not accept his stickup note because it was written on a Bank of America deposit slip and that he would either have to fill out a Wells Fargo deposit slip or go back to Bank of America. Looking somewhat defeated, the man said, "OK" and left. He was arrested a few minutes later, as he was waiting in line back at Bank of America. Don't bother with this guy's sign. He probably couldn't read it anyway.

Number Four Idiot

A motorist was unknowingly caught in an automated speed trap that measured his speed using radar and photographed his car. He later received in the mail a ticket for \$140.00 and a photo of his car. Instead of payment, he sent the police department a photograph of \$140.00. Several days later, he received a letter from the police that contained another picture, this time of handcuffs. He immediately mailed in his \$140.00. Wise guy ... But you still get a sign.

Number Five Idiot

A guy walked into a little corner store with a shotgun and demanded all of the cash from the cash drawer. After the cashier put the cash in a bag, the robber saw a bottle of Scotch that he wanted behind the counter on the shelf. He told the cashier to put it in the bag as well, but the cashier refused and said, "Because I don't believe you are over 21."; The robber said he was, but the clerk still refused to give it to him because she didn't believe him. At this point, the robber took his driver's license out of his wallet and gave it to the clerk. The clerk looked it over and agreed that the man was in fact over 21 and she put the Scotch in the bag. The robber then ran from the store with his loot. The cashier promptly called the police and gave the name and address of the robber that she got off the license. They arrested the robber two hours later. This guy definitely needs a sign.

Idiot Number Six

A pair of Michigan robbers entered a record shop nervously waving revolvers. The first one shouted, "Nobody move!" When his partner moved, the startled first bandit shot him. This guy doesn't even deserve a sign.

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Idiot Number Seven Arkansas: Seems this guy wanted some beer badly. He decided that he'd just throw a cinder block through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So, he lifted the cinder block and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinder block bounced back knocking him unconscious. It seems the liquor store window was made of Plexi-Glass. The whole event was caught on videotape. Yep, here's your sign .

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**Idiot Number Eight** I live in a semi-rural area. We recently had a new neighbour call the local township administrative office to request the removal of the Deer Crossing sign on our road. The reason: "Too many deer are being hit by cars out here! I don't think this is a good place for them to be crossing anymore." Take the sign - Please!  
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Stay Alert Out There ! They walk among us ... they Reproduce ... they vote ... and a lot of them hold public office .

A silly person walks into a petrol station and asks an employee, "I locked my keys in the car, do you have a coat hanger or something I can stick through the window to unlock the door"

Ten minutes later a lorry driver comes in and can't stop laughing, so the employee asks him what's so funny. The lorry driver replies, "There an idiot who is trying to open their car with a coat hanger"

The employee says, "So what? This could happen to anyone." The lorry driver explains "Sure, but usually there isn't another idiot in the car who yells, "a little more right... a little more left!"



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Why Go to Church?

One Sunday morning, a mother went in to wake her son and tell him it was time to get ready for church, to which he replied, "I'm not going." "Why not?" she asked. "I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "(1), they don't like me, and (2), I don't like them." His mother replied, "I'll give you two good reasons why you SHOULD go to church: (1)You're 59 years old, and (2) you're the pastor!"

The Picnic

A Jewish Rabbi and a Catholic Priest met at the town's annual 4th of July picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter.

"This baked ham is really delicious," the priest teased the rabbi. "You really ought to try it. I know it's against your religion, but I can't understand why such a wonderful food should be forbidden! You don't know what you're missing. You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs. Hall's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?"

The rabbi looked at the priest with a big grin, and said, "At your wedding."

The Usher

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row, please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The pastor is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired.

"No," he said. "I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" he asked. "No," she said. "Good," he answered.

Show and Tell

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show and tell" assignment. Each student was instructed to bring in an object that represented their religion to share with the class.

The first student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish and this is a Star of David."

The second student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Mary. I'm a Catholic and this is a Rosary."

The third student got in up front of the class and said, "My name is Tommy. I am Methodist, and this is a casserole"

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