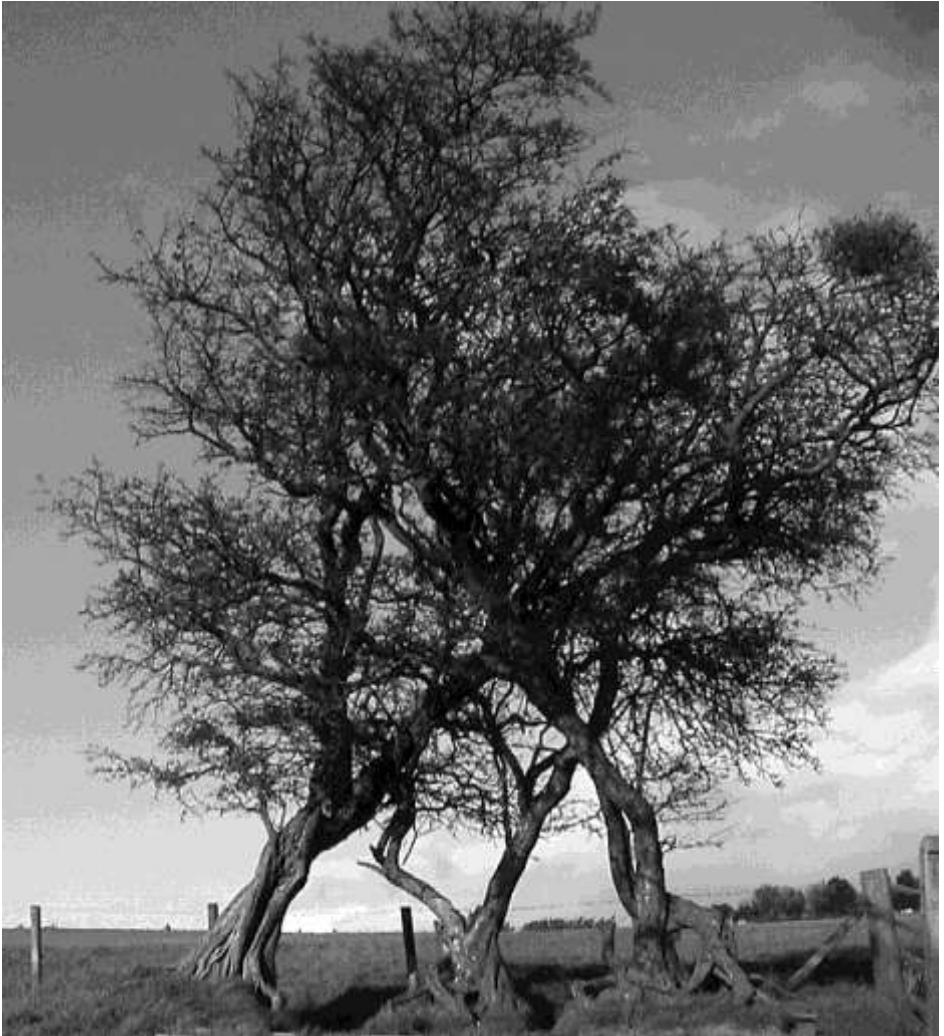


Looking for an Entertaining Speaker?



Penny Plants

Illustrated Talks List 2009 - 10

How I got into all this -

I was born near Ledbury in Herefordshire and, apart from a few years away to complete my training as a teacher, I have lived in this county all my life.

Since taking early retirement, I have been a guide at Weston's Cider Mill, at the Cider Museum, and continue to be a guide at Hereford Cathedral.

I trained as a Registered Herefordshire Tour Guide through Herefordshire Tourism and HETB and my talks have developed out of the background research I continue to do to update my knowledge.

My Talk Fee is £40

Local Coach Tours

I am qualified to take visitors on guided coach tours around the county.

So you could have your own personal tour guide to help plan your summer outing in Herefordshire! Why not finish the day with a cream tea or a pub meal?

Please contact me for advice on routes and destinations.

Variable rates for whole day, half day or evening tours.

tel. 01981 550150

email penny@platts31.freemove.co.uk

1. The History of Cider (with tasting)

Uncover the history of our most famous beverage and find out how it is made. Even better, you can taste samples and savour the wide variety of flavours that can come from the simple cider apple.

2. Five Extraordinary Churches

Travel back through time from the early 20th century to the early 12th century to explore **Brockhampton** (thatched Arts and Crafts), **Hoarwithy** (Italianate), **Shobdon** (Strawberry Hill Gothic), **Dore Abbey** (Cistercian origins) and **Kilpeck** (the Romanesque jewel).

3. A Photographer's View of Herefordshire

Explore some landscapes, river scenes and the little nooks and crannies, where you can spend time enhancing your photographic (or artist's) skills. Perhaps this will inspire you to make more use of your digital camera!

4. Hereford Cathedral's Secrets

As a guide at the Cathedral, I can give a glimpse into the structure of the building through the ages, and give life to the people who have left their mark on what we see today - including our two famous saints - St. Ethelbert (8th c.) and St. Thomas Bishop of Hereford (13th c.)

5. The City of Hereford Revealed

Take a virtual tour along the banks of the River Wye, across the Castle Green and into the heart of our old city, and learn about its history along the way.

6. Herefordshire's Market Towns

Discover some of the long history of Ledbury, Bromyard, Leominster, Kington and Ross-on-Wye. Take a look at the buildings and churches of these ancient trading centres.

7. Half-timbered Herefordshire

We see these buildings all around us - many of them survivals from the Middle Ages. Why not find out how they were made, then - and now - using green oak.

8. From A - B (Amsterdam to Budapest)

Now for something quite different! Come with me on a leisurely River Cruise along the Rhine, Main and Danube, looking at the fascinating towns and cities en route including **Cologne, Nuremburg, Passau, Melk and Vienna.**

9. **Unusual Country Churches

Every church is unique - ancient carvings at Llanveynoe, Rowstone, Brinsop, & Fownhope - local memorials and tomb effigies at Much Cowarne, Bacton, Much Marcle & Moccas - fabulous stained glass at Eaton Bishop - fonts at Kenchester, Castle Frome & Eardisley. Discover other delights at Clodock, Holme Lacy, St Margaret's, Welsh Newton & Kempley etc.

**My husband John is now on the payroll
with two talks of his own -**

10. **The House that John (& Penny) Built!

Watch the step by step construction of 'The Fold' at Dorstone from the empty corner of a farm yard in May 2005 to a modern "old stone barn" by July 2006.

11. **A Policeman's Lot....

Follow John's varied career in the Police Service from when he started out as a Police Cadet in Sheffield in 1964 to retirement in Hereford in 1996.

****New for 2009/10**