



The ARCH Messenger

*To show our love for God and You
October 2023*



Abbots Morton, Rous Lench, Church Lench & Harvington
www.archbenefice.org.uk

ARCH Benefice: parishes of Abbots Morton, Rous Lench, Church Lench and Harvington

Rector: The Reverend Canon Richard Thorniley
01386 870527, rector@archbenefice.org.uk

Pioneer Deacon: The Reverend Chris Sheehan
07977 072105. chris@archbenefice.org.uk

Office hours: 9.30am to 9.30pm Monday-Friday;
day off: Saturday; Sunday afternoons: quiet space
Urgent pastoral matters – any time

Readings

<i>Harvest</i>	<i>Deuteronomy 8:7-18; Psalm 65; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Luke 12:16-30</i>
1 st October	Exodus 17:1-17; Psalm 78:1-7; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32
8 th October	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19:7-14; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46
15 th October	Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14
22 nd October	Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22
29 th October	Nehemiah: 8:1-4a, 8-12; Psalm 119:9-16; Colossians 3:12-17;
Bible Sunday	Matthew 24:30-35
5 th November	Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12
All Saints' Day	
12 th November	
Remembrance Sunday	Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
19 th November	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
26 th November	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7; Ephesians 1:15-23;
Christ the King	Matthew 25:31-46

Please use the 'Contact Us' page on our website
www.archbenefice.org.uk
to submit editorial or enquire about advertising.

Thought for the month

Thankfulness

We are entering a season of thankfulness. In October we will celebrate Harvest festivals in our churches and schools, and in November America will celebrate Thanksgiving. Yet this year has been a hard year: for us as a family with lots of goodbyes to people and places; for our country with rising costs of fuel and food; and for the world with extreme temperatures causing more fires and floods than usual. I found it hard to contemplate being thankful.

Then I remembered my friend Yvette who had sickle cell anaemia, a life-limiting and extremely painful condition. Her pain was so severe that she was fitted with a permanent syringe driver delivering morphine but she was the most positive, thankful person I have known. Despite her condition she was always laughing. As I thought about Harvest, I remembered one sunny afternoon in my garden **when she teasingly blagged an apple from one of my neighbour's trees. She** was so excited by this one perfect fruit, its shape, colour and, above all, its taste.

Thanksgiving had been around for many years in America before Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of thanksgiving and praise to God for the success of the harvest, but at the same time he referred to difficult times and **humanity's role in causing them. So he called on Americans at Thanksgiving to implore God to 'heal the wounds of our nation.'**

One of the readings for our Harvest Festivals is from Deuteronomy where, after 40 years of wandering in the desert, the Israelites have entered Israel and are **commanded, 'when you have eaten and are satisfied praise the Lord your God' (Deuteronomy 8:10).** But this command is followed by another, warning them not to become proud and complacent.

So it seems that over the centuries harvest, thankfulness and difficult times have always been intertwined. And perhaps, like my friend Yvette, it is possible to laugh for joy and be thankful in the midst of the pain and messiness of our lives.

Gill Thorniley

Stop date for next issue: Monday 9th October

Rector's Corner

Daily prayers: 8.30am and 6pm via Zoom – contact me for details (e-mail rector@archbenefice.org.uk)
This replaces Tuesday prayers and Benefice prayers

Home Communion: I will contact the house-bound, and am open to requests. *Please feel free to ask even if you are only temporarily out of commission*
(contact me on 01386 870527)

Men's Night 8.30pm Thursday 12th October at the Golden Cross, Harvington
(£12 for the kitty – includes ALL drinks)
Come and enjoy a pint. £12 in the kitty will cover drinks and get us a savoury snack. Reserve your place: rector@archbenefice.org.uk or 01386 870527

From the Registers

Rous Lench

27 th August	Baptism	Hattie Loughlin
19 th September	Funeral	Sheila Virr

Church Lench

30 th July	Funeral	Gillian Glazebrook
27 th August	Baptism	Nevaeh Davies
27 th August	Baptism	Adam Davies
29 th August	Funeral	Philip Smith

Harvington

29 th August	Funeral	Margaret Catherall
10 th September	Baptism	Lilly Horton
14 th September	Funeral	Betty Seager

Notices

Harvest generosity – Caring Hands food bank

Please support Caring Hands (www.chands.org.uk) as part of your harvest giving. Items required include:

- ◆ Toiletries (always needed!)
- ◆ Loo rolls (don't go mad and start a panic but perhaps donate on a regular basis by getting an extra pack when you're shopping?)
- ◆ Tins and dried goods
- ◆ Items that can be cooked via a kettle, single-ring hob or microwave

Thank you for your past and on-going generosity, especially as food costs are soaring.

Richard Thorniley

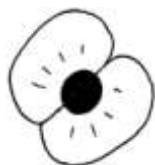
ALL SOULS SERVICE

Thursday 2nd **November, 7pm at St Peter's, Abbots Morton**

We will be holding a special service to commemorate *all* those who have died. Following a short sermon and reading from scripture, the names of all those whose funeral services have been held in the benefice in the last year will be read out. There will be an opportunity for everyone to light a candle in memory of a loved one and place it on the altar.

This is a service that is open to anyone to come along, and the hope and prayer is that it will help all those who feel bereaved to come to terms with loss, whenever that may have taken place.

Richard Thorniley



Remembrance Services

There will be Acts of Remembrance at 11 am on Sunday 12th November at the village war memorials of Abbots Morton (inside the church), Church Lench and Harvington (both in the churchyard). Everyone is welcome

Notices

Heating oil delivery dates for the ARCH buying group

Evesons Fuels: 01905 775920

Thursdays: 12th October, 9th November, 14th December, 11th January, 8th February
Phone your order to Evesons by 5pm on the preceding Monday

It happened in October...

150 years ago: on 1st October 1873, Edwin Landseer, artist and sculptor, died. Known for his animal paintings, he also created the lion sculptures at the base of **Nelson's Column**.

100 years ago: on 10th October 1923, Nicholas Parsons, host of *Just a Minute* and *Sale of the Century*, was born.

90 years ago: on 17th October 1933, Albert Einstein arrived in the USA as a refugee from Nazi Germany.

75 years ago: on 27th October 1948, the Morris Minor car was launched at the **British Motor Show at Earl's Court in London**. It cost **£358**.

65 years ago: on 1st October 1958, Paddington Bear made his debut when **Michael Bond's book *A Bear Called Paddington*** was published.

Also 65 years ago: on 28th October 1958, the State Opening of Parliament was televised for the first time.

60 years ago: on 15th **October 1963**, the term '**Beatlemania**' first appeared in print (in the *Daily Mirror*).

40 years ago: on 5th **October 1983**, **Lech Walesa**, leader of Poland's Solidarity movement (and later President of Poland) was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Also 40 years ago, on 25th October 1983, Microsoft Word 1.0 was released.

30 years ago: on 15th October 1993, South African leaders Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk won the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to end apartheid.

25 years ago: on 16th October 1998, David Trimble and John Hume won the Nobel Peace Prize for brokering the Northern Ireland peace accord.

Bible Sunday: 29th October

At his Coronation, the King was given a Bible with the words *'the most valuable thing that this world affords.'* As Bible Sunday is celebrated this month, let's ask why we should read the Bible?

The Bible isn't a single book, but a library of 66 books, composed by some 44 writers over 1,500 years in a range of styles including history, poetry, prophecy, letters and apocalyptic (looking at the end times). Despite the number of different writers, it claims one authority: God Himself! *'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work'* (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible is inspired (*'the word of God in the words of men'*) and equips us to live for God in every aspect of our lives. We also have the promise of the Holy Spirit to guide us when we read, *'when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth'* (John 16:13).

How should we read the Bible? Let's consider the following guidelines:

Right time: we need a regular routine which will meet our needs. This will vary according to our circumstances, eg somebody with a demanding job, a mum at home with young children, or a retired person.

Right place: we need to find a space where we can be undisturbed (eg lounge, bedroom, train or kitchen).

Right version: we need a version of the Bible which we can readily understand and use. A number of versions are available (eg *NIV*, *The Message*), as well as Bible apps we can access on our phone.

Right help: reading notes help us to understand a passage and apply it to our lives.

Let's get reading!!

Canon Paul Hardingham

From the medical records...

She slipped on wet leaves and her legs went in separate directions.

The patient was released to the Outpatient Department without dressing.

Those over-the-top words we use...

I'm trying to stop saying the word 'incredible'. It's overused and has become almost meaningless. 'We are incredibly grateful.' 'I had an incredible meal.' As the word really means 'beyond belief or understanding', it can't actually apply in either case. 'Unbelievable' is similarly misused. So is 'fantastic', which is meant to describe something belonging to an imaginary world. Strictly speaking, a fantastic tennis player can't be a real one.

How about 'amazing'? Count how many times you hear it today. It should be reserved to describe something astonishing, out of this world. If you think about it, if everything is amazing or incredible, then nothing really is. When the exceptional becomes normal or commonplace, nothing is special.

We seem to struggle to find words to convey something out of the ordinary. Try 'iconic'. Iconic only appeared recently and has been distorted to mean 'historic', 'traditional' or 'classic'. My dictionary tells me iconic actually means something to do with an icon, which is a depiction of Christ, the Virgin Mary, or a saint.

In fact, most of these over-the-top words, now in everyday use, have a religious association. Originally they were reserved to communicate otherness, difference, deep respect. For example, what about 'awesome'? It should mean 'awe' or reverence. It's a take-your-breath-away word. Awe is what Moses felt when he saw a bush on fire, because it didn't actually burn away, and he sensed the presence of God. Awe is something St Peter experienced, when he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!'

If you try to imagine what Moses and Peter actually felt, words like 'unworthiness' and 'fear' might come to mind. They really were experiencing something out of the ordinary, too hot to handle. They were out of their depth. An experience like that stayed with them for life; they had encountered holiness. Now there's a word worth using.

The Venerable John Barton

Also from the medical records...

The patient has been depressed ever since she began seeing me in 2022. She is numb from the toes down.

The Beatitudes: Blessed are the meek

Jesus calls those who live for His kingdom to demonstrate His character: *'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth'* (Matthew 5:5). Meekness can come over as being 'weak or feeble', hence *'Gentle Jesus, meek and mild.'* However, the Greek word means being tamed, *'Blessed are those who are tamed, under control.'* The picture is that of a horse brought under control; strength under submission. Meekness begins with an honest view of ourselves, where we don't have to worry about what others think of us but trust in what God is able to do in us.

Moses is described as *'very meek, more than all men that were on the face of the earth'* (Numbers 12:3). Moses was certainly not a weak leader, but he submitted to God's plans for his life. Meekness accepts what comes, even if it hurts, knowing that it's for our good.

A meek person will tame themselves to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, who shows us how to respond in any situation practically and prayerfully. It means being careful about how we respond to those who provoke us; not being angry or striking out. When we encounter difficult situations or people who wind us up, how are we prepared to pray before speaking? We should not be out of control, but under God's control!

Let's not forget the promise of this beatitude, that the meek person will *'inherit the earth.'* Those who are prepared to forgo their rights in this world will be made infinitely rich in the future.

'The meek man knows at the same time that he is, in the sight of God, of more importance than angels. In himself, nothing; in God, everything. That is his motto.'
(AW Tozer)

Canon Paul Hardingham

Musings

Theory of relativity: If you go back far enough, we're all related.

The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.

On the perils of Harvest...

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least, whose elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to his nephew Darren, a recently-ordained low-church curate...

My dear Nephew Darren,

In the unlikely event of ever being put in charge of designing the course for those being trained for ordination, I would make a few significant changes. Modules on doctrine, Church history and Greek would be dropped as unnecessary. In their place, I would add courses on how to run a tight jumble sale, ways to keep your church council in order and how to negotiate Harvest.

The first skirmish starts in early summer when it becomes clear that the flower arrangers' plans mean that the choir would disappear behind a huge array of chrysanthemums. The choir retaliate by announcing that their Harvest anthem must take place just when the Sunday School intended to re-enact the parable of the Good Samaritan. They, in turn, raise the stakes by insisting that a stage will be needed for their performance, thus ensuring that I will be separated from the congregation by an impenetrable barricade.

In September, there is the traditional meeting to iron out all these little difficulties. This inevitably results in the annual act of the verger handing in his resignation, the bell ringers threatening a mass walk-out, and those who organise coffee afterwards demanding that my sermon lasts no more than three minutes to ensure there will be plenty of time for socialising after the Service.

I greet all suggestions with a spontaneous burst of indifference, smile, agree with it all – and do nothing (a good policy for all decision-making). Inevitably, everything goes ahead exactly as it has always done for the last century. Come the day, there will be the usual pyramid of apples temptingly near the choirboys, so designed that when someone tries to pinch an apple during the sermon, the whole pile disintegrates as they roll all over the chancel. On the following Friday, all will leave after the Harvest Supper saying that the entertainment was worse than last year and the absence of red cabbage had quite ruined the hot pot. Everyone therefore has had an enjoyable evening.

My Harvest training course would be compulsory and a pass mark of 90% would be needed before ordination could be considered.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

Rous Lench
St Peter's Church

HARVEST CELEBRATION

Saturday 14th October

Join us to celebrate the harvest with friends and neighbours. You will be treated to a delicious homemade 2-course supper and the bar will be serving all the usual beers, local cider and wines. We will also be holding a prize raffle and a mini auction of promises to tempt you. It will be a lot of fun in a relaxed and cosy atmosphere. Tickets cost just £12.50 each and can be obtained from Fran Herdman on ***** or *****@*****.

If anyone can offer a lot for the auction eg a homemade Christmas cake, some dog walking or a couple of hours of ironing, please contact Fran.

ST PETER'S CHURCH PROJECT – COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

Saturday 4th November, 2pm

Do you want to find out more about the project to refurbish the church and improve its facilities to allow wider community use of the church building? Do you want to find out what exciting activities are planned for both the local community and those from further afield?

If so, please come along to next month's presentation in St Peter's Church. Everyone will be most welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Harvest Thanksgiving
Sunday 8th October, 11am

Come and join us for our Harvest Thanksgiving service!

If you can, please bring one or more items for Caring Hands: tinned and dried food or toiletries and clean clothing (new underwear for children and adults is greatly appreciated).

Rous Lench

WORCESTERSHIRE BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD – WINNER

Over the past few years, St Peter's churchyard has been maintained regularly and enthusiastically by a magnificent group of volunteers. The churchyard has attracted many compliments and the decision was made earlier in the year to enter the Worcestershire Best Kept Churchyard Competition, organised by the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England and the Worcestershire Federation of Women's Institutes.

Judging was in two stages during the summer. In June the team were really pleased to learn that the churchyard had been successful in reaching the last **five in the competition**. In August we were delighted to hear that St Peter's churchyard had **WON** the competition. The ultimate accolade!

If you can spare any time to help and would like to join the team, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Lloyd Wing on *****@*****.

ROUS LENCH PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETINGS: All parishioners are welcome to attend our meetings. The next meeting will be held on Monday 27th November at 7pm in Rous Lench Village Hall. Residents are invited to put forward any ideas, concerns or queries during public question time. If you cannot attend in person then please raise issues with the Clerk, Kerry Williamson (rouslenchpc@gmail.com).

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES: We currently have two vacancies on the council and would love to hear from community-minded people who want to give something back to their local area. It is a voluntary position with an induction and training. Meetings are every other month and are a couple of hours long on a Monday evening. In the interim, about an hour per week is needed to keep up to date with council matters. Are you interested? Would you like more information? Please contact the Clerk (details above) who will be happy to help.



Rous Lench

VILLAGE HALL

Friday 13th and 27th October, 7.30pm: Pub night

The nights are drawing in, which means pub nights are back in Rous Lench. Come over to your "local" for an evening of camaraderie, cider and chat with the occasional sausage roll thrown in for good measure! Children can also come along and a warm welcome is guaranteed. Further dates will be announced next month. Look out for the blackboard on the green for any changes.

If you would like to run a pub night, please contact Tracy Browne by e-mailing *****@*****. It's very simple and great fun!



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
ROUS LENCH AND INKBERROW BRANCH



Poppy Appeal Coffee Mornings

10.30am-12 noon – everyone is welcome to join us!

Saturday 14th October: The Boot Inn, Flyford Flavell

Wednesday 25th October: The Bulls Head, Inkberrow

Wednesday 8th November: The Wheelbarrow Castle, Radford

Raffle & homemade cakes

Entrance: £2 includes light refreshment. Proceeds to the RBL Poppy Appeal

Hmmm...

As the holidays ended, the English teacher returned to teaching with a sigh. He felt nostalgic. He found the past perfect and the present tense.

A useful tip when getting ready for bed: lean outside and ring your own doorbell. This will clear the dogs off the bed long enough for you to get in and be comfortable.

Church Lench First School News

We would like to welcome all our new families to Church Lench CE First School. Our autumn term has started very well and all pupils have settled into their new year groups.

During the summer, we had a wonderful new piece of play equipment built by 'Preece and Sons Building and Carpentry'. We are looking forward to the grand opening of our amazing pirate ship later in the term but want to thank James Preece and his company for the hard work and effort that went into creating this for our children, which will be treasured for a long time! We also had help from other families who built new decking for our pond area and erected two new sheds for our playground. We are so lucky to have such wonderful support from our local community.



Seaside, dinosaurs and Vikings!

We have a very busy term with lots of exciting topics planned. In Reception and Year 1, children will be learning all about the seaside and making comparisons between the seaside now and over 100 years ago, particularly the Victorian era. Our Year 2/3 pupils will be finding out about what life was like during the dinosaur period, learning about the different time periods and what the world looked like during these times, while our Year 4/5 pupils will be learning about the Vikings: where they came from, why they invaded and the effect they had on our country.

FOREST SCHOOL OPEN MORNING: SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER

We are holding a Forest School open morning on Saturday 30th September, 9.30-11a.m **at Yate's Community Orchard, Church Lench.** We are looking forward to welcoming children age 2-10 years for a fun morning outside to meet staff from the school and find out about our fabulous community. Please feel free to pop along to find out more about us!

SCHOOL OPEN MORNING: THURSDAY 19th OCTOBER

Our open morning takes place on Thursday 19th October, 9.30-10.30a.m. Please contact the school office (870297, office@churchlench.worcs.sch.uk) for more information.

Mrs S Price, Headteacher

Church Lench **All Saints' Church**

FLOWER ROTA

7 th October	Jane Tinson
21 st October	Celia Hall
4 th November	Pauline Bamber

HARVEST LUNCH

This year's Harvest Lunch will take place on Sunday 1st October at 12.15pm in the Village Hall. There will be a 3-course meal priced at £12.50, a licensed bar and a raffle. Tickets must be bought in advance from any member of the PCC and further information may be obtained from Lyndall Bagnall (*****) or Nadine Woakes (*****).

TREE OF LIGHT

On All Souls' Day, Thursday 2nd November, the lights will be switched on and the names of those remembered will be displayed both inside the church and in the porch. If you wish to subscribe to this way of commemorating relations and friends, please complete the enclosed form and return it to Jane Powell or Carol Yates by Friday 20th October.

10% of the proceeds from the Tree of Light will go to Caring Hands which gives practical support to individuals and families in need. Our help is needed more than ever this year as an increasing number of people are encountering great difficulties with the ever-rising cost of living.

VILLAGE HALL

The winners in the September 100 Club were:
1st Brian Gillis; 2nd Terry Drinkwater; 3rd Tony Woakes

Interested in hiring the hall? Please e-mail clvillagehallbookings@gmail.com or see our pages on the www.thelenches.org.uk website

Church Lench

SOUTH LENCHES PARISH COUNCIL

www.southlenchesparishcouncil.org

***** , clerk@southlenchesparishcouncil.org

Meetings of the Parish Council

Information can be found on the Church Lench notice board in the Croft, the notice board in Atch Lench and the Parish Council website. Meetings are held every two months: January, March, May, July, September and November. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Grant applications

The Parish Council has allocated in its budget a sum for organisations in the South Lenches area to apply for a grant to assist with any projects etc. An application form can be found on the Parish Council website – details above.

Bus shelter, Church Lench

The Council is very grateful to Mr & Mrs Shaw for replacing the bus shelter with a newer, smaller version. The Parish Council will take over maintenance of the shelter and add it to their insurance policy.



THE LENCHES TENNIS CLUB

Enjoy the resurfaced courts and
a wonderful view of the Malvern Hills

Adult and junior coaching courses

(membership is not necessary to take part in coaching courses)

ADULT beginners, rusty racquets and advanced players:

contact *****@*****

JUNIOR COURSES for all school-aged children on Saturday mornings;

5-7 year-olds at 9.15am: contact *****@*****

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: contact *****@*****



Harvington St James' Church

CAMEO TEAS

Wednesday 11th **October, 3pm in St James' Church**

Join us for a friendly afternoon and enjoy a cup of tea (or coffee), a slice of cake and a chance to catch up with the latest news. We'd love to see you!

FAITH TODAY

Friday 20th October, 10am at Breslau, Leys Rd

This month Dave Foster will lead a discussion on *The Last Judgement*. Our aim is to obtain a clearer understanding of the Last Judgement as it came to be understood in the time of the New Testament. Is it bad news – or good news? A great preparation would be to put your feet up and read *The Last Battle* by C S Lewis, the finale of the Narnia series.

For more information please get in touch with me on ***** or e-mail *****@*****. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sophie Dodds

Harvest Service and *Bring-and-Share* lunch

Sunday 15th October at 11am

The Family Harvest Service will be followed by a bring-and-share Harvest lunch in the church. There will be trestle tables at the back of the church to put food on, and soft drinks will be supplied. Weather permitting, we might go outdoors for part of the service!

Please also bring items for Caring Hands: tinned and dried food as well as toiletries and clean clothing (new underwear for children and adults is greatly appreciated).

Richard Thorniley

Harvington First School News

We have enjoyed seeing all our children and their families as they join our school for this academic year. The children looked very smart in their uniforms, eager to start the new year in new classrooms and with new teachers. It is lovely that our school family is back together.

We are thrilled to share the news that, following our Ofsted inspection in July, we have received a judgement of outstanding in all areas, with no areas to improve. It is incredibly difficult to even be considered for an outstanding judgement in one area but to achieve outstanding in all areas is very rare.



Ofsted recognised that pupils benefit from exceptional educational experiences ensuring high standards in the quality of education provided. They went on to say that **'leaders are determined all pupils reach their full potential' and 'they have designed a curriculum that ensures this vision is realised.'** The report also recognised that leaders provide **'inspirational leadership.'**

The school is described as a calm, orderly and purposeful place for pupils to **learn and pupils display 'extremely positive attitudes to learning.'** Pupils were recognised as taking an active part in school life, assuming responsibilities within school and having a genuine influence on decisions made.

We want to celebrate the commitment, high expectations and inspirational work of all staff, governors and pupils. We also want to recognise and thank all families for their continued support and belief in our school vision and values.

The school has a tremendous and dedicated team who are committed to providing the very best education and care for all. We are proud that our pupils make excellent progress through every curriculum area, develop a love of learning and aspire to be the best they can be. Ofsted recognised all children are extremely well prepared for the next stages of their education.

We are looking forward to this year; we know it will be a busy one – it always is!

Helen Fishbourne, Headteacher



Harvington

TREE OF LIGHT

Thursday 2nd November, 5.30pm: Tree of Light Service

The Tree of Light Service will be held at St James' Church on All Souls' Day, the day for Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. After the short service, the tree lights will be turned on and a Commemorative Scroll will be displayed in the prayer corner within the church.

If you would like to have the name of your loved one(s) written on the scroll, please complete the enclosed form or e-mail *****@***** by Monday 23rd October. Donations welcome.

GARDENING TEAM

Saturday 21st October, 9.30am-12 noon

The results of the churchyard competition have been announced and we were **placed second, which was disappointing after everyone's hard work. However, the village loved the gardens.**

Now autumn is upon us, there are many jobs to do in the church gardens. If you can spare a little of your day to help the team, we'd love to see you. We cannot promise good weather, but you will certainly be in good company and a break will be arranged around 11am for tea, coffee and more chat.

Clive Allen

HARVINGTON COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

(*****)



The Community Support group are a small team of volunteers who are available to support residents who need a hand. We can assist with transport, occasional shopping, small DIY jobs, dealing with admin, form-filling etc, friendly visiting or sitting with someone while a carer has a break. For bigger concerns, we may be able to provide advice about who to contact. If you think we can be of service, do please contact us on ***** (leave a message if we don't answer and we will get back to you).

Wendy and Konrad Monks (Coordinators)

Harvington

FILM NIGHT

THURSDAY 26th October, 7.45pm:

Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny (cert 12)

In 1936, archaeologist Indiana Jones is on a quest to find the Dial of Destiny, a powerful artefact that can control the weather. The Nazis are also after the Dial, and they will stop at nothing to get it. Jones must race against time to find the Dial and stop the Nazis from using it for their own evil purposes.

Doors open 7:15pm, screen illumination 7:45pm

Buy a raffle ticket at the door for £2.50 and see the film for free!

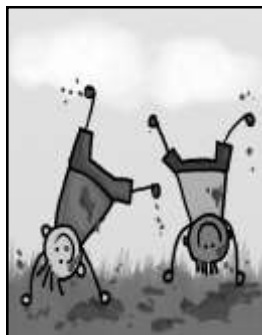
Provide your own glasses, drinks and nibbles and please take away all rubbish

PLEASE NOTE: THIS FILM WILL BE SHOWN ON THURSDAY

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 9th December, 10am-**1pm: St James' Christmas Fair**

Save the date!



Tots@HBC

Fridays, 10-11.30am during term time
at Harvington Baptist Chapel

We are a friendly group for babies & pre-school children, offering messy play, refreshments and a warm welcome. Cost: £2 per family

Please contact Becky (******) for more details

Financial emergency? Extra help needed? Live in Harvington?

St James' Church manages an emergency fund on behalf of the community. We've helped a number of people and are happy to help more. If you need a little financial assistance, please call

***** and we will offer what support we can.

Abbots Morton
St Peter's Church

(www.abbotsmorton.info/st-peters-church)

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Service will be held on Sunday 1st October at 11am. If you would like to put some simple flowers in the church, please do. Feel free to bring non-perishable food which will be given to Caring Hands in Evesham. Your donation can be left in the church.

HARVEST SUPPER

Friday 6th October, 7pm for 7.30pm

Join us in the village hall for a fabulous evening with pork and potatoes with mixed vegetables and tasty fruit crumbles. Only 50 seats available at £15 each. To reserve your seat, please make payment *in advance* to our Treasurer Tim Jones. If paying by bank transfer, please use these BACS details: account name: *PCC Abbots Morton*; sort code: **-*-* **, account number: ***** (please send an email confirming your payment to *****@*****). Cheques (made payable to *PCC Abbots Morton*) or cash should be taken or sent to Tim Jones, *****.

Please bring your own drinks. We'll be having a raffle and if you'd like to donate a raffle prize it would be gratefully received. *All proceeds for St Peter's church.*

PARISH COUNCIL

All parishioners are welcome to attend our Parish Council meetings. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd November at 8pm in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Residents are invited to put forward any ideas, concerns or queries during public question time. If you cannot attend in person then please raise issues with the Clerk at abbotsmortonpc@gmail.com.

There is currently one vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, please contact the Clerk for more information.

*See overleaf for more news
from Abbots Morton*

Abbots Morton

VILLAGE HALL

(www.abbotsmorton.info/abbots-morton-village-hall)

Living history of Abbots Morton (Muddy Morton)

What a brilliant, entertaining and informative evening we had last month. Our enormous thanks to Doris Gisbourne, her brother John Hulse, Marion Malin and Pat Roles for sharing their memories and knowledge of Abbots Morton in days gone by. We heard about Knob Squintum and The Ossle, we had tales of **ghosts and secret tunnels... amazing!** Thank you, too, for all the contributions and questions from a full house of residents, not just from Abbots Morton but also from neighbouring parishes.

New pilates classes

We're delighted that two pilates classes, run by Sally Morris from Bishampton, are now being held on Tuesday evenings:

- ◆ 5-6pm: beginner pilates and stretch
- ◆ 6.15-7.15pm: intermediate and advanced pilates

Sally is an experienced tutor who has been running classes for 40 years. Places are available but are limited – please book via www.positivefitnessuk.co.uk, or contact Sally on ***** or positivefitnessuk01@gmail.com.

Tuesday 3rd October, 10am-12 noon: Community coffee morning
October's community coffee morning will be a special one for two reasons:

1. the Chairman of Wychavon District Council, Councillor Robert Raphael, will be dropping in on his tour of every part of his Council's district. This is to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Council
2. This year is the 25th anniversary of our current village hall. We'll aim to have at least one birthday cake

The first Tuesday of each month between 10am and 12 noon is a permanent fixture in the Village Hall diary for the Community Coffee Morning. There are regularly around 16 people who come for a chat and a catch-up over coffee, tea and biscuits. We hope it will continue to grow as more and more people hear of its success. There is no charge.

Home & Garden

Garden Machinery Mobile Service & Repair

Will White

t: 01386 860 918
m: 07716 404489



GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Mowing, Hedge Cutting, Tree Pruning,
Turving, etc.

No job too small. References available.
Garden clearance service.

For a free quote phone Tony
T: 01386 854797 M: 07752 613814

EVERGREEN GARDEN MAINTENANCE

BRITANIA



SERVICES

The locally based company offering economical solutions
to all your heating and plumbing needs including servicing,
repairs and full bathroom installations

Tel : 01386 791321

Email: britserv1@gmail.com



C3297



190952



Worcester
Boiler Group
A Baxi Group Company

Pest Control

All aspects of pest control work
Domestic, commercial & agricultural
Fully insured, local, friendly service
Prompt and reliable service
Fully qualified & accredited

- Rodents
- Insects
- Squirrels
- Moles



Call Scott Badger on
01386 462627 07800 796 338

HINTON PEST CONTROL LTD

Local company providing pest solutions
to commercial & domestic clients
Wasps, Flies, Bed Bugs, Fleas, Ants,
Cockroaches, Carpet Moths/Beetles,
Rats, Mice, Squirrels, Moles & Birds
Fully Insured, BPCA/RSPH II Qualified
Call our friendly team on

Tel: 01386 41762 / 07775 168666
www.hintonpestcontrol.co.uk



FERNDOWN DIVERSIONS

- HARD WOOD LOGS
- SOFT WOOD LOGS
- WOODCHIP
- SAWN TIMBER



All of our fire wood is locally
grown and seasoned and can be
bought in small or large quantities,
local delivery can be arranged.

Call 01386 792951 for more info.
Leave a message and we will get
back to you.

www.ferndowndiversions.co.uk

Tame Design

Garden design, construction
& maintenance

Specialist pruning & horticultural
services

07840 281 429 or 01386 870150
jttamedesign@gmail.com

Home & Garden



Call us:
07818954203



Garden Rooms

Email us: info@cotswoldfurnituremakers.co.uk

WWW.COTSWOLDFURNITUREMAKERS.CO.UK

Local BUSINESS

- Garden Rooms - fully insulated offices, hobby rooms, garden bars, sheds, gyms and everything in between!

- Kitchen design, installation and refurbishment

- Any other carpentry/joinery services

Online shop - house signs (solid oak, painted in F&B colours), Gift Shop and solid oak garden furniture

Matthew J Stevens

- ♦ Painting & Decorating
- ♦ Artexing & Coving
- ♦ Wall & Floor Tiling



Tel: 01386 870956 Mobile: 07866 811209

ANDREW SMITH CHIMNEY SWEEP

Traditional and Power Sweeping
Clean, reliable and fully insured
smoke test, CCTV and certificates.
Evening and weekend appointments
also available



Member of the
Institute of Chimney
Sweeps

Based locally in Inkberrow

Phone: 01386 793248

Mobile: 07789 721303

ICS

Phil's Plumbing & Heating Ltd

Fully qualified and insured plumber

Competitive rates on all types of
plumbing including
bathrooms/showers/central heating

Call or email Phil on 07971 046392,
philmunday@hotmail.co.uk

NEIC APPROVED CONTRACTOR **NEIC** DOMESTIC INSTALLER

Electrician

All Types of domestic, retail and commercial electrical work
Fully Qualified, Design, Testing and Inspection, Replacement Consumer Units
Installation and Maintenance. All work fully Certified and Insured

Tel:- 01386 870931 Mob:- 07771 616189
Marchwood Maintenance Company
2 Walnut close, Harvington, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 8LS
trevor@marchwoodmaintenance.co.uk

PJ LAIGHT

Fuel Merchants

COAL & CALOR GAS

- Summer Fuels • Patio Gas
- Charcoal • Kiln Dried Logs
- BBQs and Appliances

Contact your local approved coal merchant

The Coal Yard, Worcester Road,
Evesham. WR11 4XF Tel: 01386 760164

Located to the left of Tesco car park.

Put some **CALOR** in your life



Services

Registered Osteopaths



Russell Sutton D.O
Rachel Quickenden D.O
98 High Street, Evesham,
Worcs. WR11 4EU

01386 421821

www.eveshamnaturalhealth.co.uk



EVESHAM SELF STORAGE AT BLACKMINSTER



**Secure Compound
for Domestic or
Commercial Goods**

24 HR DIRECT ACCESS



Small Unit: 8ft x 10ft or Large Unit: 8ft x 20ft

CONTACT US TODAY - 01386 834422
e.storage@blackminsterbusinesspark.co.uk

Thinking about Retirement?

Certified Business & Personal Coach (ICF)

Carolyn Hodges

07818 014888

carolyn@mycleardirection.com
www.mycleardirection.com

*Retirement Transition
Coaching can help
you plan your
future...*



*...for details and a
free consultation
please call or
email*

cleardirection



REVIVAL
MIND · BODY · STRENGTH

Your Health & Wellbeing Centre

Physiotherapy Osteopathy Sports Massage
Acupuncture Studio Gym Personal Training
Rehabilitation Clinical Pilates Podiatry
Nutritional Therapy Kinesiology Counselling
Mindfulness Hypnotherapy Clinical Psychology

inkberrowphysioacupuncture.co.uk **01386 792126**

Advertising in the ARCH Messenger

There is no better way to reach
over 1,200 households in
Harvington and the Lenches.

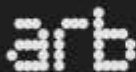
Simply contact Chris Reed at
advertising@archbenefice.org.uk



**BE THE BEST
VERSION OF YOURSELF**

12A ATCH LENCH ROAD
CHURCH LENCH, EVESHAM, WR11 4UG
COLINLAYTON@GMAIL.COM

01386 871609
07939 522 097



Architects Registration Board
Registered as an architect under the Architects Act 1967



ARCHITECT

Chris Reed BSc.(Hons) Dip.Arch. ARB www.reedarchitect.co.uk
01386 870644 07754 348840 reedarchitect@icloud.com

Planning permission
Building regulations

Leisure/Services

ELLENDEN *Farmshop*

Your local friendly farmshop

**Quality food from our own farm
and trusted local suppliers**

Our own beef, lamb, sausage & bacon

Café now serving breakfast & lunch

Gift vouchers; hampers made to order

Call us on **01386 870296**

Email shop@ellendenfarmshop.co.uk

Shop open **9am to 6pm** every day
Café 9am-4pm (hot food 9.30am-3pm)



THE LODGE BEAUTY *and* WELLBEING

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE • REFLEXOLOGY
HOT STONE THERAPY • THAI HERBAL THERAPY
FACIALS • VEGAN TREATMENTS
MANICURES • PEDICURES
GEL POLISH • WAXING & TINTING
MENS GROOMING • SPRAY TANS
PAMPER PACKAGES

'An oasis of peace & tranquility from the moment you walk through the door'

'The perfect pick-me-up, a fabulous experience'

THE LODGE

At The Vale Golf Club
Hill Furze Road, Bishampton, WR10 2LZ

www.thelodgetherapy.com **01386 462189**
contact@thelodgetherapy.com

TAPCAST computer services

Local, trusted IT support done remotely & onsite
IT Support • Microsoft Office 365 & Cloud
Remote Working Solutions • Computer Equipment
Security Services • Backup & Disaster Recovery

Call **01386 792196**
jane.neal@tapcast.co.uk



www.tapcast.co.uk

MAI DUDLEY

Tailor and Dress Maker



Perfect Time
Alcester Road
Radford WR7 4LS

Business 01386 792206
Home 01386 793284

chris.dudley@dudleys-coaches.co.uk

**Local.
Trusted.
Dedicated.**

**Thomson
& Bancks
SOLICITORS**
You matter to us

tbsolicitors.co.uk

Pershore Tewkesbury Cheltenham Stratford-upon-Avon
01386 562000 01684 299633 01242 235250 01789 295544

Key to Church Services

BCP Book of Common Prayer
Service

*All other communion services use
the Common Worship liturgy*

ARCH Benefice November 2023

	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
(key on p26)				
Thursday 2 nd November All Souls	7pm All Souls Service			
5 th November All Saints Day		8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) in Rous Lench Village Hall	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Service 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)
Wednesday 8 th November				11am Holy Communion (BCP)
12 th November Remembrance Sunday	10.30am Remembrance Service		10.50am Remembrance Service	10.30am Remembrance Service
19 th November		11am Morning Service in Rous Lench Village Hall	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30am Family Service
26 th November Christ the King	11am Holy Communion		11am Family Service	9.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 29 th November				11am Holy Communion

ARCH Benefice October 2023

(key on p26)	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
1 st October	11am Harvest Thanksgiving	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Harvest Communion Service	9.30am Morning Service 3.30pm Messy Church at Harvington Village Hall 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)
Wednesday 4 th October				11am Holy Communion (BCP)
8 th October		11am Harvest Thanksgiving	11am Morning Service	9.30am Holy Communion
15 th October	11am Holy Communion	11am Morning Service	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Family Harvest Service
Wednesday 18 th October				11am Holy Communion
22 nd October			11am Family Service	9.30am Holy Communion
29 th October			10am Benefice Eucharist	