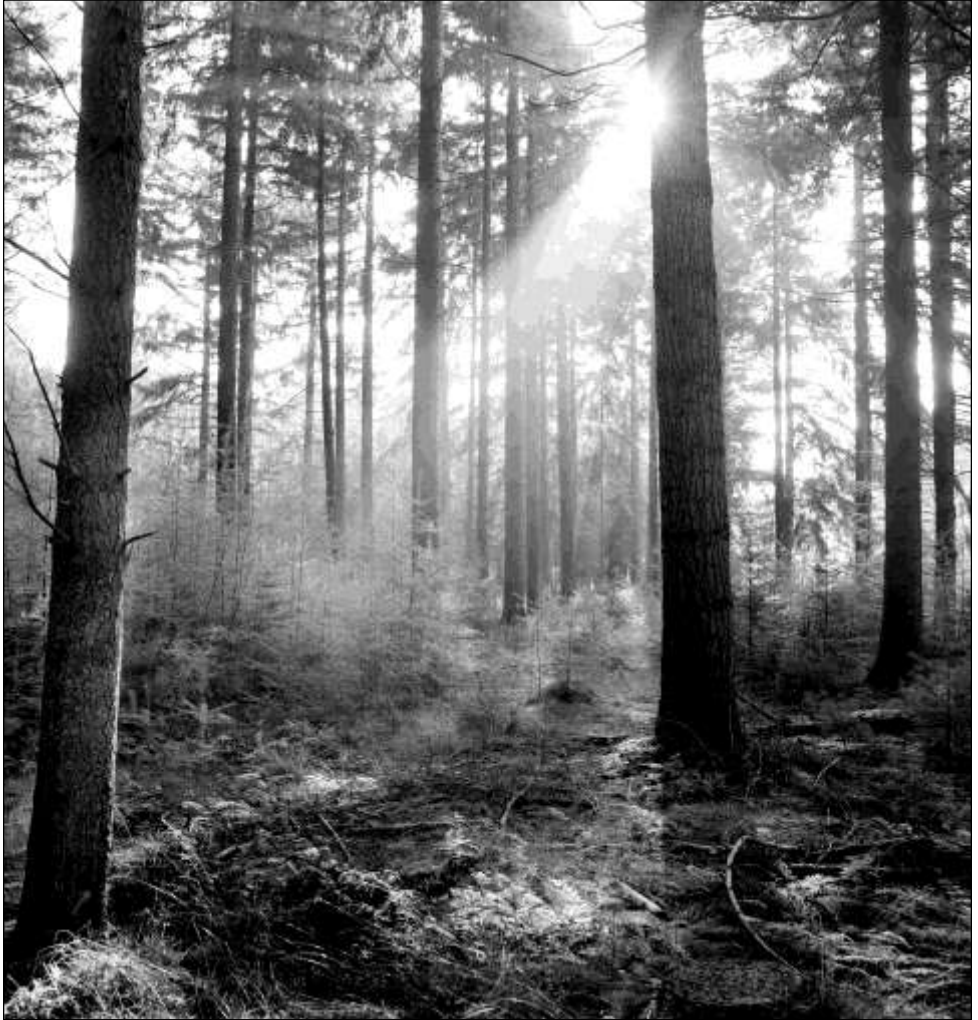




The ARCH Messenger

*To show our love for God and You
October 2024*



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>Joel 2:21-27; Psalm 126; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Matthew 6:25-33</i>
6 th October	Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16
13 th October	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Psalm 90:12-17; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31
20 th October	Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91:9-16; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45
27 th October	Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52
3 rd November All Saints Day	Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24:1-6; Revelation 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44
10 th November Remembrance Sunday	Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-end; Hebrews 9:24-end; Mark 1:14-20
17 th November	Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8
24 th November Christ the King	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

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

Thought for the month

The hats we wear

I don't often think about hats. It's not that I don't like them, more that they try to escape from me. They never stay on my head! I wore a fascinator to our son's wedding rather than a hat. And I was once punished at school for not wearing my school hat while waiting to go on a school trip; said hat had fallen off my head 30 seconds before the headteacher spotted me.

So, when the recent hat exhibition was announced, I was mildly interested but **not excited**. However, when I saw the exhibition in St James' Church, I was blown away. Thank you so much to everyone involved in putting this display together, greeting people and serving the refreshments.

There were over 200 hats documenting the stages of our lives. It reminded me of the quote from *As You Like It, Act II, scene VII*. **'All the world's a stage...and one man in his time plays many parts. His acts being the seven ages.'**

There, through the medium of hats, our lives were depicted – from christening bonnets on the font; children's hats, including school hats and those of the uniformed youth organisations; work hats including nurses and the emergency services; bishops' mitres and wedding veils up by the altar; hats from around the world and through the ages; military hats worn in conflict by villagers in times gone by, displayed beside the photos of those who fell in the two world wars; and finally the mourning hats that no one wants to wear, displayed on the bier.

In our lives we wear many hats and play many parts: child, sibling, parent, employee or employer, retiree and those who are grieving. Richard and I are experiencing and preparing for changes as our mothers have recently died and retirement is on the horizon. Our lives change, just like the hats we wear.

Those hats filling the church touched me in a way I hadn't expected. As Ecclesiastes says, *'there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heaven'* (Ecclesiastes 2:1).

Gill Thorniley

Stop date for next issue: Monday 7th October

Rector's Corner

Daily prayers: via Zoom – contact me for details
8.30am and 6pm (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.
(contact me on 01386 870527) Please feel free to ask even if you are only temporarily out of commission

Men's Night
8.30pm
Wednesday 23rd October at The Lenches Club, Church Lench,
Come and enjoy a pint. £12 for the kitty – any surplus wisely contributed to worthy causes. Reserve your place: rector@archbenefice.org.uk or 01386 870527



Messy Church: save the date!

November's Messy Church will be held on Sunday
17th November. More details in the next issue...

We do the works, but God works in us the doing of the works. (St Augustine)
We don't change God's message – His message changes us.

From the Registers

Church Lench

15 th August	Funeral	Robert Adkins
2 nd September	Memorial	Beryl Berry

Notices

ST JAMES' HARVINGTON PRESENTS

Transition – to a new civilization?

A talk by Chris Haynes on how and why our world got to this position

Tuesday 22nd October, 7pm for 7.30pm at Harvington Village Hall

Massive climate and environmental change is now unavoidable, but quite how disruptive it will be remains in the hands of national governments. Chris Haynes, who recently completed a Masters degree in Sustainability and Adaptation, will explore how and why our society has arrived at the threshold of a challenging transition.

This transition from our existing industrial, oil-fired civilization will have to endure extreme weather, rising sea levels, collapse of our food supply and widespread human migration before we can start to use only solar power to repair and maintain a healthy planet.

Chris will explore what we, as individuals, households and a community, can do to minimise the continuing damage we are causing, to adapt to the forthcoming challenges and to survive to re-build a sustainable way of life.

An apology and a 'thank you'

We would like to apologise for the late delivery of the September issue of the *ARCH Messenger*. Unfortunately the printing company who produced the magazine suddenly ceased trading just as the issue was due to be printed.

We would like to say a very big 'thank you' to Mike Barbour, editor of the *Harvington Village Newsletter*, for finding a replacement company who were willing to print our 1,300+ copies at very short notice. Thank you Mike!

Notices

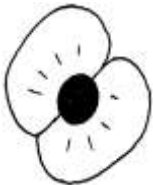
ALL SOULS SERVICE & TREE OF LIGHT

Saturday 2nd **November, 6.30pm at St James', Harvington**

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 11am on Sunday 10th November at the village war memorials of Abbots Morton (inside the church), Church Lench and Harvington (both in the churchyard). Everyone is welcome

Caring Hands food bank: PLEASE KEEP IT GOING!

The following items are always in demand:

- ◆ Toiletries
- ◆ 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?)
- ◆ Tinned 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.

Care for Creation

António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, has said that we're at 'code red for humanity: the alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable. Greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk.'

At this time of Creationtide, how are we to respond to these climate concerns?

The world belongs to God: '*The earth is the Lord's and everything in it*' (Psalm 24:1). The world is not ours, but God's! We are called to share in care for God's world. '*Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground*' (Genesis 1:28). We represent God by governing with the same self-giving generosity that we see in His creation of the earth. This challenges our consumer mindset that sees the earth's resources as both limitless and existing simply for our needs. For example, the fashion industry uses as much carbon per minute as a car emits going six times round the world! How can we make a difference in our world?

We belong to Christ: We also belong to the one whose plan is '*to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ*' (Ephesians 1:10). We can look forward to the time when God will create a new heaven and a new earth and make everything new. Meanwhile, we are called to serve as He serves, caring for the earth and our fellow humans, by living simply, recycling, conserving energy and choosing reusable options.

In terms of our world, there is no plan B! God gave us only one planet!

Canon Paul Hardingham

Musings...

The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off.

Ever feel like life is a car wash and you're on a bicycle?

If you lend someone £20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

1 & 2 Kings: what's the big idea?

Continuing the series introducing the books of the Bible...

1 & 2 Kings is a single literary work telling the history of Israel's monarchy from the end of David's reign until the Babylonian exile following the fall of Jerusalem (586 BC). After Solomon's reign, Israel was divided into two kingdoms: Israel to the north and Judah in the south. In the north 20 rulers reigned over 210 years until the fall of Samaria (722 BC). In the southern kingdom there were also 20 rulers, spanning a period of 345 years.

This account is not like reading a modern history book. The author views the story through the lens of God's relationship with His people. The welfare of Israel depended on their leaders' trust and obedience in God (eg Solomon building the Temple) as well as listening to the prophets (eg Elijah and Elisha). The kings who receive the most attention are those whose disobedience is greatest (eg Ahab and Manasseh) or those who truly follow God (eg Hezekiah and Josiah).

The book ends with exile in Babylon, fulfilling God's warning of the consequences of disobedience for both kingdoms (*cf Deuteronomy 28:64–68*). However, this doesn't mean there is no hope for the future. At the end of the book, Jehoiachin is released from prison in Babylon and given a place of honour (*2 Kings 25:27–30*). The future remains open for God to fulfill His promises to the house of David.

'We begin to realise that if God's sovereignty is never cancelled out by the so deeply sin-flawed leaders ('kings') in both our culture and our church, we can quite cheerfully exult in God's sovereignty as it is being exercised in all the circumstantial details of the actual present.' (E Peterson).

Canon Paul Hardingham

More musings...

Your child has started growing up when he stops asking you where he came from and starts refusing to tell you where he's going.

Reality is the leading cause of stress.

Do what you can for who you can with what you have and where you are.

Learn to 'wait well'

'My future is in Your hands...'

In her helpful book *When, God, When?* Joyce Meyer writes, 'God has taught me to keep living the life I now have, while I am waiting for the things that are in my heart to come to pass. We can become so intent on trying to birth the next things that we neither enjoy nor take care of the things at hand. I had a vision from God ten years before I began to see it fulfilled. During those years, I believe I missed a lot of joy trying to give it birth outside of God's timing.'

Learn to enjoy where you are, while you're waiting to get to where you want to be. After all, throughout your life you will spend more time waiting than you will receiving. And when you receive what you're waiting for, you'll begin waiting for something else. That's life! If we don't learn to 'wait well', we'll live with endless frustration.

Waiting well is what will deliver our dream. *'In due season we shall reap, if we faint not'* (Galatians 6:9). Due season is when God knows we're ready, not when we think we are. He has set times to accomplish certain things in our life, so we might as well settle down and wait patiently, because that's when it will happen – and not before.

God knows what you need, He knows when you need it and He knows how to get it to you. All He asks you to do is trust Him.

Adapted from UCB Word for Today

Notices that didn't quite work...

We are always happy to have you sue our facility.

Would the person who took the church step ladder last week please bring it back, or further steps will be taken.

Worshippers are asked to wail until the choir has been served Holy Communion.

Our visiting monster today is the Revd Jack Bains.

Hymn: 'I am Thin, O Lord'

On the perils of becoming a school governor

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,

I was interested to hear that your vicar has asked you to take his place as a school governor. A whole new world of exciting meetings is about to open up to you. Naturally, you will have been told that the governors only meet three times a year. You will probably not have been told that you will also be expected to be on at least two sub-committees, where you will be immediately asked to become secretary, as a way of getting to know the job. Add on training days, **parents' evenings, sports days, school socials, end of term services, charity events** and accompanying classes on days out and you will begin to realise that your **vicar's suggestion was not as innocent as you may have thought.**

Remember, too, that all meetings require you sit on chairs designed for five-year-olds. You will then spend countless hours going through a 40-item agenda, trying to look dignified with your knees somewhere round your ears while drawing up school plans as if they were the Normandy landing. Be prepared to receive paperwork measured by the hundredweight; entire rainforests have been obliterated by your education authority sending what they seem to think is vital information. It does, however, make good cat litter.

Most meetings will be so full of acronyms that for the first few years you will have the feeling the conversation is taking place in a language that may bear a **passing resemblance to English, but isn't. There is little point in trying to learn** what they all mean because, before too long, they will be replaced by another set which will be equally incomprehensible.

You will also be encouraged to attend training days. I suggest you select all-day **events, as at least you will get a lunch out of it. You needn't bother to arrive on** time, since the first hour will be spent with everyone introducing themselves and you can leave early, as the final hour will go on filling in evaluation forms.

Just keep reminding yourself that your term of office is a mere five years; you may even get remission for good behaviour.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Harvington First School News

After a lovely summer break, it has been great to welcome back our children and families to a new school year. We have all been busy learning new class routines, particularly the children who have started in Nursery and Reception.

We had an exciting start to the term with our theme days during the first week. On our science theme day we enjoyed a visit from a planetarium with a huge explorer dome set up in the hall for the children to visit. Children in KS1 went into the dome to listen to a story introducing them to the Earth, moon and stars. They looked at different phases of the moon and discovered how to find pictures in the stars. In KS2 the children did some star spotting to discover the constellations and the stories behind them.

We also had a PE enrichment day where the children in KS1 and KS2 learnt to play futsal. Futsal is a type of football played indoors between two teams of five players. As well as getting lots of exercise the children were able to develop their team-building skills and have lots of fun!

This term we are focusing on the school value of 'truthfulness'. In worship we have been thinking about how in everyday life people can find it difficult to be truthful; sometimes telling the truth can get us into trouble. We have shared some stories to explore the importance of telling the truth: the children enjoyed reading and discussing the fable *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*.

We are looking forward to lots more exciting learning opportunities and trips throughout the rest of the term.

Becky Enstone, Acting Headteacher

PS. We currently have a vacancy for a community governor. If anyone would like to join our governing body or would like more information, please contact the school office on office@harvington.worcs.sch.uk.

Financial emergency? Extra help needed? Live in Harvington?

St James' Church manages an emergency fund on behalf of the community. If you need a little financial assistance, please call

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

Harvington St James' Church

CAMEO TEAS

Wednesday 9th **October, 3pm at St James' Church**

You are warmly invited to join us for tea and cakes and a lovely chat with friends. It will also be a chance to sign up for our Christmas lunch, which will take place at the Kings Court Hotel on Wednesday 11th December, as we will have their Christmas menu available for you to choose your meal.

For more information or to request a lift please contact Sophie on ***** or *****@*****. We look forward to seeing you!

FAITH TODAY

Friday 11th October, 10am at *****, Leys Rd

At this month's meeting, Graham Pearson will present a fascinating talk on *Jesus through the Middle Eastern Eyes*. He will walk us through a number of stories and parables which highlight the culture at the time. Join us for a chat and a chance to exchange ideas and support. Refreshments are served.

If you have any questions or would like to know more, please contact Sophie (*****, *****@*****).

Harvest Service and 'Bring and Share' lunch

Sunday 20th October, 11am

The Harvest Service at Harvington will start at 11am (weather permitting, we might go outdoors for part of the service!) and will be *followed by a Family 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.

Please bring a donation for Caring Hands: tinned or dried food, toiletries or clean clothing – new underwear for children and adults is greatly appreciated!

Richard Thorniley

Harvington

GARDENING TEAM

Saturday 12th October, 9.30am-12noon

Another year is nearly over and this is the penultimate meeting of our loyal team in 2024. I am sure Joy and Julian will have a list of urgent jobs, so please spare a little of your day to help. I can promise good company and a break around 11am for tea, coffee and chat.

Clive Allen

TREE OF LIGHT

Saturday 2nd November, 6.30pm

The Tree of Light Service will be held at St James' Church on All Souls' Day, and will include the illumination of the Tree of Light in the churchyard.

If you would like to have the name of your loved one(s) written on our Commemorative Scroll, please return the enclosed form or get in touch with Elliot Grainger (*****@*****) by Friday 25th October.



CATCH UP
OVER COFFEE &
CAKE

ST JAMES'S CHURCH PRESENTS

A SEASON TO BE JOLLY

STARTING WITH....

THURSDAY 7th NOVEMBER 10am-12pm
&
SATURDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2-4pm
AT
ST JAMES'S CHURCH, HARVINGTON

EVERYONE WELCOME

PROCEEDS FROM THE CARD SALES WILL GO TO THE HARVINGTON YOUTH PROJECT
DONATIONS FOR REFRESHMENTS & CRAFTS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

PURCHASE BEAUTIFUL
LOCALLY HANDMADE
CHRISTMAS CARDS

BE PART OF OUR BIG
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS
CRAFT
MAKING DECORATIONS
FOR THE CHURCH TREE

MAKE YOUR OWN
CHRISTMAS CREATION
TO TAKE HOME

Harvington

FILM NIGHT

Friday 25th October, 7.15pm: *Wild* (cert 15)

After years of reckless behaviour, a heroin addiction and the destruction of her marriage, Cheryl Strayed makes a rash decision. Haunted by memories of her mother Bobbi, and with absolutely no experience, she sets out on her own to hike more than a thousand miles on the Pacific Crest Trail. *Wild* powerfully reveals her terrors and pleasures as she forges ahead on a journey that maddens, strengthens and ultimately heals her.

Doors open 7.15 pm; 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

THE FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH?

Wednesday 20th **November, 7.30pm at St James' Church**

You are invited to join us for a conversation on the future of our church

This will be a workshop to discuss the fabric of our ancient building and how we can make it practical and sustainable for the future. More details in the November issue...

HARVINGTON COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

(*****)

The Community Support Group are a small team of DBS-checked volunteers who are available to support residents needing a hand at any time. We are often able to assist with:



- ◆ transport for appointments or shopping
- ◆ small DIY jobs or gardening
- ◆ helping with admin eg form-filling
- ◆ a friendly visit or chat, or sit-in while a carer takes a short break

For bigger concerns we may be able to give advice or point you in the right direction. So, if you need help please contact Wendy and Konrad Monks on ***** (leave a message if we don't answer and we will get back to you).

Abbots Morton
St Peter's Church

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

HARVEST SUPPER & QUIZ

Friday 11th October, 7pm in the village hall

As always, this is the main fundraiser for St Peter's Church and will be a sit-down meal of shepherd's pie/cottage pie (with a vegetarian option) and fruit crumble. Pippa Heenan will provide an excellent quiz, as she did last year, and there will be a raffle. Please bring your own drinks.

There are a maximum of 50 places so if you would like to come, please book your places with Lynne Pemberton (*****). The cost is £15 a head and, like last year, we would ask you to pay in advance by bank transfer (account name: PCC Abbots Morton; sort code: 30-98-26; account number: 01143779).

We hope you will join us for a very enjoyable evening

KEVIN'S PLAQUE

The new gates at the top of the church steps were paid for by donations at the funeral of the late Kevin Clarke, who was churchwarden at St Peter's for 16 years. The plaque, newly installed on the gate, reads '*In memory of Kevin Clarke, a farmer, gentleman, carer of land and neighbour*'. We will always remember him.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

If anyone would like to join the rota of people who create flower arrangements for the church throughout the year, please contact Roma at *****@*****.

DIARY DATES FOR CHRISTMAS

Please add the following dates to your diary:

- ◆ Sunday 8th December, 4pm: *Carol and Gift Service*
- ◆ Friday 20th December, 6pm: *Carols on the Green* (hot dogs, mulled wine)
- ◆ Tuesday 24th December, 9pm: *Christmas Communion*

Abbots Morton

PARISH COUNCIL

All parishioners are welcome to attend our Parish Council meetings. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 26th September 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 a meeting in person then please raise issues with the Clerk at abbotsmortonpc@gmail.com.

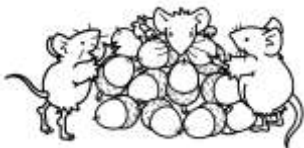
There is currently one Councillor vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor or would like more information, please contact the Clerk.

Parish Paths Warden vacancy

Abbots Morton has a vacancy for a Parish Paths Warden due to the relocation of the current warden, Tim Jones. The Parish Council would like to thank Tim for his dedication to the role over many years, it has been greatly appreciated.

The Parish Paths Warden is a voluntary role supporting the Public Rights of Way Team at Worcestershire County Council by helping with statutory duties, proactive inspections and other improvements to the network. More information about the role including a person specification, role description and application form can be found on the Worcestershire County Council website at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/environment/countryside-and-leisure/public-rights-way/public-rights-way-volunteering. If you are interested, please complete an application form. Once the Public Rights of Way Team has received a completed application form, a local meeting is arranged to chat through the role with the candidate. Following a successful application **there is a mandatory one day 'Essentials' training course to attend before starting the role.**

If you would like to discuss the role further you can also contact the Clerk at abbotsmortonpc@gmail.com.



Abbots Morton

VILLAGE HALL

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

Tuesday 1st October, 10am-12noon: Community coffee morning
If you haven't been to one of our community coffee mornings yet, do drop by! It's relaxed and you don't have to be there for the whole two hours – you can come and go whenever you wish. Everyone is welcome to come along for a chat. Catch-up over tea, coffee and biscuits (and cake sometimes!) There is no entry fee and the refreshments are free of charge.

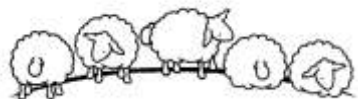
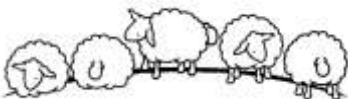
Saturday 30th November, 10am-2pm: Christmas Fayre
The village hall is staging a Christmas Fayre for the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic. There will be a range of seasonal products available on a dozen or so **table tops. Refreshments will be on sale and there'll be a raffle, all to raise funds** for the village hall. Entry will be free. Do put the date in your diary and tell your friends and family about it.

Come and join us!

Would you like to become a member of the Village Hall Committee? We need new people to help run this wonderful community space. The committee meets **in the hall once every six weeks or so. It's not onerous but it is vital that we** have enough people to run the hall, a registered charity. The current committee comprises Lynne Pemberton (Chair); Pat Willingale (Secretary); Sarah Dykes (Treasurer); Colin Pemberton (Bookings Officer) and Jacki Allum (Parish Council Representative). If you fancy joining us, please contact Lynne on *****.

Easyfundraising

Our 26 EasyFundraisers have now brought a total of £1,300 to the village hall accounts since we joined the scheme in 2015. If you're not signed up yet, please **join today and raise free donations every time you shop online. We'd love to** recruit more supporters. If you shop online and would like to raise funds for the village hall, please sign up today – go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbotsmortonvillagehall.



Rous Lench

St Peter's Church

AUTUMN SUPPER

Saturday 19th October, 7pm

Come along to the village hall for a delicious 2-course meal and some fun games. The bar will be open and there will be a grand prize raffle. Tickets are just £15 each and all proceeds go towards St Peter's church funds. Why not get a table of friends together or just come along and join a table? It's a great way to meet new people.

For tickets please contact Fran on ***** or *****@*****.

VILLAGE HALL

Friday 4th and 18th October, 7.30pm: Pub night

Now the nights are drawing in, please pop in to enjoy a glass of something, some bar snacks and great chat and camaraderie. All are welcome! The pub will also be open on the following dates:

- ◆ Friday 1st, 15th & 29th November
- ◆ Friday 13th December
- ◆ Monday 23rd December: *Home for Christmas*

If you would like to run a pub night please contact Tracy Browne on ***** or *****@***** **for further details. It's really** easy and fun to do with a friend. Themed nights are encouraged.

PARISH COUNCIL

Council meetings

All parishioners are welcome to attend our meetings. The next meeting will be held on Monday 18th November at 7pm in the 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, on rouslenchpc@gmail.com.

Rous Lench

COUNCILLOR VACANCY

We currently have one vacancy on the parish 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, Kerry Williamson (rouslenchpc@gmail.com) who will be happy to help.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION ROUS LENCH AND INKBERROW BRANCH



POPPY APPEAL COFFEE MORNINGS

Saturday 19th October: The Boot Inn, Flyford Flavell

Wednesday 13th November: The Wheelbarrow Castle, Radford
10.30am - 12 noon

Raffle, Rollover Raffle, Homemade Cakes and more
Entrance £2 (includes light refreshment)

All welcome

Proceeds to RBL Poppy Appeal



*'It's either an appeal to youth culture
or we can't afford to service the
boiler for the winter season'*

Church Lench First School News

Welcome back

It is so lovely to welcome the children and staff back to school. The warm, friendly smiles and buzz of excitement is great to come back to after the long summer break. The children have settled in very well to their new classes and are already immersed in their learning!

We welcome two new teachers to our team this year: Mrs Morgan-Lewis who is teaching years 2/3 and Mr Enstone who is teaching years 4/5. We also welcome Miss Bullock who is our new office/finance manager.

We have an exciting curriculum planned this half term with our youngest pupils learning all about their family and where they live. Our Year 2/3 pupils will be finding out about the Tudor period including Henry VIII and his six wives. We are hoping to host a history workshop to bring the Tudor period alive in the classroom! Our Year 4 and 5 pupils are studying the Anglo-Saxon period and will be finding out where the Saxons came from and why they invaded.

Christian value: Service

Our Christian value this half term focuses on 'service'. Jesus exemplified in his person, ministry and relationship with God, what it was to be called the 'servant king'. Christians believe that their calling is to follow Jesus' example according to their gifts or abilities. They believe that through serving God in others, 'perfect freedom' will ultimately be found.

This half term we will be reading Biblical stories focusing on service including the parables of the Good Samaritan and the faithful servant and the talents, and the stories of Lydia, Elijah and the widow, Jesus feeding the 5000 and kind Dorcas. We will also be looking at people through history who have served others including Jesse Boot, Florence Nightingale, Harold Moody and Mary Prince. Our school will also serve the local community during harvest season by collecting and donating food and hygiene items to Caring Hands food bank.

Open morning

We are holding our open morning for new families on Thursday 26th September from 9.30-10.30am. Please contact the school office on 870297 for more information.

Mrs S Price, Headteacher

Church Lench **All Saints' Church**

FLOWER ROTA

12 th October	Pauline Bamber
26 th October	Ann Quickenden
9 th November	Jenny Dainty

HARVEST LUNCH

Sunday 6th October, 12.15pm in the Village Hall

A reminder that there is still time to purchase your ticket for the Harvest Lunch. The 2-course meal is priced at £12.50 and there will be a bar and raffle. Tickets are available from Jane Powell, Celia Hall, Lyndall Bagnall or Nadine Woakes and further information is available from Nadine at *****@*****.

TREE OF LIGHT

On All Souls' Day, Saturday 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 18th October.

10% of the net income from the Tree of Light will be sent to Caring Hands.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please put the following November dates in your diary!

- ◆ Tuesday 12th November: *Autumn coffee morning* in The Lenches Club
- ◆ Saturday 30th November: *Christmas Fayre* in the Village Hall

Further information about both events can be obtained by contacting Nadine at *****@*****.

See overleaf for more news from Church Lench

Church Lench

LENCHES WI

On Monday 21st October we will be holding an *Autumnal Craft Afternoon* at 2pm in The Lenches Club. Why not come along and create, enjoy tea/coffee, cake and chat with our WI? Contact Jean Houlton, Secretary, on ***** or e-mail lencheswi@gmail.com for further details.

JAM AND CHUTNEY MAKERS REQUIRED!

Are you a dab hand at making jam? A wizard at making chutney? Your village needs you! The team that has been making vast quantities of both commodities for Christmas Fayres and Flower Festivals would like to retire and are hoping a new team of cooks can be found.

If you can offer help (and your kitchen) please get in touch with Gill Proops or e-mail arch@archbenefice.org.uk and we will pass a message on. The current team are very happy to share their recipes and useful tips!

SOUTH LENCHES PARISH COUNCIL

www.southlenchesparishcouncil.org

***** , clerk@southlenchesparishcouncil.org

Meetings of the Parish Council

Information can be found on the notice board in Atch Lench, the Parish Council website and the Lenches Community Facebook page. Meetings are held every two months in January, March, May, July, September and November, and all parishioners are welcome to attend.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11th November at 7pm in Church Lench Village Hall.



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Key to Church Services

VH Village Hall
BCP Book of Common Prayer
Service

*All other communion services use
the Common Worship liturgy*

ARCH Benefice November 2024

	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
(key on p26)				
Saturday 2 nd November All Souls Day			5.30pm Tree of Light Service	6.30pm All Souls and Tree of Light Service
3 rd November All Saints Day		8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) at Rous Lench VH	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Service 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)
<u>Tuesday</u> 5 th November				11am Holy Communion (BCP)
10 th November Remembrance Sunday	10.30am Remembrance Service		10.50am Remembrance Service	10.30am Remembrance Service
17 th November		11am Morning Service at Rous Lench VH	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30am Family Service 3pm Messy Church at Harvington VH
<u>Tuesday</u> 19 th November				11am Holy Communion
24 th November Christ the King	11am Holy Communion		11am Family Service	9.30am Holy Communion

ARCH Benefice October 2024

(key on p26)	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
6 th October		8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Harvest Communion Service	9.30am Morning Service 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)
Wednesday 9 th October				11am Holy Communion (BCP)
13 th October	11am Harvest Thanksgiving		11am Morning Service	9.30am Holy Communion
20 th October		11am Harvest Thanksgiving	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Family Harvest Service with lunch
<u>Tuesday</u> 22 nd October				11am Holy Communion
27 th October	11am Holy Communion		11am Family Service	9.30am Stewardship & Holy Communion