



# Ombersley & Doverdale Parish Magazine

**September  
2024**



This on-line edition supports the printed version.

Please see the printed issue for full advertisements.

A list of advertisers plus their contact details is at the end of this on-line issue.



## Severn Parishes Service Rota

September 2024

September 1st	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	Sunday 1st	Hartlebury
	10.30am	FS	Elmbridge
	11.00am	MP	Doverdale
	11.00am	HC-CW	<b>Ombersley</b>
September 8th	9.00am	HC-CW	Rushock
	10.00am	FS	<b>Ombersley</b>
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
September 15th	9.00am	HC-CW	Elmbridge
	10.00am	Harvest Service	<b>Ombersley</b>
	10.00am	MP	Hartlebury
	11.00am	HC-BCP	Doverdale
	6.00pm	Harvest	Hampton Lovett
September 22nd	9.00am	HC-BCP	Elmley Lovett
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
September 29th	10.00am	HC-CW Benefice Service*	Hampton Lovett
October 6th	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.30am	Harvest	Elmbridge
	11.00am	MP	Doverdale
	12.00pm	Harvest Service & Lunch	<b>Ombersley Memorial Hall</b>
	2.30pm	Harvest Thanksgiving	Bells Farm Shop

HC Holy Communion; CW common Worship; BCP Book of Common Prayer;

FS Family Service; MP Morning Prayer

\*Benefice Service followed by refreshments: Stephen's last Service.

Morning Prayer 9.15: 18<sup>th</sup> September at Ombersley

## Parish Register: St Andrew's Church

### Baptisms

June 2nd	Jax David Chambers
June 2nd	Verity Grace Sanders & Hugh David Sanders
July 7th	Tobias Peter Dodge

### Weddings

June 21st	Amelia Belham & Sam Coulson
June 22nd	Abie Davies & George Stallard-Pearson
July 12 <sup>th</sup> (Wedding Blessing)	Shona Cutler & Gary Stephens

### Rota for St Andrew's Church

Date	Service	Sidespeople	Intercessor	Lector
Sept 1st	HC-CW	Louise & Mark Tarleton-Hodgson	Liz Hooper	Angela Randle
Sept 8th	FS	Lynne Hunter, Jenny Ransome	-	-
Sept 15th	Harvest Festival	Phil & Gail Filer	Marjorie Workman	David Wood
October 6th	Harvest Service followed by Lunch Ombersley Memorial Hall, 12.00pm			

### Holy Dusters

September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Everyone – 'top to toe' clean!
September 27th	Jeanette Horn, Fiona Davies
October 4th	Pernilla Asplen, Liz Hooper
October 18th	Marjorie Workman, Heather Barningham

If you'd like to help, please ring Liz 01905 630837 or Fiona 01905 621176

### Flowers

	Porch	Pedestal
13 <sup>th</sup> September	Harvest Flowers	
27 <sup>th</sup> September	TBA	Mary Pritchard
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Angela Randle	TBA

Note: Harvest Flowers on 13<sup>th</sup> September from 10.00am. Remove Harvest Flowers from 10.00am on 26/27<sup>th</sup> Sept. We would welcome anyone interested in helping. Please contact Jane Hill: [hill4family@icloud.com](mailto:hill4family@icloud.com) or 01905 620192

## Rector's Thoughts

*Reverend Stephen Winter  
Rector of St. Andrew's, Ombersley and St  
Mary's, Doverdale (and five other  
churches in the Benefice)*



It has been great fun writing this piece for the parish magazines each month over the last six years and by the time you read this I will be plodding along the paths of the Camino del Norte, the pilgrim's path to Santiago da Compostela in northern Spain. I have never been much good at sitting on a beach but I hope to walk along one or two.

I wrote my first piece for the Christmas edition of 2018 and I have tried to write something that brings a reflection based upon my Christian faith on issues of contemporary life. Sometimes it has been on a major event such as the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Covid epidemic, on the death of the Queen and the coronation of the new King. Sometimes it has been on wider cultural issues such as the future of the countryside and of the human race itself. I wrote about what the influencers of Silicon Valley are saying about this. Developments in robotics and in artificial intelligence suggest that things are moving very quickly in this regard.

In the time that I have been working with you all as Rector of these parishes my conviction has deepened that in a time of great change our roots need to go down deep or we will get swept away in the flood, blown away in the storm. Another piece of writing that I have done every week in my time here has been a reflection on the readings from the bible that are read in church each Sunday. I am writing this piece just before Sunday 4th August, the Tenth Sunday after Trinity. In the Letter to the Ephesians St Paul tells us that the work of the Church is to give us this kind of stability, to stop us being "tossed to and fro and blown about" by the latest fashionable idea or by trickery.

In this fast-changing world we need something that will last. Our parish churches have been a part of the landscape of this land for well over a thousand years. In that time almost everything else has come and gone. The castles that were built around the same time are either ruined or have become museums. Our churches are still alive and the reason that they are alive is because in every community up and down the land there are people who care about them who want to pass them on to the next generation in good order.

It is worth saying here that our churches do not receive a single penny from any official source. If there is a church in your village it is because the people of that village think

that it is worth the effort to keep it alive. It is there because people love it and they love what it says to them. That there is something deeper, more good, more true and more beautiful than the tawdry business of getting and spending.

There have been some influential voices in recent years, including a former editor of The Times, who have argued that our churches ought to be taken out of the hands of The Church and given to a government agency. This has happened in France. I think that they are just plain wrong. They seem to think that the Church is some institution with offices in Westminster alongside other institutions. That is plain wrong as well. The Church is little groups of people in every community who care about their church and about the life of that community. It is a beautiful and very local miracle wherever you find it and that miracle is right there in your community.

It has been a huge privilege to have been a part of this crazy and beautiful act of love over the last six years. I have loved this work and I will miss it, and even more, these wonderful communities, very much. Sadly, I am running out of energy pretty fast and I think that the task requires someone with more of that energy than I have. Please welcome them as you have welcomed me and please love the church where you live and, even more importantly, love one another.

## **Wishing Rev'd Stephen Winter a long and happy retirement**

Last month Rev'd Stephen Winter, our much loved and respected Minister retired from his role of Rector for the Severn Parishes. An informal bring-and-share lunch was held at Ombersley Church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August after Stephen's last service there as Rector. Blessed with a pleasantly sunny afternoon, we sat outside surrounded by some splendid homemade dishes, desserts and cakes.

After the lunch we thanked Stephen and his wife Laura for looking after us with such kindness and dedication during the past six years, helping us through the highs of the King's Coronation and the lows of COVID-19. Stephen has always been the most inclusive and welcoming of church leaders and both in Ombersley and the other parishes we have noticed an increase in weddings, baptisms, and confirmations that have arisen from his approachable and supportive nature. Stephen has also written memorable, poignant, and often amusing pieces for the Parish Magazine in addition to a weekly online message.

We all agreed that we would miss these missives as well as his thought-provoking preaching. We wished Stephen and Laura a long and happy retirement together, summarised, we hoped, by the words of the Collect for the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity, a known favourite of Stephen's:

*Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love towards you that loving you in all things and above all things we may obtain your promises which exceed all that we can desire.*

P.S. Stephen's final service across the Benefice was held at Elmley Lovett on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August followed by refreshments and a leaving presentation and gift from all Severn parishes.

## St Andrew's News

[www.st-andrews.church](http://www.st-andrews.church) [www.achurchnearlyou.com/church/18736/](http://www.achurchnearlyou.com/church/18736/)

Another Summer which has been busy, and where the church has been a cool haven during the hot spells. We had Stephen's final Sunday service on August 4<sup>th</sup> which was very well attended, though sadly several people were away on holiday. We had a 'bring and share' lunch afterwards for Stephen and Laura where yet again the cooks of the area proved their worth! My bowl of fresh strawberries, cream, chocolate mouse and a mini pavlova was perfection (it seemed rude to stop at one option...) We had a cake decorated with a picture of the Church cut by Stephen and Laura (they did remember how), and we presented Stephen with a flash drive loaded with photographs of his time in the Benefice. This was then retained to add pictures before his final service in the Benefice on August 25<sup>th</sup> at Elmley Lovett. More elsewhere in the magazine.

We are looking forward to more building work in the form of a loo upgrade, part of a quinquennial request a few years ago and hope further minor repairs will be done before the weather turns.

Many of the groups using the church have had summer breaks at various times, but all will be back running this month and will welcome new people. Please check the websites, and Facebook for updates.

**Harvest lunch:** As for the last couple of years, we will have a 'bring and share' ploughman's lunch following a short service in the Memorial Hall on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. More details in the October magazine, but pop it in your diary now.

**Holy Dusters:** We would really appreciate 2-3 more people to replace those who are now stopping dusting. It is not too strenuous, and only every 4-6 weeks.

**Creative Coffee:** We are back on September 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 10.30 am, £2 per session. We will start with a Bring Your Own Thing morning and decide what we will challenge ourselves with later in the month.

We had a lovely workshop with the Ombersley Craft Group on August 1st where we Dot Painted Bees or Hearts. Our work will be returned soon and a photograph will be on Facebook. Please contact Fiona on 07837928531 for more information.

**Stay and Play (0-3yr):** We are back after our Summer break on Monday September 2<sup>nd</sup> 9.30 to 11am; £2 /family. We have a comfortable space at the back of the church with various toys. Hot drinks and a snack finishing with circle songs. Just drop in, or contact us via Facebook at "Stay and Play Ombersley".

**Bible Discussion Group:** September 1<sup>st</sup>; led by Richard Berry when we will talk about the previous Sundays' readings, though sometimes we don't manage them all. In the narthex, 7-8.30pm on the first Monday of each month. Please just come along if you are interested, or ring Richard on 07496 850192

**Ombersley Craft Group:** 7-9 pm on 2nd and 4th Thursdays. Our first meeting of the month is on 12<sup>th</sup> September when there will be an opportunity to play with different card and fabric cutters (Sizzix and Cricut) and to look at card making ideas. On September 26th we'll DYOT. More information on Facebook 'Ombersley Craft Club'

### Looking Ahead

**Sunday October 20th at 3pm;** West Mercia Police Band with tea and cake

**Saturday December 7th at 2.30pm;** Retired Fire-Fighters Carol Service

**Sunday December 15th at 4pm;** St Andrew's Carol service

### Message from James Homer

May I give the most heartfelt thanks to all those who attended either my ordination and/or first communion. It was truly heart-warming and encouraging to see so many supporting me, and I include this note to those I did not spot.

Thank you once again.

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the October Magazine no later than **Thursday 12th September**

## PRAYING ROUND THE PARISH



If you have a particular need or things to be grateful for, please let us know:

Angie Randle 01905 620753 [angierandle@hotmail.com](mailto:angierandle@hotmail.com)

or Rev James Homer 01299 851637 [ajfhomer@btinternet.com](mailto:ajfhomer@btinternet.com) [assistant curate with pastoral responsibility for the Worcestershire Severn Parishes]

### Areas for September:

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Haye Lane, Oldfield Lane

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September - Main Road South, Church Lane, Hill Top, Ombersley Court

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September - Chatley, Woodfield, Hadley and Hunt Green

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – Farmers and allotment holders

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September - Clergy, lay readers and PCCs of our parishes

If you would like a place of quiet to pray, or think, or just rest, St Andrew's Church is open every day from 10am.

# YOU ARE INVITED

to Ombersley Memorial Hall on  
**Sunday 6th October at 12noon**  
for an informal service of  
**HARVEST CELEBRATION**

followed by



All are welcome!

## A SHARING PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH



Bread, cheese & pickle provided -  
do bring your own additions and drinks if you wish

Contact Fiona - 07837 928531  
for more details

We will be taking a collection for the Farming Community Network charity

**FCN**

THE FARMING  
COMMUNITY  
NETWORK

A voluntary organisation & charity that supports  
farmers and families within the farming community

[www.fcn.org.uk](http://www.fcn.org.uk)





## ROVING REPORTER – LOCAL NEWS

**SEPTEMBER 2024 – Foraging and Harvesting**

Well, what an Olympic Summer we have had – who knew there were so many exciting sports categories to watch. I think some of my favourites were the Kayak Cross, BMX bike races and the newly introduced Kite boarding with the spectacular Formula Kite Class that utilises hydrofoils. The Games, as always, were not without their controversies, however someone told me that there were some questions raised at this year's Annual Gardening Club Show on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Can anyone clarify when a Globe Artichoke is considered and classed as a vegetable and when it is seen as a flower? We are still awaiting clarification from the RHS judge and the Gardening Club so watch this space.

A lot has been happening at St Andrew's Church this summer. The Tenor Bell was carefully removed from the tower and taken away for repair. Check out the photographs and article. Rev. Stephen Winter conducted his last service in Ombersley on 4<sup>th</sup> August. We wish him well for the future.

Ombersley Memorial Hall is supporting the annual McMillan coffee event after their success in 2023. Come along to the Community Tea Shop on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September between 2-4pm, where they will offer you a fun afternoon and ask you to contribute to the McMillan Cancer Support. If anyone is able to bake a cake for this event, please contact Ann Dorn 07712811552 or email [ann@dornltd.com](mailto:ann@dornltd.com)

The Memorial Hall is also organising a Curry evening on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October and a Halloween Extravaganza on 31<sup>st</sup> October. Remember to book your tickets early for these events as they will be very popular. See Curry evening advert elsewhere in the magazine.

Ombersley Movie Nights will recommence on Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Memorial Hall. Our first movie will be 'A Haunting in Venice'. We will also be having a special Children's 'Wonka' inspired Matinee on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December. See the advert in this magazine for future dates and movies.

The proposed metal detecting session in the Wedding Field on 7<sup>th</sup> September has been cancelled, but it is hoped that it can take place next year.

Lastly, September is traditionally the month for harvesting. We are so lucky in our Parish that there is a wealth of FREE fruit available to forage around our hedgerows. Therefore, remember to take a few 'bags' with you when you go out walking so that you can pick blackberries, plums, and damsons. The Millenium Orchard behind the Crown and Sandys will also be full of FREE apples, pears and walnuts and all village residents are welcome to pick the fruit. Happy Foraging everyone!

*If you are planning any special events either as an individual or as a club, or have any snippets of local news please email Diane on; [maxdiane@outlook.com](mailto:maxdiane@outlook.com)*

## St Andrew's Church



We are a welcoming church with a variety of services and activities. St Andrew's is part of a Benefice of seven Parishes with Doverdale, Hartlebury, Elmley Lovett, Elmbridge, Hampton Lovett and Rushock.

The church is the focus for worship and celebration in the village, with regular Sunday services and special events throughout the year, and benefits from a room available for use at the west end. The church is a fine example of the work of architect Thomas Rickman. Completed in 1829, it copies 14<sup>th</sup> century styles with a high, stone-vaulted ceiling and unique stained-glass windows. The chancel of the former 13<sup>th</sup> century church survives in the churchyard and is now a Sandys family mausoleum.

### Services each Month

- 1st Sunday - 11am - Holy Communion
- 2nd Sunday - 10am - Friendly Informal Sunday Service (FISS): Lay led
- 3rd Sunday - 10am - Morning Prayer: Lay led
- 4th Sunday - 11am - Holy Communion (every 3rd week in rotation with Doverdale and Hartlebury)
- 5th Sundays - 10am - A whole Benefice Service at one of the seven churches.

Benefice Administrator: Mr. Nicolas Wright: 01905 622464 [admin@w7b.org.uk](mailto:admin@w7b.org.uk)

### Many Groups and Activities run in or from the church

- Monday:** 9.30am–11.00am **Stay and Play** for children 0-3 with their carers (not Bank Holidays) Contact Fiona Davies on 07837 928531  
1.45pm–3.00pm **Handbells:** Contact Louise Robinson on 07952 692022  
7.00pm (on 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays) **Bible Discussion Group:** Contact Richard Berry on 07496 850192
- Wednesday:** 10.00am–11.30am **Ombersley Social Strollers:** Contact Peter Reynolds on 07855 441904
- Thursday:** 10.30am–12.30pm **Creative Coffee** (on 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month): Contact Fiona Davies on 07837 928531  
7.00pm–9.00pm **Ombersley Craft Club** (on 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month): Contact Fiona Davies on 07837 928531  
8.00pm–9.30pm **Bell Ringers:** Contact Andrew Horn on 01905 620259
- Friday:** 6.00pm – 7.00pm **St Andrew's Singers:** Contact Louise Robinson on 07952 692022

We have an **Open the Book** Team who visit Ombersley School and Sytchampton School for their assemblies to share Bible stories.

Our **Flower Arrangers** are very talented and enjoy helping new people to learn this creative skill. If you are curious or would like to join in. Contact Jane Hill on 07974 382965

To find out more call one of our **Churchwardens** (Fiona Davies 07837 928531 or Christopher Day 07730 820216) or visit [www.st-andrews.church](http://www.st-andrews.church); **Facebook:** St Andrew, Ombersley, Worcs; Occasional forays onto **Instagram:** standrewsombersley; **YouTube:** St Andrews and St James @standrewsombersley373

## Update from the Bell Tower

It seems an incredibly long time since the discovery of a crack in the tenor bell - and it is! 10 months so far. The end is in sight, but when?

The damaged tenor was removed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July as the photographs show. A tricky procedure taking up most of the day. The bell had to be freed from its mountings on the bell frame, manoeuvred through four separate hatches and lowered the 70 feet to the ground in the west porch. With the assistance of Bill Arnold and his forklift, it was then placed onto the truck and taken away.

The stage is therefore set, ready to rehang the new bell. But, a further delay has occurred as the recast tenor proved to be unsatisfactory and a subsequent recasting took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> August. I am hopeful that the new bell will be in situ by the second week in September and full ringing will recommence. To get the clock functioning will take a little longer. The clock assembly need to be reconstructed and the specialist engineers to come to reset it.



Our grateful thanks go out to all who have contributed towards the £29,000 overall cost of this project, although there does remain a shortfall. So, if you still wish to donate, please contact me, the Churchwardens via [www.st-andrews.church/donate](http://www.st-andrews.church/donate), or pick up an appeal envelope from the back of the Church.

*Andrew Horn, Tower Captain*

*Thanks go to Stu Booth for the photographs*



**THE TEAM**  
**Completion of the Tenor Bell Removal**  
**Tuesday 23d July 2024**



## OMBERSLEY & DOVERDALE PARISH COUNCIL

On behalf of all residents and visitors, the Parish Council would like to thank all volunteers for their contribution to the very successful annual Church and School Fête, the Car Show and the Gardening Club's flower and produce show, to name but a few. Your effort is very much appreciated by so many.

August has also seen the Parish Councillors take a welcome break from all that goes on behind the scenes, or have they? Not so! In response to youngsters inspired by the Olympics and their request for a table tennis facility, Councillors have been busy putting plans in place for the installation of a permanent table-tennis table on the Memorial Field next to the play area. All being well, we hope to have the table up and running in time for half-term. So, kids of all ages be ready with your ping-pong bats and balls!

You may also have noticed the Weighbridge Hut has benefitted from refurbishment and a fresh lick of paint which hopefully will see it enrich the village for many a year to come. In the autumn, work will commence on improving the surrounding garden area for all to sit and watch the world pass by!

Residents at The Hamptons were also delighted to take receipt of a brand-new replacement bench and tables which arrived just in time to enjoy the fantastic weather and dining al-fresco, thanks to the efforts of Arthur Turner. Arthur also oversaw the British Legion brass plaque restored to its former glory in time for the new bench's arrival.



Arthur Turner & residents at The Hamptons enjoying their new garden furniture.

In addition, in response to residents ongoing concerns regarding speeding at Holt Fleet, Councillors oversaw the installation of a further vehicle activated sign (VAS) by the caravan park approaching the bridge, which now brings the total number of VAS in the village to four. All are helpful deterrents to counter speeding in the village along with the addition of two new village gateways installed at the Crown & Sandys and School Bank. Spot speed checks are also being carried out thanks to West Mercia Police.

As with most parishes up and down the country, petty crime remains a focal point here in the village, more especially fly tipping around our beautiful country lanes. We maintain a regular line of communication with our local policing officers, some of

whom you may have seen or met around the village in recent months in response to our request for increased visibility around the Parish.

So, as we bid farewell to the unusually balmy sunny days, here at the Parish Council, amongst many things, we'll be looking at making full use of the Parish Council website ([www.odpc.co.uk](http://www.odpc.co.uk)), a valuable resource for details on local road closures, budgets and planning applications with our presence on All About Ombersley and social media platforms, to ensure you continue to have quick access and links to information.

And finally, do visit our parish council website <https://www.odpc.co.uk/meetings>, or email, Anne Scadding at [clerk@odpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@odpc.co.uk) – new ideas and suggestions are always very welcome as to how we can improve your local parish.

## POSADA

You may have heard or seen this word in the run up to Christmas and wondered what it's all about!

The word posada means inn or lodging, and traditionally, in Mexico, posadas are a celebration of the Christmas story. The celebration takes place on nine nights from December 16 to 24 and commemorates Mary and Joseph's search for a place to stay where Jesus could be born. Posadas in Mexico feature hot food and drinks, sweets, music, and piñatas.

The Church of England encourages a version of this as a chance to spend an evening with the Nativity characters, storybooks, a candle and more during Advent, the weeks leading up to Christmas. In Ombersley this has now become a tradition. Schools and local families sign up to host Mary & Joseph – small, knitted characters.



The characters, storybooks, candle and more will be blessed at the Advent service on 1<sup>st</sup> December (Advent Sunday) and will be received back into church on Christmas morning at the Family Service, when Mary and Joseph can be joined by the Baby Jesus.

If you are a family with young(ish) children, this is a great opportunity to 'take some time out' in the busy run up to Christmas. If you are adults only this is a chance to pause and reflect – there are some cards to facilitate this.

If you're interested in being involved, please contact Jenny Batelen:  
email: [jenny.batelen@btinternet.com](mailto:jenny.batelen@btinternet.com) tel: 07503 334598.

If you have hosted in previous years, I hope you will want to continue the tradition.

Sunday afternoons at St Andrew's • Concerts with Tea & Cakes



# West Mercia Police Band



Sun 20th Oct. *Returning by popular request...*  
3pm

**£8** including  
Tea & Cakes

under-16s free

To Book: contact

Louise on 07952 692022

robinson\_louise@icloud.com

or Fiona 07837 928531

fmdavies83@gmail.com

or on the door

Music from Classics to Big Band and  
traditional tunes you will know



This concert is part of events organised by the St Andrew's Association

## CAR SHOW 2024 REVIEW

Take yourselves back to 2019, when only a very few had heard of Covid. We certainly had no idea of the devastation Covid 19 would cause the world with restrictions, lockdowns and sickness.

From March 2020 we were thrust into series of national lockdowns, tiered restrictions including how many people we could socialise with and “bubbles” – remember those!

It wasn't until July 2021 that restrictions were finally lifted, and we could go about our lives as normal. What better time to host a new and exciting event to bring the village back together again?

With the help of car enthusiasts in the village, and an organising team made up of Hall committee members, the Ombersley Car Show was born.

The 2021 event was a car rally whose destination was the Memorial Hall. It attracted nearly 500 paying adult visitors (kids - free) and offered many rare and unusual vehicles, plus a variety of attractions including BBQ food, our famous tea shop selling home baked cakes courtesy of our talented bakers, ice cream and plants, to mention just a few.

Such was the success of the inaugural event, that it was decided to go again in 2022 where footfall increased to nearly 700.

2023 was planned as the biggest yet but was cancelled at the last minute due to adverse weather.

So – 2024, with new committee members, and a focus on creating the best yet, we got to work with an emphasis on using social media to create the right “buzz”.

It was a HUGE success, with more cars than ever, over 1100 adult visitors, a shopping village, new food and drink offerings, the incredible “Voices Unlimited” and the 2516 Droitwich Squadron RAF Air Cadets Band plus all the usual attractions.

So – Why do we do it?

Ombersley Memorial Hall is a charity and needs a constant income to keep the lights on.

Our regular hirers are the life blood of the Hall, but there is also a need to have funds for repairs and improvements over time. This year, the floor needs to be repaired. So, with the help of our army of volunteers, stallholders and car owners we have a healthy amount to complete the work needed.

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made it possible.

*Ombersley Car Show Committee*

PS: Date for your diary – the 2025 event will be on 12<sup>th</sup> July.

## **OMBERSLEY MEMORIAL HALL**

# **CURRY NIGHT**



**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 7pm**

**Come along and enjoy a variety of appetizers and delicious curries. Chicken, Beef, Lamb or Vegetable PLUS - Fun Quiz**

**And – Bollywood theme taster by Jude.**

**Book now to avoid missing out.**

**£20 per person (BYOB)**

To book your place – e-mail

[Annpickering540@gmail.com](mailto:Annpickering540@gmail.com)





## Acton Manor, Acton Hall, the Bourne family and Worcester Cathedral



The Actons were an ancient family who predated the Norman Conquest, kept their powder dry and were awarded their own arms; several of them were knights of the realm. The name derives from the Saxon ac (or oak) that grew abundantly in the area. As early as 1307, in the last year of Edward 1<sup>st</sup> reign the estate was known as Acton Manor of the freehold knight. This branch of the family was known as the Actons of Ombersley and in 1512 were described as having land in the Manor of Acton. In 1582 they built Acton Manor, a hall house facing south with its entrance on the north wall to prevent the bubonic plague finding its way in.

When Walter Acton died without male issue the house and land passed to William and John Barnaby and in a deed of conveyance we find the following description “the aforesaid Manor House called Acton Hall together with the said manor or Lordship of Acton.” They were relatives by marriage, the family prospered and in 1673 built a new and much grander Acton Hall a few hundred yards away, complete with moat. Thereafter the old hall was tenanted and little altered apart from the insertion of a floor to create a room above its hall and the relocation of the entrance door to the front of the house. At some point, possibly as early as 1773, it was sold to the Sandys estate with adjoining land. At some point it became known as Lower Acton Farm and with its land was acquired by the county council to create smallholdings for soldiers returning from the Great War. By 1971 it was in poor shape and it was decided to dispose of it with a couple of acres. Reverting to its historic name my wife and I bid successfully at auction and we lived there until her death many years later.

The Hall meanwhile had a less happy future. The Barnabys in turn passed it to another relative, Richard Bourne, in whose family it remained for over two centuries. In the 1850's there was an outbreak of scarlet fever in the house and in desperation the present Hall was built to replace it and it was fired. As something of a railway buff, I should perhaps mention that in 1931 the Great Western Railway built locomotive number 4982 and named it Acton Hall. It was withdrawn in 1962 but its nameplates escaped the cutter's torch and come up at auction from time to time.

The Bournes were great letter writers and some of these scripts have come down through the years; they are housed within the County Council archives. Many deal with the usual inconsequencia, but there are some fascinating glimpses into the life of those times. They were well educated and their script is as clear to read today as it was all those years ago.

**From H Bourne to a sister, January 14<sup>th</sup> (no year):**

Mr Bright was some time since declared a bankrupt. I heartily pity his wife and indeed all her family. We hear that one of her sisters has five, the other six hundred pounds in his hands, but their security is a mortgage. I wish it may prove a good one...

The untimely end of poor Mr. Clacton...was a most dreadful affair; he had been hunting, dined at the Hundred House and stayed until about ten o'clock on a very dark night, having sent his huntsman and dogs home before. He went home designing to go a way that was nearer than the common road and being a very bold rider (even to rashness indeed) he pushed his horse on at the brink of a coal pit and it is supposed that by dint of spurs he forced him on when the horse made so great a leap that he had cleared the pit, but the ground on the other side being false gave way under him which unavoidably threw him backwards with his rider to the bottom of the pit which was a vast depth...he was not found until the evening of the next day... (the horse survived)!

I have heard nothing jovial but Mr Barnaby's wedding, which was celebrated with open housekeeping at Brockhampton and the poor of that parish, that which the Lady came from, and Bromyard, had a very reasonable share in his bounty...

**From H Bourne to a sister, July 22<sup>nd</sup> (no year):**

This morning we arrived home from a ball made by Lady Dashwood to oblige Lady Ann Hamilton... We had an agreeable set (nine couples), sometimes made ten by the little folks. It was in the Oxfordshire and not Worcestershire style... We sat down to supper, twenty at one table that was magnificently covered but the number of things I will not pretend to guess at. There were two grand tureens of soup, one at the top and the other at the bottom of the table. The first removed for a dish of carp, the latter for pike...

**From Isabella Bourne, June 25<sup>th</sup> 1756:**

We had the most dreadful afternoon yesterday that I have ever seen for thunder lightning and rain. The latter I imagine was like what sailors call a waterspout for no one here ever saw anything like it before. About four o'clock was the time it began. It was as dark as if it had been ten at night. In a few minutes the rain forced itself into every room in the house, in less than half an hour the court both gravel and grass was almost covered with water. In about the same space of time the water in both the moats rose to a level with the pathway over the bridge, near half of one side of it was broke down by the violence of the torrent.

**From ? Bourne, June 25<sup>th</sup> 1756:** My sister and I got home just as the clock struck midnight...We had a very safe and tolerably pleasant drive as it was a clear night, it was a good driving light the whole time, especially as it was a road that both the coachman and horses were acquainted with. The darkest time was between Hawford and Ombersley... Our friends the Shillingfleets are about to start their journey next Monday (29<sup>th</sup> that is), Mr Shillingfleet, his son and two elder daughters. They are to travel two in a chair and two on horseback. I suppose he will himself take up one place in a vehicle and Miss Molly I fancy cannot possibly ride on horseback...

Mrs B has sent to engage lodgings at Oxford for the Commemoration. We are uncertain whether we shall as we proposed travel in the Post Chaises or in the Machine that is new set up to go three times a week to London. It sets out from the Bell in Broad Street at five o'clock in the morning and gets to Oxford the same evening...

**From Hannah Bourne, September 26<sup>th</sup> 1760:** (Coronation of King George III).

We spent the day of the coronation with Mr. Shillingfleet who gave his friends a very handsome dinner of fourteen dishes and made them drink their Majesties health in burgundy...

**From Isabella Bourne, November 12<sup>th</sup> 1769:**

We do most sincerely congratulate you and my sister on her happy delivery and rejoice to hear that both mother and child are in so fair a way of doing well... Time will permit me to add no more (without making the coach wait) than all our most affectionate regards...

**So where does Worcester Cathedral come into this?**

Several of the Bournes are buried there – Judith Bourne (died 1745) is in the cloisters as is Hannah (died 1798). Next time you are there, go down to the crypt and you will find a floorstone commemorating not only Hannah, but also Isabella Bourne (though without an age given we can't know whether or not the Isabella it refers to is the Isabella who wrote the above letter).

*Ralph Seymour*

## A monthly update from Ombersley Medical Centre

In July 2024 there were:

- 3,300 Face to Face appointments with clinicians (GPs, Nurses and Pharmacists)
- 809 telephone consultations
- 243 DNA (Did not attend)
- 14,964 medications issued
- 3210 letters regarding patient care requiring action
- 17,224 test results reviewed and actioned



### Welcome back Dr Conway!

Dr Sarah Conway will be coming back in October following her maternity leave. She is a salaried GP and will be doing 2 days a week with us. You will be able to book in to see her via the NHS app or by calling us.

### RSV Vaccine

From the 1<sup>st</sup> September those aged 75-79, or women from 28 weeks gestation will be eligible for a RSV vaccine.

RSV is an infectious disease affecting airways and lungs and cause symptoms similar to a cold. It is also a common cause of acute respiratory tract infections.

You will be contacted by one of the reception team if you are eligible to book you in for the vaccine.

**Macmillan tea/coffee event in Ombersley Memorial Hall will be instead of the Community tea shop.**

**Join us for cake, tea or coffee and a small glass of fizz to raise vital funds**

**Thursday 26th September 2-4pm**

For more information contact  
Ann 07712 811552 e-mail [ann@dornltd.com](mailto:ann@dornltd.com)

**Raise  
a glass  
and vital  
funds**



In aid of

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

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**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**



**OMBERSLEY MOVIE NIGHT – 2024 FILMS**

**Doors and Bar Open at 7pm, Movie Starts at 7.30pm  
£5 entry on the door (Please note – cash payments only)**

**12th October “A Haunting in Venice”**

Kenneth Branagh plays detective Hercule Poirot. Set in post-World War II Venice on All Hallows’ Eve. When one of the guests is murdered, the detective is thrust into a sinister world of shadows and secrets.

**9th November “One Life”**

Based on the true story of British humanitarian Nicholas Winton, who attempted to help groups of Jewish children in German-occupied Czechoslovakia to hide and flee.

**7th December “Going in Style - 2017”**

Going in Style stars Morgan Freeman, Michael Caine, Alan Arkin and follows a trio of retirees who plan to rob a bank after their pensions are cancelled.

**21st Dec Matinee: “Wonka”**

Wonka stars Timothée Chalamet in his early days as a chocolatier Willy Wonka, a central character in the 1964 novel Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. Also stars Rowan Atkinson, Olivia Colman and Hugh Grant.



## Ombersley Gardening Club



We can look back at what has been an amazing summer for the Gardening Club that started in June with a fantastic visit to the Walled Garden at Westwood House, closely followed by a trip to RHS Bridgewater.

We all received some very informative talks at our July and August meetings and then enjoyed further trips to Overbury Court, which has a wonderful garden, and Pear Tree Cottage with its unique and beautiful cottage garden. To top it all we had our Summer Show at Ombersley Memorial Hall which was a huge success. The Hall was full of beautiful flowers and plants, vegetables, cakes and preserves to name a few of the amazing and first-class exhibits. The whole day was a huge success and we would like to thank all the judges and congratulate all the winners.

As we move forward into the Autumn months the club will welcome some excellent speakers to take us up to December. It starts on the **19<sup>th</sup> September** with Simon Gulliver speaking to us on *The Secret Life of Trees* followed on the **17<sup>th</sup> October** with Darren Rudge giving a talk entitled *Cutting Down the Workload*.

The club now has its own website where you can find all the information relating to trips, events, photos and much more. Go to [ombersleygardeningclub.co.uk](http://ombersleygardeningclub.co.uk) and have a browse.

September is the time to plant spring-flowering bulbs to welcome a cheery and colourful garden next year. Order and buy any trees and shrubs and prepare the lawn for the colder months ahead. Clean out bird boxes and ponds and prepare to start feeding our wildlife in October, not forgetting that we may have to cover certain plants to protect them from early frosts.

There are loads of things to look forward to at your Gardening Club which meets at 7.30pm every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at Ombersley Memorial Hall. Look at the website and pop along to the club for an evening and see what you think. Everyone welcome.

We look forward to seeing you.  
Happy gardening!

*Ombersley Gardening Club Committee*



## **TALES from the SALES**

**Philip Serrell; Auctioneer, Antiques Expert & TV Presenter will talk about some of his saleroom experiences.**

Ombersley Memorial Hall, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm for 7.30

Admission: Members free; Non-Members £5 (cash only) includes a glass of wine or soft drink

## **OMBERSLEY WOMEN'S LEAGUE**



**Thursday 5th Sept. 2024 – 7.00 for 7.30pm**

**Simon Fairbairn**

**Bairns Bees**

### ***The value of honeybees***

**Join beekeeper Simon for a fascinating, light-hearted and educational talk on honeybees and see a colony of working bees in their hive (safely behind glass!) After the talk, handle the frames of honey, then taste it. Smell the beeswax melts and polish – available to buy on the night.**

Members: Free; Guests: £6: Contact Marie or Ann 07901522412 / 07712 811552

# Ombersley Endowed First School



## Summer Finales

The last week of the summer term was an extremely busy one at Ombersley:

Year 4 pupils put on a wonderful summer concert for their parents and the rest of the school. We were all blown away by their talents and beautiful singing. They also held a Leavers Service, where they shared their memories of Ombersley school as well as singing some of their favourite songs and hymns. It was a very emotional service where we had to say 'Goodbye' to a group of children who we have nurtured and are very proud of – we wish them all the very best on their next adventure.

Years 2 and 3 both held class assemblies for their parents, sharing some of the things they had been learning about during the summer term.

Pre-school celebrated their graduation ceremony with their parents on a very sunny afternoon outdoors.

## Holiday Club

During the summer holidays 'Scooters' wrap around club was open for four weeks, where children had lots of fun playing games and enjoying lots of fun activities.

## Autumn Term

We are all now looking forward to a brand-new school year. Some of our classrooms have been painted over the summer, so we will have shiny new classrooms too! We will spend some time settling into our new classrooms and begin our new journey through our next school year. We all have lots of exciting new topics and learning adventures planned ready to keep the children engrossed in their learning.

We are looking also forward to welcoming new children across the school and to pre-school and reception to join the Ombersley Family.



## Tea & Coffee Shop

**Ombersley  
Memorial Hall**



**Tuesday 10th September 2-4 pm**

**Thursday 26th September (2-4) pm – See Macmillan Advert**

## THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, DOVERDALE

CHURCHWARDEN:	Mr. R. Coppini	Tel: 620963
LICENSED LAY READER:	Mr. Richard Jeynes	Tel: 07553 810080
TREASURER:	Mrs. L. Tarleton-Hodgson	Tel: 07748 968992
SECRETARY PCC:	Mr. G. Crow	Tel: 772850
SIDESMEN:	Mrs V. Harris, Mr. C. Harris, Mr G. Crow, Mrs S. Crow, Mr J. Chapman, Mrs A. Chapman, Mrs W. Hawkins	
ORGANIST:	Mrs L. Moyse	

**FLOWER ROTA:** September: Jean Dowty

October: Harvest Flowers

### PEWPOINTS

**PARISH REGISTER: FUNERAL: JUNE 21<sup>st</sup>** William Oliver Yardley

### DIARY DATES

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 11am at St. Mary's. HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE.

Light refreshments will be served after the service so please do come and join us for this special festival of thanksgiving.

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October. PCC Meeting at 7pm in Ombersley Narthex

### COMMUNITY WALK

On Midsummer Eve, June 21<sup>st</sup>, a small social event was held for those recently confirmed in the Benefice. A walk had been planned and seven young people together with friends, family and community members met at Rushock Church at 6pm. Rev'd Stephen Winter and Licensed Lay Reader, Richard Berry, welcomed everyone and Richard spoke briefly of organizing future activities for local youngsters if there was sufficient interest.

The group, accompanied by Stephen, then set off through the fields and across the race course for a meal at the Fox Inn at Chaddesley Corbett. Theresa Morris had very kindly liaised beforehand with the proprietor to accommodate us and a jolly evening



followed with good food and conversation. It is hoped to hold further events with the idea of promoting Youth Work in the Benefice.

### 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY SERVICE

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>.July, St.Mary's, Doverdale hosted the parish's 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday service at 11.00a.m. A warm welcome was given to those attending from other churches. We all felt truly blessed not only by the glorious Summer weather but also by having two vicars to take the service. Rev'd James Homer led the prayers whilst Rev'd Stephen preached the sermon.

Thank you to Nick Wright for playing the organ and leading us through the hymns. Coffee and delicious biscuits were served afterwards by Ann Chapman and Judy Seymour.

How lovely to be able to keep open the church doors to allow the warm air in and the delightful sound of bird song.

### SERVICES

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 14 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	11.00a.m. MP (BCP)	Lectors: Mr.R.Coppini, Mr.J.Chapman Sidesperson; Mrs. A.Chapman Readings:- Deut.4 (1-2) & (6-9) & Mark 7 (1-8), (14-15) & (21-23)
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> September 16 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	11.00a.m. HC (BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.S.Crow, Mrs.V.Harris Sidesperson: Mr.G.Crow Readings:- Isa.50 (4-9a) & Mark 8 (27-end)
Sunday September 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00a.m. BENEFICE SERVICE	AT ELMBRIDGE NO SERVICE AT DOVERDALE
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 19 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	11.00a.m. MP (BCP)	Lectors: Mr.R.Coppini, Mrs.V.Harris Sidesperson: Mrs.V.Harris Readings;- Gen.2 (18-24) & Mark 10(2-16)
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 21 <sup>st</sup> after Trinity	11.00a.m. Harvest Festival Service	Lectors:- Mrs.R.Stacey, Mrs.A.Chapman Sidespeople: Mr.J.Chapman. Mr.G.Crow Readings:- T B A

## Adverts (electronic) 2024

- AJ's Window Cleaning Services – windows, gutters etc. – 07809 730085
- APM Decorators – 07784 483192
- AS Locks & Services – 01905 726671 / 07956 371673
- AY Services – general maintenance – 01905 759151 / 07876 308058
- Alena Morton – ladies' personal trainer – 07857 753340
- All-inc-Cars – taxi service – 01905 826261 / 07739 109590
- Andy Johnson – chimney sweep – 01886 821933 / 07798 790913
- Andy Pritchard – painter and decorator – 01886 889001 / 07973 783240
- Bedwardine Funeral Services – 01905 748811
- Best of British Garden Services – 01886 889070 / 07983 351634
- Bluebird Care – care visits at home – 01386 764830
- Bowbrook Gardens – landscaping etc. – 01905 937852 / 07792 613020
- CdbC Home & Property Maintenance – 07706 166816
- CW Home & Garden Maintenance – 07821 044507
- David Ward Firewood – 07866 441154
- GJS Dillon House Surveyors – 01905 676169
- Doorbars – chartered surveyors/land agents – 01905 27288
- Elite Sweeps – sweep/log burners – 01905 700701 / 07712 220671
- Graham Pugh – decorating/carpentry – 01905 621147 / 07967 883121
- Green Thumb – lawn care – 01905 840740
- E J Gumery – funeral services – 01905 22094
- I & S Stoves – wood burning stoves etc. – 01886 812452
- J & A Tree Services – trees, hedges, fencing etc. – 01299 250575
- Jenny Davis Fitness – fitness classes – 07886 726102
- Jeremy Billingham TV Aerials – 01905 799152 / 07850 969307
- Jones & Associates – Estate Agents – 01386 291010 / 07496 625205
- Karol Kleen – carpet/upholstery cleaning – 01299 404275
- Kemble At Home – live-in, visiting and respite care – 01432 382017
- Lee Russell Independent Funeral Directors – 01905 347588
- MG Domestic Heating – 07870 498879
- MSB Plumbing & Maintenance Ltd. – 07769 342897
- Manor Hill House Ltd. – Wedding & Events venue – 01527 861 1200
- Mark Foster Podiatry/Chiropody – 07941 138957
- Marshall-McKay Kitchen & Interior Design – 07765 447704
- Me..Time Pilates – 07791 873870

- Mick Miles Pest control & Gardening Services – 01905 620394 / 07732 223825
- Oldfields of Ombersley – country/equestrian – 01905 622295
- Ombersley Family Dental Practice – 01905 621881
- Ombersley Golf Club – 01905 620747 (restaurant 01905 620621)
- Ombersley Memorial Hall – 07936 467390
- Ovengleamers – oven cleaning – 01562 702883
- Oven Magic – oven cleaning – 01905 700500
- Parks Café Droitwich – 01905 776633
- Phillip Serrell Auctions – 01684 892314
- Precision Pressure Cleaning – patios etc. – 07951 885745
- Protex Midlands Ltd – long life wall coverings – 01905 622164 / 07833 965258
- RNA Heating Ltd – central heating maintenance – 01299 40515 / 01299 405158
- SJ Rayner (Cars) – quality used cars – 01562 820131
- Reynolds Heating Services – central heating installations etc. – 07857 755340
- W Roberts Tree Care & Landscaping – 01299 250664 / 07772 456692
- S G Electrical – electrical services – 01905 620693
- S J M Locksmith Services – 01905 570999 / 07871 442011
- SMB Electrical Solutions – 01905 428892 / 07917 182945
- Sage Skin – skin care products – 07715 571139
- Salt Way Silver – silver jewellery classes – 07845 826415
- Shelter-Adams Ltd – home heating experts – 07990 523790 / 07922 548915
- Steve George of Ombersley – landscaping etc. – 01905 621427 / 07745 597050
- Studio Smith Architects – 01905 622373 / 07921 623709
- Sytchampton Community Centre – 01905 620943
- T M Shouler – carpentry/joinery – 01905 620374 / 07900 268075
- Taylor & Co Architects – 01905 621600 / 07831 146738
- Walkercrips – stockbrokers & financial advisers - 020 3100 8285
- Whitlenge Gardens – tea rooms/gardens – 01299 250669
- Worcester Computers – custom build, repairs etc. – 01905 759111
- Worcestershire Imaging Centre – MRI scans – 01905 771500
- Worcester Mobile Earcare – ear wax removal – 07545 282902