

Ombersley & Doverdale Parish Magazine

**December
2024 –
January
2025**



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

December 2024 / January 2025

December 1st	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	Advent hymns & readings	Hartlebury
	10.30am	FS	Elmbridge
	11.00am	MP	Doverdale
	11.00am	HC-CW	Ombersley
December 8th	9.00am	HC-CW	Rushock
	10.00am	FS	Ombersley
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Hampton Lovett
December 15th	9.00am	HC-CW	Elmbridge
	10.00am	Christmas music & readings	Hartlebury
	4.00pm	Carol Service	Ombersley
	6.30pm	Carol Service	Elmley Lovett
December 22nd	9.00am	HC-BCP	Elmley Lovett
	11.00am	Carol Service	Doverdale
	11.00am	HC-CW	Ombersley
December 24th	3.00pm	Crib Service	Rushock
	4.00pm	Christingle Service	Hartlebury
	6.00pm	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	7.00pm	HC-CW	Hartlebury
	11.00pm	Midnight HC	Ombersley
December 25th	9.00am	HC-CW	Rushock
	10.30am	FS	Ombersley
	10.30am	FS	Elmbridge
	11.00am	HC-BCP	Doverdale
December 29th	10.00am	Benefice Service	Hartlebury

January 5 th 2025	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	Sunday First	Hartlebury
	10.30am	FS	Elmbridge
	11.00am	MP	Doverdale
	11.00am	HC-CW	Ombersley
January 12th	9.00am	HC-CW	Rushock
	10.00am	FS	Ombersley
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
January 19th	9.00am	HC-CW	Elmbridge
	10.00am	MP	Hartlebury
	10.00am	MP	Ombersley
	11.00am	HC-BCP	Doverdale
	6.00pm	Evensong	Hampton Lovett
January 26th	9.00am	HC-BCP	Elmley Lovett
	11.00am	HC-BCP	Doverdale
February 2nd	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	Sunday 1st	Hartlebury
	10.30am	FS	Elmbridge
	11.00am	MP	Doverdale
	11.00am	HC-CW	Ombersley

HC Holy Communion; CW common Worship; BCP Book of Common Prayer;
FS Family Service; MP Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer, 9.15 at Ombersley on 15th January and at Doverdale on 29th January

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the February Magazine by
Wednesday 15th January

Parish Register: St Andrew's Church

Baptism

October 6th	Tommy Jacob Isiah Finney
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Wedding

October 3rd	Freddie Evans & Lydia Smith
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Rota for St Andrew's Church

Date	Service	Sidespeople	Intercessor	Lector
December 1st	HC-CW	Louise & Mark Tarleton-Hodgson	Audrey & Geoff Axon	Angela Randle
December 8th	FS	Lynne Hunter, Jenny Ransome	-	-
December 15th	Carol Service	Phil & Gail Filer, Alison Want	-	Various
December 22nd	HC-CW	Tony Checketts, Claire Gathercole	Anthony Hughes	James Martineau
December 24th	HC-CW	Fiona Davies, Chris Day	-	Jan Berry
December 25th	FS	Howard Robinson, Hazel Smith	-	Liz Hooper
January 5 th 2025	HC-CW	Maureen Callow, Robert Thornton	Howard Robinson	Hazel Smith
January 12th	FS	Marjorie Workman, Judy Baer	-	-
January 19th	MP	Meg & James Martineau	Angela Randle	Fiona Davies
January 26th	HC-CW	Phil & Gail Filer	Jenny Batelen	Claire Gathercole
February 2nd	HC-CW	Louise & Mark Tarleton-Hodgson	Marjorie Workman	Howard Robinson

Holy Dusters

December 13th	Liz Hooper, Heather Barningham
December 20th	Marjorie Workman, Fiona Davies, Helen Daly
January 3rd	Liz Hooper, Heather Barningham
January 17th	Myra Cowdrey, Fiona Davies
January 31st	Marjorie Workman, Heather Barningham, Helen Daly
February 14th	Liz Hooper, Fiona Davies

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

Flowers

	Porch	Pedestal
6 th December	TBA	TBA
Christmas Flowers from 11.30am on Friday 13 th December Remove Christmas Flowers on 3 rd January from 10am		
3 rd , 17 th , 31 st Jan	TBA	TBA

Please note the changed date and time for Christmas Flowers so the church is decorated for the carol service. Jane will be in touch with the current ladies on the list to see who is available nearer the time! In January and February, we need volunteers for all weeks. Please get in touch with Jane if you are able to fill in.

We are always looking for new people to help out with flowers so do get in touch if you are interested in helping. Many thanks, Jane Hill: hill4family@icloud.com or 01905 620192

St Andrew's News

Also find information on www.achurchnearyou.com, YouTube: 'St Andrew's Church Ombersley' or Facebook

We have news! 'Ahh the new Loo must be finished' you cry, and indeed it is. We are amazed at how much better it really looks, almost worth a visit...

But...Even Better, is that we have been through the process of interviewing, and appointing a new vicar and later in the magazine you will see that Rev Canon Tim Williams, our current Area Dean, has sent a letter introducing himself. We feel really fortunate he applied and we were happy to appoint him. We look forward to his arrival during Lent next year and it will also be a pleasure to have the Rectory back in use. There is plenty to do bring the house and garden into good condition so don't be surprised if you see lots of people coming and going.

We had lovely, and well supported services for All Souls and Remembrance, though unfortunately the Stourport Band were no longer available, replaced by the PA system which appeared to work fairly well. It felt more fitting to have the bells back in action and next year the clock will be able to strike the 11th hour.

We are now gearing up for Advent and the Christmas Season with a variety of services for all ages; these are listed elsewhere and can be found on our digital pages as well. For the first time this year we are offering a quiet 'Longest Night' service at 3.30pm on Saturday December 21st, this will be a quiet informal service held at the back of the church, for anyone who finds it hard to cope with the forced merriment of

Christmas, for anyone who wants space, for anyone for whom Christmas might be a difficult time of year.

Below we have a message from the Droitwich Foodbank which we support, and a 'giving' advent calendar suggestion poster.

In all the business and stress of the season we hope you find a chance to remember that Joy is most often found in the small things.

We wish you a Happy and Peaceful, Christmas and hope to see in the New Year.

Church Cleaning

We would really appreciate more people to replace those who are now stopping. It is not too strenuous, and only every 4-6 weeks. With thanks to Helen Daly who has offered to join the team already. Ring or message Fiona on 07837928531.

Stay and Play (Babes and Toddlers)

Each Monday morning until Christmas; 9.30 to 11am; £2 /family

We will have our last session for 2024 on December 16th when the Posada will come to visit, as will Usbourne books.

First morning in 2025 will be January 6th.

There's 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 is via Facebook, Stay and Play Ombersley, or on 07837928531.

Bible Discussion Group

December 2nd in 2025 and we begin again on February 3rd. This is 7-8.30pm on the first Monday of each month. Led by Richard Berry, we will talk about the previous Sundays' readings, though sometimes we don't manage them all. Please just come along if you are interested, or ring Richard on 07496 850192.

Creative Coffee

December 5th and January 16th; 10.30 am; £2 per session.

Time for a last-minute run at Christmas cards and decorations, probably Stars, on December 5th, or a peaceful moment doing what you wish. We do have a very relaxing colouring book for a little mindfulness.

January 16th could be the same, except being very early in planning for Christmas 2025, or showing what we have created over the Christmas break. Please contact Fiona on 07837928531 for more information.

Looking Ahead

Advent Sunday

Advent Sunday is actually on December 1st this year. The 11am Service will be taken by Archdeacon Mark Badger. The Archdeacon has kindly agreed to bless the new bells at this service, and to start Mary and Joseph off on their Posada.

We are certainly going to keep him busy, and I'm sure he would like to see and chat to as many of you as possible.

The Posada is coming!

St Andrew's will be sending out the nativity characters on their journey round the parish from Advent Sunday (1st December) to return for the Family Celebration in St Andrew's church on Christmas morning at 10.30am. If you wish to take part – families, singles, couples, young and old – and host the 'family' for an evening, please contact Jenny Batelen: email: jenny.batelen@btinternet.com tel: 07503 334598

Saturday December 7th at 2.30pm

A Blue Light Carol Service with Refreshments.

The Collection from this will be split 50:50 between St Andrew's Association and Retired FireFighters/Police/ and Ambulance workers. Everyone is welcome.

Tuesday December 10th at 4.15 - 4.30pm

The Christmas story with carols for the children at Little Owl Farm Park. More details elsewhere. Booking not essential, but helps with planning.

Sunday December 15th at 4pm

St Andrew's Carol service (not all the same carols as on 7th!) with refreshments. The Collection from this will go to a Charity for the Homeless, a local one if possible.

Saturday December 21st at 3.30pm

A Longest Night Service, also known as Blue Christmas. For those who find the merriment at Christmas time was hard to cope with. This will be an informal service in the Narthex.

A Message from the Droitwich Food Bank

Thank you very much for your continued support of the **Droitwich Spa Foodbank**. We had a successful Harvest Festival, but will face increasing demand as winter approaches. In the 10 months of 2024 we have given out 28,000 kgs of food and toiletries to over 3300 clients.

Please can we ask you to support us through the Christmas season. There is a Reverse Advent calendar on the next page with our most needed items. We are running an extra shift to collect donations on the mornings of 4th, 11th & 18th December. Please get in touch if you would like to arrange a collection.



Reverse Advent Calendar

Please join our appeal for non-perishable food
You can drop it off at local collection points or
contact us to arrange collection

 1 tinned stew	 2 tinned soup	 3 tinned fish	 4 chicken in sauce
 5 tinned peas	 6 tinned carrots	 7 tinned sweetcorn	 8 tinned potatoes
 9 tinned fruit	 10 tinned custard	 11 rice pudding	 12 500g cereal box
 13 long-life milk	 14 long-life juice	 15 small jar coffee	 16 tea bags
 17 savoury snacks	 18 packs of biscuits	 19 chocolate bars	 20 sponge pudding
 21 shampoo	 22 shower gel	 23 deodorant	 24 shaving foam

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW OUR AMAZON WISHLIST
OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



website: droitwichspa.foodbank.org.uk e: info@droitwichspa.foodbank.org.uk
Registered charity number 1163261; Registered in England and Wales - Tel: 07532 130604

Letter from our newly appointed Rector

Dear Friends

I write to introduce myself. I was born at an early age and brought up in Brynmawr (which is the highest town in Wales). Growing up, as well as the obligatory odd paper round, I worked on a fruit and veg stall on the market. I went to school at St Mary's church school and Brynmawr Comprehensive school. I went to Christ Church College Canterbury where I met Mary my wife to whom I've been married for 38 years. My theological training was at St Michael's College in Llandaff which was combined with a Theology degree at University College Cardiff.

We moved to Swansea where I did two Curacies before moving to Knighton in Mid-Wales as Vicar of Knighton and Norton and subsequently priest in charge of Whitton, Pilleth and Cascob. Another move saw us going back to Swansea where I was Vicar of Killay for 15 years. During that time, I was also Director of Communications for the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon and Chair of Governors of an outstanding 2000 pupil Secondary School. I have been involved in schools work for the whole of my ministry both in governance and pastorally and latterly have been the director of one of the local academies.

Mary and I have two grown up boys and two beautiful grandchildren, and one slightly bonkers aging labradoodle. As for my leisure time, I like watching rugby, I enjoy a real ale and love to cook. Recently I have discovered water colour painting. I have been known to tread the boards from Panto to Plays and we enjoy going to the theatre and live music events.

As I step into this new role as your Rector, I am filled with anticipation and excitement for the journey we're about to embark on together, for the new adventure which awaits us. As I write this, I find myself reflecting on the sense of anticipation that fills the Advent season. Just as we await the coming of Christ at Christmas, we too await a new chapter for these parishes - a time to renew our faith, deepen our community, and embrace the mission before us.

The Christmas story itself is one of bold beginnings, of trusting God's direction amid the unknown. Mary and Joseph set out on a journey of faith that forever changed the world, relying not on certainty, but on that faith and hope. Their path reminds us that God is with us in every new beginning, in every unfamiliar step. Whilst I wouldn't presume to say that Mary and Tim setting out on this journey will be world changing, as we walk this journey together, I am filled with that same hope: that through our trust, love, and unity, God will guide and transform us.

This Advent and Christmas, let us be open to the Spirit's movement, ready to be surprised by the newness God can bring. There is a unique energy in joining a community with its own history, traditions, and spirit, and I am privileged to become a part of it. I look forward to getting to know each of you better, discovering the gifts and strengths we bring as a parish, and discerning how God is calling us forward together.

This is a new season not only for me but for all of us, and I'm excited to explore the ways we can grow in faith, deepen our connections, and reach out to those around us. I trust that as we share in worship, ministry, and fellowship, we'll find renewed purpose and joy in what God is calling us to do.

Mary and I are truly looking forward to what lies ahead as we seek God's guidance in our lives and in the world. Just as Christ entered the world, so God's light enters our lives, filling us with resolve and grace for the adventure ahead.

With Every Blessing



PRAYING ROUND THE PARISH

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

Rev Stephen Winter 07773 760899 mail@stephenwinter.net

Angie Randle 01905 620753 angierandle@hotmail.com

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

Areas for December:

Sunday 1st December – Lincomb, The Winnalls, Acton, Mount Pleasant

Sunday 8th December – Sandys Road, Wellington Road, Chestnut Walk, The Hamptons

Sunday 15th December – Main Road North, Oakfield Road, Woodhall Lane/Close,
Faber Orchard, Deans Walk

Sunday 22nd December – Families represented by all in our community

Sunday 29th December - Clergy, lay readers and PCCs

Areas for January:

Sunday 5th January – Haye Lane, Oldfield Lane

Sunday 12th January – Main Road South, Church Lane, Hill Top, Ombersley Court

Sunday 19th January – Chatley, Woodfield, Hadley and Hunt Green

Sunday 26th January – Those who have moved into the parish

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.

www.st-andrews.church

Follow The Star
CALM and BRIGHT

**St Andrew's
Services & Events
this Christmas**



Tuesday 10th December 4.30 for 4.45pm
**Share the Christmas Story with
the Animals at Little Owl Farm Park**

www.littleowlfarmpark.co.uk



Sunday 15th December 4pm
The Carol Service (in church)

Mon 16th **AT FABER ORCHARD** & Thurs 19th **AT LORD HILL Gdns**
at around 5pm (TBC) **COME CAROL SINGING**
collecting for homeless charities



Sat 21st Dec
3.30pm

*A gentle Service of
Remembrance and Hope
for those who have Lost Loved ones
or are experiencing personal struggles
to find joy during the Christmas season.*

Christmas Eve 11pm
**A Service of Holy Communion
for Christmas Eve**



Christmas Day 10.30am
**An Informal Service,
Carols & Story
for Christmas Morning**



Carols with the Animals



St Andrew's Ombersley and Little Owl Farm Park invite you to

**SHARE THE CHRISTMAS STORY
AND CAROLS WITH THE ANIMALS**

Tuesday 10th December

4.30 for 4.45pm

www.littleowlfarmpark.co.uk

FREE ENTRY & refreshments - more info contact Fiona - 07837 928531

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IN THE
STICKS



Awarding funds from
The National Lottery[®]
Film Forever

www.artsalive



WONKA

Omersley Memorial Hall: Sat 21st December: 2.30pm

The highly anticipated new film focusing on a young Willi Wonka, prior to the events of Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. WONKA tells the wondrous story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician and chocolate-maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today.

Starring Timothée Chalamet, Olivia Coleman, Hugh Grant

There will be an interval during this screening.

Children's Matinee Christmas Party

All children will receive a Wonka Party Bag.

Prebooking Essential. Please email cherrytrees.1@btinternet.com

Tickets are £5.00 per child: Adults are Free



ROVING REPORTER

December 2024/January 2025

Wishing you all a Joyful Christmas and a Healthy
New Year

- **Hadley Bowling Monday Club** held its close of season dinner on 28th October. Winners of the internal club competitions were presented with their trophies.
Singles: Dick Buxton of Waresley; **Pairs:** Mike Lovatt of Hallow and Richard Standen of Ombersley
Presidents Cup: Richard Vining of Tapenhall
Dennis Allington Trophy: Max Seivewright of Ombersley
Please contact David Brownridge at vernhouse@btinternet.com if interested in joining.
- **Ombersley and Doverdale Tennis Club – EXCITING NEWS** after almost one year in the planning, work will begin on installing the new **SG Padel Courts on 2nd December**. This project is as a result of the generosity and encouragement of the Ombersley Conservation Trust leasing the land to ODTTC and also with the help and co-operation of Ombersley Endowed School and in particular their school governor Frank Cody. The courts should be ready by late January 2025. There will be further information on how to take part in this fast-growing new sport in the February issue of this magazine, so watch this space! However if you really need to know **now** then email: odtcsecretary@gmail.com
- **OMH Field: UPDATE** - Outdoor **Table Tennis Table** is now up and running – bring your own bats and ball.
- **Saturday December 7th 2.30pm.** A special ‘Blue Light’ Carol service in Church. The collection from this will be divided 50:50 between St. Andrew’s Association and the Retired Fire Fighters/Police/Ambulance workers.
- **Ombersley Movie Nights – Saturday December 7th** ‘Going in Style’ 7pm OMH.
Saturday December 21st Children’s Christmas Matinee ‘Wonka’ ‘Pre-booking essential’ - see details in magazine.
- **Ombersley Walk Group** will have their annual **Christmas Walk on Sunday December 8th 10am-1pm**. Meet in Ombersley Memorial Hall car park. Further information in magazine or contact Peter Reynolds on 07855 441804.
- **UPDATE;** I found the JUICING DAY on 12TH October 2024 at OMH very interesting. Who knew that you could successfully freeze your apple/pear juice? Also, a ‘Scatter’ is such an appropriately named piece of equipment. Thank you to all the organisers. I will definitely keep an eye open for next year’s event.

JANUARY 2025

- **Ombersley Movie Nights - Saturday January 11th 7pm** ‘Keeping Mum’ starring Maggie Smith. See advert in magazine for further information.
- **Ombersley Dramatic Society** - will perform its annual pantomime ‘**Treasure Island**’ on **Thursday 23rd January - Sunday 26th January** in Hartlebury Parish Hall. See advert in this magazine for further details.

If you are planning any special fund-raising events either as an individual or as a club or have any snippets of local news, let me know. Email; maxdiane@outlook.com or phone 01905 620350



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)

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 December 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.

11th January 2025: “Keeping Mum”

Staring Maggie Smith: An absent-minded rural Vicar fails to notice his wife’s dalliance, his daughter’s boyfriends and his son being bullied; then enters a new housekeeper, the answer to the family’s prayers!

"Treasure Island" - The Panto

Hartlebury Parish Hall will be the venue for Ombersley Dramatic Society's annual panto this coming January, where all audience members are invited to come dressed as PIRATES!

There will be a prize for the best costume worn by a child under 16 at each performance from Thursday 23rd to Sunday 26th January.

So, come along to see this classic tale, originally by Robert Louis Stevenson, as landlady's son Jim Bloom takes on Long John Silver and his band of cutthroats to find the Treasure map and ultimately the Treasure, combined with several hilarious adventures along the way in Alan Frayn's updated script.

Share in the fun on either Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th, Saturday 25th at 7.30pm or Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th at 2.30pm.

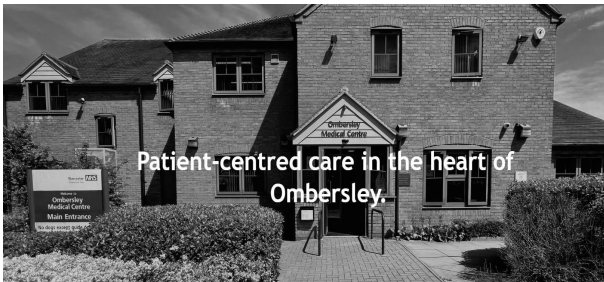
Tickets priced at £10 for adults and £7 for children under 16 are available from Hartlebury Post Office, Holt Heath Post Office, Ombersley Village Stores, Chris Marsh (01905 774210 or chris.marsh10@btinternet.com) and Michael Turner (01905 620757 or m.turner091@btinternet.com)

So, heave to me hearties! Time be wastin' by thunder!"

A monthly update from Ombersley Medical Centre

In October 2024 there were:

- 4,707 Face to Face appointments with clinicians (GPs, Nurses and Pharmacists)
- 836 telephone consultations
- 172 DNA (Did not attend)
- 15,204 medications issued
- 3,034 letters regarding patient care requiring action
- 13,387 test results reviewed and actioned



Flu and Covid Vaccines

We are continuing to offer vaccinations throughout winter. Please call the practice to book.



You can contact the practice to book your flu jab if you are:

- Aged 65 years or over
- Turning 65 before the end of March 2025
- Currently pregnant
- Under 65 with a weakened immune system
- A carer



Christmas Closures

A polite notice that the practice will be closed on Wednesday 25th December and Thursday 26th December 2024 and Wednesday 1st January 2025.

Other than these dates we are open as normal.



Ombersley Gardening Club



We go headlong from Autumn into Winter, with darker evenings and colder days and nights and now is the time to prepare and protect our plants from the frost, gales and freezing snow.

During early December and the last few days of November there is still time to plant bulbs and bare root trees for stunning growth in the warmer months. Improve soil with mulching and compost especially around roses and hydrangeas for wonderful blooms next year. Plant up window boxes and pots with daffodils and tulips for a beautiful display in the Spring. Prune fruit trees and cut back perennials and clear up dead leaves.

If your garden is looking a little dull as winter approaches and the autumn colours are fading along with the disappearing flowers and berries, then add a little colour with some winter plants such as winter iris, snowdrops, hellebores and early flowering clematis. Wildlife may need to depend on you so keep bird feeders topped up and fresh water around.

During December some members look forward to a craft evening making a Christmas decoration at a willow making class followed on the **12th December** by the members Christmas dinner which is always a tremendous evening.

The clubs programme for speakers and visits in 2025 starts on Thursday **January 16th** with John Tilt talking to us on Grafton Wood and Butterfly Conservation and we hope later in the month to have a snowdrop visit.

All that is left now is for your gardening club committee to wish you all a truly Wonderful Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy 2025.

We look forward to welcoming members next year and if you haven't visited your local gardening club yet, then pop along and see what you think. New members are always welcome.

Happy gardening!
Ombersley Gardening Club Committee

Ombersley Walk Group

Next walk: 10am Sunday 8th December 2024

Meet at Ombersley Memorial Hall, where parking is available.



Our Christmas walk is planned to leave the Hall and head towards Turn Mill and then continue down to the River Severn before turning right towards Holt Fleet. We will meander along the river towards the Lenchford Hotel before striking inland following woodland tracks, field paths and quiet country lanes to return to the Hall. The five-mile circular route is pretty flat with a few gates, but no stiles.

After the walk, which will finish about midday, drinks and mince pies will be provided in the Jubilee Room at the Hall. We are inviting everyone to make a small donation of £1.50 per head towards the cost of refreshments. The surplus will be given to the Hall as a contribution towards overheads.

Children are welcome. Dogs are welcome too, but under close control and on a short lead. Everyone is responsible for their own safety. There is no need to register for the walk. We hope to see you on the day.

Peter Reynolds: Parish Paths Warden: 07855 441804



Tea & Coffee Shop

**Ombersley
Memorial Hall**



Tuesday 10th December 2024 2-4 pm

Thursday 16th January 2025 2-4pm

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the February Magazine by
Wednesday 15th January



OMBERSLEY WOMEN'S LEAGUE



Christmas 'Get Together'
Thursday 5 December at 7.00 for 7.30 pm
Ombersley Memorial Hall

Come and enjoy a glass of Prosecco, Turkey Baps, Mince Pies and brandy sauce
at our annual get-together.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR SECRET SANTA GIFT WORTH £5.

Fun and laughter guaranteed!

Members Free. Guests £8

Contact Marie or Ann: 07901 522412/07712 811552

OMBERSLEY WOMEN'S LEAGUE



Thursday 9 January 2025 – 7.00 for 7.30pm

'Wonderful Women of Worcester'

Chris Gait, our local historian, will present a brief look at some of the
incredible lives of Worcestershire women including:

The most famous Lady Macbeth
The highest paid woman in Britain
A female soldier
A world record breaking Aviator

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

Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council

As we approach the end of 2024, and look forward to the year ahead, I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on all that's been achieved by members of your Parish Council – all of whom give their time and energy voluntarily in helping to maintain and improve the Parish in which you live.

This year has seen the completion of the renovation of the Weighbridge Hut, which going forward, will be known as “The Weighbridge Office”. Once an integral part of the day-to-day life of the village, it is hoped the sympathetic renovations will stand the test of time for future generations and will, once more, become a much loved and valued asset to the village, providing a meeting point for local organisations.

Traffic in Ombersley: One of the major issues highlighted during the resident survey was the speed and volumes of traffic through the village. With the assistance from Worcestershire highways and support from our county councillor in 2023, the Parish Council initiated a planned programme of traffic calming measures; this included road marking, village gateway and the installation of four Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) on the entry and exit points of the village.

During 2024 further traffic calming measures have been implemented, and a new gateway and signage have been installed on the A4133 opposite Ombersley school. The flashing school warning signs will shortly be replaced with a smart system. A new VAS unit has been installed on the A4133 by the Spar convenience store, with a second VAS unit funded and sited by Holt Parish Council on the other side of the River Severn towards Broomfield's shop. Recent data downloaded from VAS units indicate that traffic volumes continue to increase. A more detailed summary of the data will be given in the next edition of the parish magazine.

With the Parish being such a desirable area to live in, it's no coincidence planning applications play a significant part in life of the Council, with each application reviewed by the Councillors as they are received. Although we are not able to liaise directly with applicants, it's worth keeping an eye on our website www.odpc.co.uk/planning for weekly updates of applications and notices received, which you can also find on the Parish noticeboards.

And the same is true for road and footpath closures, all of which you will find listed on our website under '**Notices.**' Going forward, we will be looking at ways to streamline the sharing of information as it is received across our social media platforms – keeping you up to date with information as you need it.

Both new and refurbished litter and dog fouling bins have been ordered to further enhance the village and help in the efforts to minimise unsightly litter. If you do spot

an overflowing bin in the Parish it's worth reporting to www.wychavon.gov.uk under 'Report litter or dog bin not emptied'.

And finally, following requests from village youngsters, the table tennis table (located on the Memorial Hall field by the play area) was successfully installed just in time for October half term for all to enjoy. We look forward to publishing league results in the coming months. Another notable example of Councillors listening and responding to community requests for the benefit of all.

As always, if you have an idea, suggestion or there's something you'd like to see improved, in the first instance please contact me, **Anne Scadding – Clerk to the Parish Council, on 07731 929910 or email me at clerk@odpc.co.uk** and I'll be pleased to convey your thoughts to the Council.

On behalf of all at Ombersley & Doverdale Parish Council, wishing you a peaceful Christmas and our warm wishes for the year ahead.

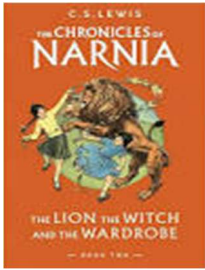
The **Halloween Extravaganza** held at Ombersley Memorial Hall had a great turnout of 48 children who thoroughly enjoyed the event. £291 was raised for Ombersley Endowed First School.

Thank you to a local resident for the donation of the food, which was very much enjoyed by all. Also, thank you to all who decorated their cars that lit up the car park and the generosity of participants who provided sweets for the children. Lastly, a big thank you to all the volunteers who made the event such a success.

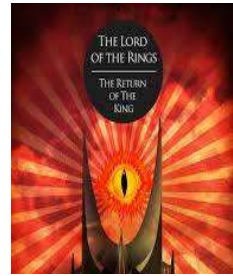
A BIG THANK YOU

to all of the volunteers who distribute the magazine throughout the Parish.

**A Happy Christmas and a Healthy & Prosperous New Year
to all our readers.**



Narnia, Lord of The Rings and Worcestershire



Well may you ask, what do the three have in common? Clive Staples Lewis, the author of The Chronicles of Narnia books, was sent from Ireland to a preparatory school in Malvern because it was thought the superior air quality and health-giving benefits of the Malvern Hills would help his chest problems. In September 1913, aged 14, he attended Malvern College. Whilst in Malvern he spent many hours hiking around the hills.

Local legend has it that one snowy night whilst walking in Malvern he noticed the Victorian gas lamps which lined the streets. He remarked “that would make a very nice opening line to a book”. Hence the scene described in the opening description of Narnia in The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe.

1916 saw Lewis in Oxford as a student where he met his lifelong friend John Ronald Reuel Tolkien – later to be the author of The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings. They were integral members of the informal literary group, based in Oxford, known as “The Inklings”. Together, in the 1930s, they spent many hours wandering around the Malvern Hills, which Lewis had loved since his school days.

Tolkien, born in South Africa, came to be educated at King Edwards School, Edgbaston, (a very fine school!) when his father died. The family lived at Sarehole, in what is now Hall Green, but was then a Worcestershire village. Sarehole Mill, Moseley Bog and the Clent, Lickey and Malvern Hills were a source of inspiration for his high fantasy books. None, perhaps, were a greater inspiration than his aunt’s farm in Dormston, Worcestershire, named “Bag End”.

So, two of the greatest writers of the 20th century owe Worcestershire for their inspiration for some of the finest imaginative stories of the 20th century - but, which is Worcestershire Mordor or Narnia?

David Collier, Ombersley History Group

Ombersley Endowed First School



We had a very successful and busy Open afternoon in October with lots of new prospective families coming around to visit our school.

Remembrance

After learning about Remembrance Day and why we wear poppies, we were honoured to take part in the Remembrance Ceremony at Ombersley Church.

Children in Need

For Children in Need Day, we all came to school wearing yellow clothes.

Trips

Year 1 enjoyed a lovely trip to Hartlebury Castle to find out more about the history of toys.

As part of their Stone Age topic Year 3 has a fabulous trip to Bishops Wood. The children learnt how to be hunters and gatherers as well as learning to build their own shelters.

Year 2 enjoyed a 'multiskills' morning with other first schools at Westacre Middle School. They took parts in lots of sporting activities and games.

As part of their Christmas treat Pre-school and Reception have a trip planned to 'All Things Wild', while the rest of the school will be going to see 'Sleeping Beauty' at Malvern Theatre in December.

Christmas Preparations

We are all practicing our acting and singing skills ready for our Christmas Nativities and performances – it is always so magical to perform in St Andrew's Church for our families and friends.

It will be lovely to be able to celebrate Cluster Carols at Tibberton First School. When we return to school, we look forward to our Christmas Fayre put on by 'The Friends', including a special visit from Father Christmas.

We are also really excited about giving The Posada a home for a few days; the children always love taking part in retelling The Christmas story and sharing the Nativity characters.

The choir are practicing and looking forward to their Young Voices concert in January at the Resorts Arena in Birmingham.

Sytchampton Primary School

We have been very busy here at Sytchampton Primary School and we have so many people to thank for their support over the last few months.

Firstly, a massive thank you to the parents, grandparents, staff and other members of



our community who came to help with **our Big Tidy**. We had a very productive morning and really demonstrated what could be achieved with a few people's hard work! We are looking for any keen gardeners who would

like to help us make the most of our lovely grounds. If you think that you would be able to help us with this, please do get in touch.

At the end of the half term, staff organised a fabulous 'Diwali Day' for children to learn about how Diwali is celebrated around the world. Children took part in a wide range of creative activities including making clay Diya lamps and participating in a dance workshop with a visiting dancer. We are also very grateful to Spice Fusion who kindly donated Vegetable Samosas for the food tasting during Diwali Day (and even went in during closing hours so they were fresh and warm for the tasting in the afternoon)! We rounded the day off with a display of the children's work and a celebration assembly which saw children, staff and parents all joining in with some dancing!



We were extremely proud of the enthusiasm and behaviour of Elm class when they participated in the cross-country competition at RGS Worcester this week – they did a brilliant job and we will be represented at the next round of the School Games in February!

A big thank you also to our PTA who organise many great events for the school. Their next event is our Christmas Fayre on 28th November starting at 2.30pm.

If any parents with children due to start school in September 2025 missed our recent Open Day then please give us a ring to make an appointment to come and see what we can offer! We also have spaces in Year 5 for September. Many thanks.

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	
ORGANIST:	Mrs L. Moyse	

FLOWER ROTA: December & January: Christmas Flowers

PEWPOINTS

DIARY DATES

SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER at 11.00a.m. St. Mary's Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies

WEDNESDAY 25th.DECEMBER at 11.00a.m. St. Mary's CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Communion service

HARVEST AT ST. MARY'S

St. Mary's Harvest Festival Service of Thanksgiving was held on Sunday 20th October at 11.00a.m. Despite the wet and windy weather, the glorious Harvest flowers and greenery transformed the church with their vibrant colours.

Licensed Lay Minister, Richard Jeynes, welcomed the 20-strong congregation; all had come together to give thanks for the labours of farmers and growers everywhere for providing food to sustain us through the coming months.

Richard's address encouraged us to be mindful of the bounteous harvest ever around us whilst, at the same time, acknowledging that, by following in the ways of Christ, our souls will also be nourished.

The readings and Harvest hymns which we have all come to know and love, were read and sung with the usual enthusiasm.

After the service, delicious savoury nibbles and sandwiches were served with a glass of wine. A lovely opportunity for people to mingle and chat.

Thank you so much to all those who helped in any way to make the Harvest service such a special and enjoyable occasion. Thank you, also, to our congregation who came along to support us in our recognition of all those involved in farming and agricultural communities.

SERVICES

Sunday 1 st December 1 st of Advent	11.00a.m. MP(BCP)	Lectors: Mr.R.Coppini, Mrs.A.Chapman Sidesperson: Mr.J.Chapman Readings:- Jer.33 (14-16) & Luke21 (25-36)
Sunday 22 nd December 4 th of Advent	11.00a.m. CAROL SERVICE	Readers: TBA Sidespeople: Mr.G.Crow, Mr.J.Chapman
Wednesday 25 th December CHRISTMAS DAY	11.00a.m. HC (BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.S.Crow, Mr.R.Coppini Sidesperson: Mr.G.Crow Readings:- Isaiah 9 (2-7) & Gospel, John 1 (1-14)
Sunday 29 th December 1 st after Christmas	10.00a.m. HC(CW)	BENEFICE SERVICE AT HARTLEBURY No Service at Doverdale
2025 Sunday 5 th January 2 nd of Christmas Epiphany	11.00a.m. MP(BCP)	Lectors: Mr.R.Coppini, Mrs.V.Harris Sidesperson: Mrs.V.Harris Readings:- Jer.31 (7-14) & John 1 (1-18)
Sunday 19 th January 2 nd of Epiphany	11.00a.m. HC(BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.S.Crow, Mrs.S-A Beckett Sidesperson: Mr.G.Crow Readings:- Isaiah 62 (1-5) & Gospel, John 2 (1-11)

Sunday 26 th January 3 rd of Epiphany (4 th Sunday)	11.00a.m. HC (BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.A.Chapman, Mr.J.Chapman Sidesperson: Mr.J.Chapman Readings:- Nehemiah 8 (1-3), (5-6) & (8-10), Gospel, Luke 4 (14-21)
Sunday 2 nd February (Candlemas)	11.00a.m. MP (BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.V.Harris, Mr.R.Coppini Sidesperson: Mrs.V.Harris Readings:- Malachi 3 (1-5) & Luke 2 (22-40)
Sunday 16 th February 3 rd before Lent	11.00a.m. HC (BCP)	Lectors: Mr.Theo Stacey, Mrs.S.Crow Sidesperson: Mr.G.Crow Readings:- Jer.17 (5-10) & Luke 6 (17-26)

**St. Mary's Church
DOVERDALE**

Christmas Carol Service

All Welcome



Sunday December 22nd 11.00 a.m.

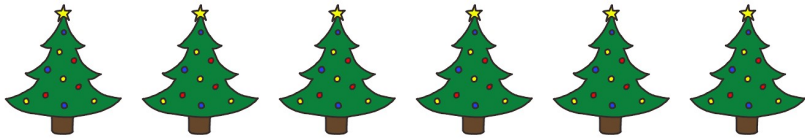


A traditional family carol service with readings and carols,
building the crib for the children,
followed by a glass of mulled wine (for the adults!)

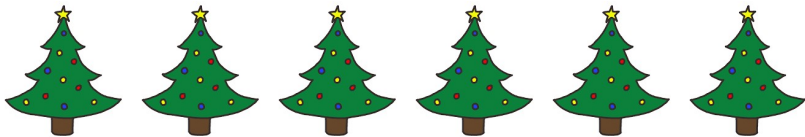
Parish Magazine Subscription

The subscription for 10 issues in 2025 will remain at £6. Please give the money (cash only) to your distributor either before or when the February magazine is delivered.

The magazine is subsidised by advertising so please continue to support the businesses that advertise with us.



***The Editorial Team wish all our readers and advertisers
a Happy Christmas and a Healthy & Prosperous New
Year.***



Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the February Magazine by
Wednesday 15th January

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
- GLM Property Maintenance – building and garden – 07399 024702
- 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
- Leaking Well – pub, hotel & restaurant – 01905 620455
- 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
- Pippa’s Vintage Tea set Hire – tea sets and accessories - 07731 929910
- 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
- Whitlunge 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