



# Ombersley & Doverdale Parish Magazine

**April  
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

**April 2025**

April 6th	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>
April 13 <sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday	9.00am	HC-CW	Rushock
	10.00am*	FS	<b>Ombersley</b>
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
April 20 <sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday	6.30am	Bonfire & renewal of baptism vows	<b>Ombersley</b>
	7.00am	HC-CW followed by breakfast at 8.00am	<b>Ombersley</b>
	9.00am	HC-BCP	Elmley Lovett
	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	FS	<b>Ombersley</b>
	10.30am	FS	Elmbridge
	11.00am	HC-BCP	Doverdale
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
April 27th	9.00am	HC-CW	Elmbridge
	11.00am	HC-BCP	Doverdale
May 4th	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>

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

FS Family Service; MP Morning Prayer

\*Meet outside Checketts at 9.50am and process into Church

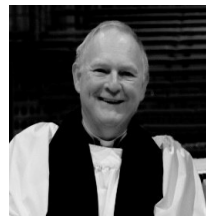
Maundy Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm: HC + watch

Good Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 12noon: meditation

Morning Prayer at Ombersley; 9.15 on 30<sup>th</sup> April

# Letter from the Rector

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



Dear Friends

As I write this, I am just beginning my time as your Rector, and Lent has just begun. Some of you may think I am your Lenten penance! Mary and I would like to thank you for your welcome and we look forward to getting to know you.

As you read this we are just over half way through Lent. As you know, Lent is a season of reflection, a time to prepare our hearts for the great joy of Easter. It is a journey that takes us through the wilderness, through moments of self-examination, prayer, and perhaps even the challenge of giving something up. But Lent is not the destination - Easter is.

I'm reminded of a story about a little girl who was watching a butterfly struggle to emerge from its cocoon. Wanting to help, she gently peeled back the layers, but to her dismay, the butterfly's wings remained weak, and it never flew. What she didn't realise was that the struggle was necessary - the effort of breaking free strengthened the butterfly's wings for flight.

In many ways, this is what Lent and Easter teach us. The struggles we face, the times of waiting and difficulty, are not without purpose. They prepare us for the new life and hope that Easter brings. Jesus's journey through suffering to resurrection shows us that beyond the darkest moments, God's love is at work, bringing transformation and renewal.

So, as we move through these last days of Lent, let us not lose sight of the joy ahead. Easter is coming - a time of celebration, new beginnings, and the promise that, in Christ, life conquers death, and hope triumphs over despair. I look forward to celebrating my first Easter with you, may it be a very happy and blessed.

With every blessing



**Why are chasubles worn in church and what are they?** Chasubles are worn in church as a symbol of the priest's role in celebrating the Eucharist. They represent the yoke of Christ, reminding the priest of their call to humility, service, and love. The chasuble is also a continuation of ancient liturgical tradition, dating back to the early Church when it was a common outer garment. Over time, it became a distinct vestment reserved for the celebration of the Eucharist.

Chasubles can vary in style, with some reflecting the Gothic, Roman, or modern designs. They are often made from high-quality fabrics, embroidered with Christian symbols, and follow the liturgical colour scheme (e.g., purple for Lent, white for Easter and Christmas, green for Ordinary Time).

I have a set of vestments some of which I designed and were made for me by my mother-in-law so you may notice that I will wear them reminding me as I stated above.

## **PRAYING ROUND THE PARISH**

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

Rev Canon Tim Williams 01905 978431; [rector@w7b.org.uk](mailto:rector@w7b.org.uk)

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

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

### Areas for April:

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Lincomb, The Winnalls, Acton, Mount Pleasant

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Sandys Road, Wellington Road, Chestnut Walk, The Hamptons

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Main Road North, Oakfield Road, Woodhall Lane/Close, Faber Orchard, Deans Walk

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April – Ombersley Medical Centre



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.

# Parish Register: St Andrew's Church

## Rota for St Andrew's Church

Date	Service	Sidespeople	Intercessor	Lector
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	HC-CW	Fiona Davies, Tony Checketts	Jenny Batelen	Hazel Smith
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	FS	Marjorie Workman, Judy Baer	-	-
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	MP	Meg & James Martineau	Fiona Davies	David Wood
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	HC-CW	Claire Gathercole, Maureen Callow	Marjorie Workman	Howard Robinson

## Holy Dusters

4 <sup>th</sup> April	Marjorie Workman, Heather Barningham
11 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Sally Ludlow, Liz Hooper, Fiona Davies
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Myra Cowdry, Marjorie Workman

Many thanks to all of you who turned up and blitzed the church before the licensing service. The long cobweb brush was wielded with a lot of enthusiasm, and a remarkable amount of tidying was at last accomplished. Spring Cleaning it was!

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

## Flowers

Arrange Easter Flowers after 3pm on Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Remove Easter Flowers after 10am on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

	Pedestal	Porch
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> May	TBA	Margaret Packer
16 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	TBA	Angela Randle

Jane Hill has moved to Scotland and we thank her for all her hard work coordinating the church flower rota for the past two years.

Heather Barningham has taken on the role of coordinator for Festival Flowers (Easter, Harvest, Christmas) and Jan Berry has agreed to help coordinate the rota for the porch and pedestal flowers. If you can help, please contact either Heather or Jan who will explain what is involved regarding the flower arrangements.

Heather: 01905 620213; [hello@heatherbarningham.co.uk](mailto:hello@heatherbarningham.co.uk)

Jan: [janeteberry@gmail.com](mailto:janeteberry@gmail.com)

# St Andrew's News

Also find information on  
[www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com), YouTube: 'St Andrew's Church Ombersley' or Facebook

Father Tim is now part of our Benefice, after a very enjoyable service with Bishop Robert and Archdeacon Mark, and with so many friends and colleagues supporting him and his family. The themes based on the two important commandments Love God: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbour as yourself.

Everything happened in the right order at the right time, the choir sang a beautiful anthem, the food and wine was eaten and drunk...and the sun shone on the warmest day so far this year. Let us hope this is a good sign of things to come.



Hopefully many of you enjoyed the 'Why Not Sing' afternoon on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. Do let us know if you'd like another session.

If the April magazine is out early, there's a Mothering Sunday breakfast service at 10.30am on 30<sup>th</sup> March, but it will feel like 9.30 as the clocks spring forward the night before ....joy!

On Palm Sunday 13th April, Holy Week starts and we will process to church from Checketts with our palm crosses. There are several services through the week which you are welcome to join in.

The Walk of Witness on Good Friday will leave from St Mary's Doverdale at 10am prompt with a coffee break at Jean Dowty's, arriving at St Andrew's for a service of Reflection at 12 noon. Both are special and open to everyone.

The Easter bonfire at 6.15am should be excellent as we have our best ever collection of Christmas trees to build it from! There will be breakfast in the Narthex at the back of the church from 7.45am. You are very welcome whether you come to a service or not. Breakfast includes, kedgeree, bacon strata and sausages as well as other 'normal' options to tempt you!

Please Check the Forthcoming Events, pop dates in your diaries, and we'll see you there.

### **Stay and Play (Babes and Toddlers)**

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

This is settling into a lovely group of children and adults, please pop in and see us. 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 us via Facebook, Stay and Play Ombersley or on 07837928531.

**Bible Discussion Group:** Our next meeting will be in May.

**Creative Coffee: April 3rd and April 17<sup>th</sup> 10.00 am:** £2 per session.

During Lent we start half an hour earlier so the room is available for the Lent lunch group at 12.30pm. We are working on crochet chickens at present, but I'm sure an Easter something will be on the agenda, please come along with ideas!

Contact Fiona on 07837928531 for more information.

### **Lent Lunch**

This continues to run in the Narthex starting around 12.30pm for approximately one hour and a half. If you can only make one or two sessions please do come along, each week can work on its own. It's an informal gathering over bread, soup and cheese.

We are using a Pilgrim booklet on the Beatitudes to guide us. Each section includes a prayer, a reading and reflection, an article, questions and something to take home and think about. Booklets are available for a donation (£6 please). Please contact Jenny Batelen on 01905 620194.

For those who cannot make the day time there will be a similar evening meeting in Cutnall Green at Lord Morten's Tearooms at 7pm, led by Richard Berry and James Homer.

## **Forthcoming Events**

**Saturday 10th May - A Celebration of Weddings:** 10am - 5pm

This has certainly generated some interest and enthusiasm! We have several wedding dresses offered for the weekend, but would love some more. Do any of you have mannequins or dummies we could borrow to display them? Another suggestion was 'Mother of the Bride' hats - to be displayed handing from the gallery...or hiding raffle prizes!

Nick Wright, our organist, has offered an hour in the morning and afternoon to play some wedding music. Requests with some prior warning please! There will be readings, a raffle and an 'All Day Wedding Breakfast' - in some shape or form!

In the Evening, Serenata and Friends will bring us "Love and Marriage" in words and song. £10 / ticket including refreshments during the interval.

### **Saturday 7th June 1pm: The Fête!**

Planning is underway! We need.....

- White Elephant Stall: anything, but not electrical please, on the day.
- Bottles: drinks only...and alcohol preferred! The most bottles ever were collected last year - can we improve on that?
- Books: best close to or on the day.
- Gift Tombola: all those little things, bits of jewellery, gifts that didn't find a home.
- Cakes: homemade are always the best – needed for tea tent and cake stall. If you freeze ahead, please pop a label on!
- Plants: for those of you who don't kill them, and have little babies everywhere please bring the spares to the Fête on the day.

We are always looking for help on the stalls and with the games, etc. Young ones can dress up as Vikings and Shield Maidens (feisty princesses in my book..) There will be a prize!

### **Saturday August 30th at 7pm. OPERA - LELE. Tickets £15**

A fantastic duo who combine opera, ukulele and an excellent comedy turn. Don't miss this one - it's a real treat. Drinks and Raffle.

## **Christingle Celebration**

In February the Christingle Service held in St Andrew's church was a lovely, joyful occasion where everyone made their own Christingle, originally a Moravian church tradition. An orange represents the world, with sweets showing the good things the earth offers and a candle is lit to symbolise that Jesus is the light of the world. During the service money was raised for The Children's Society, a charity that was formed way back in Victorian times by a young man who was shocked by the conditions some children and young people were living in. For over one hundred and forty years, with the generosity of generations of supporters, originally via the Church of England, fundraising has been a very necessary way of keeping the charity going.

For many years St Andrew's church community has raised money for this worthwhile cause. This year a total of £386.73 was collected, which will go towards supporting



children and young people who are going through difficult and traumatic times; children who are caring for parents or siblings; and children who have been abused or abandoned.

So, a big thank you to all those who contributed to the fundraising this year, either with a collection box at home or in church on our special Christingle Sunday. For any more information about the work of the Children's Society, or if you'd like a fundraising box to have at home please get in touch.

*Louise Robinson: 07952692022*



## LOCAL NEWS

### April 2025

- **A big thank you** to Arthur Turner for contacting me re. the **Origins of the Water Tower**. Up until 1947 almost all of the houses in Ombersley had their own wells or shared a well and water was pumped up by hand from the nearby borehole on the Sandys estate. In 1947/48 the local government put in plans for 24 houses to be built in Apple Tree Walk. They realized that these post-war houses could not each have a well, so the Sandys estate agreed to build the Water Tower and Pumping station to bring the water up from the borehole and into the village. Apparently, Arthur said that there was a large water tank situated in the Conker Field (aka Wedding Field) which was used to store water for the emergency services to access. He did say that sometimes on Bonfire Night the local children might pop the occasional banger inside the huge tank so that it made a louder noise. Some things never change!
- **Ombersley Walking Group** have announced that there will be no organized group walk this spring due to a few of the local leaders being involved in the **Malvern Walking Festival** - nine days of varied and themed walks from Saturday May 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June. If you would like to book onto any walks go to [malvernwalking.uk](http://malvernwalking.uk). Shan South is leading walks MWF52 & MWF71, Paul and Sally MWF22 & MWF43, and Peter Reynolds MWF44, MWF72 & MWF92
- **Mobile Library – Friday April 4<sup>th</sup> 10.45am** Why not visit the County Mobile Library which visits Ombersley and Sytchampton on the first Friday of every month? It parks opposite the Ombersley Medical Centre on the main road from 10.45am-11.00am and by the Bay Trees in Sytchampton 11.05am-11.20am. Further information on 01905 822722.

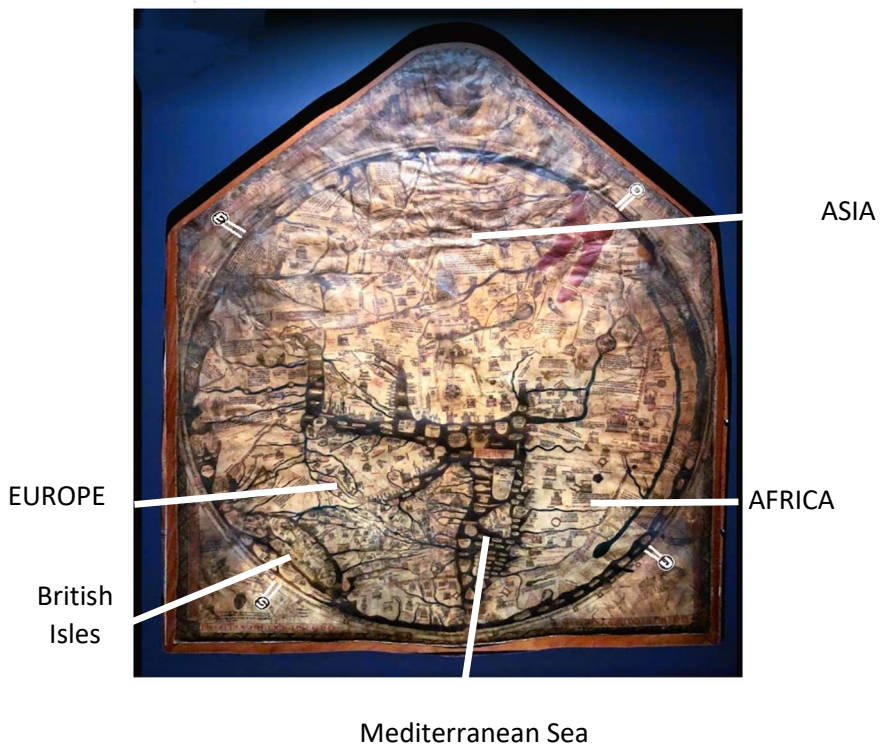
- **Ombersley Movie Nights – Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup>** Join us for the last movie of the season ‘**Swimming with Men**’. A fun movie about an all-male group of synchronized swimmers who compete in the World Championship in Milan starring Rob Brydon, Jim Carter, Rupert Graves & Jane Horrocks.
- Exciting news from Ombersley & Doverdale Tennis Club. The new **PADEL COURTS** are ready and will be available for non-members to book **from 5<sup>th</sup> April**. Non-members can use the courts on a pay and play basis from £10 per hour (off peak UNTIL 5pm) and £20 an hour (peak time weekdays AFTER 5pm). Padel tennis rackets and balls can be hired from the club at £2 per half hour for four rackets. Lessons are also available from the LTA coach of the year, Mike Langston. Padel membership costs £100 a year and gives significant discounts on court hire costs. **Please contact Simon on 07811 218815** for further information on how to book and pay. This sounds like a fun way to get fit for summer, so I might give it a go. New members always welcome.
- **Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup>** – Don’t forget to book your tickets for **A Mad Hatters Afternoon Tea Party** in the Ombersley Memorial Hall and have fun creating your own hat and helping a local children’s charity. Email; [hdaly001@gmail.com](mailto:hdaly001@gmail.com)
- A local resident has just informed me that **the Red Kites** have returned to our village a little earlier than last year. They were seen flying around Parsonage Lane again. I wonder what draws them over here. Is it our beautiful scenery or just a lot of extra bird feeders?
- Remember to make a note of the **Celebration of Weddings** on **Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>** which is being organized in St. Andrew’s Church. Wedding dresses are needed to display in the Church, so if you still have yours and are willing to lend it for the weekend, then please **contact Fiona Davies on 07837 928531**. See poster in magazine.
- Lastly, look what I saw this week by the village roundabout. Great news as there is now work in progress to restore the **Weighbridge Gardens**. This area will now be a more pleasant open area in which to rest on your walk about the village.

If you are planning any special fundraising events either as an individual or as a club or have any snippets of local news, let me know email [maxdiane@outlook.com](mailto:maxdiane@outlook.com) or phone 01905 620350.

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the May Magazine by  
**Friday 11th April**

## Hereford's *MAPPA MUNDI* - circa 1290s ... and why it's so highly regarded today

There are reportedly over 1000 mediæval *mappae mundi* ... maps of the world ... still in existence but what singles Hereford's *Mappa Mundi* out from all the rest is not only its size, just over 5<sup>ft</sup> by 4<sup>ft</sup>, but also the amazing detail of all its component parts: the three known continents {Europe, Africa & Asia} at the time of its compilation in the 1290s; over 420 towns & cities worldwide; 32 races of humans ... some very weird and wonderful, particularly those in the far flung parts of the Earth; 31 animals; just 2 plants; 8 mythological creatures; and 15 references to biblical characters / events.



It was most likely drawn up somewhere near Lincoln, the map producing centre at the time, by Richard of Holdingham on a specially selected calf's skin (vellum). It would have been much lighter in colour and all the drawings done using oak gall ink but also including some vibrant colouring, red and blue, as well as gold-leaf overlay in places. Over the years it has darkened and to some extent become wrinkled. The three major land masses are drawn in a circle, not because people at that time thought the world

was flat ... a myth perpetuated by the '*flat-earth society*' even to this day ... but just as a convenient representation.

The earth is shown rotated 90° anticlockwise to our modern way of thinking, with the East at the top, down to the West at the bottom; hence the labelling of the continents as shown, with the British Isles bottom left rather than top left. The Mediterranean Sea ... the sea in the '*middle of the earth*' ... is thus located in an almost vertical central position in the lower part of the map.

It's a truly wonderful map not only for its time but also for the incredible detail ... more of this in another article ... which also includes written explanations in Norman French, the language of the literate elite in the 1290s, in boxes at all angles in order to fit them in between the myriad of little drawings, over 500 ... well worth a trip to Hereford Cathedral to see it in all its faded yet extravagant glory.

*Howard Robinson*



## **The Monarch's Way**

**Charles II's amazing escape route following the battle of Worcester on 3rd  
September 1651**

**An illustrated talk by Howard Robinson**

**Ombersley Memorial Hall: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 7 pm for 7.30pm**

**Admission: members free; non-members £5 - includes a glass of wine/soft drink**

# Easter at St Andrew's

## **PALM SUNDAY**

**13th April..... 10am....** Gathering to process at Checketts 9.45am

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**17th April...7.30pm....** Commemoration of Last Supper  
with 'Tenebrae' service in St Andrew's

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

**18th April...10-00am....** Walk of Witness (families welcome)  
from St Mary's Doverdale (gather 9:45)  
to St Andrew's Ombersley

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

**18th April...12noon....** Reflection for Good Friday  
in St Andrew's

**Easter Sunday**

**6.15am.....**

**.....Easter Bonfire &  
'Sonrise' Service**  
in churchyard

**7.00am.....**

**...Short Communion  
Service** in St Andrew's

**7.45am.....**

**...Easter Breakfast**

**10.00am**

**Easter Family Service**

**with Easter Egg Hunt  
in churchyard afterwards**

# Parish Council Reflections

It is not very often that an individual comes along that makes an enormous difference to a community in a noticeably brief time. Sue Collier was without one shadow of a doubt one of the hardest working members of the Parish Council, certainly for a long time. Within four months of joining the Council she became head of planning and not very much passed Sue's eagle eye. Sue then organised a meeting in Ombersley Church, attended by around two hundred residents, to explain the importance of a Neighbourhood Plan, affectionally known as TOAD (**T**omorrow's **O**mbersley **A**nd **D**overdale). This task she took on with relish, recruiting over fifty residents as volunteers to help produce one of the most respected Neighbourhood Plans ever to be approved by Wychavon.

The Council could well have been financially embarrassed if it had not been for Sue's determination to apply for as many grants as possible. The Memorial Hall would still be surrounded by the prison-like fencing. The children's play area would still have been open to the main field and the car park. The Sandys Memorial gates would not be in position. There would not have been paths to allow people to walk around the field. Benches would not have been ordered and sponsored nor would trees have been planted and the telephone box in the village painted Red.

During the COVID lockdown, Sue was the lynchpin of the helpline which gave comfort and support to so many residents, whilst at the same time she catalogued all the Parish records for posterity.

Even after Sue retired from the Council, she was very heavily involved with the restoration of the weighbridge and garden, which sadly, she will not see completed.

Thank you so much Sue, you are leaving behind a mighty gap to fill, and you will be missed by all sectors of the community.

Our thoughts are with David, her husband, who has lost such an incredibly special and respected lady.

*Judy Goodman.*

(On behalf of Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council)

## Catkins

A sad February day  
It's miserable and grey  
But the catkins are here  
And they're bringing us good cheer.

Long, furry and golden, they  
dance in the sun. It's their way  
for Spring is coming along  
We'll soon be singing their song.

Daffodils are in the shop  
They really don't cost a lot  
We want them in our garden too  
They need to be right in our view.

What would we do without our Spring?  
Without the hope that it will bring  
that better times are coming soon  
and catkins are a real boon!

*Claire Gathercole 17th February 2025*



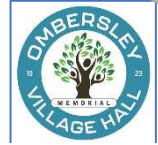
**Tea &  
Coffee  
Shop**



**Ombersley  
Memorial  
Hall**

**Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup> 2-4 pm  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2-4pm**

# Ombersley Memorial Hall



Ombersley Memorial Hall sits at the very heart of our community and we are proud that it is home and host to so many local events throughout the year from the Vintage Car Show to curry nights, the Christmas Fair and a Mad Hatters Tea Party, Halloween celebrations and pizza nights... to name just few.

We are always on the lookout for more volunteers to help at any of these events. Can you help?

If you are interested please get in touch with Ann Pickering:  
[annpickering540@gmail.com](mailto:annpickering540@gmail.com) or 07834 092779



In February 2025 there were:

- 3,170 Face to Face appointments with clinicians (GPs, Nurses and Pharmacists)
- 723 telephone consultations
- 144 DNA (Did not attend)
- 14,356 medications issued
- 2,473 letters regarding patient care requiring action
- 15,840 test results reviewed and actioned



Patient-centred care in the heart of

## Download the NHS App for smarter access to your health information

The NHS App gives you a simple and secure way to access a range of NHS services such as.

- order repeat prescriptions and nominate a pharmacy where you would like to collect them
- book and manage appointments
- view your GP health record to see information like your test results
- register your organ donation decision
- choose how the NHS uses your data
- use NHS 111 online to answer questions and get instant advice or medical help near you
- message your GP surgery or a health professional online
- contact your GP surgery using an online form and get a reply
- access health services on behalf of someone you care for
- view and manage your hospital and other healthcare appointments
- view and manage care plans



# History and Origins of Golf, Gowf or Kolf

The Scots would have us believe that they invented golf. Their basis for this claim is that a game of hitting pebbles over sand dunes with a stick had been played from time immemorial and that they invented the modern game in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

However, since the early middle-ages, the Dutch have played a game called “Kolf”, where a leather ball was hit into a hole with a stick, the winner using the fewest strokes. Kolf, a Dutch word meaning stick or bat, was first recorded in 1261, in a manuscript of the Dutch poet Jacob van Maerlant. There is a record of another game of golf played on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 1297 in Loenen aan de Vecht, in Holland.

The first mention of golf in Scotland occurs in an Act of Parliament of 1457, 150 years later. At that time, Scotland fearing yet another invasion from the English made military training in archery compulsory for all men. However, playing “Gowf”, as it is in Scots, was more popular than military service. The Act was introduced to ban golf and “futball” so that men could fulfil their military obligation.

Despite a subsequent Act of 1491, under James IV<sup>th</sup>, banning golf in Scotland as an “unprofitable sport”, the king acquired a set of golf clubs and set a precedent for royal involvement in the game.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1672, Sir John Foulis recorded in his diary that he played golf at Musselburgh Links, just outside Edinburgh. This is accepted as proving that “The Old Links” at Musselburgh is the oldest playing course in the world.

The oldest surviving Golf rule book was published in 1744 for “The Company of Gentlemen Golfers” who played at Leith Links near Edinburgh. The club still exists and this publication entitles them to be known as the oldest golf club. Their rules form the basis for the modern game rules, including “your tee must be upon the ground” and “you are not to change the ball which you strike off the tee.”

The Victorian era saw a huge boom in the game, partly through Victoria’s interest in Scotland and more from increasing middle-class wealth and mobility. By 1860, a ball made from Gutta Percha, a type of rubber, was cheaper, easier to make and more reliable than the previous feather filled leather ball. With the growth of Empire, the game became the international sport it is today.

So, you decide: should it be golf, gowf or kolf?

*David Collier, Ombersley History Group*

## **OMBERSLEY MEMORIAL HALL**

### **EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY 2025**



**5<sup>th</sup> April – Movie Night- Swimming with Men**

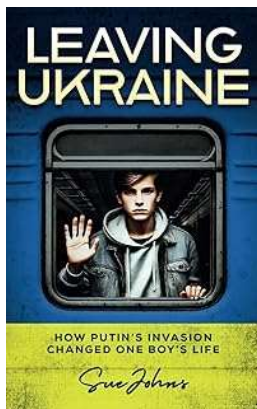
**12<sup>th</sup> April – Mad Hatter Afternoon Tea**

**12<sup>th</sup> July – Car Show**

**27<sup>th</sup> Sept. Murder Mystery Supper**

**11<sup>th</sup> Oct. Movie Night – new season**

**31<sup>st</sup> Oct. Halloween extravaganza**



## **OMBERSLEY WOMEN'S LEAGUE**



**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – 7.00 for 7.30pm**

**A talk by Sue Johns**

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Ombersley resident Sue Johns became involved in helping refugees reach the safety of the UK. One of those refugees was a 16-year-old boy, Yurii, who eventually came to live in Sue's home.

Sue will describe the 2.5 years with Yurii, and his journey from Ukraine to his new life in the UK. Sue's book will be available to purchase on the night

**PLEASE NOTE:** May meeting is now **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April** due to local elections.

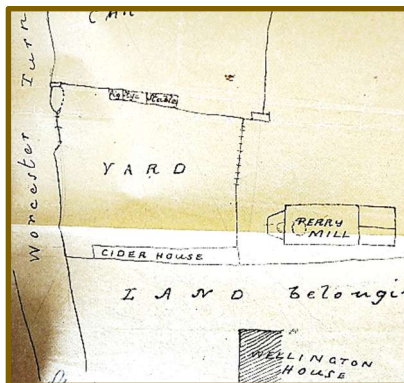
Silvertime Legal will inform us about wills, trusts, power of attorney, inheritance tax etc.

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

## Pear and Cider Mill in Ombersley

Some years ago, when researching the history of the Congregational Chapel, a small piece of paper fell to the floor from the Malpas family file, with a sketch of a pear mill, located opposite the Cross Keys, behind where a millstone sits now.

Contemporary newspaper articles show that the mill was in operation until at least 1852, Phoebe Malpas and her son, Thomas, in a cottage across the yard, with an orchard behind.



Mill at Avoncroft Museum - as the Malpas mill may have looked.

*Rob Shipley*

## Children's Play Area Vandalism

Over the past six months there has been two acts of vandalism in the Children's Play Area on the Memorial Hall Field. The latest one was the removal of the steering wheel on one of the younger children's 'rides', leaving a dangerous spike, which could have caused a nasty accident.

The Parish Council take the safety of our children very seriously and will take the appropriate action if anyone is caught vandalising any pieces of equipment.

The play area is inspected regularly, but if anyone sees any damage, or has any information regarding the above incidents please email: [clerk@odpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@odpc.co.uk)

Dresses

As part of St Andrew's

Photos

Wedding  
Flowers

# *Celebration of Weddings Past and Present*

Hats



Music

on Saturday 10th May 10am to 4pm

More info: Contact Fiona - 07837 928531



**There's An Evening Concert by Serenata & Friends**

***"Love & Marriage" in song and words***

at 7:30pm - Tickets/Entry £10

Contact Louise Robinson on 07952 692022

or [robinson\\_louise@icloud.com](mailto:robinson_louise@icloud.com)



## Ombersley Memorial Hall Mad Hatter Afternoon Tea



**Treat yourself or the family to an unforgettable  
afternoon of delicious treats with wonderful company**



**12th April 2025 2 - 4pm**

**£8 per Adult**

**£5 per Child**



Children, create your own Hat with colourful craft supplies

Book your Tea **NOW** and get ready for a Hatter-ly wonderful time

email: [hdaly001@gmail.com](mailto:hdaly001@gmail.com)

Proceeds to: New Hope Childrens Charity, Worcester



## Ombersley Gardening Club



Having seen some much-needed sunshine, the hedgerows are starting to fill out once more with new growth and trees are starting to reveal their blossom. The gardens are full of birdsong and beautiful spring flowers and new life is popping up all around us.

After the Spring Show in March we now look forward to our speaker for April, Michael Marriott who on the **17<sup>th</sup> April** will be speaking to us about **Roses**.

On **14<sup>th</sup> May** we have a self-drive visit to Hayloft Plants and Fibrex nurseries followed on the **15<sup>th</sup> May** by Dominic Hamilton talking to us about the “**History and Restoration of Painswick Garden**”.

Spring is definitely here and now is the time to tidy up borders and plant summer flowering bulbs. Perennials are a gardeners’ best friend, coming back year after year whether in your garden or in pots and filling the garden with colour.

Many places now offer free coffee grounds, which can make certain plants thrive including tomatoes, roses, hydrangeas, rhododendrons, carrots and radishes to name just a few. Use the grounds in moderation and mix with compost and it will enhance your garden's health and productivity.

If you don't have a garden and would like to grow some home produce, make a garden in a bucket or pot and plant lettuce, tomatoes, herbs, radish, strawberries etc. As always, please remember to look after any wildlife with food and water.

The Ombersley Gardening Club holds its monthly meeting at Ombersley Memorial Hall on the third Thursday of every month. Feel free to pop along and meet fellow gardeners.

We look forward to seeing you.

*Ombersley Gardening Club Committee*

# Ombersley Endowed First School



## Book Week

We all had a wonderful Book Week; each class enjoyed a different Roald Dahl book. Reception enjoyed 'The Enormous Crocodile,' Year 1 had lots of fun with 'George's Marvellous Medicine' - they made some great concoctions for George's medicine! Year 2 read 'Fantastic Mr Fox' and they carried lots of lovely writing and art activities. Year 3 loved reading 'The Magic Finger' and Year 4 enjoyed the story of 'The Great Mouse Plot'. During the week the children took part in lots of home challenges and fun activities including designing their own book cover for a Roald Dahl book, creating a picture of their favourite Roald Dahl character, taking a photograph of themselves reading in an 'extreme place' and even baking a cake in the style of a Roald Dahl book.

On Monday every class had Storytime outside. On Tuesday they brought their preloved books to swap for a new one, they also brought a cuddly toy to school to read with. For World Book Day on Thursday, everyone in the school dressed up as their favourite book character – they all looked fantastic – everyone was a winner! On Friday the children voted for their favourite Roald Dahl animation – 'The Enormous Crocodile' was the winner, so the whole school watched that in the morning. At the end of the day, we invited parents and grandparents into school to share a book with their child. It was a lovely end to a lovely week.

The Friends organised a 'Mother's Day' craft activity for the children to create something beautiful for their moms. We also celebrated 'Red Nose Day' by wearing something Red.



**Trips:** Reception children are looking forward to their visit to Blist Hill Victorian Museum. Year 1 are going to Warwick Castle as an enrichment day for their work on Castles, Kings and Queens. Year 3 are looking forward to an Ancient Egypt Workshop. Other classes have summer trips to look forward to.

**Easter:** The whole school are starting to practice for their Easter service at Ombersley church. This is always one of the highlights of the year, when we all wear our Easter bonnets and parade down to Church to perform our Easter songs and readings for our parents. With lots of other fun activities to look forward to as well!

**Scooters Holiday club** is available during The Easter Break – get in touch with school for details.



# Sytchampton Endowed Primary School



We have had an exciting month and have enjoyed being able to get outside in the recent warmer weather.

**World Book Day:** On 6<sup>th</sup> March the children and staff had a great time dressing up for World Book Day. Throughout the day they worked in groups to put together a 'play in a day' which they wrote, directed and acted out themselves. We had a lot of fun watching the plays at the end of the day and it was great to see how creative the children were in coming up with ideas.



**Science Week:** In the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> March we took part in British Science Week. Throughout the week we had visits from some parents who work in scientific industries, and the children had the opportunity to ask questions to find out more about how science comes into everyday life. Our fantastic PTA had helped us to fund science activities and trips for the children during the week – the younger children visited Bishopswood to find out about different animal habitats and the older ones visited a recycling plant to find out what happens to our rubbish after we throw it away. Thanks to a grant the PTA were able to secure, we will soon be purchasing some new science equipment to support our teaching of the curriculum.

**Church Visit:** At the end of February, our youngest children had their first experience of a school trip with a visit to Ombersley Church. They enjoyed finding out about churches and discovering the different features of a church. They asked lots of good questions and then thoroughly enjoyed riding on the minibus back to school.

**Quiz and Fizz Night:** Thankyou to everyone in the community who came to the Quiz and Fizz night hosted by the PTA on 7<sup>th</sup> March at Ombersley Village Hall. The money raised will be put to good use improving the facilities for our children in school.

**Could you be a School Governor?** We are also currently looking for a new member of our governing body. Governors play a vital role in supporting the running of our school and it is a great way to broaden experience and 'give something back'. We have a vacancy on our Governing Body for a member of the community to act as a '**Lloyds Foundation Governor**'. We are looking for someone in the wider school community, as our Parent Governor positions are currently filled. An interest/experience in Finance, Building Services or Human Resources would be advantageous, but not essential, as the governor would be asked to sit on our Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee. If you would like more information, please contact Jane Lawson, Clerk to Governors [seps-govclerk@sytychampton.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:seps-govclerk@sytychampton.worcs.sch.uk)

*Fiona Templeton, Headteacher*

## 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:

April 6<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> LENT - NO FLOWERS: April 20<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> – Easter Flowers

### PEWPOINTS

**DIARY DATE:** Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup>. Celebration of Easter. Holy Communion, 11.00 am.

### LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 12noon. Accounts to be adopted by PCC members after the 11.00 HC service.

Monday May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. St. Mary's AGM and Vestry Meeting in Ombersley Narthex.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year, (Women's) World Day of Prayer Service was inspired and prepared by Christian Women of the Cook Islands. The event was kindly hosted by St. James' Church, Hartlebury on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

The tiny island nation lies between the Tonga and Samoa Islands to the West and the Society Islands to the East in the centre of the Polynesian Triangle. Flowers are an integral part of the Cook Islands' identity and symbolize love, friendship and respect. A single flower was given to each person at the start of the service. A small table, covered in a blue cloth with vases of flowers and shells had been placed at the front of the church to evoke the Pacific Ocean.



The underlying theme for this year's service of worship was recognition that we are all unique and special and that God created us with great attention and loving care: we should cherish all aspects of who we are and of those around us.

Caroline Gumbley, Church Warden, welcomed everyone and thanked all those from across the Benefice who had helped to organize the event and were taking part in the service. Nick Wright played the organ and led us through the lovely hymns and music. Tea and delicious cakes and biscuits were served afterwards by the Hartlebury ladies; an ideal opportunity for chatting and meeting new people.

Thank you to those at St James' Church for making us all so welcome.

### SERVICES

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 5 <sup>th</sup> of Lent	11.00a.m. MP (BCP)	Lectors: Mr.R. Coppini, Mrs.V.Harris Sidesperson: Mrs.V.Harris Readings:- Isa.43(16-21) & John 12(1-8)
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	5.30p.m.	GOSPEL REFLECTION at St. Mary's
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April GOOD FRIDAY	10.00a.m. WALK OF WITNESS	Meet at St Mary's for walk to Ombersley
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April EASTER SUNDAY	11.00a.m. HC(BCP) EASTER SERVICE CELEBRATION	Lectors: Mr.J.Chapman, Mrs.V.Harris Sidespeople: Mrs.A.Chapman, Mr.G.Crow Readings:- Acts 10(34-43) & John 20(1-18)
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2 <sup>nd</sup> of Easter	11.00a.m. HC(BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.S.Crow, Mrs.V.Harris Sidesperson: Mr.G.Crow Readings:- Acts 5(27-32) & John 20(19-end)
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 3 <sup>rd</sup> of Easter	11.00a.m. MP(BCP)	Lectors: Mr.R.Coppini, Mrs.V.Harris Sidesperson: Mrs.V.Harris Readings:- Acts 9(1-6) & (7-20) & John 21(1-19)
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> May 5 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	11.00a.m. HC(BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.A.Chapman, Mr.J. Chapman Sidesperson: Mrs.A.Chapman Readings:- Acts 11(1-18) & John 13(31-35)

## Adverts (electronic) 2025

- AJ's Window Cleaning Services – windows, gutters etc. – 07809 730085
- APM Decorators – 07784 483192
- 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
- Doorbars – chartered surveyors/land agents – 01905 27288
- Elite Sweeps – sweep/log burners – 01905 700701 / 07712 220671
- S Fox – garden maintenance, painting & decorating – 01299 851388 / 07711 162464
- S Fox – chimney sweep – 01299 851388 / 07711 162464
- 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
- 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
- Mark Foster Podiatry/Chiropody – 07941 138957
- Marshall-McKay Kitchen & Interior Design – 07765 447704
- Mick Miles Pest control & Gardening Services – 01905 620394 / 07732 223825
- Oldfields of Ombersley – country/equestrian – 01905 622295
- 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
- Phoenix Fostering – 07957 987461
- Pippa's Vintage Tea Set Hire – tea sets and accessories - 07731 929910
- Precision Pressure Cleaning – patios etc. – 07951 885745
- 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 J M Locksmith Services – 01905 570999 / 07871 442011
- SMB Electrical Solutions – 01905 428892 / 07917 182945
- 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
- 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