

Ombersley & Doverdale Parish Magazine

**October
2021**



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 October 2021

October 3rd	9.00am	HC CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	Harvest	Hartlebury
	10.30am	Harvest	Elmbridge
	11.00am	Harvest	Doverdale
	11.00am	HC CW	Ombersley
October 10th	9.00am	HC CW	Rushock
	10.00am	Family Service	Ombersley
	11.00am	Harvest	Elmley Lovett
	11.00am	HC CW	Hartlebury
October 17 th	9.00am	HC CW	Elmbridge
	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Ombersley
	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Hartlebury
	11.00am	HC BCP	Doverdale
	11.00am	Harvest	Rushock
	6.00 pm	Evensong	Hampton Lovett
October 24th	9.00am	HC BCP	Elmley Lovett
	11.00am	HC CW	Ombersley
October 31st	10.00am	HC CW	Hartlebury
	11.00am	All Souls Service	Ombersley
	3.00pm	All Souls Service	Elmley Lovett

HC - Holy Communion

CW - Common Worship

BCP - Book of Common Prayer

MP - Morning Prayer

Please check on-line or via the weekly email from Nick Wright, the Parish Administrator.

Please send articles for publication in the November issue to the editors by

10th October.

Parish Register: St Andrew's Church

Weddings

4 th August	Alicia Filer & Jonty Cornes
14 th August	Kate Beamond & Dominic Gaughan
15 th August	Isabel Andrews & Dominic Callear
21 st August	Felicity Atkinson & Rudolf Hercik

Interment of Ashes

11 th August	Basil Lamb
12 th August	Maxime Brandon
17 th August	Richard Terrence Ford
25 th August	Iris Checketts

Rector's Thoughts October 2021

If the goal of a pilgrimage is to reach an intended destination then our hundred mile journey from St Oswald's church at Heavenfield on Hadrian's Wall to Holy Island ended in failure. In the Kyloe woods that overlook the island, Laura and I took a wrong turn and by the time we had discovered our mistake we were some miles out of our way. We had arranged to be picked up by taxi on the island in time to leave it before the tide cut it off from the mainland and there was now no chance that this rendezvous could be achieved. We phoned the taxi company with whom we had made this arrangement and were picked up by the side of the road at the junction of the road between Lowick and Fenwick and the road to Holburn. Our pilgrimage was at a slightly disappointing end.

We live in a very goal-oriented society in which our lives are constantly being assessed by others and by ourselves as successful or as a failure. The quite bizarre behaviour of a number of people at the supposed failure of the England football team to win the European Championship this

summer even though in reaching the final they had already achieved more than any other England side since the 1966 World Cup points to the absurdity of such an attitude. If we were to choose to judge that side by a different set of criteria we might choose to praise them for the dignity that they showed in the face of the vitriol that was poured upon them by certain people. We might recognise that the goal of building a civilised society might well be better achieved by such dignity than by lifting a sporting trophy.

My own small experience of success and failure in walking the St Oswald's Way in Northumberland causes me to think about the things that really matter. The acts of kindness and generosity that we experienced along the way; the many moments of delight that we experienced; the surprises that would sometimes seem to spring from nowhere; all these were not achievements on our part but gifts. And a life that is received as a gift is one that is to be consistently received with gratitude. The word in Christian worship that describes that kind of consistent reception is Eucharist, a Greek word that means thanksgiving. It is one of the names given to the service of Holy Communion that is the very centre of Christian worship and Christian life.

Rev'd Stephen Winter

St Andrew's News

www.st-andrews.church

Are we nearly normal? As I write schools are back the roads are certainly filling up and the pattern of services in Church feels like we are 'as usual'. However, the temperature is in the high 20's and well into the evening as well, which makes 'doing' harder than it needs to be, and meeting in Church is highly attractive.

This month we had a reading from *The Letter from James*, a collection of practical instructions on various topics for 'All God's people scattered around the World'

and I do like practical instructions! The first part was in effect telling us not to discriminate against those who look different to us, then asking 'what good is it for people to have faith if their actions do not prove it'? Chapter 2 v 14-17 if you'd like to check it out.

So, we need to 'do'.

We are blessed in this Parish with many people who do all they can to help their friends and neighbours, as well as those who run events and groups at the Memorial Hall, which are now getting going again. The Social Strollers are back starting and finishing walks at the Church on Wednesdays we're glad to say. We read in last month's magazine's Covid Chronicles how important the community has been and we are tremendously grateful for that.

But there is more: we here at St Andrew's, along with many other churches in the country, feel we need to do as much as we can to help look after and protect our planet. The Eco Church journey is helped by 'Called to Action' - small steps to save the planet. Can you help? If you are interested in any way, please contact Jenny Batelen at jenny.Batelen@btinternet.com.

Holy Dusters

The plan at present is to have a major clean before the first service of each month, with most people coming along and a lighter touch on the third week. This is usually done on a Friday or Saturday. We do need more people, after all 'many hands make light work'.

Do you like to clean, but not tidy? Have a chat with a friend? Enjoy a coffee after a job well done? Would you like to help keep our Church looking at its best. It is lovely to welcome Marjorie to the team.....who else would like to join? We'd love to see you.

Ring Liz 01905 620827 or Fiona 01905 62176

Active Coffee

For October we will meet on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 28th October at 10.30am.

In case you are wondering Active Coffee could be called Knit and Natter, or Stitch and Bitch. You can create whatever you like...or just come for a chat and drink!

Wednesdays have no theme yet, though Christmas is on the horizon. On Thursday 28th we will be concentrating on jewellery and Louise Tarleton-Hodgson will be leading us! Please come along and have a go; there will be a contribution to the cost of materials.

Thank you so much for the blankets so far....and for those under construction. We still have wool available in church if you'd like to join in.

Please let Fiona know if you would like to come: 01905 621176,

Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who has been contributing to the Foodbank box in the Lychgate. The blue box will remain on the bench there for the moment, so please do add to it if you can.

Handbells and the SAS

Handbells have started on a Monday afternoon at 2pm, and now is an ideal time to join in and meet other new people.

The St Andrew's Singers are now rehearsing in Church. Do you like singing? Would you like to be taught something new? No experience necessary. We generally meet on a Friday evening at 6pm and alternate with a Sunday morning when time allows.

If you are interested in either learning to play handbells or singing, please contact Louise on 01905 620995.



Remembrance Day 2021



Remembrance Sunday is 14th November. Full details in the November Magazine

PRAYING 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 James Homer 01299 851637 ajfhomer@btinternet.com

(lay reader with pastoral responsibility for the
Worcestershire Severn Parishes)



Areas prayed for October:

- Sunday 3rd October – Apple Tree Walk, Holt Fleet Road, Parsonage Lane
- Sunday 10th October – Sinton, School Bank, Ombersley School, Hawford, Hawford School
- Sunday 17th October – Boreley, Mutton Hall, Comhampton, Dun Hampton
- Sunday 24th October – Clergy, lay readers and PCCs of our parishes
- Sunday 31st October – All in our community who mourn



OMBERSLEY WOMEN'S LEAGUE

We are pleased to be able to invite you to join us for a talk by Judy Hulland entitled:

The Daily Work of a Magistrate

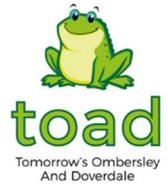
Wednesday 6 October at 7.30 p.m. at Ombersley Memorial Hall

New Members are welcome

To book your place contact Lesley or Marie
07773 114830 or 07901 522412

TOAD update for the October

The referendum on whether the community accepts our proposed Neighbourhood Plan is on 30th September.



If you are reading this prior to that date, please support us by voting to approve the plan on the 30th in order that your opinions may influence future planning applications within the Parish. If you have already voted then we send our thanks.

We will say more on the result, when we know it, in the November magazine, but meantime we wish to thank you all for following Toad over the last 4 years and giving us your opinions. We would also like to send our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who worked on the plan reports, the household questionnaire, at coffee mornings and by walking the Parish delivering leaflets. We would not be where we are without you.

Lasting Reflections: A Place to Remember

Ombersley Memorial Hall Committee and Trustees are working with the Parish Council to honour the request made by so many residents asking for a place to remember a loved one.

An opportunity has now arisen for residents to sponsor (as a whole, or in part e.g. half a bench, or simply as a donation towards) a tree, bench or a picnic bench in the Memorial Field.

The Trees

Nine trees will be available to sponsor at a cost of £165 each. Three *Betula* var. Snow Queen (Snow Queen Birch tree): a variety with white bark from a young age for all year around interest with the autumn foliage turning a rich golden yellow.

Three *Sorbus aria* var. *Lutescens*, a variety of whitebeam: a medium size tree with grey-green foliage and white flowers, which later develop into orange and red berries.

Three *Crataegus prunifolia* var. *Splendens*: a variety of hawthorn with very bright persistent red berries, which develop from white flowers in May and with copper/bronze foliage in autumn.

Benches

Six sided benches will be available for sponsorship at a cost of £875 each and two picnic benches at a cost of £620 each. At an additional cost of approximately £75, depending on words, a memory plaque can be added.

How to apply

If you are interested in sponsoring one of the above items please register your interest by Saturday 16th October 2021 by emailing Lesley Welch at cherrytrees.1@btinternet.com or Sue Collier at susan.collier1954@gmail.com

Should we have more requests for sponsorship than we have availability, a name-protected draw will take place at the Memorial Hall Tea Shop on the afternoon of Thursday 28th October 2021.



Save the Children

Coffee Morning & Christmas Cards

Friday 8th October, 10am – 1 pm at

6 Lord Hill Gardens Judy Baer; Tel 01905 964784

Royal British Legion Update

Further to September's request for help with the Ombersley Poppy Appeal, Peter and Margaret Peters will return from Shetland in mid-October to prepare and distribute poppy boxes. Letters have already been sent out regarding the wreaths to be laid at St Mary's Doverdale and St Andrew's Ombersley.

Peter will also perform his duties as Standard Bearer for both Remembrance Services. This will be our last attendance. Please telephone Mandy - fundraiser for Worcestershire - on 07808 261075 if you can help in any way.

From the Archive: The Choir - Notes from the Vicar. J. Webster

February 1896: The Vicar desires to give notice that instead of the usual subscription list for choir expenses, collections will be made by the Church at morning and evening service on the third Sunday in the month. The Vicar trusts that those who appreciate reverent musical service will contribute to the maintenance of an efficient choir.

March 1896: The great change in the arrangement of our choir is now complete and has turned out a success. The effect of the surplice choir is to give much more dignity to our service and will in course of time conduce greatly to the reverence and heartiness with which these services should be conducted. The singing sounds much better from the Chancel, and men and boys are evidently taking that pride and interest in their duties which must very soon result in the attainment of a high standard of efficiency. We are pleased that the change is acceptable to the parish at large.

July 1896: The Vicar desires to point out that the custom which is common in almost every church in the country of allowing the choir and clergy to leave the Church before the congregation will soon have no exception in Ombersley Church. It is simply a carrying out of the Scriptural command '*Let all things to be done decently and in order,*' and besides this, is to a great extent a question of manners.

December 1896: We are pleased that the Rector of a neighbouring parish has been so much impressed by the success and proficiency of our choir that he is intending soon to introduce a surplice choir into his own church. Ombersley people have indeed good reason to be proud of their choir, for we know that "imitation is the sincerest flattery".

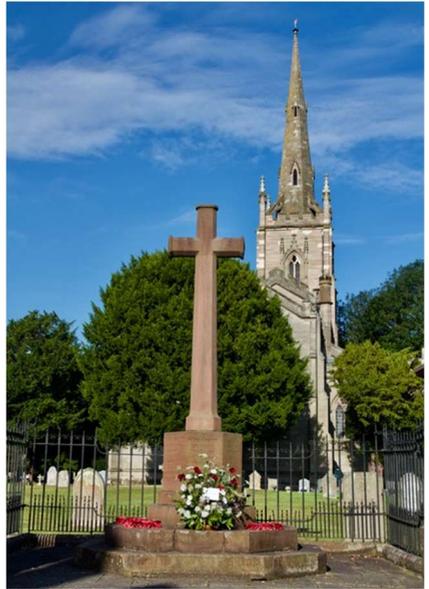
Choir excursion; September 1899: The members of the choir to the number of 22, accompanied by the Vicar made Blackpool the scene of their summer outing on August 4th. The journey from Droitwich was very enjoyable as the train passed through the pretty country of Derbyshire and the scenery was highly appreciated. Blackpool was reached soon after 10 o'clock and there a great variety of entertainments and sights offered endless amusement and occupation. Dinner and tea, both excellently served, were partaken at the Tower Restaurant and the return journey was commenced at 7.30, Ombersley being reached about 2.30 a.m.

Extracts from the Parish Council records: The War Memorial

At the annual Parish meeting on 1st April 1947 "The Rev. G.W.Gillingham, Vicar of Ombersley, said that he felt strongly that some memorial should be erected to those from the Parish who lost their lives whilst serving their country in the recent war. They were nine in number and he suggested a cross in a bay in the churchyard with suitable inscription, and he hoped the Parish would feel that it was its duty to undertake it."

Following a public meeting on May 20th a committee was formed and subscriptions successfully raised. The architect was Ben Davis of Worcester. A dedication service was held on 15th February 1949 in the presence of Lord Sandys.

The memorial bears the 43 names of those who fell during WWI, and the 10 names of those who died in WWII. The observant amongst you will notice that this is one more than the Rev. Gillingham mentioned in WWII and that on the Memorial itself one name is out of alphabetical order at the end of the list. This is explained in the 14th April minutes where a councillor



reports receiving a letter from a gentleman at Lineholt whose son's name was missing from the Memorial although he had died whilst serving in France. The Parish Council promised to look into the matter urgently and his name was duly added.

The minutes of 18th January 1950 record that the War Memorial Committee had £71 18s 11d in surplus funds and wished this to be devoted to the upkeep of the Memorial with a permanent body to undertake this responsibility. A letter was read to the Parish Council on 19th July 1950 saying the Church Council had agreed to this undertaking.

**Ombersley Memorial Hall
'Not-For-Profit' Tea & Coffee Shop**

Tuesday 5th October 2-4pm

Thursday 28th October 2-4pm

Tuesday 2nd November 2-4pm

home-made cakes...patio garden...dog friendly

Please note: cash payments only

Come to a French themed Evening Meal

At Ombersley Memorial Village Hall

Saturday 16th October

7.30pm for 8.00pm

£20 per head

Kir Royale/Buck's fizz - Four course dinner – Quiz - French wine from the bar

Dress: á la Français - berets and boas!

Tickets available from:

www.ombersleyhall.co.uk (credit card payments taken)or

Sue Hughes 620876 - Lynne Larnder 620322 - Lesley Welch 620671 (cash)4 or
8 people per table if you are thinking of booking a whole table!



For more details see our website
and follow our Facebook page

www.ombersleyhall.co.uk

Ombersley Endowed First School and Pre-School



It has been lovely to welcome the new school year in with such beautiful sunshine. The whole school came back full of enthusiasm and looking forward to a fresh start and new topics.

Early Years

Pre-school have welcomed their lovely new children who have already settled into school life beautifully. They are learning all about The Seasons and starting off by enjoying this wonderful Autumn season. Reception have started back with a full class working full days and have really enjoyed getting to know the school routines and visiting the rest of the school. Their topic this term is 'All About Me'.

Keystage One

Years One and Two have settled into their new classes and routines. They are both learning about 'Toys' this term and are looking forward to their first trip of the year to start off their learning with a WOW!

Keystage Two

Year Three are turning into 'Cave people' this term as they will be learning about The Stone Age and are looking forward to learning about all things pre-historic. Year Four are studying World War Two for their topic and are looking forward to their first trip of the year to enhance their learning. The children are looking forward to a full sporting timetable this autumn including tennis, swimming and hockey.

Harvest Festival

We are beginning to look forward to the Harvest Festival celebrations. We are starting to practice our harvest hymns and look forward to celebrating in school. We will be collecting food for the local food Bank.

Admissions for 2022

Mrs Moore is already inviting new families to come to visit the school who may like to join our Ombersley family next year. Please get in touch if you would like to come to have a look around.

We wish you all a wonderful Autumn.

Take Care and Stay Safe everyone!

Sytchampton Endowed Primary School



It has been so lovely to welcome all of our children back this term! We have really enjoyed returning to some normality and we have a wide range of clubs and extra-curricular activities up and running!

Tillie The Dog Mentor

This is the first term that we will be working with our new Dog Mentor, Tillie! She and her handlers have been fully trained by Jenny Duckworth from the Dog Mentor Programme.

Tillie, will be learning how to support children with social and emotional needs as well as anxiety and mental health concerns.



New Parent Open Mornings

Applications for school places are now open for pupils who are due to start school in September 2022. We are hoping to hold two open mornings for prospective parents on Tuesday 19th October and Tuesday 16th November, COVID permitting! We will advertise more details on our website shortly.

Matthew Richards

We are very excited to announce that Matthew Richards, who is the son of our Headteacher, Amanda Richards, won an Olympic Gold Medal in swimming at the Tokyo Olympics in the summer as part of the Men's 4 x 200 metres freestyle relay team. Matt is only 18 years of age, but has already worked with the school during the Summer Term to help inspire our pupils to achieve their dreams.

THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, DOVERDALE

CHURCHWARDEN:	Mr. R. Coppini	Tel: 620963
LICENSED LAY READER:	Mr. Richard Jeynes	Tel: 620441
TREASURER:	Mr. D. Hawkins	Tel: 620059
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, Mrs S. Rees	
Organists:	Mrs L. Moyse, Mr D.Terry	

PEW POINTS

CLEANING ROTA:-

OCTOBER:- Lauren Moyse, Sandie Smart

FLOWER ROTA:-

OCTOBER:- Jean Dowty, Harvest Flowers

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISM 1st August Jonathan William Smart

WEDDING 28th August Rachel Moyse and Mark Heskins

FUNERAL 3rd August Charlotte Rickard

SERVICES

Sunday 3 rd October HARVEST 18 th after Trinity	11.00 a.m. Harvest Festival Service of Celebration	Lectors: Mrs.V.Harris, Mrs.S.Crow Sidesperson: Mr.G.Crow, Mr.C.Harris Readings: TBA
Sunday 17 th October 20 th after Trinity	11.00 a.m. HC (BCP)	Lectors: Mr.D.Hawkins, Mrs.A.Chapman Sidesperson: Mr J.Chapman Readings: Isaiah 53 (4-end) Mark 10 (35-45)
Sunday 24 th October Last Sunday after Trinity	11.00 a.m. HC CW At St Andrew's Ombersley	NO SERVICE AT DOVERDALE
Sunday 31 st October 4 th before Advent	11.00 a.m. All Souls At St Andrew's Ombersley	NO SERVICE AT DOVERDALE
Sunday 7 th November 3 rd before Advent	11.00 a.m. MP (BCP)	Lectors: Mr.R.Coppini, Mrs.V.Harris Sidesperson: Mr.C.Harris Readings: Jonah 3 (1-5) & (10) Mark 1 (14-20)
Sunday 14 th November Remembrance 2 nd before Advent	9.15 a.m. Remembrance Service	TBA

MP, Morning Prayer; HC, Holy Communion, BCP, Book of Common Prayer



Sunday October 3rd at 11.00 a.m.

Please join us for a service of thanksgiving in this beautiful country church

followed by light refreshments



Please send articles for publication in the November issue to the editors by
10th October.

Two weddings 40 years apart!



Our daughter Rachel Moyse was married on August 28th at Doverdale Church to Marc Heskins, 40 years after Alan and I tied the knot at the same church. Many thanks to Rev. Stephen Winter for a beautiful service and to everyone who helped to make the day so special.

Laureen Moyse

From Tytchney Gables to Shetland

Margaret and Peter Peters have now settled in their new home overlooking Boddam Bay, a small bay with views across the North Sea. Houses are dotted about, amongst old stone walls, fields with sheep, cows and Shetland ponies. There are few trees in sheltered spots, a bit like the Yorkshire Moors, but we don't miss them because of the breath-taking views of the sea.

The village shop with butchery, newspapers, and post office is only $\frac{1}{4}$ mile away and it caters for all our needs. The lane which passes our house leads to Croft House Museum. The capital, Lerwick, is 25 minutes away. It's similar in size to Bewdley and has a large museum depicting Shetland life and history, a theatre and several pubs with jamming sessions of folk music on Wednesday evening

- fiddles, accordians and a guitarist. A great place for a pint, but it is ZERO tolerance here, so no drinking and driving.

Madge and family live 40 minutes away. Peter is happy with his huge shed and I've taken over a corner for my bits and pieces and office plus a corner for the upright piano. It seems as if we are on a permanent holiday – please visit us. We would be delighted to see you.

Do you watch the Shetland Murder Programmes? Jimmy Perez and the TV crew were here again in June filming in Lerwick and the surrounding countryside for the next series. They bring their own caravan accommodation and catering wagon, but this may be due to Covid. We have to observe the same Covid rules as mainland Scotland, but cases are low.

There is a shortage of cement here, due to extensive work in the Weisdale Valley, preparing the valley for a wind farm with over 100 turbines. Many islanders are against it and Nicola Sturgeon and the developers are disliked.

We shall be back again in late October/November to finalise the Poppy Appeal for Ombersley & Doverdale and to attend the Remembrance Services.

Margaret Peters

tytchneygables@gmail.com



Save the Children

Coffee Morning & Christmas Cards

Friday 8th October, 10am – 1 pm at

6 Lord Hill Gardens Judy Baer; Tel 01905 964784

A Parish Coronavirus Chronicle: Part 2

Some Thoughts on The Coronavirus Pandemic

The past year and a half have been a remarkable experience for all of us and one that we will never forget. I do not know if it is over yet but there is little doubt that the remarkable achievement of the vaccination programme has made a significant difference to all of our lives.

I wonder what difference the pandemic has made. For some people the only question that matters is what effect it has had upon them and the people who matter to them. It's the place where all of us start. I remember once hearing an interview with a woman who had been flooded out of her home at the end of the winter of 1947. "It's worse than anything that happened in the war," she said. Worse than the bombing of our cities? Worse than the holocaust? No, just the worst thing that had happened to her. So, I look back and remember a little girl, a pretty bridesmaid at a wedding, whose father, a doctor at the Queen Elizabeth hospital in Birmingham died of the virus at that early stage when medical staff were not properly protected and yet kept going back to the front line at the risk of their lives. I will never forget her face or their courage.

I hope that the kindness that so many have shown to their neighbours will continue. I hope that the resilience that we have learned will continue. And I hope that we will never forget the sacrifices that others have made for us and that we will all live more grateful lives and find ways of saying thank you to others as often as we can.

Stephen Winter (Rector)

St Andrew's Church: March 2020.

Under Government and C of E advice, all public worship in the UK ceased. Churches were to lock their doors to services, including funerals and even for access to individual contemplation and prayer.

Like most businesses and organisations, we turned to "Zoom" as a means around the restrictions. Weekly services under the guidance of Rev Stephen Winter became the norm across all seven parishes with "attendances" of over 100 participants and facilitating a closer relationship between all within the Severn Parish Benefice.

Zoom, initially, presented quite a challenge but we soon 'learned how' and it was gratifying to hear how much people valued the opportunity to see and hear others when they were otherwise 'marooned' in their homes. Easing of lockdown, permitting limited church services, encouraged us to go digital to stream and record services from St Andrew's - a boon during restricted numbers for funerals, and enabling wedding families to be brought together virtually via Zoom screens in church. We even had a Godparent from Australia for one baptism!

The churchyard was always open allowing a peaceful place for those who needed it and the Lychgate became a hub for book (and plant) exchange. As restrictions eased we turned to our beautiful outdoors to facilitate 'safe' gatherings where, at last, singing together could be allowed and greatly enjoyed.

We tried to be there for as many people as possible and appreciated the amazing community connections and support for those in need that were generated by these times of hardship.

Fiona Davies, Andrew Horn, Liz Hooper

The pandemic turned my life upside down.

I was at university as pubs were advised to close and quickly returned home to Ombersley as I didn't want to be stuck in my student house. This meant I paid three months' rent without stepping foot in it. People ask me what I did in lockdown. Exams were cancelled but I still had a combined 8000 words of coursework to write. I did this without access to books and alone at home. It was tough to motivate myself. My summer job working at an international summer camp was cancelled along with lots of internships for young people. I was lucky that I didn't need the funds but others did struggle.

My year abroad, compulsory as part of my degree, was the background to my summer. At the end of August, I was meant to be travelling to Vancouver to study. It is a complicated story that includes tears but eventually a place at the University of Connecticut online was found. The next issue was housing. I'd had enough of living at home and ended up in private halls sharing with people I had never met. Luckily, we got on okay.

Online university was palatable in the beginning. I survived the first semester and enjoyed my break over Christmas. The second semester was a different matter. I was still hoping to go out to Canada but couldn't, so continued online at Connecticut. It was now lockdown three so I only went into Uni once and slept, studied and relaxed in my room.

In the first semester I went into Uni a couple of times a week. It was open with reduced capacity and mask wearing was compulsory but it was a change of scene. Studying in the library was an unpleasant experience with 'DON'T SIT HERE' stickers everywhere and security guards checking you had a mask on. All university cafes were shut, even for takeaway, so you couldn't get a pick-me-up to keep going. My modules in the second semester were much more intense. I didn't feel part of a community, had been working really hard, but was bored because some questions I could have answered age 15. It was a relief for it all to be over.

Things are now looking up. Hopefully University will get back to some normality next year. I just hope that society realises the sacrifices the young have made. Years abroad are still being cancelled, the job market is very competitive and many experiences including Proms and Graduations have been cancelled.

Jenny Hill, Ombersley; 22 year-old 3rd year student at University of Birmingham

The Covid-19 pandemic is something the team at Ombersley Medical Centre has never faced before. Like most people, we found the rules, changes and scale of the pandemic scary and difficult to manage. At the forefront of our mind was to keep our patients and team safe whilst continuing to provide a

quality service as best as we could. We continued to work every day and even opened on Saturdays and Sundays and bank holidays to support our patients and the wider NHS. The medical problems of our patients did not simply vanish because they were at home and patients still required our help. Although it meant patients receiving medical care in a different way, we continue to do our utmost to ensure that patients who need to be seen are seen in a face to face setting.

In August 2021, Covid is still very much present although we are seeing the effect of the vaccination programme preventing hospitalisation. We are proud to have made a bit of history by being one of the first GP surgeries, not only in the Midlands but in the whole country, to begin vaccinating our patients, allied health workers and those most vulnerable. Giving vaccines was never a question for us as we wanted to ensure our patients were protected. We again opened on weekends and saw thousands of patients for their vaccinations during each clinic. We are so proud of the success of the clinics and are overwhelmed by all of the positive feedback that we have received.

Ombersley Medical Centre

We hope you have enjoyed reading about the thoughts and experiences of parishioners and organisations during lockdown. We look forward to a brighter future, free from further lockdowns!

Advertisers 2021 Electronic List

AJ's Window Cleaning Services – windows, gutters etc. – 07809 730085

AS Locks & Services – 01905 726671 / 07956 371673

AY Services – general maintenance – 01905 759151 / 07876 308058

All-inc-Cars – taxi service – 01905 826261 / 07739 109590

Amba Legal Services – will writers – 01299 251442 / 07966 053887

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

CT Building of Ombersley – 01905 620942 / 07973 663442

Catkins Cattery – 01299 250472

Doorbars – chartered surveyors/land agents – 01905 27288

Dorn (M&E) Ltd. – installation of electric vehicle charging points – 07712 811552

Droitwich Gymphobics – 01905 312424

E J Gumery & Son – funeral directors – 01905 22094

Eclipse Home Care – 01905 641070

Elite Marquees – 07958 288510

Elite Sweeps – sweep/log burners – 01905 700701 / 07712 220671

Fisher Bodyshop – car body repairs – 01299 333131

Forever Living Products – health/skin care – 01905 620318 / 07906 701589

GLM Services – general maintenance – 01905 864172 / 07399 024702

Graham Pugh – decorating/carpentry – 01905 621147 / 07967 883121

Green Thumb – lawn care – 01905 840740

Home Carer, Home Help – 07899 784272

Hopwood Tree Services – pruning, removal etc. – 07581 742243

Huumankind – residential care – 01905 905130

I & S Stoves – woodburning stoves etc. – 01886 812452

J & S Trade Supplies – double glazing etc. – 01886.888024 / 07966 804007

Jack Hobbs – milkman – 01905 455336

Jeremy Billingham TV Aerials – 01905 799152 / 07850 969307

Jonathan Sproule & Sons Ltd – 07973 445048 / 07976 826065

Julie Davis – mobile hair stylist – 01905 427704 / 07977 590087

Karol Kleen – carpet/upholstery cleaning – 01299 404275

King's School Hawford – 01905 451292

Kingsway House - premises for hire - 01905 619877

Leapgate Builders – also mini digger with driver for hire – 07702 053756

Marshall-McKay – kitchen/interior design – 01905 622317 / 07765 447704

Me..Time Pilates – 07791 873870

MG Domestic Heating 07870 498879

Mick Miles – gardening/pest control – 01905 620394 / 07732 223825

Mobile Podiatry/Chiropody – 07989 964854

Ocuplan – long-term eye care – 0121 517 0423

Oldfields of Ombersley – country/equestrian – 01905 622295

Ombersley 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

Phillip Serrell Auctions – 01684 892314

Protex Midlands Ltd – long life wall coverings – 01905 622164 / 07833 965258

Re-Upholstery & Repair Services – 01584 881227

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

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

Top Cut Mowing Services – 01905 621 858 / 07802 717057

Town & Country Stonemasons – memorials etc. – 01905 759191 / 07774 198968

Walkercrisps – stockbrokers & financial advisers - 020 3100 8285

Whitlunge Gardens – tea rooms/gardens – 01299 250669

Worcester Imaging Centre – MRI scans – 01905 771500