



Ombersley & Doverdale Parish Magazine

**November
2023**



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.



Seven Parishes Service Rota: November 2023

November 5th	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	Sunday 1st	Hartlebury
	10.30am	FS	Elmbridge
	11.00am	MP	Doverdale
	11.00am	HC-CW	Ombersley
November 10th	10.45am	Remembrance	Hartlebury War Memorial
November 12th	9.15am	Remembrance	Doverdale
	10.30am	Remembrance	Elmley Lovett
	10.50am*	Remembrance	Ombersley
	10.45am	Remembrance	Hartlebury
November 19th	9.00am	HC-CW	Elmbridge
	10.00am	MP	Ombersley
	10.00am	MP	Hartlebury
	11.00am	HC-BCP	Doverdale
	6.00pm	Evensong	Hampton Lovett
November 26th	9.00am	HC-CW	Rushock
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
	6.00pm	Evensong	Elmley Lovett
December 3rd	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	Advent Service	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

*Meet outside the Lychgate at 10.45am

Morning Prayer; Wednesdays at 9.15: Ombersley 1st Nov, Doverdale 8th Nov

Rector's Thoughts

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



As I write these thoughts I am in the process of saying farewell to the intensity of the summer wedding season and the exhilarating experience of walking about a hundred miles of the Camino del Norte in northern Spain. On returning to these parishes I entered the season of harvest festivals, both services and feasts (and some more weddings!). There are still some of these celebrations to go and then they will be followed by the season of remembering. On October 29th there are memorial services in Ombersley and Elmley Lovett and Nicholas Wright sends out invitations to all those who have lost people that they have loved in the last two years. This year he is sending out about 70 invitations to those services and whether people are able to attend the services or not we will light candles and read the names of all those whose funerals we have taken. Then on Sunday November 12th we will remember our war dead, laying wreaths and poppies in acts of remembrance at war memorials and in churches across the parishes of this benefice.

The change of season somehow moves with the change of mood over these weeks. From the bright exuberance of high summer to the early nights and dark mornings of autumn as it moves towards winter so I move from weddings to harvest to remembering the dead alongside this change. And as the season changes so too the leaves fall from the trees once again and the year ends with the trees standing bare and stark against the darkening skies.

And as I share in the lives of many people in the experiences that I have written about here, one of the great privileges of my work, so too do I live my own life amidst them. This year saw the death of Mary Webb, my wife's aunt, who died in late August just a few weeks after her 92nd birthday. Mary was head teacher of Boston High School for girls in Lincolnshire for about 25 years, being awarded the O.B.E for her services to that community. She never married and her nephew and nieces (Laura among them) were her closest family. She was a fluent speaker of French, and her great retirement adventure was to find a ruined house in a village in the heart of the wine producing region of Burgundy in central France, and then to restore it. She then spent each summer in France before returning to Worcestershire for autumn and winter.

I am sure that many of you have been involved, at one time or another in your lives, in that poignant business of emptying a home after the death of a member of your

family. I am still playing my part in this process and yesterday Mary's extensive library of books written in French and Italian was carried away from an upstairs room to go to a specialist bookshop in Oxford and this morning I carried a few boxes from her substantial collection of French wine into my own home.

As I did this my heart was filled with two feelings. One was a feeling of pleasure as I anticipated the pleasure of drinking some of this wine and to sharing it with others. I also recalled a wonderful afternoon in the delicious coolness of the wine-cellar of her neighbour in Burgundy, a man who made the most wonderful wines there, and who poured glass after glass for me and a good friend to taste and enjoy. It was a hot French summer's day and the coolness of the cellar combined with the delicious scents and tast tastes of the wine is a memory to which I often return and always with an inward smile of pleasure. And the other feeling was the sad realisation that all this is gone and cannot return. The house in France was sold a few years ago when Mary could no longer cope with it and now she has gone too.

I don't write these thoughts with a sense that my experience is different from yours in any way but to invite you to stay a while with your own feelings of joy and sorrow as you ponder your own life. The changing pattern of the seasons in every year is something that, if we are wise, we learn to embrace so that neither the heat of summer or the cold of winter is something that we fear but we accept them both. And so too the changing seasons of our lives in youth and old age. And the Christian practice of Holy Communion has much wisdom to teach us as in receiving bread and wine we look back with sorrow to the death of Christ upon the cross, taste the riches of abundance in the symbols that we eat and drink, and look forward to the heavenly banquet that has been prepared for us and for which, if we will allow God to do it in us, we are being inwardly prepared.

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 for November:

Sunday 5th November – Racks Lane, Chapel Lane, Longheadland, Lord Hill Gardens

Sunday 12th November – Uphampton, Northampton, Lineholt, Malvern View, Abberley View

Sunday 19th November – Doverdale, St Mary's Church, Sytchampton, Sytchampton School

Sunday 26th November – Bell ringers, organists and choirs of our churches

Parish Register: St Andrew's Church

Baptism

September 3rd	Thomas Andrew Paul Such
September 24th	Beatrice Rose Grady-Williams

Weddings

September 9th	Ryan Seager & Emma Gillman
September 30th	Mark Hunt & Faye Conway

Interment of Ashes

September 6th	Caroline Saunders
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Rota for St Andrew's Church

Date	Service	Sidespeople	Intercessor	Lector
Nov 5th	HC-CW	Fiona Davies, Jenny Batelen	Stephen Winter	Louise Robinson
Nov 12th	Remembrance	Meg & James Martineau	David Wood	Robert Thornton
Nov 19th	MP	Angie Randle, Claire Gathercole	Angie Randle	Claire Gathercole
Dec 3rd	HC-CW	Louise & Mark Tarleton-Hodgson	Stephen Winter	Anthony Hughes

Holy Dusters

November 10th	Heather Barningham, Marjorie Workman
November 17th	Fiona Davies, Liz Hooper
December 1st	Myra Cowdrey, Pernilla Asplen, Jeanette Horn

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

Flowers

	Pedestal	Porch
November 10th	Heather Barningham	Julie Hall & Sue Arnold
November 24th	Jan Berry	Ann Dorn

We are short of people to help with flowers. If you'd like to help, the flower rota is posted on the notice board in the Narthex; please sign up or contact Jane Hill if you want any information: hill4family@icloud.com or 01905 620192.

St Andrew's News

www.st-andrews.church www.achurchnearyou.com

I am feeling a pattern developing; when I was writing for the October magazine we had a heatwave in September, and Lo and Behold writing for November we have a hot spot in October!

We have had a quiet month, but enjoyed two different Harvest Celebrations. One at the Memorial Hall where we sung two very different harvest hymns and thought about the meaning of 'Sharing Bread' before a very delicious Ploughman's Lunch. Then a week later, a service at Church which focused more on Creation. Our service this week focused more about looking after this world, and how much food we waste. Did you know 30% of black bag rubbish is food, and a lot of it still unopened? Also check up how much single use plastic still comes into our lives. We would be interested to know if you manage to reuse or recycle successfully? Do you know of, or use companies that refill products? Please leave us any information on the table at the back of the church.

The first lines of one of the hymns we sung says it well:

Touch the earth lightly

Use the earth gently

Nourish the life of the world in our care....

We are still waiting for the pew heating to be installed! Fingers crossed it will happen in the next couple of weeks.

Just a reminder that we do have a box for Foodbank donations by the side door, we had generous donation at both the Harvest Celebrations, but the need is still great.

'Stay and Play' for 0-3 years, Monday mornings from 9.30 to 11am £2

(not Bank Holidays). If interested, please email stayandplayomersley@outlook.com or call 07837928531. We are open to everyone, so do come along. There are various toys and play areas, and a chance for a drink and a chat with circle songs at the end.

Creative Coffee: Thursdays - 2nd and 16th of November 10.30am. It's heading toward Christmas so in November will be making cards or decorations, some of which may be for sale on December 7th. This will be our last session of 2023. We meet in the Narthex at the back of the church and are open to anyone so please drop in and say Hello. If you have ideas of crafts or projects you would like to try, meet people or chat over tea or coffee, you are welcome to come along or call Fiona - 01905 621176.

Bible Reading Discussion Group: 7pm on November 6th when we will be discussing a reading from Sunday 5th November. Please just come along if you are interested, or ring Richard on 07496 850192.

Looking Ahead: More information on all these events is elsewhere in the magazine.

November 19th: 3pm, £8. West Mercia Police Band, with tea and cake.

December 3rd: Mary and Joseph with donkey will start their journey through Advent.

December 7th: 10.30-12.30 in the narthex: Crafts, Chimes, Coffee & Cake

December 12th: 4.15 for 4.30. Sharing the Christmas story at Little Owl Farm

December 17th: Christmas Carol Service, 4 pm.

A Message from James Homer

May I offer an immense thank you to all those who attended my ordination on the 24th, and to all those who hoped to but could not, whether associated with church or not. I have never received so many cards in my life.

Your warmth and support during this testing process has been both overwhelming and most helpful, and I can only offer to do my best serving the Lord through yourselves in the future.

People may not be aware that all the parishes are making a contribution towards my vestments, for which I would like to say a public thank you.

Thank you all again.

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the December/January
Magazine by

Friday 10th November

Please note that the next magazine is a joint issue.



ROVING REPORTER – LOCAL NEWS

**NOVEMBER 2023 – A TIME
TO ENJOY SOME AUTUMN
SUNSHINE**

- Why not learn a new craft and make some special gifts for Christmas? Come along to **Creative Coffee Mornings 10.30am St. Andrews Church Narthex**. First and third Thursday in the month. Everyone welcome.
- Future Date for your Diary - Exciting News for children in December. **Ombersley Movies** are putting on a special Family Matinee performance on **Saturday December 16th in OMH at 2.30pm**. We will be showing 'The Polar Express' (Pjs and Onesies are permitted!).
- **Ombersley Memorial Hall** is celebrating its Centenary this year. Did you know that there is a Roll of Honour on a board inside the Hall with the names of all those Parishioners who lost their lives in World War 1? There is also a list of the families who contributed to the cost of building the Memorial Hall just after the war, which was a time of extreme hardship for everyone. See article in the July/August magazine.

A HUGE Thank you to the **Ombersley Walking Group** and everyone else who came along on Saturday September 30th September. You managed to raise £580 (and still counting). Max and Diane would like to give HUGE thank you to the 50 plus walkers, non-walkers and Teddy the dog who supported us on the day and helped raise this wonderful amount of money for The Brain Tumour Charity.

- Keep warm and join the **Sytchampton Folk Dance Club** which meets every Wednesday at 8pm-10pm in Sytchampton Village Hall. £1.50 per session and new members are always welcome.
- Special Concert event in **St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 19th November at 3pm** by **West Mercia Police Band**, a group of players who raise money for local charities. Tea and cake afterwards. Tickets £8. Pay on door.

If you are planning any special event either as an individual or as a club, or have any snippets of local news please email Diane at maxdiane@outlook.com

Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council

At the September meeting, Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council were delighted to welcome three new Councillors; Stu Booth, Diane Cornock and Gillie Cowley. Their contact details alongside those of all other councillors can be found on the notice boards by the phone box in Ombersley and on the wall of Sytchampton village hall or by visiting the Parish Council website at www.ombersleyanddoverdale.co.uk The website is very regularly updated with all matters relating to the Parish Council including the latest planning applications, meeting dates, agendas, minutes of meetings, councillors' details, road closures and council updates.



Wine and cheese pairing evening

Ombersley Memorial Hall, November 23rd at 7pm

We will be tasting 4 cheeses paired with 4 wines, with guided tasting by Sommelier Gianluca Austin-Rizzo from the Wine & Spirit Club.



Stock up for Christmas by purchasing any of the wines tasted on the night at their
SPECIAL CLUB RATE.

Tickets: £25 available from:-

Ann (07712 811552) – ann@dornltd.com
Lesley (07773 114830) – cherrytrees1@btinternet.com
Gianluca (club.wineandspirit@gmail.com)



Christmas Fair & Market

SAT 2ND DECEMBER 2023

at **OMBERSLEY MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL**

OUR FAMOUS TEA ROOM WILL
BE OPEN AND AS USUAL THERE
WILL BE LOTS OF
STALLS SELLING A WIDE
RANGE OF HIGH QUALITY
GIFTS

(£1 entry fee for adults, children
are free)

11AM-4PM

Sandys Road, Ombersley

www.ombersley Memorial hall.co.uk



'OMBERSLEY MOVIE NIGHT' – 2023 FILMS

Doors and Bar Open at 7pm, Movie Starts at 7.30pm

£5 entry on the door (Please note – cash payments only)

Saturday 11th November

'Where the Crawdads Sing'

A woman who raised herself in the marshes of the Deep South becomes a suspect in the murder of a man with whom she was once involved.

Saturday 9th December

'A Man Called Otto'

Otto is a grump who's given up on life following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young family moves in nearby, he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around.

Saturday 16th December – Special Children's Christmas Matinee

The Polar Express

On Christmas Eve, a young boy embarks on a magical adventure to the North Pole on the Polar Express, while learning about friendship, bravery and the spirit of Christmas.

Doors open at 2.30pm, Film starts at 3pm

If they want to, children can come in their PJ's and dressing gowns



Tea & Coffee Shop, Ombersley Memorial Hall

Opening Times

Tuesday 7th November 2-4 pm

Thursday 24th November 2-4 pm



Ombersley Gardening Club



November will soon be upon us with Christmas not far behind. On the **16th November** the Gardening Club will welcome Howard Drury who will give us a presentation on House Plants - Winter Survival.

The club have a few extra dates for your calendar as we head into December. On the morning of **Saturday 9th** there will be a Christmas wreath making and table decoration workshop - more details will follow at the next meeting. **Thursday 14th December** is the Gardening Club Christmas meal which will be held at the Memorial Hall and to keep everyone on their toes, on **June 26th 2024** a full day coach trip to the RHS garden at Bridgewater has been arranged.

As the weather begins to get colder and the trees lose their autumnal lustre and become bare, we need to bring in any tender plants that may not survive the frosts and colder weather. A good idea is to dry herbs or freeze in ice cubes ready for hearty winter meals, stews, soups and sauces. As we enjoy Autumn and the weather becomes colder remember our wonderful wildlife and pop out food and water.

If you would like to come to your local Gardening Club, we meet at Ombersley Memorial Hall on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30, everyone is welcome.

Happy Gardening! Ombersley Gardening Club Committee.

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 12th December
4.15 for 4.30pm**

www.littleowlfarmpark.co.uk

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

St Andrew's Creative Coffee and
Handbells Groups invite you to a
Celebration of Christmas



in St Andrew's on Thurs 7th Dec from 10:30 til 12:30

Come and buy or try your hand at Crafts or Ringing
and enjoy Coffee/Tea, Cakes and Conversation

Collecting for
Crisis
at Christmas

OMBERSLEY WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 2 November – 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.



A talk by Meg Farmer entitled
'101 Children'



Meg and her husband spent 20 years fostering children for the local authority.
There are highs, lows and plenty of humour.

Members Free/Guests: £6

Contact Marie or Ann 07901522412 / 07712 811552

Future Meetings:

December 7th – Christmas Supper

January 4 – Helen Woodman, Worcs Wildlife Trust 'Wildlife of Old Orchards'

February 1 – Howard Robinson 'The History of Salt'

My Thoughts about Ombersley Soldiers

Remembrance Day is imminent, and as we stand at our village war memorial, heads bowed, I wonder what everyone is thinking as the names of the fallen are read out?

There are those that argue that WW1 was over a century ago, and WW2 is nearing its 100th anniversary too, and maybe it is time to stop, after all who remembers Trafalgar (although Mr. Richardson, I appreciate you do!).

For the younger ones, it's an event to commemorate the fallen of two World Wars that mean little if anything to them, even though they are taught at school, whilst for the older generation it's a time to reflect and remember maybe old colleagues, friends and family members who lived and fought through the excesses and turmoil of war, through memories, photographs and other memorabilia.

But it's people who matter.

Herbert, John, Albert, George and the rest of the fallen remembered here, went about their daily lives in Ombersley, walking the lanes, tilling the land, going for a pint at one of the village pubs and worshipping at St Andrew's Church, exactly the same as we do today - they were no different. These are my thoughts and I try to see them as real people; they are not just names on the war memorial just outside the churchyard.

Back in 2016 when I researched all the names on our war memorials, I spoke to some of the families about their loved ones and was struck by the loss of potential any of these men would have had, but who never had the chance before circumstances flew out of their control. From my research, I found many of the men were farmers or agricultural labourers working in the fields around Ombersley and Doverdale.

Aubrey Webster, the son of Ombersley's Vicar, was a school master. Percy Biddle lived and worked at the stables for Lord Sandys. Frederick Keyte earned his living as a groom in another stable at the old Parsonage. Leonard Pitman and John Hinckesman, both from Sinton, had previously emigrated to Canada; John to become a rancher. Marcus Cragg was a businessman who had also emigrated to Canada, as did Roland Green MM another farmer. Samuel Cotterill and his brother George were waggoners - they died along with their brother Henry in WW1, all in their 20's. A young Albert Hicks worked as a pantry boy at Malvern College and never fulfilled his promise as he died aged 21 years in 1917.

The Headmaster of Ombersley school during WW1 was William Page. He had, like many families at that time endured the shock of losing a son Wilfred and son in law

William within a month of each other in 1916. Both are remembered on William's grave in St Andrew's churchyard.



Photographs of
some of the local
lads.

From left to right

Top Row
Aubrey Webster
Wilfred Page
Frederick Keyte

Bottom Row
Leonard Pitman
John Hinckesman

The pain and anguish of lost family members, friends and neighbours may now be diminished by time, but we should never forget what they did for us no matter how long ago.

These are just a few of the men of Ombersley who were not just soldiers, but living breathing men who lived, loved and laughed in this parish. Please give a thought to how they lived their daily lives here and remember their sacrifice.

People can argue back and forth about this subject, but the worst conflicts in history give us well over a million reasons why we should never forget.

Jeanette Horn, September 2023

Remembrance Day 2023



Lest We Forget

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month

The Royal British Legion, in conjunction with St Andrew's and St Mary's Churches are organising Acts of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday, the 12th November: 9.15 am at Doverdale and at Ombersley towards the 11th hour. The Parade will commence from the Crown & Sandys carpark at 10.40 for the ceremony at the War Memorial at 10.45. Here the names of the fallen will be read and wreaths laid. The last post will sound and two minutes silence will be observed. A short time of reflection and prayers will follow. We shall then proceed into Church for a special Remembrance Service. All those who wish to attend the service at Ombersley should assemble at the War Memorial at 10.45am.

Acts of Remembrance are open to all to attend. Please give your support on Remembrance Sunday and ensure that those who lived in the area and gave their lives for their country are never, ever forgotten.

Poppies will be available in shops and other retail outlets. If you wish to buy a poppy and/or donate online you can do this through the Royal British Legion website <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/>

In addition to remembering the fallen, the aim of the Royal British Legion is to provide assistance for ex-service personnel and their families, but of course, it can only do so if it is aware of a need. If you know of someone who may need help, please contact Mandy (the Worcestershire Royal British Legion representative) on 07808261075 or the national helpline number (0808 802 8080).

Macmillan Thankyou

Thanks to everyone who contributed with wonderful cakes & generous donations in aid of Macmillan on Friday 29th Sept. Thanks also to the fabulous bakers and lovely folk who helped to organise and tidy up after the event: Lesley, Marie, Sue, Janet, Maddie, Carol, Ann, Frank & Robert (who won the Colin the Caterpillar game!) We welcomed almost 60 guests, and in total raised £434.15 on the day with further monies to be added due to gift aid. An amazing sum for such a worthwhile charity.

Ann Dorn

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



West Mercia Police Band



Sun 19th Nov.
3pm

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

£8 including
Tea & Cakes

under-16s free

To Book: contact
Louise on 07952 692022
robinson_louise@icloud.com
or Fiona 07837 928531
fmdavies83@gmail.com
or on the door



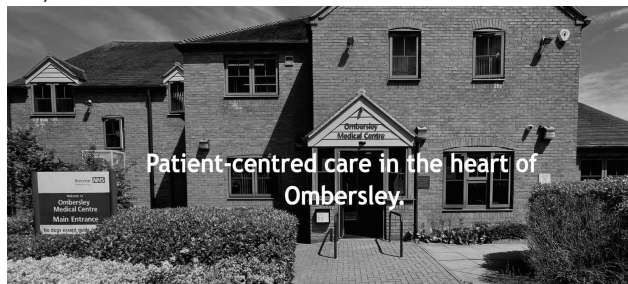
This concert is part of events organised by the St Andrew's Association

A monthly update from Ombersley Medical Centre



In September 2023 there were:

- 2,890 Face to Face appointments with clinicians (GPs, Nurses and Pharmacists)
- 1,092 telephone consultations
- 150 DNA (Did not attend)
- 12,753 medications issued
- 1,927 letters regarding patient care requiring action
- 11,841 test results reviewed and actioned



Patient-centred care in the heart of
Ombersley.

Autumn/Winter Covid and Flus Vaccines

There is still plenty of time to book in for your covid and flu vaccinations. These vaccinations are important to keep you well this winter.

Welcome back Dr Conway

We are pleased to welcome Dr Conway back to Ombersley Medical Centre as a salaried member of the GP team. Dr Conway completed part of her GP training at the practice in 2021 and is now working 2 days a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Apotropaic Marks

Bothered by evil spirits or demons in your home? Need to get rid of witches invading your house? You do not need Ghostbusters, you need apotropaic* marks.

The Medieval period was always marked by superstition, so ways of defending against witches and demons were sought after. You may have read about the shoes found in the Venture In during the recent renovations. Such finds until recently were thought to be hidden away in buildings to defend against witches and spirits. However, it is now thought that the shoes in the restaurant, and maybe some of the marks described later on, may just be good luck charms.

Recognised witch guards and protections included glass bottles filled with urine and iron nails or even the desiccated bodies of cats – the witch's familiar.

In early homes and churches, a range of marks can still be found carved into beams or stones, usually at a place where spirits could enter. Common sites are on the frames around windows and entrance doors or on bressummer beams over fireplaces.



One of the commonest marks is the Daisy Wheel or hexafoil. One theory is that an evil spirit would follow the daisy lines around and around in a never-ending pattern and get distracted from entering and doing harm!

Left: Daisy wheel
Alamy Stock photograph

In the early 17th Century, there developed a movement known as the Marian Cult, following the Virgin Mary. Combinations of letters carved into timbers can be read as versions of her name: AM (for Ave Maria), or simply M for Maria or as at Whitney's Farm House VV, or MVV meaning Mary, Virgin of Virgins. In our home, they are inscribed on the principal beam between the private solar and the more public

chamber. Shining a torch transversely along a timber can make the mark more obvious as in the photographs below.



Marian Cult Image, Whitneys Farm House



Taper burn mark, Whitneys Farm House

Finally, as at the Venture In, a burn or scorch mark where a deliberate burn has been made by candle or taper into the timber can also ward off witches and spirits. Again, these usually appear under windows or adjacent to doors.

In Worcester, apotropaic marks can be found in the Commandery, Tudor House and in Arthur's Chantry in the Cathedral.

Another recognised method to keep evil spirits at bay, particularly the Devil, is to sprinkle salt or rice on the ground. The Devil is driven to count the grains, which gives one time to escape.

So, daisy wheels, taper burns or initials; you have your choice. And if not, you can always call Ghostbusters!

*Apotropaic, "having the power to turn away evil" from Greek apo = away and trepein = to turn.

David Collier, Ombersley History Group

Ombersley Endowed First School



This year we held our Harvest Festival service in the new school hall. Our families were very generous with their food donations, which we send to the Droitwich Food Bank. We are also looking forward to taking part in 'The Shoebox Appeal'.

As we move from Autumn into Winter, we start thinking about Christmas and look forward to our forthcoming activities at Ombersley Endowed First School.

300 Year Celebrations

All the staff and children at Ombersley and Sytchampton Endowed First Schools celebrated the 300-year anniversary of the Lloyds Foundation. Richard Lloyd (an Ombersley resident and church warden) started this small charity on 17th October 1723 to provide the children of the parish with an education. On 17th October 2023, exactly 300 years later, the two schools took part in activities all day to commemorate this day.

Remembrance

The whole school will be learning about Remembrance Day and the sacrifices that some people made for their country during the wars. We also look forward to taking part in the Remembrance Ceremony on Remembrance Sunday at Ombersley Church.

Christmas Preparations

Our Pre-School and Reception children are practicing for their Christmas play, which promises to be magical.

The rest of the school are practicing for the Christmas Carol service and Nativity.

We are looking forward to holding our Christmas Fayre in school this year on the evening of Friday 1st December. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

The choir are practicing for the Young Voices Concert in January at the Resorts Arena in Birmingham.

Trips

As part of their Stone Age topic, Year 3 are looking forward to going on a trip in November to Bishop's Wood for a Stone Age Day.

Pre School and Reception are looking forward to a trip to see Father Christmas. The whole school is very excited about the pantomime trip to see Cinderella at Malvern Theatre in December.

Sytchampton Endowed Primary School



It has been a really busy start to the term, but our new pupils are settling in incredibly well!

Black Country Museum

In the first week of term, our Year 5 / 6 class started their History topic with a visit to the Black Country Museum. They are learning about the British Empire during the Victorian Era. We think it is fair to say, that they prefer school life today!



Commando Joes

On 25th September, we were visited by the Commando Joes Team, who worked with pupils from Year 1 to Year 6, teaching them about Teamwork through Respect and Communication! The children had to solve challenges in teams and had lots of fun!



Forest School

We are delighted to say, that one of our staff is now a Forest School Leader, which means that all of our Year Groups will now be able to take part in Forest School sessions throughout the year.

Open Mornings

On Tuesday 28th November 2023 we are holding Open Mornings for parents looking for school places for September 2024. We will be opening our doors from 9.00am to 10.30am for parents to come and see our lovely school in action!

THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, DOVERDALE

CHURCHWARDEN:	Mr. R. Coppini	Tel: 620963
LICENSED LAY READER:	Mr. Richard Jeynes	Tel: 620441
TREASURER:	Mrs. L. Tarleton-Hodgson	Tel: 07748 968992
SECRETARY PCC:	Mr. G. Crow	Tel: 772850
Sidesmen:	Mrs V. Harris, Mr. C. Harris, Mr G. Crow, Mrs S. Crow, Mr J. Chapman, Mrs A. Chapman, Mrs W. Hawkins	
Organists:	Mrs L. Moyse	

SERVICES

Sunday 5 th November All Saints Day 4 th before Advent	11.00 a.m. MP (BCP)	Lectors: Mr. R. Coppini, Mrs. S. Crow Sidesman:- Mr. G. Crow Readings:- Isaiah 56 (3-8); Matthew 5 (1-12)
Sunday 12 th November REMEMBRANCE	9.15 a.m.	Lectors and Sidespeople TBA Led by The British Legion
Sunday 19 th November 2 nd before Advent	11.00 a.m. HC-BCP	Lectors: Mrs. V. Harris, Mrs.A.Chapman Sideman: Mr. J. Chapman Readings:- Zeph.1 (7) & (12-end); Gospel: Matthew 25 (14-30)
Sunday 3 rd December 1 st of Advent	11.00 a.m. MP (BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.V. Harris, Mr. R. Coppini Sidesman: Mr. C. Harris Readings: Isaiah 64 (1-9); Mark 13 (24-end)
Sunday 17 th December 3 rd of Advent	11.00 a.m. CAROL SERVICE	Lectors : TBA Sidespeople: Mr. G. Crow, Mr. J. Chapman

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISM

October 8th: Sol Marc Moyse-Heskins

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

NOVEMBER:- Sue Crow, Wendy Hawkins

FLOWER ROTA

NOVEMBER:- Memorial Flowers

PEWPOINTS

Sunday 12th November 9.15a.m. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 17th December 11.00a.m. ST. MARY'S CAROL SERVICE

Remembrance Day 2023



Lest We Forget

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month

St Andrew's and St Mary's Churches are organising Acts of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday, the 12th November: 9.15 am at Doverdale and at Ombersley towards the 11th hour.

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the December/January Magazine by

Friday 10th November

Please note that the next magazine is a joint issue.

Adverts (electronic) 2023

- 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
- 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
- Brace Developments – house renovations, conversions – 01386 750459
- Bromsgrove Allergy & Nutritional Centre – 01905 780721
- Castle Farm Designs – wooden garden furniture for sale/hire – 07841 500735
- Catkins Cattery – 01299 250472
- Ceramics at the Croft – pottery lessons – 07897 624792
- David Ward Firewood – 07866 441154
- Doorbars – chartered surveyors/land agents – 01905 27288
- E J Gumery & Son – funeral directors – 01905 22094
- Elite Marquees – 07958 288510
- Elite Sweeps – sweep/log burners – 01905 700701 / 07712 220671
- Fisher Performance Cars – high quality performance cars – 01299 251444
- Forever Living Products – health/skin care – 01905 620318 / 07906 701589
- GJS Dillon House Surveyors – 01905 676169

- Graham Pugh – decorating/carpentry – 01905 621147 / 07967 883121
- Green Thumb – lawn care – 01905 840740
- Home Carer, Home Help – 07899 784272
- I & S Stoves – woodburning stoves etc. – 01886 812452
- Jenny Davis Fitness – 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
- 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 – gardening/pest control – 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
- Overageamers – oven cleaning – 01562 702883
- Oven Magic – oven cleaning – 01905 700500
- Parks Café Droitwich – 01905 776633
- Phillip Serrell Auctions – 01684 892314
- Professional Willwriters – Amba Legal Services – 01299 251442 / 07966 053887
Protex Midlands Ltd – long life wall coverings – 01905 622164 / 07833 965258
- RNA Heating Ltd – central heating maintenance – 01299 40515801299 405158 –

- 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
- Severn Soaps – hand-made soaps and gifts – 07811949049
- Shelter-Adams Ltd – home heating experts – 07990 523790 / 07922 548915
- Solar Select Ltd – Solar installations – 01905 349813
- Stephanie Cope Mortgage & Protection Advisor – 01299 549820
- 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
- Walkercrisps – stockbrokers & financial advisers - 020 3100 8285
- Whitlence Gardens – tea rooms/gardens – 01299 250669
- William's Professional Decorating Services – 01886 888186
- Worcestershire Imaging Centre – MRI scans – 01905 771500