



Ombersley & Doverdale Parish Magazine

**October
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: October 2023

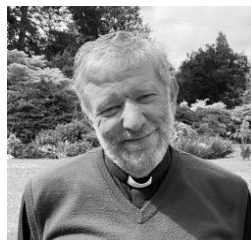
October 1st	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.30am	FS	Elmbridge
	11.00am	MP	Doverdale
	11.00am	Harvest HC-CW	Ombersley
	3.00pm	Harvest	Bells Farm
October 8th	9.00am	HC-CW	Rushock
	10.00am	FS	Ombersley
	11.00am	Harvest	Elmley Lovett
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
October 15th	9.00am	HC-CW	Elmbridge
	10.00am	MP	Hartlebury
	11.00am	Harvest	Doverdale
	11.00am	Harvest	Rushock
	6.00pm	Evensong	Hampton Lovett
October 22nd	9.00am	HC-BCP	Elmley Lovett
	11.00am	HC-CW	Ombersley
	11.00am	HC-CW	Doverdale
October 29th	11.00am	All Souls	Ombersley
	3.00pm	All Souls	Elmley Lovett
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

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

MP Morning Prayer

Rector's Thoughts

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



At this time of the year in these country parishes our thoughts inevitably turn towards harvest celebrations. Actually, urban parishes ought to give thanks for the harvest that has been safely gathered in just as much, but little of the harvest has been grown in the city and there lies the difference.

I have been thinking, of late, of the question of money and the price mechanism in relation to farming. On the whole, clergy are reasonably well protected from financial worries. The stipend that is paid into our bank accounts may not make us rich but, when added to the fact that we receive free housing or, as in my case, extra financial support for living in our own houses, we are reasonably well off. So, it was a good lesson to me when in 2011 I was made redundant as lay training officer for the diocese. I decided to go freelance and went to see some people who had made a similar choice in order to get their advice. One said to me that from now onwards I would always be thinking about money. He proved to be right.

I learnt a good lesson then. Those who never think about money either have enough so as not to worry or they are those rare people who don't worry about being poor. I had children in school and a sense that I needed to make a meaningful contribution to our household expenses and to feel that I was playing a significant part in our family enterprise and so I worried. I worried a lot.

But what was I worrying about? It is really important to recognise that money is not an end in itself but a means to an end. Economists will tell you that it is a means of exchange. Sadly, it seems to have become an end in itself in so much of modern life. I remember at the first meeting of clergy in my deanery in the centre of Birmingham in 1988 we were addressed by John Hull, the Dean of Education at Birmingham University. He spoke of how the Vice Chancellor had called a meeting of the faculty deans and informed them that there was only one word that had meaning any longer in the university and that word was money. As the deans left the meeting at its end one had approached him and said, "John, you go to church don't you? Will you take me with you next time? I felt dirty after that meeting."

But what did he feel dirty about? Surely it was the fact that a means had become an end. I think that this is what Jesus is talking about when he says that you can't serve God and Mammon. Mammon, or wealth, is a means to an end. God is the beginning

and the end. God is an end in himself. If you make money the main purpose in life then you fail the really important question. What is money for?

What is money for in a university? What is money for in my family? And to go back to my initial question. What is money for in the rural economy and in individual farming enterprises? What does a healthy countryside look like?

Discerning readers will have noticed that I subtly introduced an end in my last paragraph. I spoke about a healthy countryside. I spoke about a countryside in which every aspect of its life is in healthy relationship to everything else. Healthy food is being produced to feed the country and the world. The producers of the food are receiving a fair price for what they do. People who work on the land are fairly paid for their labour. Rural communities are in a healthy condition so that children can be raised within them and old people are cared for. I could go on. I could point to schools, village shops, sports clubs, pubs and, of course, village churches. And I would also speak of a healthy environment because everything is connected. The religious word, salvation, comes from the Latin for healing and wholeness. We still speak of salving a wound. It isn't about going to heaven although we all hope for that at the end.

So, I am suggesting that money, when understood correctly, is a means to that end. It is a means to whole and healthy communities in which everyone has a part to play and everyone can enjoy the benefits of being a part of that community. Nobody gets left out. That is why I am delighted when someone uses their wealth in order to enrich their community. That is why I am sad when someone uses their wealth simply to enrich themselves. Of course, there is a balance here but we all need to keep on thinking about that balance.

I would like to end by saying that I fervently hope that every farmer in our communities will receive a fair price for the food they produce and I do as much shopping as I can in local farm shops in order to do my bit this. And I also hope that all of us, and not just farmers, will do what we can in order to enrich the life of our communities as well as that of our families.

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the November Magazine
by **Monday 9th October**

Parish Register: St Andrew's Church

Baptism

August 6th	Oliver Philip Cornes
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Weddings

August 5th	Benjamin Rees & Lauren Roberts
August 26th	Daniel Harrison & Gabrielle Williams

Rota for St Andrew's Church

Date	Service	Sidespeople	Intercessor	Lector
Oct 1st	Harvest HC-CW	Audrey & Geoff Axon	Stephen Winter	Howard Robinson
Oct 8th	FS	Judy Baer, Tony Checketts	-	-
Oct 22nd	HC-CW	Lynne Hunter, Jenny Ransome	Stephen Winter	Anthony Hughes
Oct 29th	All Souls	Liz Hooper, Chris Day	Marjorie Workman	Hazel Smith
Nov 5th	HC-CW	Fiona Davies, Jenny Batelen	Stephen Winter	Louise Robinson

Holy Dusters

October 13th	Fiona Davies, Pernilla Asplen
October 27th	Myra Cowdry, Liz Hooper, Jeanette Horn
November 10th	Heather Barningham, Marjorie Workman
November 17th	Fiona Davies, Liz Hooper

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

Flowers

	Pedestal	Porch
October 13th	Sue Hughes	Sue Hughes
October 27th	Briony Serrell	Angie Randle
November 10th	Heather Barningham	Julie Hall & Sue Arnold

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

Sometimes I feel this should be a weather report, we are England after all! Having approached the end of August wondering if we could turn the heating on early, we moved swiftly into finding the stashed away summer clothes, and a fan! Fortunately, St Andrew's is a perfect, cool space to be in, which encouraged a good turn out to the talk from Holywell Glass. A fascinating insight into the skill and complexities of renovating the windows, and the challenge of dealing with moving 1mm thick glass up and down an extremely high scaffolding. It also confirmed how rare it is to have a complete set of windows like ours, when asked for other examples we find there is a building, now a theatre in Tunbridge Wells which has some ..and St George's chapel in Windsor used towe need to keep looking.

The Open Days have as usual brought some very interesting visitors with so much knowledge to share, as well as those making the most of a cool spot and chance to really look around the church, and creative displays. The teas of course were well up to standard, and included a visit from Irish royalty so we were told.

We have had our Quinquennial inspection, which on the verbal report doesn't seem too bad. Luckily, we have a cherry picker coming in next week to check the alarm system and clear the gutters, and they will be joined by a roofer as we have a few broken slates, as well as the architect. This brings to mind the rhyme about 3 Men in a Boat, but I cannot make it work with cherry picker. There is also some stonework on the church to deal with and repairs to the Lychgate. We sincerely hope the pew heaters will be installed by the end of this month but we are still waiting for the last hurdle of the Faculty application to be cleared. This has taken a year so far, since the boiler was decommissioned! If in doubt dress warmly.

Creative Coffee:

Thursday 5th and 19th of October at 10.30am in the Narthex at the back of the church. In spite of the heat we had a good time 'doing' on the open weekend, and discussing various crafts to have a go at. Options include bookbinding and making small containers with coloured jute. As there is an enthusiasm for paper quilling I'm sure some of that will continue as well! We 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 October 2nd. We will be discussing a reading from Sunday 1st October. Please just come along if you are interested, or ring Richard on 07496 850192

Looking Ahead:

We have a quiet moment before the run up to Christmas, the next big Services will be 'All Souls' to remember all those we have lost - 11am on October 29th.

Date for your Diary:

The Police Band will be playing here on Sunday November 19th.
Details next time.

'Stay and Play' for 0-3 years:

Monday mornings from 9.30 to 11am; £2 (not Bank Holidays). Please email stayandplayomersley@outlook.com or 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.

The Stained-Glass in St Andrew's Church

On Friday 8th September, around 50 people heard Jack Clare from Holy Well Glass tell us about the restoration of the stained-glass windows, original to the present building completed in 1829. Restoration started about 20 years ago by Jack's father, Steve, who was on hand to provide information about the previous work.

Jack provided a brief illustrated account of the history of stained-glass windows starting in the late C12th – early C13th when small pieces of glass were held in place by lead. Over the next two Centuries, techniques became more refined and pictorially sophisticated. Treatment with silver nitrate before exposure to heat gave a range of tones through orange to yellow. By C16 foreign (mainly European) glaziers brought changes inspired by the Renaissance. By the end of that Century, vitreous enamelling techniques became more common and provided more colour and light penetration through less use of lead. By the 18th Century, even less lead was used with larger panes of glass adorned by enamel patterns and figures.

In the 19th Century, there was a rediscovery of traditional methods and these were applied to the windows in St Andrew's Church. 'Graffiti' on a corner of the East window reveals the glazier to be H. Collins aged 29 years (the same age Jack was when he started work here!).

The recent restoration work during 2020-22 involved windows being removed. Many panels were damaged or had been replaced in earlier times by Perspex. Most panes had to be deglazed prior to removal of the iron frames as the putty had deteriorated (each piece of glass is held in the iron frame by putty). The broken glass was replaced by 'cylinder glass' whereby a cylinder of glass is split open then the two pieces 'ironed' to produce a thin (c. 1mm) flat piece. Some broken panes were re-glued with resin with the same refractive index as the glass. The corroded frames were cleaned and

repaired, and are now held in place by brass screws (previously iron nails, which caused corrosion). Prior to re-installation, many of the windows required restoration of the surrounding stonework.

Jack assured us at the end of his talk that he was confident that all the windows were sound and would remain so for many decades.

There are few craftsmen who have the experience and facilities to carry out this type of restoration work and we are especially grateful to Holy Well Glass for all the support provided during this long restoration project. Jack explained that they had recently recruited two apprentices via the 'Government Apprenticeship Scheme' in conjunction with the University of Wales. However, extra funds are needed and the audience was invited to make a donation to help with the training of future glass conservators.

In a letter from Steve Clare:

Stained-glass has a rich heritage and is one of the most exciting forms of contemporary art. Recently it has been placed on the **Heritage Crafts Red List of Endangered Crafts**. This is a forthright appeal for your help in securing the future of our beautiful and historic art form.

Founded in 1921, the British Society of Master Glass Painters is the pre-eminent organization advocating for stained-glass in Britain. Our members include historians, researchers, conservators, students, and importantly many leading artists in contemporary stained-glass. We at Holy Well Glass were principle advisors in identifying the risks we face. These factors include:

1. Aging practitioners and a loss of opportunity for them to pass on their skills.
2. The decline in dedicated educational courses.
3. The decreasing use of contemporary stained-glass commissions in buildings.
4. The scarcity and high cost of materials.

This spurs us on to action. Our ambitious plan is to raise very substantial funds from this campaign to make a real difference for the future of our art form.

Our Goals:

1. To inspire and support a new generation to enter the stained-glass profession
2. To foster a resurgence in stained glass commissions and opportunities
3. To nurture a strong stained-glass community.

A full list of our proposed activities, including how we will support apprentices, is on our website at www.bsmgp.org.uk.

St Andrew's is hoping to collect £1000 toward this venture. If you would like to help please contact our treasurer Louise Tarleton Hodgson: louisethodgson@yahoo.co.uk

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 1st October – Apple Tree Walk, Holt Fleet Road, Parsonage Lane, Dough Bank

Sunday 8th October – Sinton, School Bank, Ombersley School, Hawford, Hawford School

Sunday 15th October – Boreley, Mutton Hall, Comhampton, Dunhampton

Sunday 22nd October – Clergy, lay readers and PCCs of our parishes

Sunday 29th October – All in our community who mourn

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 – using the main door.



ROVING REPORTER – LOCAL NEWS

OCTOBER 2023 – A TIME TO ENJOY THE LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE

- Have you been to our **Community Millenium Orchard** yet to gather up all the apples, pears and Walnuts! **FREE** to everyone , just walk up to the top of Hilltop Lane between the Venture In and Kings Arms, then past the Venture In car park turn right along 'overgrown footpath' towards the cricket pitch and behind the houses and Crown & Sandys.
- **APPLE JUICING** – Power's Farm in Ombersley will **Juice Your Apples on Saturday 21st October; approx. 11 am – 3 pm.** Just need clean containers to collect your juice. Donations for running costs would be appreciated.

- **OMBERSLEY MOVIE NIGHTS** recommence on **Saturday October 7th** at **7 pm** in Ombersley Memorial Hall - Opening Movie will be **The Fabelmans** - a story inspired by Steven Spielberg's own childhood. Further dates and details elsewhere in magazine.
- Fancy writing your own novel, then why not go along to the **Ombersley Women's League** meeting in OMH on **Thursday October 5th** and listen to Andy Griffie give a talk about his work as a 'Tiller Thriller'. Further details in this magazine.
- **SYTCHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL - SHORT MAT CARPET BOWLS** – Warm Indoor activity for the winter. Monday evenings 7.30pm-9.30pm. First 3 sessions are FREE, then its £3 per week with half time refreshments. Bowls are provided and no experience necessary. New members always welcome. Contact Anne Hill 07714 091633.
- Get **Creative** for Christmas – Make your own presents. Meet in the narthex of **St. Andrew's Church** 10.30am every First and Third Thursday of each month. Contact Fiona 01905 621176.
- **RAPESEED** – the answer to the question posed in last month's magazine re. how many seeds does it take to make a litre of oil. As only 44% of the tiny black rape seed is used in the production of the rapeseed oil (the rest is used for animal feed), it would need 5lbs to make 1 litre of oil.

If you are planning any special fund-raising events either as an individual or as a club or have any snippets of local news email me; maxdiane@outlook.com



Tea & Coffee Shop, Ombersley Memorial Hall

Opening Times

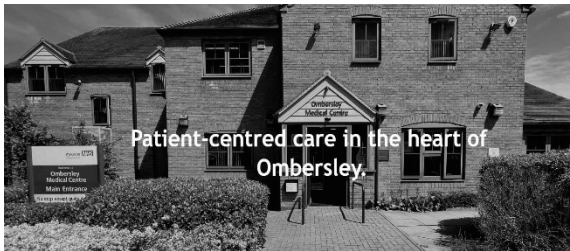
Tuesday 3rd October 2-4 pm
Thursday 26th October 2-4 pm

A monthly update from Ombersley Medical Centre



In August 2023 there were:

- 2,646 Face to Face appointments with clinicians (GPs, Nurses and Pharmacists)
- 981 telephone consultations
- 143 DNA (Did not attend)
- 11,796 medications issued
- 1,949 letters regarding patient care requiring action
- 12,677 test results reviewed and actioned



Autumn/Winter Covid and Flus Vaccines

You may have seen that the Autumn/Winter Covid Vaccination programme will be starting in September. Where possible, we will be looking to co-administer this with your flu vaccine.

Please note, we are starting to see an increase in covid cases and it is important that you have both vaccines, if you are eligible, in order to stay well this winter.

If you have already booked your flu vaccination here at the surgery, you do not need to do anything else, you will be offered your covid vaccination at the same time.

If you have not yet booked your vaccination please call the surgery and select the option to book your vaccines via the main menu.

The Ombersley Conservation Trust

The Trust was created by Lord and Lady Sandys to ensure the perpetuity of care and management of their Estate. The Trustees continue to pursue their declared objectives by supporting groups and tenants with improvement works and other forms of support. Work has started to refurbish Sinton Farmhouse and convert it to two dwelling units brought up to modern required standards. Similarly, Barnhall Farm cottage has been brought up to standard.

Re-surfacing of the parking facilities at The Old Rectory is underway, hence the temporary use of the Wedding Field while works are carried out.

The whole estate has been subject to a tree safety review, including the gardens let to tenants. It is hoped as a result that pre-emptive treatment, where identified will improve safety, and lessen the need for tidying up after gale damage.

Lastly the support for the Archery Club after their fire is nearly complete with the new units now installed on their site.

Andrew Woods (Chairman of the OCT)



PRESENTS '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 7th October **'The Fabelmans'**

Growing up in a post-World War II era Arizona, young Sammy Fabelman aspires to become a filmmaker as he reaches adolescence, but soon discovers a shattering family secret and explores how the power of films can help him see the truth.

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.

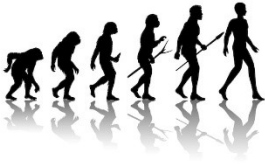
Saturday 16th December – Special Children's Christmas Matinee **The Polar Express**

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

Watch this space for 2024 films.....





Ombersley
History Group



Meet the Ancestors, Stone Age to Iron Age

An illustrated talk by Rob Hedge

Thursday 26th October: Ombersley Memorial Hall, 7pm for 7.30

Rob was formerly Finds Officer at Worcester Archive & Archaeology Service. He is currently doing a PhD at the University of Leicester about the Development of North Worcestershire Villages.

Admission £5 (cash only) includes a glass of wine or soft drink.

Date for your diary: next OHG meeting - Thursday 22nd February 2024

Anthony Hughes will give a talk entitled

“Routes to the Rule of Law - UK and USA – a contrast”

The ‘Filmer’ of Filmer House

Filmer House and Langham House (see the September issue), both in Main Road Ombersley, bear the married names of the first and second daughters of Arthur Marcus Cecil Hill 3rd Baron Sandys of Ombersley. This article and one to be published



next month look at these marriages and the resulting families.

Mary Georgiana Caroline Sandys, the eldest child, married Sir Edmund Filmer 9th Baronet of East Sutton in the County of Kent, on 21st October 1858. He was born in 1835, the eldest son of Sir Edmund Filmer, 8th Baronet. He was educated at Eton, and for a short time held a commission in the Grenadier Guards. He succeeded his father to the baronetcy in 1857, aged only 22. The family seat was East Sutton Park, near Maidstone.

Their marriage was at St George's Hanover Square in the presence, as the Worcestershire Chronicle has it, of the friends of the bride and bridegroom, and a brilliant circle of the aristocracy. After a sumptuous déjeuner at the Sandys home in Chesham Street, the pair left in a poste-chaise and four for the railway where they travelled by special train to Ombersley Court. From there they travelled to East Sutton where they were greeted enthusiastically. The Maidstone Journal notes how, at the entrance to East Sutton Park, the horses were taken from the carriage, and the vehicle was bowled along in triumph by strong Saxon arms, amid the shouts of the bystanders.

Sir Edmund was a Conservative Member of Parliament for Kent constituencies between 1859 and 1865, and again between 1880 and 1884 when he resigned due to ill health. Primarily he was a country gentleman of a long-established family with an extensive estate. He was a magistrate, Deputy Lieutenant of the County, and was High Sheriff of Kent in 1870.

He was also a keen sportsman and there are repeated reports of game shooting days at East Sutton and at Ombersley Court with Lord Sandys. For example, in November 1864 he was a guest of Lord Sandys when nearly 400 head of game were killed in less than four hours. Deer and grouse shooting in the Highlands was also a regular part of the calendar with a family estate in Scotland.

Lady Filmer is now known in her own right as a photographer and photo-collage artist (photo-collage involves cutting up photographs and assembling them on watercolour paintings). Much of her known work now seems to be in the USA. She is also said to have used her looks and acknowledged cleverness to advance herself and her husband in London society. One of their guests was Albert Edward, the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII), with whom she flirted and may have had an affair.

Sir Edmund died in Brighton in 1886; Lady Filmer died in London in 1903. The couple had five children, one of whom died in infancy. A daughter died of measles before she was twenty. Two other daughters married and had families of their own.

The last child, Robert Marcus Filmer, succeeded his father to the baronetcy in 1886. He was a Grenadier Guard and was present at the Battle of Omdurman in 1898 and later fought in the Second Boer War, arriving in the Orange Free State in February 1900. Returning home in 1902, Sir Robert resigned his regular commission and joined the East Kent Yeomanry in 1907, rising to Major on 2 August 1912. He lived at East Sutton where he put the estate in order. He hunted and shot, and was elected to Kent County Council in 1908.

In the Great War, Sir Robert joined the newly-formed 4th Battalion, Grenadier Guards in early 1915. He arrived in France on 27 July that year, serving with No. 3 Company

throughout the campaign. In France, he became known for his bravery and was awarded the Military Cross for his role in preliminary reconnaissance and then participation in a successful raid on a German trench near Neuve Chappelle. He was killed in somewhat tragic circumstances when he went back, despite shelling, to search for the pair of spectacles he had lost earlier.

With his death in 1916, the Filmer baronetcy became extinct.

Pat Niner, Ombersley History Group



Ombersley Gardening Club



September has begun with sunny, warm weather throwing the swallows into turmoil wondering whether it's time to journey home for the winter or not. October will bring wonderful autumnal colours to our gardens and countryside.

Now is the time to plant out any perennials you've grown from seed along with hardy plants such as wallflowers, primulas and winter pansies for Spring. Also think about covering plants in case of an early frost. Continue to sow vegetables to mature next Spring including winter lettuce, spinach, turnips and onions.

We look forward to welcoming Nigel Hopes on the **19th October** for a talk about John Massey's garden and following this we have a self-drive trip on the **24th October** to John's garden in Kinver (Ashwood Nurseries) with an escorted tour of the garden.

On **November 16th** Howard Drury will be giving us a presentation on House Plants - Winter Survival; another evening not to be missed. Other events will be brunch on the **22nd October** and of course the Gardening Club's Christmas dinner on **14th December**.

Come along and enjoy your local club which is held on every 3rd Thursday of the month at Ombersley Memorial Hall. We look forward to seeing you.

Happy Gardening! Ombersley Gardening Club Committee.

OMBERSLEY WOMEN'S LEAGUE



Thursday 5 October 2023 – 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.



A talk by Andy Griffie, Author

Andy will talk about crime mystery 'Dead in the Water'. His series is set on the canals and rivers of the UK. His hero is Jack Johnson, a journalist, and Jack's romantic interest is Nina Wilde, an army widow who joins him on his many adventures along with a Border Terrier called Eddie.

Andy is a former TV reporter, news producer and senior manager at the BBC. Discounted and signed copies of his paperbacks will be available after the talk

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

Thursday 2 November: '101 Children' - Meg Farmer will talk about 20 years of fostering children with highs & lows and plenty of humour.



Calling all Stallholders!

Do you sell high-quality, original products?

Book your table at our popular Christmas Fair

Saturday 2nd December 2023

Open to the public from 11am-4pm

Contact Helen Daly

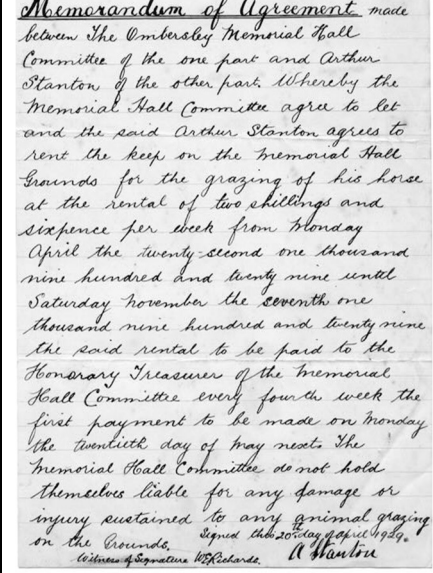
hdaly001@gmail.com

From the Minutes of the Memorial Hall

The Changing Uses of the Hall Field

Tacking Horses

The field on which the Hall stands was rough grass used for grazing as well as *ad hoc* football matches prior to the Memorial Hall being built (see July/August issue for an article marking the Hall Centenary). In January 1924, one month after the Hall was opened, the Hall Committee considered what charge should be made for the two horses that were tacked on the field. A charge of 3s 6d per week was agreed for the two horses. The following year, the charge had risen to 2s 6d per week for each of two horses. A formal agreement between Mr A Stanton and the Hall Committee for tacking his horse was drawn up in April 1929, a photograph of the document is below.

 A photograph of a handwritten memorandum on lined paper. The text is written in cursive and matches the typed transcription on the right. At the bottom, there are two signatures: 'W E Richards' and 'A Stanton'. <p><i>Memorandum of Agreement made between The Ombersley Memorial Hall Committee of the one part and Arthur Stanton of the other part whereby the Memorial Hall Committee agree to let and the said Arthur Stanton agrees to rent the keep on the Memorial Hall Grounds for the grazing of his horse at the rental of two shillings and sixpence per week from Monday April the twenty-second one thousand nine hundred and twenty nine until Saturday November the seventh one thousand nine hundred and twenty nine the said rental to be paid to the Honorary Treasurer of the Memorial Hall Committee every fourth week the first payment to be made on Monday the twentieth day of May next. The Memorial Hall Committee do not hold themselves liable for any damage or injury sustained to any animal grazing on the Grounds. Signed the 20th day of April 1929. Witness of Signature W E Richards A Stanton</i></p>	<p>Memorandum of Agreement made between the Ombersley Memorial Hall Committee of the one part and Arthur Stanton of the other part whereby the Memorial Hall Committee agree to let and the said Arthur Stanton agrees to rent the keep on the Memorial Hall Grounds for the grazing of his horse at the rental of two shillings and sixpence per week from Monday April the twenty second one thousand nine hundred and twenty nine until Saturday November the seventh one thousand nine hundred and twenty nine, the said rental to be paid to the Honorary Treasurer of the Memorial Hall Committee every fourth week, the first payment to be made on Monday the twentieth day of May next. The Memorial Hall Committee do not hold themselves liable for any damage or injury sustained to any animal grazing on the grounds. Signed the 20th day of April 1929. A Stanton, Witness of Signature W E Richards.</p>
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Games

In February 1924, a proposal for setting out the ground for games was considered. Two tennis courts and a bowling green in the centre of the field, suitably wired round, were proposed. The other parts of the field to be used for grazing and fêtes.

Tennis Club: The Tennis Club was opened on 15th May 1924. The following year, a subscription of 10s 6d for adults and 5s per annum for juveniles was agreed and two dozen balls were ordered. The Hall Committee requested that the Tennis Club pay 5% interest on the sum expended for the laying out of the tennis courts and that one shilling per annum be deducted for every £1 of the capital sum paid. The tennis club

agreed to these conditions and was also willing to pay any reasonable sum for the ground plus preparation and upkeep.

However, in 1926 there was disagreement about the placement of the courts and the Tennis Club requested that the tennis courts should be moved to the west side of the ground. The Hall Committee agreed that the Tennis Club could proceed with the work. There is no further mention in the Hall minutes other than regarding general maintenance until March 27th 1931 when it was reported that: *The Tennis Club had given up the courts in the Memorial Hall Field as they had become too bad to play on. It was agreed to leave the netting and equipment for the time being, but the Secretary should try to get offers in the meantime.* Did the Tennis Club move elsewhere?

Bowling Club: Bowls in the summer months appears to have been a popular pastime. A pavilion was erected in 1927 and playing continued throughout the 1920s and early 1930s. In May 1935 a letter from the Secretary of the Bowling Green Club stated that the club was now dissolved and the Club wished to hand various items to the Hall Committee. Their properties included the green, fencing, lawn mower, a shed and silver cup presented by Col. Lang. The minutes record: *Mrs Green promised to send some sheep to eat down the turf and then find out what condition it was in and what was hearsay and to keep it up to the end of the season.*

The Bowling Club was re-formed in 1936. It was disbanded in the early 1960s and in 1965 the minutes report: *Vagrants are using the Bowling Green Pavilion – the police have been asked to look into the matter.* The bowling green was incorporated into the Hall field at the end of 1967.

Football: Football was played on the field long before the Hall was built in 1923 right up to 2020. Various clubs started up and were subsequently disbanded. Throughout the whole period there was an uneasy relationship between football and various Hall Committees, mainly relating to the use of facilities, especially regarding damage to the cloakrooms and ground. In November 1923, the Football Club agreed to pay 4 shillings per match for use of the field. Football clubs seemed to come and go over the next 30-40 years. In 1962, Ombersley United Football club restarted playing at a charge 5 shillings per match including use of gents' cloakroom and shed. By 1965, the Club had reached the first division of the Worcester League and the changing facilities were viewed as inadequate. Two years later, the club was disbanded and the field was let to Crescent Athletic FC from Worcester. Within a year, the Crescent Football Club had ceased playing. In 1971, another Football Club was formed with an agreement to provide their own changing accommodation and cut the grass. A nominal rent agreed of 50p per annum was agreed.

The publication of directories

The publication of directories, originally alphabetical lists of the names and addresses of tradesmen, was very much a consequence of the growth of permanent shopping and trading centres in the 18th Century. The first directory published was for London in 1734. The first to include private citizens, usually just the head of the family appeared in 1792. James Pigot was the first publisher to produce a national directory, but by 1845, he had been overtaken by Kelly's directories. Kelly's directories ran from 1837 to 1980, being re-edited every 4 years. The Hive holds an extensive collection of local and national directories. The earliest I can find for Ombersley is "The general and Commercial Directory for Worcestershire" published by S. Lewis in 1820. These early directories are an invaluable source of archive information and worth looking at just for the beautiful engravings by the advertisers.

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PARISHES, ETC.

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PARISHES, ETC.

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OMBERSLEY.

Amphlett Thos. farmer
Amphlett T. jun. farmer
Amphlett Richard, farmer
and maltster
Armstrong Phillip, cooper
Ball Wm. wheelwright
Barnett S. schoolmaster
Batchelor Edw. farmer
Birch Samuel, farmer
Boughton Edward, farmer
(Acton)
Boughton Edward, farmer
(Hadley)
Bourne Charles, smith
Brighton Richard, vict.
Brighton Edward, maltster
and farmer
Brook Nathaniel, draper
Burrow Edward, farmer
Burrow Thomas, farmer
Burrow John, miller
Burrow Sarah, farmer
Cole William, smith
Colley Richard, esq.
Cook Richard, farmer
Cook James, farmer
Cox Rd. wheelwright
Dalby Thomas, farmer
Dalloway William,
schoolmaster
Dowding Robt. farmer
Downshire Most Noble
Marchioness of
Duggard Widow, farmer

Evans Wm. bricklayer
Gardner J. B. farmer
Gardner Richard, farmer
Gardner T. S. farmer
Gardner J. H. farmer
Gardner Thomas, farmer
Gardner Widow, farmer
Glasbrook Edw. farmer
Goodwin Edw. shoemaker
Grove Robert, farmer
Harper Richard, farmer
Hartland John, farmer
Halton Richard, farmer
Higgs William, farmer
Hobday Thomas, farmer
Hollington Joseph, farmer
Hope Joseph, butcher
Hope George, shoemaker
Jones William, farmer
Lamb Susan, farmer
Lawrence W. carpenter
Lawrence W. miller
Lightbourne Samuel
Malpas Thomas, farmer
Meadows Francis, farmer
Moule Joseph, farmer
Moule William, farmer
Munn Thomas, farmer
Munn John, farmer
Nash Thomas, farmer
Newey George, farmer
Oakes J. stone mason
Onley William, farmer
Onley Edward, farmer
Palmer M. shopkeeper

Pardoe John, farmer
Pardoe James, farmer
Partridge T. sen. farmer
Partridge T. jun. farmer
Patrick Samuel, smith
Peach Susan, vict.
Perks John, farmer
Perry Richard, farmer
Price Frederick, glazier
Pritchett Rev. John
Pugh Edward, butcher
Randle John, farmer
Randle Joseph, farmer
Roistons Thomas, farmer
Sanders John, jun. farmer
Severn Ann, vict.
Silvester W. A. farmer
Sockett Rev. Thomas
Soley George, farmer
Taylor Mary, farmer
Taylor Robert, farmer
Tolley Richard, farmer
Tolley John, farmer
Tolley Thos. jun. farmer
Tombs Thomas, farmer
Tracey Mary, farmer
Tracey Samuel, baker
Watkins John, esq.
Watkins John, sen.
Whitney John, carpenter
Whitney William, farmer
Williams John, esq.
Williams J. G. vict.
Wilson William, farmer
Winnall Thomas, farmer

Winnall John, farmer
Wood John, farmer (Syc-
hampton)
Wood John, farmer, (Ta-
penhall)
Wright Joseph, farmer

ORLTON.

Cooke William, farmer
Davis Thomas, farmer
Meredith Joseph, farmer
Morris George, farmer
Stinton Betty, farmer
Teague William, farmer
Tench Samuel, cooper

OVERBURY.

Birch Wm. shoemaker
Cuff John, gent.
Darke Nathaniel, farmer
Hanley Francis, mason
Mann John
Martin Mr. surgeon
Moore F. schoolmistress
Purser John, mealman
Rawlins Mis. gent.
Robinson E. papermaker
Stephens Dean, mealman
Waters Rev. E. P.
Whitcombe W. maltster

PAXFORD.

Hodges John, farmer
Martin ——— farmer
Newitt Joseph, farmer
Roberts ——— farmer
Roberts Thomas, farmer
Wells William, farmer

Ombersley Endowed First School



Welcome Back

We have had a wonderful start to the new school year. The children were all very excited to come back and meet their new teachers in their new classrooms. There have been lots of changes for them to come back to.



One of the exciting changes has been our fabulous new school hall. As the school has grown, we have needed to adapt to accommodate for our growing family.

As well as welcoming our new children into Ombersley, we have also welcomed some new members of staff across the school; we hope they will be very happy with us.

Early Years

Pre-School and Reception children have had a fantastic start back to school in the sunshine. They have been enjoying their time in the tipi and the tree house as well as in our new hall. They will be learning 'All about Me' in their new topic.

Key stage One

Year One have a lovely new classroom and are settling into their daily routines very well. They are looking forward to finding out about The History of Toys.

Year Two are settling into new routines beautifully. They have started learning about the history of The Great Fire of London in their 'Fire, Fire' topic.

Key stage Two

Year three have moved into their super new classroom and have started their exciting new topic about The Stone Age. Year Four are looking at the geography of our local area. Both classes are enjoying tennis lessons at the tennis club just next door as well as swimming lessons at Droitwich Leisure Centre.

Wrap around Care

Scooters club have had a very busy start to the year with a very happy breakfast club and after school club. They are now enjoying their time in the new school hall.

Press Snippets

Worcester Herald, 14 June 1845

We had this morning shown to us, five or six stalks of rye, measuring full seven feet two inches in height. They were gathered from a field at Ombersley, and we are told that the average growth of the whole field, would be little if any, below seven feet.

SHEEP SHEARING: Worcestershire Chronicle, 12 June 1850

An extraordinary feat at shearing of sheep was performed last week at Ombersley by Mr. Thomas Amphlett, who engaged to shear 50 ewes and 50 lambs in a day, which he accomplished in 14 hours, including meal times. He commenced operations at three o'clock a.m., and finished about five o'clock in the afternoon.

Sourced by Pat Niner, Ombersley History Group

ST. MARY'S, DOVERDALE

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER AT 11.00 A.M.

WITH THE BISHOP OF DUDLEY

THE RIGHT REVEREND MARTIN GORICK

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTERWARDS BY

THE FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND JOIN IN THIS SPECIAL SERVICE OF
THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S BOUNTIFUL HARVEST**

THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, DOVERDALE

CHURCHWARDEN:	Mr. R. Coppini	Tel: 620963
LICENSED LAY READER:	Mr. Richard Jeynes	Tel: 07553810080
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	

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

October:- Sandie Smart, Laureen Moyse

FLOWER ROTA

October:- Harvest Flowers

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISM

AUGUST 13TH. Ruby Rose Scaife

WEDDING

AUGUST 12th. Phoebe Jane Baylis and Danny James Burton

PEWPOINTS

DIARY DATES

9th October: PCC Meeting in Ombersley Narthex at 7.00 p.m.

15th October: St. Mary's Harvest Festival at 11.00 a.m. Celebrant, Bishop of Dudley, Martin Gorick.

N.B. The date of St. Mary's Harvest Festival Service this year will be celebrated on the 3rd Sunday in October. Light refreshments will be served after the service. Please do come along and join us for this special service of thanksgiving.

LOOKING AHEAD

SUNDAY 12th November at 9.15a.m. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

SERVICES

Sunday 1 st October 17 th after Trinity	11.00a.m. MP(BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.V.Harris, Mr.R.Coppini Sidesman: Mr.C.Harris Readings:- Ezek.18 (1-4) & (25-end); Matthew 21 (23-32)
Sunday 15 th October 19 th after Trinity	11.00a.m. HARVEST FESTIVAL	Lectors: Mrs. R.Stacey, Mr.J.Chapman Sidesperson: Mrs.V.Harris Readings:- TBA
Sunday 22 nd October 20 th after Trinity (4 th Sunday)	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion BCP	Lector: Mr. D. Hawkins Sidesman; Mr.J.Chapman Readings:- Isaiah 45 (1-7) & Gospel: Matthew 22 (15-22)
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:	9.15a.m. REMEMBRANCE	Lectors and Sidespeople TBA Led by The British Legion
Sunday 19 th November 2 nd before Advent	11.00 a.m. HC(BCP)	Lector: Mrs.V.Harris, Mrs.A.Chapman Sidesman: Mr. J. Chapman Readings:- Zeph.1 (7) & (12-end); Gospel: Matthew 25 (14-30)

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
- Walkercrips – stockbrokers & financial advisers - 020 3100 8285
- Whitlenghe Gardens – tea rooms/gardens – 01299 250669
- William's Professional Decorating Services – 01886 888186
- Worcestershire Imaging Centre – MRI scans – 01905 771500