



# Ombersley & Doverdale Parish Magazine

**October**  
2025



This on-line edition supports the printed version.

Please see the printed issue for full advertisements.

A list of advertisers plus their contact details is at the end of this on-line issue.



## Severn Parishes Service Rota

October 2025

October 5th	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.30am	Harvest	Elmbridge
	11.00am	HC-CW	<b>Ombersley</b>
	11.00am	MP	Doverdale
	2.30pm	Harvest Thanksgiving Service	Bells Farm Shop
October 12th	10.00am	FS	<b>Ombersley</b>
	11.00am	Harvest	Rushock
	11.00am	HC-CW	Hartlebury
October 19th	9.00am	HC-CW	Elmbridge
	10.00am	MP	<b>Ombersley</b>
	10.00am	MP	Hartlebury
	11.00am	Harvest	Doverdale
	11.00am	Harvest	Elmley Lovett
	6.00pm	Evensong	Hampton Lovett
October 26th	9.00am	HC-BCP	Elmley Lovett
	11.00am	HC-CW	<b>Ombersley</b>
November 2nd	9.00am	HC-CW	Hampton Lovett
	10.00am	Sunday 1st	Hartlebury
	11.00am	All Souls Service	<b>Ombersley</b>
	3.00pm	All Souls Service	Elmley Lovett

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

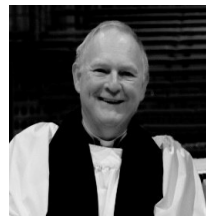
FS Family Service; MP Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer at 9.15 on 8th October at Ombersley and on 22nd October at Doverdale

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the November Magazine by  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

# Letter from the Rector

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



Dear Friends,

In recent months, many of us will have noticed a troubling tendency in our wider society. Voices of extremism, fuelled by anger and fear, seem ever more determined to stir up division. We see the growing polarisation of people “–us” and “them” – and the rise of nationalism that too often slips into hostility, rather than a healthy love of one’s country.

Patriotism, rightly understood, is about gratitude for the blessings of our land, its people, its traditions, and its freedoms. In essence, a patriot is proud of their country for what it does, while a nationalist is proud of their country no matter what it does. That subtle difference matters greatly: one encourages responsibility and humility, the other can excuse harm and injustice. History warns us where such thinking can lead.

As Christians – as people of the Kingdom of God – we are called to a higher allegiance. Our baptism marks us not only as citizens of this nation, but as citizens of Christ’s Kingdom, which has no borders and embraces all peoples. Racism, homophobia, and xenophobia have no place in that Kingdom, because they deny the image of God in our brothers and sisters. Jesus welcomed those on the margins, healed those who were excluded, and broke down walls of hostility. He taught us to love our neighbour – and he made it clear that our neighbour includes the stranger, the foreigner, even those we might be inclined to fear.

In such times, our calling is not to retreat into silence, nor to mirror the anger around us, but to be salt and light. We should show, by word and deed, that the Kingdom is built on reconciliation, mercy, and peace. Where society hardens into suspicion, let us sow kindness. Where others stir hatred, let us pray for courage to speak truth in love. Where division grows, let us build bridges of understanding.

The world may try to separate and divide us, but as Kingdom people we know a deeper truth: “In Christ, there is neither Jew nor Gentile... but all are one.” Let us hold fast to that vision, and let our lives bear witness to it.

Yours in Christ,



# St Francis of Assisi – A Saint for Our Times

The creation season ends on 4th October. The day the Church celebrates the feast of St Francis of Assisi, one of the most beloved and recognisable saints. Known for his love of nature, his humility, and his deep devotion to Christ, Francis continues to inspire Christians and non-Christians alike, even eight centuries after his death.

Francis was born in 1181 in the Italian town of Assisi. The son of a wealthy cloth merchant, he grew up enjoying comfort and privilege. But after a period of illness and spiritual searching, Francis underwent a radical conversion. He gave up his inheritance, chose a life of poverty, and began to live simply, preaching the Gospel in word and deed. His life of joy and radical trust in God attracted many followers, and the Franciscan order was born.

Francis is perhaps most famous for his closeness to creation. He called the sun his “brother” and the moon his “sister” recognising all creatures as part of God’s family. He lived in harmony with nature, not out of sentimentality, but because he saw in it the reflection of the Creator’s love.

So, what does this 13th-century saint have to say to us in 21st-century Britain?

- *Care for Creation* – In a world struggling with climate change and environmental destruction, Francis reminds us of our Christian duty to cherish the earth as God’s gift. Pope Francis’ encyclical *Laudato Si* takes its title from Francis’s famous “Canticle of the Sun,” calling us to live more sustainably and responsibly.
- *Simplicity and Contentment* – Francis shows us that happiness is not found in wealth or possessions but in relationships: with God, with one another, and with the world around us. His example invites us to question our own lifestyles and ask: what really matters?
- *Peacemaking* – At a time of conflict, Francis crossed battle lines to meet the Sultan during the Crusades, choosing dialogue over violence. His courage in seeking peace speaks powerfully in a world still torn apart by war and division.
- *Joyful Faith* – Above all, Francis lived with joy. Even in poverty, illness, and hardship, he radiated a deep love of God that drew others in. His life reminds us that Christian faith is not about grim duty but about freedom, joy, and love.

We may not all be called to leave everything behind as Francis did, but we can follow his spirit in small ways: taking time to notice God’s presence in the beauty of creation, living more simply, choosing peace in our relationships, and nurturing joy in our faith.

As we celebrate his feast this October, let's ask ourselves: what might it look like to be a little more Franciscan in our parish, our homes, and our daily lives? "Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary." – a saying often attributed to St Francis, reminding us that our lives are our most powerful witness.

## **PRAYING ROUND THE PARISH**

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

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

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

or Rev James Homer 01299 851637 [ajfhomer@btinternet.com](mailto:ajfhomer@btinternet.com)

[Curate with pastoral responsibility for the Worcestershire Severn Parishes]



### Areas prayed for October:

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Apple Tree Walk, Holt Fleet Road, Parsonage Lane, Dough Bank

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Sinton, School Bank, Ombersley School, Hawford, Hawford School

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Boreley, Mutton Hall, Comhampton, Dunhampton

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Can you help?**

Do you have a few hours spare each month and think you would enjoy being involved in a valuable parish activity? The Ombersley Parish Magazine Editorial Team are looking for additional members to help with the editorial and layout design aspects of the process.

If you are interested please contact either Maureen Callow or Zillah Pickering (see page 3 of the magazine for contact details).

# Parish Register: St Andrew's Church

## Baptism

August 3rd	Austin Ricky Little
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## Wedding

July 19th	Joanne Lewis & Mark Harris
August 30th	William Lapworth & Cassandre Landel

## Rota for St Andrew's Church

Date	Service	Sidespeople	Intercessor	Lector
Oct 5th	HC-CW	Maureen Callow, Tony Checketts	Chris Day	Hazel Smith
Oct 12th	FS	Angela Randle, Robert Thornton	-	-
Oct 19th	MP	Judy Baer, Alison Want	Anthony Hughes	Howard Robinson
Oct 26th	HC-CW	Audrey & Geoff Axon	Marjorie Workman	Fiona Davies
Nov 2nd	HC-CW All Souls	Phil & Gail Filer	Angela Randle	Robert Thornton

## Holy Dusters

Oct 3rd	Fiona Davies, Liz Hooper, Myra Cowdry
Oct 17th	Sally Ludlow, Marjorie Workman
Oct 31st	Myra Cowdry, Helen Daly, Fiona Davies
Nov 7th	Liz Hooper, Heather Barningham

Many thanks to all who help keep the church looking well-loved. If you'd like to help, please ring Liz 01905 620827 or Fiona 01905 621176

## Flowers

	Pedestal	Porch
3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Sue Arnold	Angie Randle
24 <sup>th</sup> /31 <sup>st</sup> October	Wedding 24 <sup>th</sup> October	

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October: Remove Harvest Flowers

Please add silk flowers from the boxes if your flowers fade. If you'd like to help, please contact either Jan Berry or Heather Barningham. Jan: 07977 588682; [janeteberry@gmail.com](mailto:janeteberry@gmail.com)  
Heather: 01905 620213; [hello@heatherbarningham.co.uk](mailto:hello@heatherbarningham.co.uk)

# St Andrew's News

Also find information on

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

We finished August with a wonderful, bi-lingual wedding, enabling Father Tim to reveal yet another hidden talent - impressively good French! The choir, supported by some extras, sung a beautiful anthem chosen by the groom. Coincidentally when Opera-lele arrived to set up for their concert, they commented on how they had sung the same anthem at weddings as well!

Opera-lele delivered a thoroughly enjoyable programme that was enthusiastically supported by a large audience including several members of different ukulele clubs. We hope they will return in a few years' time.

One group who are returning for a third time, on the 19<sup>th</sup> October is the superb West Mercia Police Band. They will form the start of our 'Concert and Tea' season. They would be really pleased if you would let us know of any favourite pieces you'd like to hear.

Having celebrated Harvest, we now have a quieter month in 'Ordinary' time, as All Souls this year falls on the first Sunday in November. On the 9<sup>th</sup> November, we will hold our Service for Remembrance Sunday. Wreaths will be laid in support of the Royal British Legion and together with collection boxes will help raise well over £3,000. A dedicated group of volunteers from the village will connect with local businesses and families who wish to take a collecting box or lay a wreath. If you would like to place a wreath or have a collection box or help with collecting and have not done so before then please contact Chris Day on 07730820216.

The Lay service leaders / teams of the Benefice will all be starting a Licensing course on September 11<sup>th</sup>, which will hopefully be interesting and informative. In Ombersley we tend to have lay-led services on the 2nd Sunday (Friendly Informal Sunday Service) FISS and Morning Prayer on the 3rd Sunday, both at 10am.

We hope to see you soon. *Fiona & Chris.*

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

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

Join our lovely group of children and adults - please pop in and see us. There's a comfortable space at the back of the church with various toys. Hot drinks and a snack

finishing with circle songs. Just drop in, or contact us via Facebook *Stay and Play Ombersley*, or on 07837928531

### **Monthly Monday Evening Bible Study Group:**

**Our next meeting will be at 7pm on October 6<sup>th</sup> at Wisteria Cottage – on the main road just past the dentist.**

Come and join us on the first Monday evening of each month. For the next four months we will be looking at the letter of James. The letter is attributed to James, a younger brother of Jesus. As such it is possibly one of the earliest recorded Christian writings.

The sessions are very informal and accessible to people of all levels of scriptural knowledge. So, if you're free one Monday evening a month come along and share our look at the letter of James. Please drop in you will be very welcome.

### **Creative Coffee and Company: The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month**

October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 am, £2 per session

Lots of ideas have been popping up through the summer so please join us for Coffee, Company and Craft.

### **Ombersley Quilling Group**

Quilling is an art form that involves the use of strips of paper that are rolled, shaped, and glued together to create decorative designs.

**The Second Thursday of each month at 7.15.** Next meeting is October 9<sup>th</sup>.

A newish group where we are all learning together. Do come and try this paper filigree / twiddling. We intend to work on **Wheatears** this month, learning the different variations before putting them into a project.

Contact Fiona on 07837928531 for more information.

### **Forthcoming Event:**

#### **West Mercia Police Band: Sunday October 19th at 3pm**

Always a popular event at the church, please do come along and enjoy the afternoon. There will be tickets on the door, but an idea of numbers is always welcome.

Tickets are £10 to include tea and cake. See poster at the end of the middle colour section



# Ombersley Memorial Hall

Sandys Lane, Ombersley WR9 0DY



## CHRISTMAS FAIR & SANTA'S GROTTO

22nd November 2025 11 - 4pm

£1 entry, children free

MANY STALLS, HOME BAKED CAKES WITH  
REFRESHMENTS, RAFFLE, MULLED WINE

TO BOOK YOUR VISIT WITH SANTA, EMAIL:

[VisitSanta@omersleyhall.co.uk](mailto:VisitSanta@omersleyhall.co.uk)

# St Mary's Church, Bishop's Wood

Some of you may have noticed a rather sad looking lychgate partially hidden by foliage, just a little North of the Mitre Oak Inn on the A449. If you park on the little slip road in front of the lychgate and pass through it, you will come to a small church hidden away. Rendered and half-timbered to give a mock Tudor appearance, it was built in 1882 as a mission church in the most southerly part of Hartlebury Parish by Bishop Henry Philpott. Workers in this part of the parish found it too far to travel to Hartlebury Church and this chapel was built as a chapel-of-ease.



The lychgate was built in 1892 as a memorial to Bishop Philpott and has a commemorative mosaic inscription by the famous firm of Salviati of Venice. Their work adorns St Mark's in Venice and in London; the Royal Albert Hall, Westminster Abbey, St Paul's and the Albert Memorial, amongst many other important buildings. As far as I am aware, this is their only work in Worcestershire.



Despite being restored in 1987, the church has fallen into disrepair and one cannot gain entrance as health and safety has deemed it too dangerous to enter. It seems that there are either no funds to restore this lovely building or no use for it. However, the graveyard is an oasis of calm and peace, a haven for wildlife and a respite from the bustle of the A449. A few minutes sitting on one of the benches there is time well spent.

All are welcome at St Mary's

Doverdale

## Harvest Festival Service

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 11:00am

Light refreshments will be served afterwards

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



## West Mercia Police Band



*Returning again by popular request...*

Sun 19th Oct.  
3pm

**£10** including  
Tea & Cakes  
under-16s free

Please Book if you can  
(for catering purposes) - Contact  
Louise on 07952 692022  
robinson\_louise@icloud.com  
or Fiona 07837 928531  
fmdavies83@gmail.com

or just come and pay on the door

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



An event organised by the St Andrew's Association



## LOCAL NEWS

October 2025

- **Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Ombersley Women's League (OWL)** continue with their new season of popular talks in the OMH, 7.00pm for 7.30pm. See poster in this magazine or contact Marie or Ann on 079015 22412 / 07712811552 for further information.
- **SME Solicitors** are offering **Free** Legal Advice at Ombersley Cricket Club on **Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9.00am-12noon**. Florence Goodwin, their specialist in Wills & LPAs has six free 30 minute appointments available, so book soon **on 01905 723561** to avoid disappointment.
- **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October** – Remember to take all your foraged fruit from the village Millenium Orchard to the OMH Car Park for **Apple Juicing Day 11-3pm**.
- **Movie Night is Back! Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October** - we open with the award-winning film '**Conclave**' starring Ralph Fiennes. Doors and bar open at 7pm; film commences 7.30pm. Still only £5, cash only payable on door at **Ombersley Memorial Hall**.
- **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October** 7.30pm for 8pm in OMH. Ombersley Gardening Club will be welcoming **Nick Bailey from BBC Gardeners World** to give a talk on 'The Road to the Chelsea Flower Show'. See further details in the magazine.
- **Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup> at 3pm** sees the return by popular demand of the **West Mercia Police Band** who will give a concert in **St. Andrew's Church** – check out the advert in magazine.
- Why not learn how to research your House History and come along to OMH on **Thursday October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm for 7.30pm**. **The Ombersley History Group** have invited Francesca Llewellyn to give a talk. See details in magazine for further information.
- **October 31<sup>st</sup> – Children's Halloween Extravaganza** in the OMH – see advert in magazine.

## STOP PRESS

- Following last month's article, **the Community Kitchen Garden** are pleased to be able to offer two more Mini Plots on the Longheadland Allotments for use by parish residents. Please apply directly to **Max or Diane on 07798 797095** or email [maxdiane@outlook.com](mailto:maxdiane@outlook.com) for further information. Allocation will be on a first come first served basis.
- Ombersley Walk Group have changed the date for their Autumn Walk to **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and NOT the 5<sup>th</sup> October**. Contact Peter Reynolds 07855 441804. Full details below.

If you have any snippets of local news, email [maxdiane@outlook.com](mailto:maxdiane@outlook.com) or phone 01905 620350.

## Ombersley Walk Group

**Next walk: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2025**

**Meet at Ombersley Memorial Hall where parking is available**



Our autumn walk is planned to leave the Hall and head north-west towards Boreley, then following a quiet trail down to the River Severn opposite the Lenchford Hotel. Along this stretch there are glorious views of the Abberley Hills. We follow the riverside path to Turn Mill before returning to the Hall. The five-mile circular route is pretty flat with a few gates but no stiles.

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

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

*Peter Reynolds: Parish Paths Warden, 07855 441804*

# **A trip from Droitwich to Witley Court in 1878. How much has changed - apart from the purple prose?**

**From the Bromsgrove, Droitwich & Redditch Weekly Messenger**

## **WYCHBOLD CHOIR EXCURSION**

On Tuesday, the 3rd instant, the Wychbold Choir made their annual excursion to Witley Court and the Abberley Hills. The company set out at 9 a.m. in two large conveyances with every promise of a fair and pleasant day before them. Their route lay along the picturesque road from Droitwich through Ombersley. A pleasanter drive could not have been selected, and perhaps no other county in England can furnish more rural beauty than such as is to be found along this country road. The up-hill and down-hill course of the journey – catching one moment precious glimpses of woodland and parkland, mansion and lake – next moment sweeping along a valley way over-arched with tall forest trees and hemmed in with sweetly-scented foliage. The busy world for the while was left behind, and the heaven-made country was all their own for enjoyment.

For miles the road lay along the boundary of Westwood Park, the seat of Lord Hampton, and this part of the drive alone was well worth the journey, for it is charming. Ombersley – with its Gothic church and one straight street of old-fashioned English houses of tall gables and varied colouring – was passed, and lane after lane traversed, overhanging with bright golden apples until the first halt was made at Holt Fleet Inn, where the Severn sweeps onward in a broad deep stream, and spanned by a suspension bridge. After a short stay here the party proceeded on, still through beautiful scenery, until the park gates of Lord Dudley's seat were reached. The grounds were entered, and to all, as the beauties of the places were gradually unfolded, it seemed like the entrance to fairyland – waterfalls, rippling streams, islands, savannahs, over which roamed flocks of deer and cattle, groupings of splendid trees and shrubs. Wherever the eye turned it found a new point of vantage, each moment succeeded by some more exquisite object, until the artist himself would despair as to which was the best point of view for his picture.

The Hall was reached, majestic and commanding, forming three sides of a square, the side wanting being that on the entrance from the main drive. The party gained admission to the gardens, and were simply enchanted with the sight presented. To describe it adequately would be impossible in our short notice. All the art of the poet and the painter have been drawn upon and reflected here in their sweetest and loveliest forms and colouring. Fountains with figures emblematical of mythical story –

one of Flora, and another telling the legend, as many suppose, of St. George and the Dragon, but really of Perseus on the winged horse; Perseus rescuing Andromeda, chained to a rock, who has been placed there by a cruel and selfish father to be drowned by a sea monster, which appears rising from the sea, represented by the basin of the fountain. This piece of sculpture is reckoned to be one of the finest in England. When the fountain, which covers a wide area, is in full play, it must be a sight worth seeing; and one of the members of the choir seemed to think that the happiest condition in life would be to be seated in the verandah above the high range of steps leading to the terraced lawns, with cigars and a bottle of champagne, and the full contemplation of the beauties before him; and no wonder, for the sight was one for a fairyland story, not for every-day life. Beds of flowers in imitation of carpeting, hearth rugs, pin cushions, &c., the tropic groups here and there, the richly-ornamented gates, the distant streams and its murmuring rills and cascades, the timid deer starting here and there, and the lazy cattle lying on the ground, embedded in clover flowers. The entire scene, when viewed from the hill to the right of the hall, was a scene of enchantment, which made the men, in no envious spirit, say, What money can do! But money without art would be only dross.

The old oaks were spanned, of course, and one of them measured over fourteen yards in circumference; nine grown-up persons touching hands being only just able to embrace the exterior. This tree, of course, must have been here many hundred years, perhaps even before the advent of the Saviour himself, or the conquest of Julius Caesar. Unfortunately, the visitors were unable to see the interior of the church, which it appears is a *parish church*, the housekeeper at the hall refusing the keys, because the party had no order of permission to see it! We offer no comment, to state the fact will supply criticism for itself.

After a hearty dinner at the Hundred House at 3.0, and a stroll in the neighbourhood of the hills, the party returned to Holt, where about an hour and a-half was spent in boating, visiting the hills and gardens of the neighbourhood, in walking along the river side to see the weir or waterfall, collecting ferns, &c. The visitors started for home at seven o'clock. On reaching Droitwich, the party stopped in front of St. Andrew's church and sung in harmony the anthem "Lord of all power and might," and alighting at Wychbold three hearty cheers were given for Baron Amphlett, Mr. Corbett, M.P., Mr Popplewell, and others, who had so liberally provided the treat, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

***And we can now see the fountain in all its glory, thanks to English Heritage.***

*Transcribed by Pat Niner, Ombersley History Group*



## Ombersley Gardening Club



Autumn!

As we wake to autumnal mornings and watch the colours of autumn appearing, the gardening club is excited about welcoming Nick Bailey on from Gardener's World to spend the evening of **16<sup>th</sup> October** with us. This event is open to members and non-members and includes a glass of wine or soft drink in with the cost of the ticket. Members £8; Non-members £10.

Come and join us for what promises to be a great evening.

Autumn is the ideal time for planting shrubs with the cooler temperature and moist soil, which will help the roots to become established before winter settles in. Plant your spring bulbs and winter cyclamen to bring colour to your garden now and in the Spring.

Prepare the lawn for winter and give it a last cut and trim. Clear it of debris and aerate to improve the soil's health and feed with a slow release fertilizer to help it survive the colder months.

With the colder months approaching and temperatures dropping, birds and wildlife face new challenges and this is the time to support them with food, water and shelter.

Our November meeting on the **20th November** should be entertaining as it's entitled "The Miserable Old Trugger" and will be presented by Carl Sadler.

December celebrates coming almost to the end of 2025 and on the **11th December** the club will be holding our usual festive and fun Christmas meal open to all members so don't forget to put the date on your calendar.

If you would like to see what your local gardening club has to offer, pop along on the third Thursday of the month and join us. We look forward to seeing you.

Until next time, Happy Gardening!

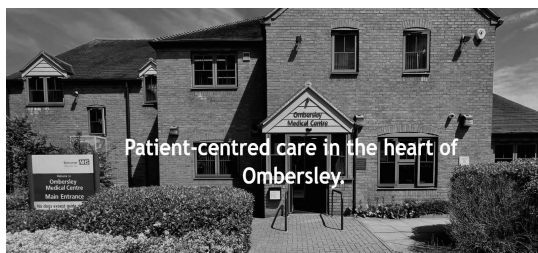
*Ombersley Gardening Club Committee.*





In **August 2025** there were:

- 2,487 Face to Face appointments with clinicians (GPs, Nurses and Pharmacists)
- 738 telephone consultations
- 171 DNA (Did not attend)
- 16,072 medications issued
- 4,446 contacts regarding patient care requiring action



**Flu season is just around the corner — protect yourself and those around you by booking your flu vaccine today.** It's quick, safe, and the best way to avoid serious illness this winter.

Appointments are now available, so don't wait — call the practice or book online to secure your slot.



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the family of Mr. Brian Passey, who passed away in April 2023. In accordance with one of his final wishes, the donations from his funeral collection have been kindly given to Ombersley Medical Centre. This generous gift will help us upgrade our medical equipment, enabling us to continue providing the best possible care for our patients. We are very grateful for this thoughtful contribution.



## Tea & Coffee Shop

**Ombersley  
Memorial Hall**



**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2-4 pm**  
**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2-4 pm**

## Wonderful invention

**The Zip:** In 1892, an American, Whitcomb Judson, patented the original design on which all modern zips are based. The Zipper gets its name from a brand of rubber boots it was used on in 1923. The boots or galoshes could be fastened with a single onomatopoeic “zip” of the hand and soon the hookless fasteners came to be called “Zippers”.

**Ombersley Memorial Hall  
Sandys Road, Ombersley**

**Decorate your Car  
Trick and Treating**

A central illustration featuring a red witch's hat with a black band and a yellow bell. Inside the hat are several orange pumpkins, a white skull, and a purple bowl filled with colorful candies. The background is dark green with silhouettes of trees and leaves. Yellow and orange triangular bunting flags are strung across the top and sides.

# **HALLOWEEN EXTRAVAGANZA**

**Pumpkin Competition, Fancy Dress, Fun  
Games and more!**

**31st Oct 2025**

**4pm - 6pm**

**£3 per child**

**Hotdogs and  
refreshments  
available**

- **Prebooking required, contact: [Cherrytrees.1@btinternet.com](mailto:Cherrytrees.1@btinternet.com)**
- **Raising funds for Ombersley Endowed First School**

## **OMBERSLEY MEMORIAL HALL**



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

**11<sup>th</sup> October - Movie Night – Conclave**

**31<sup>st</sup> October - Halloween Extravaganza**

**8<sup>th</sup> November – Movie Night – Mr Burton**

**22<sup>nd</sup> November - Christmas Fair**

**6<sup>th</sup> December – Movie Night – Bridget Jones: Mad about the Boy**

**14<sup>th</sup> December – Matinee TBC**

**Another fabulous Quiz Night masterminded by Sue and Rick**

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November at Ombersley Memorial Hall**

**doors and bar open at 7pm; ticket at the door, £20**

**-tables of 8 players**

**-fish & chips supper and snacks included**

**licensed bar, raffles**

No problem if you prefer to play with fewer players per team or like to be joined up with a team.

It has not yet been decided which organisation will be the recipient of the raised money, but it will definitely be a worthy cause.

**Please email Petra Silvester to book your place**

**[petrasilvester1@gmail.com](mailto:petrasilvester1@gmail.com)**



## **Your House History**

***Researching Ombersley's houses through sources near and far***

**An illustrated talk by Francesca Llewellyn**  
North Worcestershire Archaeological Group

Ombersley Memorial Hall: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 7 pm for 7.30pm

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

## **OMBERSLEY WOMEN'S LEAGUE**



**Thursday 2 October – 7 for 7.30 pm**  
**Howard Robinson will give an illustrated talk on**  
**Eleanor of Aquitaine**



Endowed with intelligence, creative energy and a remarkably long life, Eleanor of Aquitaine, as the wife of two kings (a Capet & a Plantagenêt), also the mother of two kings (Richard the Lionheart & John), she played a major role in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, an impressive achievement given that mediæval women were considered nothing more than chattel. Assets of beauty, brains and enterprise served her well in the chaos of the time. They equipped her to advance civility in a ruthless era by promoting the songs of troubadours & the ideals of courtly love.' Katherine Bailey --- 2006

Members: Free; Guests £6: Contact Ann or Marie 07712 811552 or 07901 522412

# Vehicle Activated Sign update

During August, data were downloaded from the latest vehicle activated sign (VAS) located on the Ombersley side of the River Severn Bridge at Holt Fleet. There are now 5 units located around the village; data from the other four will be reported early in 2026.

The VAS was purchased by Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council following concerns by local residents over the speed and volume of traffic. The latest VAS was installed in July 2024 and the data were taken over a time period of 410 days. The data recorded are for traffic incoming towards Ombersley.

The speed limit is set at 40mph and you will note that c. 89% of traffic is within the speed limit. However, when you consider that the volume of traffic is nearly 2.2 million, 11% (220,000) vehicles are breaking the 40mph speed limit.

All information has already been shared with our district councillor, county councillor and local enforcement agencies. Unfortunately, the VAS unit does not identify the type of vehicle, but there is a general perception of an increased volume of articulated lorries and heavy vehicles using the Holt Fleet river crossing and our county councillor has been asked to liaise with highways to investigate other route options.

On a positive note, there has been increased speed-recording activity around the village and the mobile speed unit has been present on several occasions outside Ombersley School. Finally, the school 20mph signage is fully operational and work by highways to clear foliage obscuring signage is due to be actioned in the coming week.

## VAS Data: Holt Fleet for Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 to Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> August 2025 (410 days)

Number of vehicles incoming towards Ombersley = 2,172,869.

The average speed incoming was 34.45mph with the main spread being between c.32mph and 40mph. The maximum speed incoming was in the range 45mph to 60mph.

### Distribution

Percentage	mph	No. vehicles	<b>Summary:</b> Almost 90% of vehicles travelling towards Ombersley are within the speed limit while <b>c.10% are exceeding the speed limit.</b> It is commonly regarded by the authorities that if 85% of vehicles are travelling within the speed limit there is 'general compliance'.
88.97	<40	1,933,210	
7.86	41-45	170,886	
2.25	46-50	48,831	
0.65	51-55	14,073	
0.19	56-60	4,068	
0.06	61-65	1,240	
0.02	66-70	379	
0.01	71 (or more)	182	

# Ombersley Endowed First School



## Welcome Back

We have had a great start to the new school year. The children were all very excited to come back and be welcomed by their new teachers. As well as welcoming our new children into Ombersley, we also have some new members of staff across the school; we hope they will be very happy with us.

The whole school are enjoying the wonderful season of Autumn, with lots of exciting activities and learning opportunities including Forest School, Harvest Festival, OPAL playtimes and Art Projects. We enjoyed our first 'Open the Book' assembly and look forward to learning more throughout the year.

## Early Years

Pre-School and Reception children have had a fantastic start back to school. The new children are all settling in beautifully to their new routines. Pre-school have been enjoying their time in the tipi and the tree house. They will be learning 'All about Me' for their new topic.

## Key stage One

Year One are settling into their daily routines very well. They are looking forward to finding out about the history of toys.

Year Two are also settling into new routines. They are looking forward to beginning their new history topic looking at technology over the past fifty years. They are also enjoying learning about 'Marvellous Minibeasts'.

Year One and Year Two are enjoying PE Team Building lessons with a great new coach.

## Key stage Two

Year three are looking forward to their new history topic about the Stone Age. They are also looking forward to a trip to Bishop's Wood to learn more about life during the Stone Age.

Year Four are looking at the geography of our local area, and they will compare it to another area of the country. They enjoyed learning about orangutans and our endangered rainforests. They enjoy swimming lessons at Droitwich Leisure Centre and are looking forward to some transition activities with our two middle schools.

## Wrap around Care

Scooters club have had a very busy start to the new school year with a very happy breakfast club and after-school club. They have been enjoying lots of fun activities including some super art projects.



# Sytchampton Primary School

We're back for the start of another exciting year at school. It's been great to welcome our children back and see them all move up into their new year groups.

## Reception New Starters

Our Reception children have made a super start to their time at school. They've thrown themselves into all their classroom activities and have been getting more confident finding their way around school.

## Open Days

If you have children or friends who will be starting school in September 2026 we would love to hear from you. Our open days for this year are on:

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

Please call the school office on 01905 620418 to book an appointment.

## Coming up this year

We have lots of exciting things coming up this year. In October we will be celebrating Harvest, with donations going to the Droitwich Food Bank. Just before half term we will be having an International Week in school where we will be finding out all about countries from around the world. We also have exciting trips planned and a fabulous whole school festive concert.

## Become a school governor

Just a reminder that we do have vacancies on our governing body. If you would be interested in learning more about this important volunteer role, please contact Jane Lawson, our Clerk to Governors at [seps-govclerk@sytchampton.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:seps-govclerk@sytchampton.worcs.sch.uk)

## Save the date

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December: Fizz and Quiz in Ombersley Memorial Hall. Details in the next magazine.

## THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, DOVERDALE

CHURCHWARDEN:	Mr. R. Coppini	Tel: 620963
LICENSED LAY READER:	Mr. Richard Jeynes	Tel: 07553 810080
TREASURER:	Mrs. L. Tarleton-Hodgson	Tel: 07748 968992
SECRETARY PCC:	Mr. G. Crow	Tel: 772850
SIDESMEN:	Mrs V. Harris, Mr. C. Harris, Mr G. Crow, Mrs S. Crow, Mr J. Chapman, Mrs A. Chapman	
ORGANIST:	Mrs L. Moyse	

### FLOWER ROTA:

October 5<sup>th</sup> – Morning Prayer; October 19<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival Flowers.

Please contact Jean Dowty on 01905 620896 if you have time to help occasionally with church flowers.

### PARISH REGISTER: ST. MARY'S CHURCH

#### FUNERAL

August 26<sup>th</sup>: CICELY HARRISON: At Wyre Forest Crematorium

#### PEWPOINTS

DIARY DATES: Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup> at 11.00am. HARVEST FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

Light refreshments will be served after the service. Do come along and join us.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY SERVICE

St. Mary's service of Holy Communion celebration on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August was very well attended.



A big "Thank you" to Nick Wright for not only playing the organ for us, but also for very kindly bringing the Rev'd John Cox to lead our service. Rev'd John was unable to drive following a recent operation on his hand.

Everyone was invited to stay after the service for coffee and biscuits. "Thank you" to the ladies for, as always, providing delicious and welcome refreshments. This provides a lovely opportunity for people to mingle and chat and perhaps linger in the churchyard to enjoy the prolonged spell of warm, sunny weather which we have been experiencing.

## SERVICES

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 16 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	11.00a.m. MP(BCP)	Lectors: Mrs.S.Crow, Mr.R.Coppini Sidesperson: Mr.G.Crow Readings:- Hab. 1(1-4) & 2(1-4) & Gospel: Luke 17(5-10)
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	11.00a.m. HC(BCP)	Sidespeople: Mrs.V.Harris, Mr.J.Chapman <b>HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE</b> READINGS AND LECTORS TBA
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> November  Remembrance Service	9.15a.m.	Reading and Sidespeople  TBA
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> November  2 <sup>nd</sup> before Advent	11.00a.m. HC(BCP)	Sidespeople: Mrs.V.Harris, Mrs.A. Chapman Sidesperson: Mr.J.Chapman Readings:- Mal. 4(1-2a) and Luke 21 (5-19)

Please see the poster at the end of the middle colour section advertising the Harvest Festival Service

Please send articles/reports for inclusion in the November Magazine by  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

## Advertisers August 2025

- AJ's Window Cleaning Services – windows, gutters etc. – 07809 730085
- APM Decorators – 07784 483192
- AY Services – general maintenance – 01905 759151 / 07876 308058
- Agile Property Repairs – general maintenance, painting – 07784 483192
- Alena Morton – ladies' personal trainer – 07857 753340
- All-inc-Cars – taxi service – 01905 826261 / 07739 109590
- Andy Johnson – chimney sweep – 01886 821933 / 07798 790913
- Andy Pritchard – painter and decorator – 01886 889001 / 07973 783240
- Bedwardine Funeral Services – 01905 748811
- Best of British Garden Services – 01886 889070 / 07983 351634
- Bluebird Care – care visits at home – 01386 764830
- Bowbrook Gardens – landscaping etc. – 01905 937852 / 07792 613020
- CdbC Home & Property Maintenance – 07706 166816
- CW Home & Garden Maintenance – 07821 044507
- David Ward Firewood – 07866 441154
- Doorbars – chartered surveyors/land agents – 01905 27288
- Droitwich Spa Hospital – private consultations - 01905 79333
- Elite Sweeps – sweep/log burners – 01905 700701 / 07712 220671
- Fusion Plumbing & Heating – 07773 395803
- GLM Property Maintenance – building and garden – 07399 024702
- Graham Pugh – decorating/carpentry – 01905 621147 / 07967 883121
- Green Thumb – lawn care – 01905 840740
- E J Gumery – funeral services – 01905 22094
- I & S Stoves – wood burning stoves etc. – 01886 812452
- J & A Tree Services – trees, hedges, fencing etc. – 01299 250575
- Jeremy Billingham TV Aerials – 01905 799152 / 07850 969307
- Jones & Associates – Estate Agents – 01386 291010 / 07496 625205
- Karol Kleen – carpet/upholstery cleaning – 01299 404275
- Kemble At Home – live-in, visiting and respite care – 01432 382017
- Lee Russell Independent Funeral Directors – 01905 347588
- MG Domestic Heating – 07870 498879
- MSB Plumbing & Maintenance Ltd. – 07769 342897
- Mark Foster Podiatry/Chiropractic – 07941 138957
- Marshall-McKay Kitchen & Interior Design – 07765 447704
- Mick Miles Pest control & Gardening Services – 01905 620394 / 07732 223825
- Oldfields of Ombersley – country/equestrian – 01905 622295
- Ombersley Golf Club – 01905 620747 (restaurant 01905 620621)

- Ombersley Memorial Hall – 07936 467390
- Ovenscleaners – oven cleaning – 01562 702883
- Oven Magic – oven cleaning – 01905 700500
- Parks Café Droitwich – 01905 776633
- Phillip Serrell Auctions – 01684 892314
- Phoenix Fostering – 07957 987461
- Pippa's Vintage Tea Set Hire – tea sets and accessories - 07731 929910
- Precision Pressure Cleaning – patios etc. – 07951 885745
- W Roberts Tree Care & Landscaping – 01299 250664 / 07772 456692
- S. Fox Services – property & garden maintenance – 01299 851388 / 07711 162464
- S. Fox Services – registered chimney sweep – 01299 851388 / 07711 162464
- S J M Locksmith Services – 01905 570999 / 07871 442011
- SJ Rayner (Cars) – quality used cars – 01562 820131
- SMB Electrical Solutions – 01905 428892 / 07917 182945
- Salt Way Silver – silver jewellery classes – 07845 826415
- J Sanders Countryside Services – fencing, ground maintenance etc. 07837 181920
- Shelter-Adams Ltd – home heating experts – 07990 523790 / 07922 548915
- Simply Upholstery Ltd – bespoke furniture – 07973 470674
- 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
- The Ear Clinic – earwax removal – 07731 474750
- The Tranquility Tree – holistic therapy – 07848 865709
- Whitlunge Gardens – tea rooms/gardens – 01299 250669
- Worcester Computers – custom build, repairs etc. – 01905 759111
- Worcester Hearing Centre – hearing tests & aids, earwax removal – 01905 617803
- Worcestershire Imaging Centre – MRI scans – 01905 771500
- Worcester Mobile Earcare – ear wax removal – 07545 282902