

The ARCH Messenger

To show our love for God and You
July/August 2025



Abbots Morton, Rous Lench, Church Lench & Harvington
www.archbenefice.org.uk

ARCH Benefice: parishes of Abbots Morton, Rous Lench, Church Lench
and Harvington

Rector: *vacancy*

Pioneer Deacon: The Reverend Chris Sheehan
07977 072105, chris@archbenefice.org.uk

Readings

6th July 2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6:7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

13th July Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

20th July Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

27th July Hosea 1:2-10, Psalm 85; Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13

3rd August Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

10th August Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16;
Luke 12:32-40

17th August Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 9-20; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

24th August Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

31st August Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16;
Luke 14:1, 7-14

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www.archbenefice.org.uk
to submit editorial or enquire about advertising.

Thought for the month

Beginnings and endings... and everything in between

11am Sunday 6th July at St James', Harvington, marks Revd Richard Thorniley's last service as Rector of this Benefice. As I write, Richard and Gill are living **through the 'last experiences' of their 20+ years here.** During Revd Richard's ministry, many will have married, had christenings or confirmations, or said their final goodbyes to relatives and friends as we journey through the rites of passage in life with everything between the beginnings and the endings. Massive thanks to Richard and Gill and to Cathy Davies who is standing down after 14+ years as Arch Benefice Administrator.

In Revelation, the last book of the Bible, the Apostle John records the Lord God **saying, 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End' (Revelation 22:13).** **Jesus Christ promised 'I am with you always, to the very end of the age' (Matthew 28:20).** We have the assurance of His presence through all our beginnings and endings and everything in between. The Almighty God welcomes the relationship He has with the big picture of the whole of His creation, yet also every detail of our individual lives.

Summer can be a time of endings as we think of the close of the school year and welcome rest and recovery for all teachers, school workers and students. It also heralds the beginning of holiday adventures, with maybe new places and new faces. The end of the summer holidays welcomes the beginning of term and a new head teacher at Harvington First School. Many students will be changing school or going to college, with the hint of Autumn in the air. The rhythm of changing seasons is something only the Lord God himself can control. Nevertheless, scientists and meteorologists urge us to wake up to our responsibility to always influence the world around us for good.

May we have courage and faith, trusting our Lord for the ultimate good, with whatever is happening in the whole world and in our own lives as we journey on with our beginnings and endings... and everything in between.

Gerry Foster

Stop date for next issue: Monday 11th August

Rector's Corner

Daily prayers:
8.30am

via Zoom – contact Revd Chris Sheehan for details
(e-mail chris@archbenefice.org.uk)

Pastoral calls and contacts

I am retired from 6th July so I suggest pastoral support is best supplied by local church members, friends and family where possible. Plans are in place to recruit a replacement for me and will be announced in due course.

It has been a privilege to offer spiritual and pastoral support to the Benefice communities over the last 24 years. I pray you will continue to be well served.

Richard Thorniley

From the Registers

Rous Lench

1 st June	Baptism	Willow Jarman-Stuart
19 th June	Funeral & burial	Derrick John Voyce

Church Lench

15 th June	Baptism	Julie Smith
15 th June	Baptism	Elizabeth Mary Adshead
24 th June	Funeral	Gordon Scott Bagnall

Harvington

18 th May	Baptism	Sophie Georgia Olivia Steventon
22 nd June	Baptism	Alma Jane Elizabeth Rowland-Giles

Notices

Retirement beckons so *THANK YOU!*

Well, after talking about it for long enough, I am down to counting the days until I take my last service on Sunday 6th July. I want to take this opportunity to say what a huge privilege it has been to be part of the ARCH Benefice communities and it will be with a heavy heart that Gill and I will say our farewells in July and make our way to the south coast to establish ourselves in a new community. We will be closer to our children and in a part of the world that is new to us so explorations await.

Thank you for all that you are and ever will be in our hearts, memories and prayers. You have given us *SO MUCH* – THANK YOU.

*Love and blessings to all
Richard and Gill*



Treasure!



Sunday 27th July 3.30-5.30pm at Harvington Village Hall

Crafts, story, song and a FREE 2-course meal

All welcome!



Notices



SHINE OUT OF SCHOOL CLUBS

We are celebrating our 10th anniversary
so come and join us for a

Barn Dance & Barbeque

Music and caller from *Life of Riley*

Friday 4th July, 7pm for 7.30pm - till late
at Ellenden Farm Shop

*Tickets £15 each (includes burger/hot dog) – call ******
Paybar on site



Worcestershire Open Studios Art Week

16-25th August

This exciting, free, annual event will see 167 artists and makers throughout the county invite the public into their workspaces to see how, what and why they create.

Anyone who loves art and is looking for a great day out in our glorious countryside can find out more about who's taking part, their opening times and directions to their studios at www.worcestershireopenstudios.org.

Caring Hands foodbank – please keep it going

Please remember Caring Hands when doing your weekly shop and purchase an extra item or two for the foodbank: toilet rolls, toiletries, tinned and dried goods are always welcome.

Items can be left in the donation boxes in our parish churches.

Notices

Thank You Richard and Gill

Sunday 6th July, 11am

Benefice Service at St James', Harvington

Revd Richard will be taking his final Benefice service on Sunday 6th July. Everyone is welcome to join us as we wish Richard and Gill all the very best with their move and retirement, and thank them for their more than two decades of service to the Benefice.

A bring and share lunch will take place after the service. Whilst not essential, to help with planning please e-mail Katie Horton on eventssjch@outlook.com if you wish to join the lunch.

Please join us to say 'farewell and thank you'
to Richard and Gill

Muddy Kids

Tuesday 22nd - Thursday 24th July, 10am-2.30pm

The Muddy Kids Holiday Club is running again this year! Lots of great activities plus the obstacle course at Ellenden Farm. We are looking for help so please check your availability and let us know!

£9 per day or £26 for 3 days (ages 5-10)

£7 per day or £20 for 3 days (young helpers ages 11-16)

To reserve a place or offer help, please get in touch with Matthew Cook at harvingtonyouth@gmail.com



What's involved in appointing a new Rector?

People have asked what's involved in appointing a new Rector so here's the process, which is similar to most jobs but with more people involved.

Once a vacancy is announced, a job description is drawn up. In a parish context this is called a Parish Profile. Representatives from Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) draw up a description of their respective parishes. The applicant knows the type of community – city, town or rural – they will be serving and living in plus what goes on and the needs of the community. There will be a description of the types of services that take place every week or month.

The profile will also include a description of the type of person being looked for and the jobs they might cover. The house, schools and amenities offered form a key part of what might attract an applicant as the salary is set by the Diocese and the Church of England and does not depend on the size or number of parishes in the Benefice.

Next, an advertisement is put out and potential candidates may be approached and invited to apply. If applications are received (and it is a competitive market: relatively few clergy are looking for jobs and many, like me, are retiring as I am part of the baby boom generation, so there is no guarantee there will be any applicants but in our case we are hopeful) a short list is drawn up by members of the PCCs.

The candidate(s) will be invited for interview. The interview panel will include a representative from each church in the Benefice, plus representatives from the Bishop and Cathedral (the holders of the freehold). In my experience they are most helpful and guide the PCC members (if required) in the questions they can ask. The PCC members have the final say as to whom is appointed.

The appointment will be announced on the same Sunday at the parish(es) to which the person is moving as well as the parish(es) they are leaving. The **appointed person may be required to give three month's notice at their current parish**, unless they are a curate (trainee priest) in which case the notice period could be shorter. They are allowed a month to move out of their last home and into the new one.

Richard Thorniley

Mary Magdalene

Six Marys are mentioned in the New Testament, including Mary Magdalene who is remembered in the church's calendar on 22nd July. What can we learn from Mary's story?

We don't have to be defined by our past: When Jesus encountered Mary He cast seven demons out of her (*Luke 8:2*). As a result, her life was transformed and she became a follower of Jesus. Her life as a disciple was no longer defined by the person she had been. Like Mary, we don't have to let our past without Christ dictate how we see ourselves today.

Make Jesus the centre of our world: Along with some of the women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases (*Luke 8:1-3*), Mary followed Jesus and His disciples and supported them in ministry. She was there at the cross (*Matthew 27:55-56*) and one of the first to the tomb on the Sunday (*Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1, John 20:1-18*). Like Mary, we are called to serve Jesus as dedicated disciples.

Jesus uses the weakest people for His purposes: Mary is a great example of Paul's words: *'But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong'* (*1 Corinthians 1:27*). At a time when women were regarded as second-class citizens with no real autonomy, Jesus had a special compassion and care for women. Alongside Mary, the women's witness to the resurrection was taken seriously. We shouldn't be quick to dismiss the things that don't agree with our expectations, as Jesus doesn't always do what we expect! He delights in working out His plans through unlikely people and in surprising ways. He did this through Mary and, if we allow Him, He can do it through us!

Canon Paul Hardingham

Musings...

It's dangerous to try and be number one, because it's next to nothing.

Worry is like a rocking chair: it will give you something to do, but it won't get you anywhere.

Age: the only thing that comes to us without effort.

Proverbs: what's the big idea?

Continuing the series introducing the books of the Bible...

The Book of Proverbs is an anthology of sayings that are generally attributed to Solomon (*Proverbs 1:1*), who uttered 3,000 proverbs (*1 Kings 4:32*). The purpose of these oracles is *'for attaining wisdom and discipline'* (*Proverbs 1:2*). Solomon was concerned that people, especially the young, should understand *'the sayings and riddles of the wise'* (*Proverbs 1:3-6*). His guiding principle is that *'the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge'* (*Proverbs 1:7*).

To give an idea of the recurring themes in the book, here are a few examples:

- ◆ Knowing God: *'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding'* (*Proverbs 9:10*)
- ◆ Guarding our speech: *'A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver'* (*Proverbs 25:11*)
- ◆ Marital faithfulness: *'May your fountain be blessed and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth'* (*Proverbs 5:15-20*)
- ◆ Our work: *'Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!'* (*Proverbs 6:6-11*)
- ◆ Dangers of strong drink: *'Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler; whoever is led astray by them is not wise'* (*Proverbs 20:1*)
- ◆ Justice and honesty: *'The LORD abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are His delight'* (*Proverbs 11:1*)

Underlying these sayings is a conviction about God's omniscience: *'For a man's ways are in full view of the LORD, and He examines all his paths'* (*Proverbs 5:21*); providence: *'Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails'* (*Proverbs 19:21*); and goodness: *'The LORD is far from the wicked but He hears the prayer of the righteous'* (*Proverbs 15:29*).

Proverbs reminds us that God is concerned with the way we live today. *'Wisdom is the art of living skilfully in whatever actual conditions we find ourselves'* (Eugene Peterson).

Revd Canon Paul Hardingham

The Nicene Creed: who is Jesus?

'We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.'

This month we are looking at what the Nicene Creed affirms about the person of Jesus Christ.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God: Jesus is presented as the unique Son of God. This reflects the big debate at the time, which was to counter the teachings of Arius who taught that Jesus was the first and greatest of God's creatures, but not the same as God the Father. Today we can be more concerned about Jesus' authority as a moral teacher, neglecting that Jesus the man is also truly God. *'We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father'* (John 1:14).

Eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father: These words affirm the divinity of Jesus. The phrase *'begotten not made'* is crucial in understanding Jesus as the unique Son of the Father, who existed eternally of the same divine nature as the Father. *'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning'* (John 1:1-2). It is a powerful reminder that our belief revolves around trusting a person, not simply in a set of beliefs and moral teaching.

Through Him all things were made: The Creed affirms that Jesus the Son cannot be made, because through Him all things were made and only God can create from nothing. *'Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made'* (John 1:3). This implies that our world was made good, with a purpose in which we can share.

Also, Jesus has the last word in promising to bring everything in heaven and on earth together at the end of time under His Lordship (*Ephesians 1:10*). This makes a real difference to how we see and treat God's Creation and those created in God's image.

In response to this, can we say that Jesus is Lord of every area of our life?

Canon Paul Hardingham

The Transfiguration

In August we celebrate Jesus' transfiguration, when Jesus took Peter, John and James with Him up a mountain to pray (Luke 9:28-36). Jesus was transfigured alongside Moses and Elijah: *'As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning'* (Luke 9:29).

Jesus' transfiguration: Watch! The disciples' eyes were opened as Jesus' hidden divinity was revealed. The presence of Moses and Elijah confirmed Him as God's promised Messiah who fulfilled God's plan and purposes. By foreshadowing the cross, resurrection and ascension, this event powerfully calls us to entrust our lives into Jesus' hands to experience His presence and power.

The Father's Word: Listen! There came a voice from the cloud covering them: *'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him'* (Luke 9:35). God affirmed His love and call on Jesus as His beloved and chosen Son. This is the second time God spoke audibly about Jesus (cf Luke 3:22), but on this occasion He was speaking for the benefit of the disciples. Do we hear God speaking these same words to us? We listen to what Jesus says to us, knowing that like Him we are deeply loved and accepted by God.

The disciples' response: Learn! *'The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen'* (Luke 9:36). They were impacted by this experience and needed time to reflect on what they had seen and heard about Jesus. Eight days earlier, they had been asked by Jesus, *'Who do you say I am?'* (Luke 9:20). In the transfiguration, their understanding of Jesus was being transformed. As we reflect on Jesus' ministry, to encounter the real Jesus, we are also transformed.

'No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same' (Philip Yancey).

Canon Paul Hardingham

More musings...

What is hard by the yard is a cinch by the inch,

Children are a great comfort in your old age – and they help you to reach it faster, too!

How to make the most of that residential course...

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least, whose elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to his nephew Darren, a recently-ordained low-church curate...

My dear Nephew Darren,

Your enthusiasm for attending training courses has, until now, baffled me. Why should you want to become a better preacher when congregations only use the sermon for catching up on lost sleep? What more do you need to learn about time management than being able to recognise those fixed points of 12.30pm for the pre-luncheon sherry and 6pm for a stiff gin? And what is the point of learning how to lead Bible study groups when all you will end up discussing is who failed to provide flowers for the altar last Sunday?

But after this last week, dear boy, I take it all back. The bishop sent me on a **week's pre-retirement course**. Of course he was dropping hints, but I have little intention of relinquishing a vocation to annoying parishioners and frustrating the plans of bishops. What else, after all, is parish ministry about?

The first move is to arrive early, receive your room allocation and then discard it. Tour the whole establishment, find the best room and then unpack and make sure your dog is settled in the centre of the bed, just in time for the arrival of the intended occupant. I naturally apologise effusively for my innocent mistake, begin to remove possessions and dog while hoping he will excuse all the hairs on his bed. This ensures he magnanimously offers to take your original room.

At the first session, you need to establish the ground rules. You make it clear that you are extremely deaf so all the lectures will, sadly, be wasted on you. You also add that you will need some time alone to prepare for a surfeit of funerals which inexplicably all came in the day before you left, and that you also will need time out to exercise your dog.

By the end of that first session you will have accounted for your absence for the rest of the week. In my case, it passed delightfully with gentle strolls in the grounds, visits to the local second-hand bookshops and much silent meditation **in my room. I'm sure the course will be of use when I begin to make plans for my retirement in a few decades time.**

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Harvington St James' Church

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped, donated, performed and attended the summer fete. We hope you all had a wonderful time! Despite the weather not being on our side, we raised just over £1,800 for the church funds!

SAVE THE DATE!

Please put these dates into your diary!

- ◆ Friday 31st October, 4.30pm: Light Party
- ◆ Thursday 6th & Saturday 15th November: Craft, Coffee & Chat
- ◆ Saturday 13th December: Christmas Fair

More details in future issues or follow the *St James's Events* Facebook page.

CAMEO TEAS

Wednesday 9th July, 1.30pm at Harvington First School
Year 5 from Harvington First School have very kindly invited us for afternoon tea, accompanied by interesting chat and entertainment. You are very welcome to join us to meet the children and discover what they have been doing in this, their last term at Harvington First School.

Please note the earlier start time of 1.30pm.

Wednesday 13th August, 3pm **at St James' Church**

We look forward to seeing you for tea and cakes and friendly chat. It is always a lovely afternoon. Do bring a friend or two – everyone is welcome!!

If you need a lift to the school or church, or if you want to find out more about the CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) group, please contact Sophie (*****, *****@*****).



Harvington

FAITH TODAY

After a break during July and August, meetings will resume on Friday 19th September when Annette will lead a discussion on the *Psalms*. For more information on the *Faith Today* group, please get in touch with Sophie on ***** or *****@*****.

GARDENING TEAM

Saturday 12th July & 9th August, 9.30am-12noon

Lovely sunshine as I write this, just the weather for gardening! I hope it remains the same when the gardening team meet in July and August.

Please spare a little of your day to help Joy and Julian and the team as they make the churchyard a beautiful place to visit. I can promise good company and a break will be arranged around 11am for tea, coffee and a chat.

Clive Allen

HARVINGTON COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

(*****)

The Community Support Group are a small team of DBS-checked volunteers who are available to support residents needing a hand at any time. We are often able to assist with:



- ◆ transport for appointments or shopping
- ◆ small DIY jobs or gardening
- ◆ helping with admin eg form-filling
- ◆ a friendly visit or chat, or sit-in while a carer takes a short break

For bigger concerns we may be able to give advice or point you in the right direction. So, if you need help please contact Wendy and Konrad Monks on ***** (leave a message if we don't answer and we will get back to you).



Harvington First School News

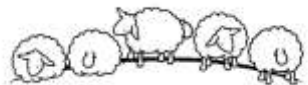
At the end of last half term the whole school completed a sponsored walk to raise money for the PTFA and for Cancer Research in memory of Mrs Fishbourne. Nursery completed laps of the school field and the rest of the school followed different routes around the village. The children all worked hard to collect sponsorship money and we raised an AMAZING £3,600! A huge thank you to everyone who sponsored the children – we were so pleased to be able to make such a huge donation to a charity that is so important to us.

To start the final half term of the year, we had a range of theme days throughout the first week. On Maths Day we welcomed the *Problem Solving Company* to complete a range of fun puzzles and challenges with the children. We also held a **'Grounds Morning'** where we worked as a team to spruce up the outdoor areas. It was lovely to have so many parents and carers joining us to help with weeding, sweeping and trimming – thank you to everyone who came along and helped. The children went out to do some litter picking around the village as part of their *Little Litter Warrior* workshops and collected hundreds of pieces of rubbish. Each class was very competitive to see who could find the most litter!

During this half term, we spend time preparing the children for the next academic year. The staff in Early Years meet new children who are starting in September; children who are moving to a new class in school spend two mornings with their new teachers, and Year 5 visit their middle schools. Next term we will also be welcoming some new staff including a new head teacher, Tom Holdstock.

As a school we are very sorry to say goodbye to Revd Richard Thorniley who has been such a supportive member of our school community for a long time. Everyone has enjoyed him being part of school services, Collective Worship and within his governor role. We are very grateful for everything he has done for our school and will certainly miss him next year.

Becky Enstone,
Acting Headteacher



Harvington

FILM NIGHT

Friday 25th July, 7.15pm: *A Complete Unknown* (cert 15)

New York, 1961: against the backdrop of a vibrant music scene and tumultuous cultural upheaval, an unknown 19-year-old named Bob Dylan (Timothée Chalamet), from Minnesota, arrives in Greenwich Village with his guitar and revolutionary talent, destined to change the course of American music. As he forms his most intimate relationships during his rise to fame, he grows restless with the folk movement; refusing to be defined, he makes a controversial choice that culturally reverberates worldwide.

Friday 29th August, 7.15pm:

Bridget Jones – Mad About the Boy (cert 15)

Two-time Academy Award winner Renée Zellweger returns to the role that established a romantic-comedy heroine for the ages, as Bridget, now a widowed single mother, must juggle work, parenthood and romance. With the help of her loyal friends, Bridget navigates encounters with a younger man and a series of awkward interactions with her son's science teacher as she strives to forge a new path toward life and love.

Doors open 7.15 pm; screen illumination 7.45pm

Buy a raffle ticket at the door for £3 and see the film for free!

Bring your own glasses, drinks and nibbles, and please take away all rubbish.

Financial emergency? Extra help needed? Live in Harvington?

St James' Church manages an emergency fund on behalf of the community. If you need a little financial assistance, please call

***** and we will offer what support we can.

If you are in a position to top up the funds, we would be very grateful!

Richard Thorniley



Abbots Morton **St Peter's Church**

(www.abbotsmorton.info/st-peters-church)

VILLAGE HALL

(www.abbotsmorton.info/abbots-morton-village-hall,
abbotsmortonvillagehall@gmail.com)

Follow us on Facebook for up to date information. If you would like to be added to *The Friends of AMVH* WhatsApp group, drop us an e-mail with your details.

Tuesday 1st July & Tuesday 5th August, 10am-12noon:

Community coffee morning

If you haven't been to one of our coffee mornings yet, do drop by any time between 10am and 12noon. It's absolutely free and a lovely opportunity to spend a couple of hours with others in the community. Please join us – you'll have a warm welcome.

Friday 11th July: Quiz Night

More to follow – watch out for flyers and see social media for full details

Classes at the Village Hall

- ◆ *Tai Chi: Wednesday 10-11am.* Run by Andrew Lowe as 7-week sessions. To join, contact Andrew on ***** or www.taichiworcestershire.com
- ◆ *Yoga: Monday and Thursday 9.45-10.45am.* Led by Amy Hoang-Jones. If you would like to join, please call Amy on *****

Easyfundraising

We now have 29 supporters and the Village Hall has benefited from the scheme by more than £1,400 thanks to their support. By joining you can help to raise funds for your Hall every time you shop online at NO cost to yourself. Just go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbotsmortonvillagehall and sign up to help the Village Hall.



Abbots Morton

PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings and councillor vacancies

All parishioners are welcome to attend our Parish Council meetings. The next will be held on Thursday 3rd July and the September meeting on Thursday 25th September, both at 8pm in the Village Hall. Further details and agendas can be found at www.abbotsmorton.info. Residents are invited to put forward any ideas, concerns or queries during public question time. If you cannot attend a meeting, please raise issues with the Clerk at abbotsmortonpc@gmail.com.

There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council. These will be filled by the co-option process through the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor please contact the Clerk for more information.



None of his training had prepared Gary for this...



'It's not a new stained-glass window – the Youth Club put their skateboard ramp too close to the west wall!'

Rous Lench
St Peter's Church

VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday 2nd July 7.30pm: *Swing from Paris*

Enjoy an evening of Parisian-flavoured music at Rous Lench Village Hall with *Swing from Paris*, an all-string jazz quartet of violin, guitars and double-bass, **inspired by the music of the 1930's-1950's. Their Parisian-flavoured jazz and gypsy swing** has been delighting audiences for over 15 years. Expect stylish jazz and vintage swing, from Benny Goodman, Charlie Christian and Artie Shaw to Django Reinhardt, Stéphane Grappelli and the master of tango, Astor Piazzolla.

Tickets £16 in advance. Book online at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/swing-from-paris-at-rous-lench-village-hall-tickets-1297756136539

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION ROUS LENCH AND INKBERROW BRANCH



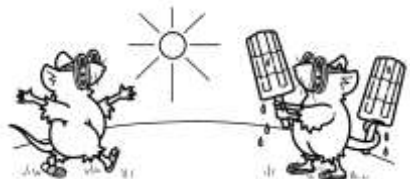
POPPY APPEAL COFFEE MORNINGS

Wednesday 10th September, 10.30am - 12 noon
at The Old Bull, Village Green, Inkberrow

Raffle, Rollover Raffle, Homemade Cakes and more
Entrance £2 (includes light refreshment)

All welcome

Proceeds to RBL Poppy Appeal



Church Lunch **All Saints' Church**

FLOWER ROTA

12 th July	Jackie and Joy	16 th August	<i>Wedding</i>
26 th July	Jane Powell	30 th August	<i>Wedding</i>
		13 th September	Celia Hall

THANK YOU

The PCC Social Committee would like to thank all those who came to the Lenches Club on such a beautiful May morning and generously supported our Coffee Morning. The £375.18 raised will go towards the cost of the Flower Festival floral arrangements in the church and the purchase of any accessories required throughout the coming year.

VILLAGE HALL

Interested in hiring the hall for your summer party? For booking enquiries, please contact Bev Gillis at clvillagehallbookings@gmail.com or see our pages on www.thelenches.org.uk.

See overleaf for news from Church Lunch First School

THE LENCHES TENNIS CLUB

We continue to welcome new members

*NEW coaching courses to suit all ages and abilities
start in early September. Why not join?*

Tennis, cardio tennis and pickleball. Adult daytime and evening courses
Many junior courses for all ages: 4 years to teenagers

For more information please contact

Junior coaching: *****@*****

Adult coaching: *****@*****

Membership information: *****@*****

Church Lench First School News

School trips: Our youngest pupils in the school had a fantastic day out at **Bishop's Wood! They all thoroughly enjoyed the day and took part in many** different activities. Not to be outdone, our Year 4 and 5 pupils went bell boating at Fladbury Paddle Club where they had a great day out learning to row in bell boats and work as a team. They also visited Worcester Commandery to enrich and enhance their knowledge of the English civil war. Class 2 will soon be visiting Worcester Cathedral where they will be taking part in different workshops throughout the day led by members of the education department.

In June Revd Canon Richard organised a local walk for the school. The staff and pupils ventured along footpaths and through fields and enjoyed being amongst nature with their peers. Thankfully the weather stayed dry for the afternoon! Revd Richard has thanked the children and staff for making it a special last school walk before he retires.

Parent/carer lunch: In May, we welcomed parents and carers into school to join their children for lunch and play games outside. Thank you to Debbie, our wonderful cook, who prepared and served all the lovely food for us, and to Suzy Clarke for supplying whippy ice creams! Families had a great time and enjoyed playing a variety of games outside in the warm sunny weather.



Sports Day: We had a great turnout for our sports day! The children all took part in races and this year the teaching staff decided to race as different animals in inflatable costumes! Needless to say, the snail won after a rather challenging race!!!

School Fete: Despite the drizzly weather, we were thrilled with the fantastic turnout for our school fete. A huge thank you to everyone who came along to support the event – your generosity and enthusiasm helped us raise approximately £1,100! These funds will make a real difference providing additional resources to enhance learning and supporting transport for school trips. A huge thank you to our Friends committee who work so hard to make this event so successful!

Mrs S Price, Headteacher

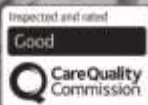
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Key to Church Services

- VH Village Hall
BCP Book of Common Prayer
Service

*All other communion services use
the Common Worship liturgy*

ARCH Benefice August 2025

(key on p26)	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
3 rd August	10am Benefice Family Communion			
10 th August				10am Benefice Holy Communion
17 th August		10am Benefice Holy Communion		
24 th August				10am Benefice Holy Communion
31 st August			10am Benefice Holy Communion	

ARCH Benefice July 2025

(key on p26)	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
6 th July				11am Benefice Service
13 th July	11am Holy Communion		11am Morning Service	9.30am Morning Service
20 th July		11am Morning Service	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30am Family Service
27 th July	11am Morning Service		11am Family Service	9.30am Holy Communion 3.30 pm Messy Church at Harvington VH