Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield. Hollybush and Birtsmorton



Parish Magazine

UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK ELDERSFIELD HOLLYBUSH AND BIRTSMORTON

MINISTRY TEAM

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The Rev Julie James, Thistledown,

Pendock, Glos, GL19 3PW

Tel: 01531 651795

(Day Off-Monday)

julie.m.james@btinternet.com

Associate Priest:

The Rev. Anthea Elston

01684 833278

The Plough, Eight Oaks, Castlemorton

WR13 6BU

(Day Off - Friday) revanth@eightoaks.com

Licensed Lay Minister

Mr David Allen ALM

01531 650495

Benefice Administrator:

Mrs. Mel Roberts

01684 833866

The Parish Office, Berrow WR13 6JN Wed and Thu 1.30 - 4.00 p.m.

email: berrowbenefice@btinternet.com

Pastoral Visitor:

Mrs. Cathy Powell-Chandler

01531 635794

Benefice Choir:

Mrs Mel Roberts

01684 833866

BERROW WITH PENDOCK

Churchwarden:

Mrs. E. Rambridge

01531 650230

P.C.C. Secretary: Treasurer:

Mr. M. Knott

01531 650837

Mr. A. Rambridge

01531 650230

ELDERSFIELD

Churchwardens:

Mrs. M. Williams Miss. J. Peters

01452 780320

Deputy Churchwarden:

Mr. A Holt

01452 840211 01452 780429

P.C.C. Secretary: Treasurer:

Mrs C Powell-Chandler Mr. D. Braund

01531 635794 01684 830099

Miss. J. Peters

Tower Captain:

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BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Churchwardens:

Mrs. R. Bolton Birtsmorton:

01684 833287

Hollybush:

POST VACANT POST VACANT

P.C.C. Secretary: Treasurer:

Mrs. S. Williams

01531 650431

BERROW VILLAGE HALL

Bookings:

Mrs. D. Shail

01531 650261

MAGAZINE EDITORS & MAGAZINE ADVERTISMENTS

Brian and Leta Woodcock, 'The Larches,' Poolhay Close, Link End Road, Corse Lawn, GL19 4NY

New Advertisers: Please write or email (BANDL@POOLHAY.PLUS.COM) to the Magazine Editors Please have all copy to the Editors by 10th of the month preceding publication Copy Deadline:

Dear Friends,

In our lives, we are used to having a choice. Walk into a large supermarket and the choice seems mind boggling at times. Circumstances can limit those choices, as the time during lock down due to Covid brought into stark reality for our world. Choices can become less in our lives due to many factors: economic, health, mobility to name but a few. We don't like pain or change, and humans try and avoid it.

Out of sadness, regret, depression, disappointment, we may expect the worst but we are the children of God. While we encounter our world, we must not do so pessimistically; but while trusting that all pain and discomfort are like birth pains—all groans lead the way to a new life.

We are the resurrection people, and so we look out into the world, not in the failings, but as the hopeful trusting people of God whose plans give us reasons to hope.

'What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, an to walk humbly with your God.' Micah 6.8

Getting our thinking right is what is important in life. John the Baptist and Jesus began their preaching ministries with the word "repent.", to develop a new way of thinking--to turn from your old way of thinking and devote yourself to kingdom thinking; where there is justice, and grace, forgiveness and love, where prejudice is unheard of, and pride and conceit do not exist.

Faith, according to St. Augustine, "is believing what you cannot see, and the reward of faith is seeing what you have believed." We worry about things we cannot control, and sometimes we worry about not being able to just be in control. Many times we worry just for the sake of worrying. Sometimes, we avoid change by stepping away completely.

In our churches, we have been trying to envisage what shape of mission and ministry will be possible in the next few years, within the Worcester Diocese, and especially in this Deanery of Malvern and Upton. The reality is challenging and people approach it in different ways and have different expectations. The warning signs have been there for some time. Things have to change. With less people who volunteer to be part of church life, less money to support the work needed and the inevitable- less priests serving our communities. Humans do not like change. We find ourselves striving to prepare for the future, for tomorrow, without really living in the present reality.

I hope and pray that we all continue to support and collaborate with one another. With openness, encouragement and having the strength to put our faith in God into practice, we step forward into the future and embrace the possibilities and changes that are inevitable.

Rev'd Julie James

On Thursday 9th March at 11am, members of the Tewkesbury Branch of Bell ringers will ring a Quarter Peal at Eldersfield Church. Ringing will last about an hour.

This will be part of one Bell ringers challenge to ring 50 Quarter Peals to celebrate her 50 years of Bell ringing.

Janet Peters

A Lenten Prayer

Dear God,

Free us from anything that obstructs our clear thinking. Remove any clutter of petty grudges, resentment or bitterness.

Cleanse our thoughts of any anger, envy or selfpity. Create space in our lives for more kindness, generosity and a stronger compassion.

Enlarge our hearts and be thankfl and grateful for the simple gifts we have that surround us all in abundance.

Amen.



Rev'd Julie James

Lent and Easter 2023;





Heavenly Father. During this Lenten season, give me a new and expanded vision for my life. Help me to live full of faith. Teach me to find hope in the face of adversity. **Amen.**

Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before **Easter** in the Christian calendar. Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. Nowadays, people often 'give up' something. In this time during Lent, we are giving to someone with food or funds to the Food Banks to support those families struggling to feed their families.

Details of other services in this magazine

Mothering Sunday: 19th March-10.30am AAW St Faith

Palm Sunday: 2nd April-Birtsmorton- join us and the Donkeys

Easter Sunday: 9th April

Sunrise 6.30am Holy Communion at Pendock Old Church 10.30am Holy Communion St. Faith, Berrow.

All Welcome

Name:	Date:	

Season of Lent

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Palm Sunday Crucifix Peter Cross Pontius Pilate INRI Apostles Lent
Barabbas
Jerusalem
Ash Wednesday
Pentecost
Gethsemane

Jesus Tomb God Wine Mary Magdalene Easter Good Friday Resurrection Eucharist Last Supper Judas Christianity

Benefice Diary

Please note that all meetings planned below are in person unless otherwise arranged.

Tuesday's Term Time	Community 'Drop in'	9.30 - 11.30am Pendock CE Primary School Hall
Wed 15 th March	APCM	Berrow Village Hall, 7pm Compline. 7.30pm meeting
Sat 18 th March	Birtsmorton Court 'The Linney' opening	2.00 - 5.30pm Open Church
Sat. 25 th March	Marriage Preparation	9.30am Pendock CE Primary School Hall
Sun 26 th March	Spring Chicken Run	Pendock CE Primary School based
Wed 19 th April	Standing Committee	2.30pm Pendock Cross
Thurs 20th April	Eldersfield PCC	2pm at Holt's home

If you have any additional dates, please contact Mel Roberts or Rev'd Julie James.



Bible Study

Tuesday: - Thistledown, Pendock

Tuesday: 14th March, 18th April,9th May 2023,

10.30am Cuppa and biscuit!

Bible reflections, depart 12 noon

Rev. Julie James



www.childrenssociety.org.uk

A big thank you to all those who have contributed to The Children's Society over the year. Nearly all the Houseboxes have been collected in and counted and together with the Carol Singing at The Farmer's Arms and Christmas Day service the total raised is over £2200 so far! This is a wonderful amount and one that reflects the generosity of people living locally in support of the UK's most neglected, abused and unloved children. The ongoing support continues to make a real difference to young lives and enables The Children's Society to continue its vital and life changing work. Last year alone over 10,000 children's lives were improved and made safe; many were rescued from dangerous, life-threatening situations, escaping from being groomed and forced into delivering drugs and collecting money in frightening places while the adult gang members hid anonymously behind them.

There are many wonderful success stories of children's lives being changed for the better establishing real hope for their future. If you would like to find out more please go to the website (listed above). If you would like to volunteer to support the work of The Society, please contact Andy Holt (awholt@btinternet.com)

Thank you for your generosity.



PLUS Upton-upon-Severn Foodbank, The Baptist Church, Old Street, Tewkesbury and Ledbury.

Many thanks to all those who continue to donate food for the Food Bank during these tough times. It was most gratefully received. Money donations are also accepted.

Please continue your generous contributions in these times of rising costs for everyone. People really appreciate both food, toiletries and money. The referral of families to the food banks is unfortunately greater in numbers, so please support.

Easter Day Walk & Quiz 9th April Eldersfield Church 11am – 1pm

Easter Egg Hunt around the churchyard.
Easter Egg prizes for taking part in the walk & quiz.
Family Easter craft activities. Hot Cross Buns. Hot
Chocolate.

Raffle and donations in aid of Syria/Turkish earthquake appeal

Castlemorton Environmental Action Group



Wildlife on my Doorstep

CEAG invite you to a talk by wildlife photographer Helen Mugridge.

Helen, who is based in the Forest of Dean, will talk about the range of species she and her husband have encouraged into their garden and the skills used to photograph them.

Castlemorton Parish Hall Thursday 2nd March at 7:30pm

Free entry with tea or coffee and biscuits provided. This event is sponsored by Castlemorton Parish Council

FIN the Clerk FIN the Clerk

Elections!

All the councillors who currently comprise the Parish Council are required by law to retire in May – only a few weeks away – and new elections will be held. There is, of course, nothing to prevent them standing again but even if they all do (and I cannot know whether they will or will not) that would leave the Council with three unfilled positions. There are nine seats on the Council and today we have only six councillors. We need volunteers!

So what do Councillors do? You will certainly have seen the new gates at the entry to Corse Lawn. You will have seen the drop-off area for children by the school, and you should know that at the school there is a defibrillator available for public use. These are all initiative undertaken or promoted by the Parish Council.

Councillors contribute in less visible ways. When an application is made to Malvern Hills District Council for planning permission – to add an extension, or convert a barn, for example – they ask us what we think. They are required to do this by law, but they also value our opinion, because we have local knowledge which they do not. And Councillors are the people who decide what advice to give.

Have you ever thought that you would like to contribute to our community? Are you new to the area and would like to meet people? Being a councillor lets you do both, Perhaps you have been a resident for a long time: you know what needs improving; why not help bring about the changes you know are needed?

If you have any questions, do please contact any Councillor (their contact details can be found on the web - just google "Eldersfield Parish Council" and click on "Parish Councillors" - or contact me.

If you want to go ahead, you will need a nomination pack, and these can be obtained from Katie.Vass@malvernhills.gov.uk or from me. Note that they must be submitted (by hand) to the Returning Officer at Malvern Hills District Council on any working day between Monday 20 March 2023 and Tuesday 4 April 2023.

J. L. Gabbott

Clerk to Eldersfield Parish Council

tel: 01684 439948 email: EldersfieldPC@yahoo.co.uk

Recipe of the month - March

Smoked Haddock Crumble with a Creamy Chive Sauce

Ingredients (for 3 - 4 helpings)

12 oz smoked haddock (proper smoked haddock!) (Optional: a few prawns) 34 pint milk

1½ oz butter

 $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz flour (cornflour if the dish is to be frozen)

1 – 2 tablespoons single cream

Seasoning

Chopped chives (to taste)

For the topping

4 oz white breadcrumbs 2 oz butter Pinch of mixed herbs and chives

Method

Prepare the topping by rubbing in the butter to "fine crumb" and adding the seasoning and herbs. Set aside.

Poach the haddock in the milk. Drain and retain the milk. Cool and flake the fish, removing any bones and the skin. Set aside. In a clean pan, melt the butter, then add the flour to make a roux. Gradually add milk to make a smooth sauce. Finish with cream, adjust the seasoning and add the chopped chives and fish (and prawns). Put into a greased ovenproof dish. Cool, then add topping. Bake in a moderate oven for 20 – 25 minutes until golden.

Serving suggestion: serve with spinach and creamed potato.



Saturday 4th March 7:00 for 7:15pm Supper Special (Booking Essential)

The Quiet Girl (12A-2022-134mins)
The beautiful and moving story of a nine year old girl from a poor family who is farmed out to relatives in rural Ireland while her mother gives birth to yet another baby. Superb cinematography and performances.

Thursday 16th March at 7:30pm

Ali and Ava (12A-2022-132mins)
Ava (Clare Rushbrook) is a loving woman
living on a Bradford estate who has
survived an abusive marriage. When she
meets Ali (Adeel Akhtar), a local
landlord with his own marital problems,
the pair fall in love but are challenged
by their different backgrounds. A
compassionate love story.

Thursday 30th March at 7:30pm 2040 (PG-2019-92mins)

In collaboration with Castlemorton Environmental Action Group. Australian film maker Damien Gameau searched the world for solutions to climate change. He writes this visual letter to his daughter to give hope for the future.

Tickets £5 on the door (Supper Special £12), for advance booking call Beth 01531 631503 or Malcolm 01684 833297 or email

mortonmajestic@gmail.com.

Licensed Bar / Refreshments / Ice creams

The Morton Majestic is at Castlemorton Parish Hall WR13 6BE

www.castlemortoncinema.co.uk

Staunton & Corse Community Hub @ The Swan

Opening Hours

Wednesdays 11am - 3pm Thursdays 11am - 3pm Fridays 10am - 10.30pm Saturdays 5.30pm - 10.30pm

Community Meeting

We're holding an extraordinary community meeting at The Hub on Thursday the 2nd of March at 7pm. This is an urgent request for you to attend to find out how you can support us, as without your support we may have no choice but to close this valuable community resource.

Six Nations Rugby

We'll be showing the Six Nations Rugby on the following dates:

11th March 12pm - 10pm
25th March 12pm - 10pm
Special offer - burger and a drink for £10 (served from 5.30pm)

Daytime activities

Wednesdays 11am - 11.30am - Rhyme Time music/singing group for babies & pre-school children with their parents & carers.

Thursdays 11am - 12.30pm - Knitting group

1st Thursday of the month 11am - 12.30pm - Card Making with Kerry Timms (charges apply)

1st Friday of the month, 11am - 12pm - Book club

Daytime menu

Paninis & jacket potatoes with various fillings.

Homemade soup

Homemade cakes and various snacks.

Friday night food vans
3rd March Marinades - Caribbean
10th March Mr Gyro - Greek
17th March Hungry Monkey - burgers
24th March Miniyaki - Japanese
31st March TBC

Saturday night food will include the usual basket meals and various pasta and curry dishes.

For further information please email theswancommunitygroup@gmail.com, call 01452 840323 or message us via Facebook (@villagepubhub) or www.theswancommunityhub.co.uk



In Aid of Brain Tumour Research

Saturday 25th March Berrow Village Hall – 2pm

Clothes, Toys, Bric-a-brac, Raffle, Cakes

Do you have anything we can sell? We are happy to collect if you have

Please email suefinch27@hotmail.co.uk or call us on 07980078220 or 01531 650727

Thank you Sue & Sam Finch

New Stewardship Officer

Robyn RooneyRobyn Rooney has been appointed as part-time Stewardship Officer, working from the diocesan office and in parishes to offer support with the Parish Giving Scheme as well as helping with fundraising ideas.

Robyn will work 17.5 hours a week alongside Stewardship and Resources Officer Chris Boden, whose role has been expanded to enable him to support parishes with a wider range of organisational and governance issues thanks to a grant from the Healthier Churches Fund. Robyn has previously worked with Worcestershire County Council in the business funding team as well as in marketing for the Chamber of Commerce and heritage organisations.

She said: "I am looking forward to getting to know the different churches across the Diocese and understanding how I can best help each of them. I hope to be able to offer support to those already part of or wishing to sign up to the Parish Giving Scheme, share good practice and point parishes in the direction of grants and fundraising ideas."

Robyn is a member of St Stephen's Church in Barbourne. She will be working her part-time hours Tuesday – Thursday.

HARTPURY DRAMA GROUP

presents a 50th anniversary panto

MOTHER GOOSE

at Hartpury Village Hall Theatre
on March 30, 31 and April 1 at 7:30 + Sat 2:30

Tickets £10 adults £5 children

Box Office – Sue Knox 07817 232276
or susanknox@btinternet.com



Weddings-Please check the website. www.berrowbenefice.org.uk

At present, we are holding a rotation of services each Sunday. Please check for details on the website or contact us. For the 'qualifying attendance' to be married in a church, you need to attend for a minimum of 6 months, once a month.

How we get you legally wed

We are legally entitled to marry you in a Church of England church through the publication of banns, read 3 times before the wedding date. We ask you to contact your local parish church and arrange when the banns are to be read 3 times there too. A **Marriage Document** is now signed at the church ceremony since the rules changed on May 4th 2021 and then you apply for a Marriage Licence through the **Worcester Registry Office**. We will give you all the details.

Common License

In very special cases, you can apply for a Common License to marry with us. Please do seek an early explanation and the process involved.

Civil Ceremony followed by a Blessing in Church

If you are unable to attend for 6 months to qualify, then you could have Registrar a civil ceremony first. We can then offer you a Church blessing of your marriage which is as similar to a full wedding as we can make it.

Conclusion

Rev'd Anthea and I are ready to help you during this decision making process. Please do discuss the options with us and your wedding venue hosts. We do try to meet your expectations and make this a special day. Do try and attend our marriage preparation day. We try to answer your questions, look at the wedding day itself and looking ahead to the future.

Be safe and keep healthy! May your love for one another be strengthened and bind you closer than ever during the challenges of our world.

Rev'd Julie James





Baptism (or Christening)

The baptism service is for a child or adult. As an adult, you make the decision and the promises. A child has adults (godparents) who make decisions and promises on behalf of a child.

At the point you are baptized, you simply have water poured on your head. If you are considering being baptized or for a member of your family, do talk to us as we will be delighted to help. Baptism can occur during the usual church services which rotate around the Benefice or at a time for just you, your family and friends.

Rev'd Julie James



Funerals

If you wish to have a church service, please contact the priest to check dates as soon as possible. With your chosen Funeral Director, all bookings and other arrangements can proceed for you, the family and with the help and support of the clergy during this difficult time. We are still requesting the wearing of face coverings inside the buildings.

If you wish to have a burial in the churchyards at St John's, Eldersfield. St Faith's, Berrow or All Saints, Hollybush, the deceased person must have been resident in that Parish. Reservations (which last for 25 years) can be made by applying for a faculty which is a formal legal process and which we can help guide you through.

The Diocese of Worcester has issued guidelines for the erection of memorials in the churchyard. Please contact a local Stonemason who will have these details.



Pastoral care is one aspect of a priest's role. The word *pastor* comes from the Latin word for "shepherd." Caring for a person who is struggling with a difficulty, being present during a time of pain, praying with someone in a crisis—these are the moments when we need to know someone can come alongside us from the church community.

Most people only visualise a priest working on a Sunday. The reality is that preparing for Sunday services, Bible Study, and daily prayers are only a small part of my role. Looking after several churches, being on many different committees including being a school governor for our two local schools, engaging in a large wedding ministry, plus occasional offices like funerals and baptisms, means that my working week is very busy.

The Pastoral Visitor is Mrs Cathy Powell-Chandler. Part of her role is to co-ordinate pastoral visitors within our church communities. If you would specifically like me to visit you, then please indicate this by contacting me direct or via one of the church officers, all details of which are in the magazine. In a caring community, we all look to see whether our neighbours need or wish to accept our help.

Rev'd Julie James

SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK, ELDERSFIELD AND BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
2 nd April	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Isaiah 50. 4 – 9a Philippians 2. 5 – 11	Janet Peters	
Palm Sunday	Birtsmorton Church	10.30am	Palm Sunday Communion with donkeys!	Passion Narrative	TBA	TBA
3 rd April Monday of Holy Week	Zoom Service	7.30pm	Compline	Matthew 14. 1 12	Anthea Elston	-
4 th April Tuesday of Holy Week	Zoom Service	7.30pm	Compline	Matthew 14.13 - End	Doug Braund	
5 th April Wednesday of Holy Week	Zoom Service	7.30pm	Compline	Matthew 15. 1 – 20	David Allen	1
6 th April Maundy Thursday	Pendock Cross Church	7.30pm	Holy Communion	Exodus 12. 1-4, 11-14 1 Corinthians 11.23-26	Andrew Rambridge	Martin Knott
7 th April Good Friday	Hollybush Church	2.00 pm	Good Friday Meditation	TBA	TBA	TBA
9 th April	Pendock Old Church	6.30am	Sunrise Service	Acts 10. 34 43 Colossians 3. 1 4	Mel Roberts	1
Easter Sunday	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Acts 10. 34 – 43 Colossians 3. 1 4	Elisabeth Rambridge	Ann Ward

@=

Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK, ELDERSFIELD AND BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
16 th April	Pendock Cross Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Acts 2. 14a, 22—32 1 Peter 1. 3 9	Andrew Rambridge	-
of Easter	Eldersfield Church 10.30am	10.30am	All Age Worship	TBA	TBA	TBA
23 rd April	Birtsmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Acts 2. 14a, 36 – 41 1 Peter 1. 17 – 23	Bob James	Doug Braund
3rd Sunday of Easter	Eldersfield Church	6.30pm	Evensong	Haggai 1.13 — 2. v9 1 Corinthians 3. 10-17	Matthew Collins	Brian Woodcock
30 th April 4thSunday of Easter	Start at Pendock Cross, finish at St Faith's Berrow	10am start, 11am at St Faith's	Walking Church with Holy Communion	Acts 2. 42 – End 1 Peter 2. 19 End	ТВА	TBA

Details of how to join Zoom services are published on the Berrow Benefice website Compline will be held on Zoom Every Friday at 7.00 pm https://berrowbenefice.org.uk/using-phone-church Please Note:

SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK, ELDERSFIELD AND BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
5 th March	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Genesis 12. 14a Romans 4.1-5, 13-17	Janet Peters	
2''' Sunday of Lent	Berrow Village Hall	10.30am	Café Church	ТВА	TBA	TBA
12 th March	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Exodus 17. 1-7 Romans 5. 1-11	Ruth Coates	Doug Braund
3 rd Sunday of Lent	Hollybush Church	6.30pm	BCP Evensong	Joshua 1. 19 Ephesians 6. 1020	Shirley Williams	Cathy P-Chandler
19 th March	Pendock Cross Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Exodus 2. 1—10 Corinthians 1. 3–7	Andrew Rambridge	
Motnering Sunday	Berrow Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	ТВА	TBA	TBA
26 th March	Birtsmorton Church	10,30am	Holy Communion	Ezekiel 37. 1—14 Romans 8. 6—11	Bob James	Martin Knott
5 th Sunday of Lent	Eldersfield Church	6.30pm	BCP Evensong	Lamentations 3.1933 Matthew 20. 17End	Fiona Collins	Brian Woodcock

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Thursday 16th Feb. at 7:30pm Mrs Harris goes to Paris

(PG-2022-115mins)

Starring Lesley Manville and Isabelle Huppert, the film tells the story of a widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London who dreams of owning a couture Dior dress. Escapist fun with a bittersweet edge.

Saturday 4th March 7:00 for 7:15pm Supper Special (Booking Essential)

The Quiet Girl (12A-2022-134mins)
The beautiful and moving story of a nine year old girl from a poor family who is farmed out to relatives in rural Ireland while her mother gives birth to yet another baby. Superb cinematography and performances.

Tickets £5 on the door (Supper Special £12), for advance booking call Beth 01531 631503 or Malcolm 01684 833297 or email mortonma jestic@gmail.com.

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Castlemorton Environmental Action Group



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