Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield. Hollybush and Birtsmorton



Parish Magazine

UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK ELDERSFIELD HOLLYBUSH AND BIRTSMORTON

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Dear Friends,

We are often bound by time, the seasons, the weather, our commitments. The academic year (September), the new Lectionary (December), the New Year (January) the Tax year (April). Other times, even vacation times, we can free ourselves and allow an extra time to relax, ignore the alarm clock and have an empty diary page or two. Even retirement needs some careful reflections, especially stepping back from a busy role. Our morning routines and regular cuppa's can just start an ordinary day. Most days are filled with ordinary things, nothing spectacular, often mundane — work tasks, shopping, meals, contact with friends and family. Sometimes the ordinary can feel unimpressive. I am not someone who posts on Facebook, but I am surprised how much some people do post the ordinary events of their lives.

The ordinary is not bad. In fact, small acts are what compose our life, and that life then tells our story. The life of the church is not dissimilar. In our liturgical year a portion of the year is spent following the life of Christ (Advent to Easter), while the remainder is spent in Ordinary Time. This is the period of the year that tells the story of the church, beginning in Pentecost and concluding before the beginning of Advent. God is present in feasts, festivals, and celebrations but just as present in the ordinary days and things of life. Whether we feel it or not, God is present in the ordinary. God cares about our real lives where we actually are. For Christians, this is a time set aside for reflecting on and celebrating our call to follow Jesus day by day. Recently, Bishop Martin Gorrick (Dudley) led a Prayer Pilgrimage in this area, starting with All Saints Church,

Hollybush and then onto St Gregory's, Castlemorton. The Theme: May Your Kingdom Grow.

'Lord we pray for your Kingdom to grow, that the seeds we shall sow will bear fruit. Hear or cry; help us nurture and care, that all people will hear your word.'

Just chatting and meeting others is important. Without a 'hub' where we can meet, many in our community are cut off from the ordinary events in these communities. Do try and let us know how we can create times when we can get together. The 'Drop In' starting again on Tuesday's in the Hall, at Pendock CE Primary School is just that. Ordinary folk just dropping by for a cuppa and a chat. Together, we can all find ways to improve communications and our community.

As we enter the Autumn of 2023, in church we traditionally acknowledge and give thanks for the crops and food supplied to our community and beyond throughout the year. We have supported Food Banks to provide food for those struggling to feed their families in these difficult times. Although our food today is more likely to come from the supermarket, Christians believe it is still important to remember God as creator and thank Him for the good things He provides. We have a Café Church Harvest service in October followed by a Harvest Meal-just try and join us if you can. The All Age Worship team will also be also have a Harvest theme.

As we step forward again this Autumn, may we continue to support one another, talk together, explore ways to improve our communities in trust, with compassion, caring and love.

Rev'd Julie James

Harvest Prayer

We give thanks for all who create our food. Poached, baked, fried, or barbequed. To those who toil on sea or land. All need machines or to be picked by hand.

A special prayer for those whose lives are thin, And shelves devoid of produce, bread and tin. May time ahead be fruitful and stable, Perhaps share resources if you are able.

We pray that we can save our planet earth, With climate changes, let's bring relevant ideas to birth. May God open our minds to the gifts we offer neighbours. Acknowledge and bless all the fruits of all our labours.



A Harvest of blessings-Rev'd Julie



Harvest Services in 2023

You are warmly invited to join us on:-

Sunday 1st October

10.30am Café Church, Berrow Village Hall

Followed by Harvest LUNCH-TBC



Sunday 15th . October

10.30am All Age Harvest Worship, Eldersfield

Benefice Diary

Sat. 2 nd September	Hollybush Fete and Art Exhibition	10-12 noon All Saints Church, Hollybush
Sun. 10 th September	GIFT DAY 3-5.30pm	Pendock Church of the Redeemer and St Faith, Berrow
Wed. 18 th October	Standing Committee	2.30pm Pendock Church of the Redeemer
Wed 25 th October	Birtsmorton and Hollybush PCC Berrow and	2.30pm Hollybush Church
	Pendock PCC	7.30pm at home of Knott's
Wed 1 st November	Eldersfield PCC	2.00pm at home of Holt's
Sat 2 nd December	Festive Fayre	Berrow -TBA

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



Bible Study

Tuesday: - Thistledown, Pendock

Tuesday: 12th September, 10th October, 14th November 2023

10.30am Cuppa and biscuit!

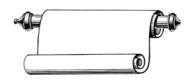
Bible reflections, depart 12 noon

Rev. Julie James

FROM

THE

REGISTERS



Funerals and Interments

All Saints Hollybush

15th June Alan Greatwood 3rd August Elsie Lambert

Weddings and Blessings

<u>St Thomas of Canterbury with St Peter and St Paul</u> <u>Birtsmorton</u>

1 st July	Christopher Shuard and Sarah Kirton
2 nd August	Matthew Thomas and Rebecca McGrath
5 th August	Timothy Jeynes and Yvonne Heath
10 th August	Jack Pullin and Rhianna Longstaff
12 th August	Stephen Delingpole and Anna Lee-Turner
19 th August	Andrew Harrington and Emma Conway
26th August	Matthew Limmer and Sarah-Jane McKinlay
30 th August	Joseph Allen and Hannah Perry

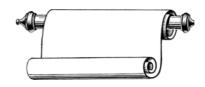
St Faith Berrow

29th August James Edwards and Frances Tyner

FROM

THE

REGISTERS



Baptisms

<u>St Thomas of Canterbury with St Peter and St Paul Birtsmorton</u>

9th July Holly Cook

St John the Baptist Eldersfield

9th July Ruby Woodward

18th June Rose Gott

All Saints Hollybush

9th July Archie Whitehead

Confirmation

St John the Baptist Eldersfield

18th June Jack Gott

Rose Gott

A Modernised We Plough the Fields and Scatter!

Some weddings are more memorable than others and Tim and Yvonne's wedding was memorable for all the right reasons!

A highlight was the singing of this version of We Plough the Fields, rewritten by Tim to reflect the realities of the life of a dairy farmer today — enjoy!

We go to work in wellies written by Tim Jeynes

We go to work in wellies or sometimes dealer boots, For we are dairy farmers and we wear boiler suits, Our cows are pedigree Holstein, our tractors are John Deere, Our dogs are very precious, they just seem to appear.

Refrain: All good gifts around us

are sent from heaven above,

then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord

for all his love.

The Springtime brings us sunshine to make the pastures grow, We need to get the slurry out to make the green grass go, Put ruts in at your peril for they'll be all season long, Then bumpy mowing, trailering, you best not get it wrong.

Refrain

The Summer can be quite hot you'll find us in the shade, We need to make the hay now before the sun does fade, The longer daylight hours help to get jobs done, So soon the combine rolling let's get the harvest won

Refrain

The Autumn changes colours of every shrub and tree, Mother nature waving her wand to signal time to thee, Last chance to safely gather the last cut of our grass, To feed all of the livestock to put milk in your glass.

Refrain

Winter can be quite taxing when Jack Frost plays his card, For cattle seem to drink more when pipes are frozen hard, If we get a day off a hunting we could go, That's assuming the good lord hasn't sent some blooming snow.

Berrow-with-Pendock PCC

GIFT DAY

Sunday, September 10th at

St Faith's Church, Berrow and

The Church of the Redeemer, Pendock Cross

2.00 - 4.00 pm

Please support your church in this year when there has again been no Pendock Fête. Contributions will be gratefully received in advance or on the day.

Pendock Old Church by Giles Turner

Some of you may recall that a few years ago the Old Pendock Church was invaded by uninvited guests, who did considerable damage to some fixtures in the church, including the Georgian organ; they accessed the back of the instrument and made a mess of it and removed many of the metal pipes.

Although regular usage was normally minimal, it could now obviously not be used at all. The church has not been part of our benefice since 1980's (it now comes under the Churches Conservation Trust) and no-one seemed inclined to repair the damage.

I played it a few times years ago and it certainly made a good sound. The composer Elgar is reputed to have played it when living in the area and I felt we ought to get it put right. So I asked a good friend, Ian Fox, a name familiar to many of you, if he would have a go and was delighted when he agreed. He's an expert in organ-building and repairing and he has now completed the job – it sounds as good as I remember it.

It has involved several months activity on lan's part, particularly in replacing stolen pipes and we are most grateful for the time and effort he's spent on it; a job that in my opinion, with its back-history, had to be done

Thank you so much, lan, and congratulations.

Summer Fundraising event at Eldersfield Court

It seems a long time ago now but on 1st July our Eldersfield PCC Fundraising Group organised an evening of music, storytelling and also a two-course meal in the beautiful gardens of Eldersfield Court, courtesy of Matthew & Fiona. The hardworking teams erected the marquees, prepared the food, arranged the bar and set out the tables to seat our 70+ guests. The superb pianist serenaded everyone while they ate in the marquee or in the sunshine on the lawn. Before the sumptuous puddings, we were entertained by a professional storyteller who recounted a couple of tales for our entertainment. The bar did a good trade and as the evening came to an end, the moon rose over the gardens, the lanterns illuminated the house & pathways as people slowly made their way home.

A wonderful, relaxed community evening, with the bonus that £1650 was raised towards rebuilding work on the collapsed church boundary wall. Thank you to the wonderful team for all their hard work in organising, erecting and removing the marquees, preparing food & drink – to the Collins for joining in the preparations and to everyone who bought tickets to support the event A super evening.

Stop Press!!!!

Thanks to Oliver and John Williams and their skilled builders, together with the archaeologists, structural engineer and Diocesan architects we have been able to complete the rebuilding of the boundary wall at Eldersfield Parish Church. So many generous people in our local area have contributed to the 'rebuilding fund' that we have been able to raise most of the money to pay for the work to be done. Thank you to all of you for your kind efforts to get the job done so quickly. More on this next month ... do go and have a look at the superb craftsmanship.



FRIDAY: 29th September

Pendock Cross, Church of the Redeemer

10-12 noon

(Donations of cakes warmly welcomed!)

Join us for a chat, a cuppa and cake and support this very worthwhile charity!

United Benefice of Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield, Birtsmorton and Hollybush.



ALL welcome!

Pendock C.E. Primary School Hall

Refreshments with a Chat and catch-up

Many thanks to all those who have volunteered to help, attended and supported.

We will start afresh from SEPTEMBER 12th, 9.30-11.30am after a request to keep meeting!

Please can we have offers to help!

Rev'd Julie James



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.

Rev'd Julie James

Anthea's Book - Finally!

Some of you may remember that back in July of 2019, before Covid and the world going mad, I did a walk, which I named Anthea's Amble. It was the 150th anniversary of the building of All Saints Hollybush so I did a circular 150 mile walk starting and finishing at All Saints and taking in Bromyard, Leominster, Hay-on-Wye, Monmouth and Ross-on-Wye, visiting the graves of my ancestors along the way. Many of you were very generous in your donations and I raised a goodly amount for my chosen charities.

Four years later, and I've finally finished writing the book of the walk! It's called **Boots and Roots**, and it covers the walk itself, all the background to why I did it, some family history, and then what impact doing the walk has had on me over the last four years. Part memoir, part travelogue, part journey of self-discovery is how I summarise it to myself. Anyhow I aim to deliver to the printers on 1st September and launch it on an unsuspecting world over the weekend of 21st to 22nd October. The plan is to have an evening launch at Ledbury Books and Maps from 5 – 7pm on Saturday 21st, and an afternoon launch between 3 and 5pm on Sunday 22nd at All Saints Hollybush. All is TBC at the moment but wanted to give a heads up so you can pencil it in your diary if you'd like to come along!

Also, to prove that I was in fact doing something in that generous sabbatical you all allowed me to take at the end of last year! More news to follow in the October parish mag, along with cover art by our very own Liz Lean.

Rev Anthea Elston

Two writers, two artists, one churchwarden and a fascination with – SWIFTS

During National Green Week this year, an event was hosted at the Edward VI Grammar School, Stratford, to celebrate the lives of these remarkable creatures. Two leading authorities – Charles Foster and Mark Cocker - discussed their own books and the world of Swifts. A delightful aspect of the evening was that the artists of the front covers, respectively Alison Ingram and Jonathan Pomroy, both eminent painters of the natural world, talked about the inspiration for their work.

After the 'Counting Swiftly' event I organised at St Faith's Church Berrow, Rev'd Anthea Elston gave me Charles Foster's book, The Screaming Sky: a small volume, it is perfect for a category of books I read on trains. I think the books one reads in public should be chosen as carefully as the outfit one wears to read them! Charles Foster organised the book with a monthly review of a year in the life of the swift. The swifts at Berrow bring me nothing but joy and I was surprised to read a book so full of angst. The angst is of course due to the loss of habitat, so swifts are now on the UK red list of endangered birds. But it meant I wanted to see and hear Charles Foster - I discovered a person of huge intelligence and compassion, with a career that had started in Veterinary Science and moved to Law and on again to the Philosophy of the Law.

Mark Cocker was slightly less intense – he read English but has become a very engaged naturalist. His book is called One Midsummer's Day and subtitled – Swifts and the Story of Life on Earth. I scribbled away taking notes as they talked, but I am going to 'fess up that I found both books a tough read – and I do know for why. I may have written before about my father who was a geologist – how pleased he was when I got a teaching post in Malvern with its wondrous hills. But the vast units of his discipline simply elude me – and I've always felt it's why I love History and English that deal with the passage of manageable units of time and are peopled throughout. I am certain those of you with scientific backgrounds will enjoy these books, and please do ask me if you'd like to borrow them. I'm going to draw out aspects I enjoyed from Mark Cocker's book, the more recent publication: the guirky, the literary, the remarkable. However, I've found

there's so much to say, next month I'll look at the ways in which so much has been discovered about these mysterious creatures.

What better way to start than with some lines from Edward Thomas' poem - The swift with wings and tail as sharp and narrow

As if the bow had flown off with the arrow

Swifts account for one of the least well-known avian groups. Mark Cocker describes their inexpressible mix of elegance and awkward zaniness. They have an extraordinary ability for manoeuvrability and are birds of near perpetual motion, with an average daily distance of 800 kilometres. For the twelve-week summer season, we see them when they are not in transit, which is their truest state: they are perpetual wanderers. Zugunruhe is the term for migratory restlessness. I liked a name used by Native American communities – 'wakishaka' - one who never tires. A particular characteristic – the 'social screaming' - is not fully understood. Interestingly Mark feels the only creature that produces a noise of such immersion is the cicada. How good to have confirmation of the futile pursuit of photographing swifts!

My own interest started with hearing eerie cries as I cleaned St Faith's and ducking down when I was weeding the long path as they made their fearsome approach above the path and straight into one of the 4 nests on the front of the church. It was during the Restoration Project when Ros Willder, our environmental adviser, halted the project temporarily as they were nesting that I started to realise how important this colony is. In all we have to face about the future of the Benefice and of how our faith can be communicated in an increasingly secular nation, it is just lovely to be part of the certainty that these wonderful creatures set off for our landmark church and come to their summer home, year in, year out.

But of course, in a small voice, I know too that we need to be here to assure that welcome and elsewhere in this magazine you will see the promotion of a Gift Day for the parish of Berrow with Pendock that I hope you will feel able to support.

Elisabeth Rambridge, Churchwarden

Recipe of the month - September

Poached Pears with Blackberry Compote

This recipe is directed more towards the second half of September when Conference pears are readily available, and also, the blackberries are at their best. (Looking at our local hedges, we are in for a bumper crop!)

<u>Ingredients</u>

Enough even sized small/medium Conference pears, standing upright, to fill a deepish soufflé dish (stalks of pears left on)
Ripe blackberries – 8 oz or more
Sugar to taste – 2 - 4 oz
Red wine – enough to cover pears + water
Cinnamon stick
Lemon juice (fresh)
Cornflour – enough to thicken blackberry juice slightly

Method

With a potato peeler, peel the pears but leave the stalks. Place upright in the soufflé dish and cover with red wine plus cinnamon stick and sugar to taste. Poach in a moderate oven until the pears have softened; this will depend on their ripeness. Cool and remove to a clean dish. Wash blackberries, put in a pan and gently poach, using the red wine + water, sugar, lemon juice and cinnamon stick. When cooked, remove fruit, strain juice and return to pan. Thicken slightly with cornflour dissolved in cold water. Reunite with blackberries; cool. Place a pear on a suitable deep plate, nap over the blackberry compote and serve with whipped cream.

The Church Commissioners for England ('CC') manages a fund of shares and property for the Church of England worth £10.3bn in order that the Church can spend money on charitable Church purposes. However, it sees its role as not only obtaining a good return for its beneficiaries — which it does well — but also improving the world by its choice of investments.

It was with this intention that in June 2023 it announced that it would sell its remaining shares in fossil fuel companies. The reason? It had decided that these companies were not acting sufficiently quickly in 'phasing out fossil fuels, investing in renewables, and plotting a credible path to a net zero world'.

Should we praise this action?

Let's look first at the facts. CC is reported to have held £1.35m worth of Shell shares in now, in a portfolio of over £10bn that is trivial and in the context of Shell - the value of whose shares added together is £160bn - it is invisible. In think we can all agree that there will be no perceptible financial effect on Shell. The value of this decision, therefore, is not in its financial impact but -1 suggest - in 'sending a message'.

What is the message? Think for a moment of your great-aunt Maud whose only tipple is a small glass of Spanish sherry at Christmas. Spain does something to annoy her – perhaps it issues a statement about Gibraltar – and then she announces to all, with great solemnity, that in retaliation she is becoming teetotal. Your reaction might initially be one of amusement, but I am willing to bet that your amusement would rapidly turn to concern that she was becoming dotty: detached from reality. Her message would be unnoticed.

And now the rationale. The CC has decided that the fossil fuel companies have committed the sin of not being 'aligned with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement'ⁱⁱⁱ. This is an extraordinary statement.

The Paris Agreement is a treaty between 196 states and, as such, it lays obligations on states, not individuals or corporations. It is wrong to criticise a corporation for not doing what a state is required to do. If you are not satisfied with a corporation, vent your ire on the state and demand that its government take appropriate action; what that action is the government will decide through its own political processes. It is not for you to usurp the role of that government or short-circuit its politics.

References as marked are not included here but are available on request...

Curiously the CC's action today is in marked contrast to what it – or rather its predecessor, the Queen Ann's Bounty fund – did three hundred years ago, when it saw politics as the preserve of the state and did not meddle. It was this approach which it believed justified it in buying shares in the South Sea Company, which it did, hoping to make a profit with which to discharge its duties to those whom it was set up to benefit; it was unconcerned by the fact that the company traded in slaves. Today, however, the CC claims that it is wrong to buy shares in a company which, although trading lawfully, holds views which are not aligned with its own. That may be right or it may be wrong, but it is the very same reason which Coutts Bank gave for de-banking Nigel Farage and which provoked devastating criticism in response.

The CC has further justified its action by saying that it will 'follow not just the science, but our faith'\[\text{N} \]. I remind you that eminent churchmen very probably uttered the same words when they sentenced Galileo to life imprisonment for teaching that the earth was not at the centre of the solar system, and since then the church has been wary, perhaps wisely, of nailing its flag to the mast of 'science'. What, then, is so different about climate change?

Perhaps the most relevant thing to note is that climate change is the topic of the moment. Just look at the attention given to it by our media: any unusually hot, cold, wet, dry or windy weather is ascribed to climate change and as a result it is of great public concern. If you show yourself equally concerned you ingratiate yourself and become popular.

Greenpeace UK^v and Extinction Rebellion^{vi} have understood. They state 'Your "Carbon Footprint" is not to blame. Climate change is caused by a handful of multinational fossil fuel corporations that are profiting from pumping astronomical amounts of pollution into our air.' That statement is, of course, plain daft - a barrel of oil in the ground or in a storage tank does not increase atmospheric CO2: it just sits there. CO2 is released only when the oil is used – when you, or I, switch on the central heating to keep warm in winter, start up the car to go to work or take a flight to go on holiday, all of which increase our carbon footprint. What I invite you to note about the statement, however, is its great and universal appeal: it says that we are in a mess which is someone else's fault and they, not we, should take action.

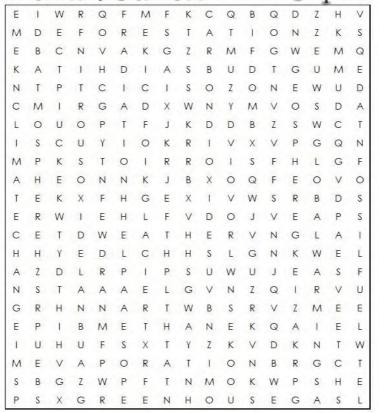
And it is into this vein that the Church Commissioners has tapped. There is no need for you to become poor by replacing your gas boiler with an air pump, or buying an electric car, or even give up your holiday in Tenerife. It's all the fault of the fossil fuel companies. They should do something.

It's a good message, and it might work.

Until people twig.

Name:

Climate Change Word Search



FOSSIL FUEL

WEATHER

ATMOSPHERE

DEFORESTATION

CARBON DIOXIDE

GLOBAL WARMING

EVAPORATION

GLACIER

OZONE

NITROUS OXIDE

METHANE

GEOSPHERE

GREENHOUSE GAS

RADIATION

CLIMATE CHANGE

© Monsterwordsearch.com



Eldersfield Cricket Club

by our Roving Cricket Correspondent - Dereck Hartland

Well who would have thought that? Following all of the early season's wet weather, the sun has now shone and Eldersfield have managed to complete four games; winning two and losing two. With the season now nearing the halfway mark, it's anybody's guess at to where Eldersfield will finish at the end of the season.

Eldersfield started their campaign at Aston Ingham 2nds and were narrowly beaten by 5 wickets, despite a solid 69 by opening bat Jack McCraken. The first home game of the season saw Eldersfield score198-7 with Jack McCraken again on top form, this time scoring exactly 100. Chris Fincher's 3-21 made sure Painswick 2nds fell 73 runs short on 125 all out.

The least said about the next home game against Hatherley and Reddings 3rds the better as Eldersfield were thrashed by 145 runs, their heaviest defeat for many a year. But a stronger Eldersfield team at Cam 2nds managed to chase down a target of 236 with a brilliant 136 not out from Charlie Icke and 80 from George Bunn helping Eldersfield to win the game by 5 wickets.

(Editor's note – this was submitted for the July-August issue but sadly missed the print deadline and written before the weather reverted to an old-fashioned English summer!)

<u>Results</u>

Aston Ingham 2nd (Away) Eldersfield 152-6 (Jack McCracken 69, Charlie Icke 41)

Aston Ingham 2nd 155-5 (Jason Brown 3-48)

Aston Ingham 2nd won by 5 wickets

Painswick 2nd (Home) Eldersfield 198-7 (Jack McCracken 100)

Painswick 2nd 125 (Chris Fincher 3-21)

Eldersfield won by 73 runs

Hatherley & Reddings 3rd (Home) Hatherley and Reddings 285-7 (Harvey Sagar 2-4)

Eldersfield 140 (Chris Fincher 33) Hatherley & Reddings won by 145 runs

Cam 2nd (Away) Cam 2nd 235-6 (Jack McCracken 1-9)

Eldersfield 239-5 (Charlie Icke 136 not out, George Bunn 80)

Eldersfield won by 5 wickets

Kings Stanley (Home) Eldersfield 131 (Will Dunning 23)

Kings Stanley 133-6 (George Bunn 2-9)

Kings Stanley won by 4 wickets

Stone (Away) Eldersfield 144-9 (Chris Fincher 30)

Stone 145-5 (Hugh Jones 2-29)

Stone won by 5 wickets

Lechlade (Home) Eldersfield 212-8 (Harvey Sagar 38) Lechlade 210 (Jason Brown 4-32)

Eldersfield won by 2 runs

Poulton 2nd (Home) Poulton 2nd 79 (Chris Fincher 4-9)

Eldersfield 83-3 (Harvey Sagar 44 not out)

Eldersfield won by 7 wickets

Langford 2nd (Away) Langford 2nd 208-3 (27 overs) (James Bullock 2-23)

Eldersfield 63-8 (Jack McCracken 22)

Langford 2nd won by 156 runs (Duckworth Lewis Method)*

Aston Ingham 2nd (Home) - Game cancelled

Painswick 2nd Painswick 2nd 187-8 (Chris Fincher 2-16)

Eldersfield 135 (Jack McCracken 63) Painswick 2nd won by 52 runs

Hatherley & Reddings 3rd (Away) - Game cancelled

(Editor's note – perhaps an article from our Roving Cricket Correspondent in the winter explaining the Duckworth-Lewis Method?)



Thursday 21st September at 7:30pm The Fabelmans

(12A-2022-151mins)

Steven Spielberg's semi-autobiographical story of a young man who aspires to be a filmmaker. As he reaches adolescence, he discovers a shattering family secret and explores how the power of film can help him see the truth.

This showing is to celebrate Rural Reels having provided film showings in rural communities in Worcestershire for 10 years.

Tickets £5 on the door, for advance booking call Beth 01531 631503 or Malcolm 01684 833297 or email mortonmajestic@gmail.com.

Kempsey achieves SmartWater Village status

Kempsey has now become a SmartWater Village thanks to the success of a crime prevention initiative. The SmartWater scheme was first launched in September 2022, where SmartWater kits were distributed to residents of Kempsey and its hamlets, to help protect their valuables. SmartWater is a way of keeping valuable items safe by marking them with an invisible, water-based liquid. This assigns the item with a unique code, so it can be traced back to the owner, making it easier for them to be returned if stolen.

Since the launch, over 1,600 SmartWater property marking kits have been issued to Kempsey Parish residents through multiple sign-up events and door knocking sessions, supported by Kempsey Parish Council and Kempsey PACT (Partners And Communities Together).

SmartWater Village status is achieved when 80% of homes within a village have signed up to receive SmartWater kits to protect their valuables. SmartWater signage is now being installed throughout the village and surrounding parish hamlets, in an attempt to discourage organised and opportunistic crime.

Malvern Hills District Council allocated Section 106 funding towards the scheme, it also received additional funding to provide the kits from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), John Campion, under the 'We Don't Buy Crime' scheme

The delivery of the project has been a combined partnership from Malvern Hills District Council's Community Safety Team, Kempsey Parish Council, the Community Engagement Team at Platform Housing Group and the Kempsey and Alfrick Safer Neighbourhood Team at West Mercia Police.

Following Kempsey's success, the scheme is now looking to be made available in Severn Stoke, Croome and surrounding hamlets.

Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia, John Campion said: "SmartWater is a proven way to deter criminals by making properties safer. I am delighted, thanks to close partnership work with West Mercia Police and councillors from Malvern Hills District Council, that the biggest rollout of SmartWater in West Mercia has taken place in Kempsey. As part of my commitment to reduce crime, I will continue to support initiatives that keep our communities safe."

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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

Staunton & Corse Community Hub

We are pleased to announce that we now have Inches cider & Moretti lager on tap!

Opening hours Wednesdays - Fridays 11am - 3pm Fridays & Saturdays 5.30 - 10.30pm

Daytime Activities

Rhyme Time - Wednesdays, 11 - 11.30am
Knitting & crochet group - Thursdays, 11am - 12.30
Book Club - 1st Friday of the month, 11am
Gardening Group - Fridays, 11am - 1pm
Bridge Club - Fridays, 1-3pm

Events

Quiz Night - Friday 1st September, starts at 7pm, £8 per person (incl. food) - please contact us to book a table.

We are awaiting confirmation of our October date, but pleased to confirm Friday 24th November is confirmed, so put it in your diary.

Anything with wheels - Natter & Noggin - held every second Thursday of the month. The next events are: 14th September and 12th October from 7-9pm. Come and have a chat as the bar is open for drinks and we are also selling pizza's @ £5.

Bingo - Friday 8th September from 7pm . Minimum 6 games @ £1 a game (more cards available) Cash prizes paid out £5 a line (shared) and £10 a house per game. Next dates: 20th October, 17th November and 8th December.

Christmas Carol Evening on Friday 1st December from 6pm. We are pleased to kick off this years festivities with Leadon Vale Choir and a special appearance from Father Christmas. Complimentary mince pies provided.

If you would like to set up your own event or club please get in touch.

Staunton & Corse Community Hub

<u>Menu</u>

From the 1st September we'll be starting our Autumn/Winter menu, consisting of jacket potatoes & paninis with various fillings, soup and pizzas. Please keep an eye out for updates.

Homemade cakes, different each week.

Friday night food vans

8th September Miniyakis Japanese

15th September Dirty Boys Burgers

22nd September Marinades Caribbean

29th September Roly Poly Eats

13th October Dirty Boys Burgers

27th October Roly Poly Eats

3rd November Knights pulled meats & tacos

10th November Dirty Boys Burgers

Saturday nights

Food is only available for special pre-booked events in the cygnet function room. Please contact us if you have such an event coming up and we will be happy to discuss the options with you.

The Cygnet room is available for private bookings, so please get in touch to discuss your requirements.

If you have a few hours spare each week and would like to join out family of amazing volunteers please call 01452 840323, email theswancommunitygroup@gmail.com or message us via Facebook Messenger. Various roles and shifts are available.

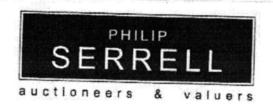
SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK, ELDERSFIELD AND BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
1st October	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Ezekiel 18. 1-4, 25-End Philippians 2. 1-13	Janet Peters	
17" Sunday after Trinity	Berrow Village Hall	10.30am	Harvest Café Church	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА
8 th October	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 5. 1-7 Philippians 3. 4b-14	Elisabeth Rambridge	Martin Knott
18 th Sunday after Trinity	Hollybush Church	6.30pm	Evensong	Proverbs 2. 1-11 1John 2.1-17	Liz Lean	Lis Ritchie
15th October	Pendock Cross Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Isiah 25. 1-9 Philippians 4. 1-9	Andrew Rambridge	l
19" Sunday after Trinity	Eldersfield Church	10.30am	All Age Worship for Harvest	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА
22 nd October	Birtsmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 45.1-7 I Thessalonians 1. 1-10	Bob James	Doug Braund
zu··· Sunday after Trinity	Eldersfield Church	6.30pm	Evensong	Proverbs 4. 1-18 1 John 3.16 – 4.6	Fiona Collins	Brian Woodcock
28 th October Saturday	Hollybush Church	2.30 – 3.30pm	Service of candle lighting for All Souls	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА
29 th October Sunday All Saints	Hollybush Church	10.30am	Holy Communion for All Saints	Revelation 7. 9 – End 1 John 3. 1 – 3	David Allen	Celia Greatwood

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
3 rd September	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Jeremiah 15. 15 – 21 Romans 12. 9 – End	Janet Peters	
13 th Sunday after Trinity	Berrow Village Hall	10.30am	Café Church	TBA	ТВА	TBA
10 th September	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Ezekiel 33. 7 – 11 Romans 13. 8 – End	Ruth Coates	Ann Ward
14" Sunday after Trinity	Hollybush Church	6.30pm	Evensong	Ezekiel 12.21 to 13.16 Acts 19. 1 20	Shirley Williams	Celia Greatwood
17 th September	Pendock Cross Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Genesis 50. 15 – 21 Romans 14. 1 – 12	Andrew Rambridge	
15" Sunday after Trinity	Berrow Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	ТВА	TBA	TBA
24 th September	Birtsmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Jonah 3. 10 to end of 4. Philippians 1. 21 – End	Mel Roberts	Doug Braund
16" Sunday after Trinity	Eldersfield Church	6.30pm	Evensong	Ezekiel 33. 23,30 – 34.10 Acts 26. 1.9 – 25	Matthew Collins	Brian Woodcock

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:



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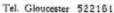
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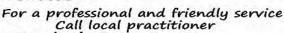
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