# The Benefice of Berrow

covering the Parishes of Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield, Hollybush and Birtsmorton

# The Benefice of Longdon

covering the Parishes of Longdon, Bushley, Castlemorton and Queenhill with Holdfast



Parish Magazine

# THE BENEFICES OF BERROW AND LONGDON MINISTRY TEAM

Rector Interregnum. There is no current full time stipendiary priest for these benefices. For general enquiries or to begin the process of arranging a baptism, wedding or funeral, please contact either the Benefice Administrator, Mrs Chris Glyde, or Rev Anthea Elston, contact details below

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Dear Friends,

One thing that really annoys me about courtroom dramas is when the barrister asks the suspect 'where were you on the evening of 14<sup>th</sup> December and what were you doing?' and the suspect answers with bizarre alacrity, 'I was at home, with my family, we were eating lasagne and watching Crimewatch'.

But that was nearly a year ago! I can't even remember what I watched last night without a lot of head scratching and emotional angst. (And that's not a good look with a jury.)

The requirement for memory starts in childhood with facts; times tables, history dates and where to put the recyclables. The middle section of life seems to be about using what we've remembered and the final section we spend berating ourselves for mostly forgetting where we left our glasses or why we've wandered into the kitchen.

It seems a mundane function and yet we're in a season marked by memory. Hopefully you'll have remembered to put the clocks back. Arriving at church an hour early is enough to remind most people although now our phones tend to do it for us automatically.

Very soon after we have Remember, Remember the 5<sup>th</sup> of November focusing on the Gunpowder plot, something which might even elicit a degree of sympathy as much as shock as we remember those who sought to put a rocket under Parliament.

But Remembrance Day is indubitably poignant. All of a sudden, the function of memory is elevated from a mere brain process to something sacred.

Instead of just not forgetting things, we're intentionally remembering people and for a host of good reasons.

We're remembering so that we may honour and thank those who've gone before, those who gave everything they had to fight the spread of evil.

We're remembering so that we may learn from their example. Hegel said that the only thing we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history.

I disagree. History is littered with people learning from history. – adapting, overcoming, creating.

The problem is not that we don't learn from history, we just struggle with understanding how to deal with evil, quickly realising that rational debate achieves little in quelling the dictator's drive for power.

And one of the most significant things we learn as we remember, is that peace comes at a price.

Ultimately we remember because God ordains it. In this sinful world where the Devil seeks to deny, to deceive, to destroy, to make us forget everything good and believe everything bad, God wants us to remember that He loves us, He has done everything necessary for us to be reunited with Him and that our highest purpose is to glorify Him and enjoy Him forever.

# Jeremy Cox Authorised Lay Minister

# **Editor's email address**

We are continuing to have intermittent problems with our Plusnet email address <a href="mailto:bandl@poolhay.plus.com">bandl@poolhay.plus.com</a> and would appreciate if contributors use our alternative email address <a href="mailto:g4cib@outlook.com">g4cib@outlook.com</a>

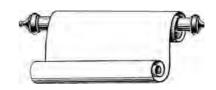
Many thanks

Brian and Leta

# **FROM**

THE

# **REGISTERS**



# **Weddings**

# St Thomas of Canterbury with St Peter and St Paul, Birtsmorton

13<sup>th</sup> September Anthony McLaughlin & Sasha McNeilly

27<sup>th</sup> September Adam Storey & Kirsty Ellis

8<sup>th</sup> October Adam Soley & Sophia Adorisio

# **Funerals**

# St John the Baptist, Eldersfield

19<sup>th</sup> September Patricia Keighley

# St Thomas of Canterbury with St Peter and St Paul, Birtsmorton

3<sup>rd</sup> October Christine Robertson

# Church of St Nicholas, Queenhill with Holdfast

10<sup>th</sup> October Jean Marsden

# Advent Course 2025

# Thursdays, 30 October – 27 November

Home Farm, Rye Street, Birtsmorton, WR13 6AS



We shall watch an episode each week of the acclaimed drama *The Chosen*, based on the life of Jesus and his teachings followed by discussion.

Do join us for a thought-provoking evening, starting with drinks at 7.00pm.

For further details, contact

Jeremy Cox: <a href="mailto:jeremycox@btinternet.com">jeremycox@btinternet.com</a>



# Eldersfield Lawn School Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November

We hope that you can join us for our next Quiz Night in the school hall. At half time we will be serving a Fish and Chip Supper (included) and there are prizes for the winning team. Tickets £12.50 pp.

On arrival, we will fit you into a team, or you can bring a group of up to 8 people yourselves.

Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start, food at 8pm and finish around 9.15pm; you are welcome to bring your own drinks. (Let us know in advance of any allergies.)

We hope that you can come and look forward to hearing from you.

<u>Tickets available from</u>: Liane Barton:07376 236504 <u>wendyburr455@gmail.com</u> Frieda Griffiths (07879 465853), Andy Holt 01452 780429, Cathy Powell-Chandler 01531 635794.

Proceeds to our beautiful church in Eldersfield.

TIRLEY CHURCH
CHRISTMAS TABLE-TOP SALE
AT TIRLEY VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 10AM - 2PM
£8 PER TABLE
COME ALONG AND ENJOY LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND
STOCK UP ON CHRISTMAS GOODIES!
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
PROCEEDS FOR TIRLEY CHURCH FUNDS

TO BOOK A TABLE AND FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT 01452 780136 OR 01452 780271

Corse and Staunton Village Hall
Car Boot and Jumble Sale
To be held on 15th November
Car Boot from 12 noon
Jumble Sale from 2.00pm



# **BCH Archive Journal Vol 5 in the pipeline!**

The 'History Girls' have been beavering away, with the help of fellow contributors, to produce a **new BCH Archive Journal**. This will be our fifth journal and will comprise a rich array of local history, ranging from articles based on research into the more distant past, to memories contributed by today's residents. It will be packed with names of people and places which should resonate with local inhabitants and anyone familiar with this corner of Worcestershire.

We aim to launch the new journal at a Christmas Party at Castlemorton Parish Hall in early December (more details to follow) to which anyone who would like to join us will be very welcome.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us, and for the information and memories they have contributed to the Archive.

To purchase past copies of our journals, please contact any of the History Girls - Mary Watts, Amanda Simons, Jenny Fryman and Diana Sharman - or visit the website (above) or email: bcharchive2017@gmail.com





# CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY!

Wednesday, December 3rd 2.30 - 4.30pm

at Castlemorton Parish Hall

# LAUNCH of BCH JOURNAL 5!

Copies will be on sale

Exhibition of Archives

Introductory talks at 2.45pm

ALL WELCOME!

Free Entry - Donations welcome





# Carols, Candles & Cake

(+Mulled Wine!)

# December 7<sup>th</sup>, 4 p.m. Eldersfield Church

This informal Carol Service is a chance to say **thank you** to everyone who has supported our church over the past year – at Quiz Nights, Concerts and events, not forgetting those who have cleaned, arranged flowers, cut grass, tended graves, helped organise events or joined us for services.

We hope that you can come and sing Carols by candlelight in an ancient tradition at Eldersfield dating back nearly 1000 years.

Enjoy pre-Christmas refreshments in a magical setting and get your Christmas off to a great start!



# Berrow & Pendock Village Hall WR13 6JN

# Christmas Quiz

Thursday 11th December 2025, 6.45 p.m. for a 7.00 p.m. start Finish 9.30 p.m.

£12.00 per person to include a welcome drink & a cheese platter



Teams of up to 6.
Christmas hamper for the winning team.
Raffle.
Bring your own drinks.

Pre purchase of tickets is essential – please email BerrowVillageHallMalvern@gmail.com

Raising money for our Heat our Hall project



# Eldersfield Church



# December 24<sup>th</sup> 5 p.m.

# Christingle & Crib by candlelight

We hope that you will join us on Christmas Eve for the annual service of celebration and preparation for Christmas Day. It is always a magical & exciting preparation for the children (and adults) awaiting the Big Day!

We will sing Carols and step-by-step add figures to build up the crib scene in the stable. After an update on how our community has changed children's lives by so generously supporting the work of The Children's Society, the light of hope and celebration will fill the church as the Christingles are lit; a memorable moment as we sing a Carol in the flickering candlelight. We hope you can join us.

# A collection will be taken for the work of The Children's Society

# A Tribute to Ann Cory 1939 to 2025

The following is an extract of a tribute to Ann, who sadly passed away in August. It was compiled by her friends from Eldersfield Church and the Berrow benefice and community choir:

For more than twenty years, Ann worshipped at Eldersfield Church and was a deeply valued and much-loved member of the congregation both within the parish and wider Benefice. Her journey with the church choir began when Wendy, delighted to find a fellow Congregationalist, invited Ann to join. She was a regular presence at Tuesday evening choir rehearsals, and her voice enriched weddings, village events, and weekly church services. Ann's participation in the choir and broader church activities continued faithfully until her return to Surrey in March.

With her sociable and easy-going nature, Ann seamlessly became an integral part of the community. Choir members cherished her delightful company, her cheeky smile, and her fun-loving spirit. She was unwavering in her support for all matters connected to the church and village life. Ann could often be seen out walking her terrier across Eldersfield Marsh and along the lanes, fully embracing and enjoying country life.

Following Ann's passing, choir members reflected on her kindness and her remarkable ability to make those around her feel special. She possessed a wonderful gift for listening, often remembering the details of people's lives and conversations. A favourite phrase of hers was, 'when is your book coming out?', a light-hearted remark she would use to express that someone's story was worth telling. This throwaway comment never failed to raise a smile and reassure you that Ann had genuinely been listening—an increasingly rare quality these days.

Many of us came together to watch Ann's funeral service at Guildford Crematorium in September, on line, with some also joining from their homes. That week, the choir sang some of Ann's favourite hymns together, holding her closely in our thoughts. Ann was not only a beloved friend but also someone whose character will remain forever intertwined within the spirit of our choir. We deeply miss her and send our love to Sarah and Simon, as well as to Ann's friends around the world.

# Community Events in the Berrow Benefice Volunteer, participate, celebrate, enjoy!

These are the hallmarks of a good community spirit. Two events were held recently at the Berrow and Pendock Village Hall, the excellent local facility we have which the Village Hall committee are working so hard to promote.

# Macmillan Coffee Morning

It's really important to take part in this national event, when so many of us have either experienced cancer or have family and friends who have. It was a fairly small group who gathered, but still £350 was raised and proudly sent off as our contribution. The hallmark of the Macmillan Cancer Support is the really practical help given: regarding physical and emotional support, and in giving benefits advice. We have in earlier years gathered at the Church of the Redeemer, but being in the hall was so lovely and certainly much more convenient for the organisers. Many thanks to all who came along. An unexpected and most welcome visitor was Kirsty, a member of the Wellbeing Team from Wyvern Age UK who came and stayed throughout explaining her role in the Being Well Malvern Hills project, another very worthwhile initiative to support the local community.

Emily Harris, Committee member, describes the fantastic time we had: **Pumpkin Festival Number 2 was a hit!** 

'The competition entries this year were just phenomenal.

What a talented community we have. Thank you, thank you to everyone who entered their pumpkins and craft-work, to everyone who came and joined in with the stalls and to everyone who came and had lunch and cake in the village hall. And a special mention to Pendock Primary School and Castlemorton for the stunning displays in the church. I appreciate how much hard work it is for you but it makes all the difference. Thank you. Your children are amazing.

We are surrounded by such lovely, warm enthusiastic people. It makes me so happy!'

The grand total of £500 was raised to support further developments at the Hall; there'll be more about that in future parish magazines.

Let Neil Gardner describe with the same gusto as he organised the - Farmers Arms Harvest Supper 2025

'Once again a packed marquee was the setting for our annual harvest supper, sold out after a whisper of the date was mentioned! After the small task of serving 61 hungry mouths was completed, it was on to the equally challenging job of extracting maximum bids from our audience.

Our resident auctioneer Charles Rambridge, was joined by assistant Camilla, by now adept at showcasing the various offerings, and attempting to garner interest from yet another box of apples!

Stars of the show included some beautiful crochet creations of pumpkins making £50, a real-life pumpkin grown and donated by a local child, making an equally impressive £40. Pickled onions once again perked the crowd up and got to £60 a jar! My locals delighted in running me up to pay £60 for a sponge cake I had made that morning! The top lot of the day was once again the harvest loaf, lovingly created by Jill Moore and once again hitting top spot at £150!

After spirited bidding the total raised from the auction was £1579, with a further £132 in very generous donations bringing that to £1711, a donation from the earlier supper means the total raised on the night was a staggering £1850! this will be split between Acorns Childrens Hospice and The Children's Society with each receiving £925. A massive thanks to all who attended, our fantastic auctioneer & assistant, and all of the staff and helpers who make this event possible.' Andy Holt, Churchwarden in the parish of Eldersfield, is an Ambassador for The Children's Society and was delighted by the outcome and very thankful to Neil and his team.

And a final word - recently, volunteers have stepped forward to help at Berrow Church and at Birtsmorton Church. The team at the Old Church Pendock have made a huge difference to the inside and churchyard. Please get involved: there are so many ways you can add to this special community. Volunteering is such a great way of getting to the heritage on our doorstep – and the people who live in this place. Contact me for more information: thank you!

Elisabeth Rambridge, andrewrambridge215@btinternet.com



# Thursday 20th November at 7:30pm The Ballad of Wallis Island

(12A-2025-99mins)

Every once in a while the filmmakers come up with a real humdinger. The Ballad of Wallis Island follows Charles (Tim Key), an eccentric lottery winner who lives alone on a remote island and dreams of getting his favourite musicians, McGwyer Mortimer (Tom Basden & Carey Mulligan), back together. His fantasy turns into reality when the band-mates and former lovers accept his invitation to play a private show at his home on Wallis Island. Old tensions resurface as Charles tries desperately to salvage his dream gig. At the heart of the film is Tim Key's extraordinary performance. With a captivating storyline and fabulous scenery this is an excellent film, especially in a time where most films seem to be about war or violence. This is a film not to be missed

Tickets £5 on the door

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

# The Eric Spragg Cup Match Report by Dereck Hartland

On a bright August afternoon, Eldersfield took on their old rivals Corse Lawn for the Eric Spragg Cup. Before the game had even started there was an unusual occurrence. Unbeknown to some of us the start of the game had been put back from 1.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. resulting in legendary Eldersfield allrounder Hughie Jones being the first Eldersfield player on the ground, probably for the first time in his illustrious career! As per normal the Spry brothers had prepared a good batting wicket so it was a bit of a surprise to see Eldersfield Captain James Green win the toss and put Corse Lawn in to bat. Corse Lawn kindly gave Eldersfield one of their players to make Eldersfield's number up to 10. When Corse Lawn batted, they made a good start until Harvey Sagar, bowling at a good pace from the Harold Davis end, took two wickets in two balls to slow down their progress. Corse Lawn's form player Srini Kamath (65) put them back on track, until Sagar came back to bowl him with the first ball of his second spell. Young Harvey finished up with the excellent bowling figures of 4-13 off his 7 overs. He was well supported by Leo Rendall Baker (2-27) but with Adam Fendt scoring a solid 46, Corse Lawn finished on a respectable 173-6 from their 35 overs. Eldersfield opened the batting with Leo Rendall Baker and George Bunn. On his day young Bunny is one of the most stylish batsman in village cricket, and fortunately for the Eldersfield followers this was his day as he stroked the ball to all parts of the Corse Lawn ground. He received good support from Rendall Baker (28) as they put on 80 for the first wicket. Captain Green came in at number 3 and did what he does best, running lots of quick singles. Slowly but surely the Captain and Bunny guided Eldersfield to their winning total with Bunny looking likely to get to his Century before Eldersfield reached their target, that was until Captain Green began to hit out and with only a few more runs needed, he was instructed to slow down, which he duly did. So it was rather fitting that Bunny should hit the winning four to reach a well deserved 102 not out and give Eldersfield an 8 wicket win. A game played in a good spirit had seen Eldersfield retain the Eric Spragg Cup. George Bunn was unsurprisingly named Man of the Match. This had been village cricket at its best. I think old Spraggy would have enjoyed this game, that's for sure!

# War Memorials in our Benefice

Recently, I was asked where the War memorial is in Berrow; and I know that sometimes the Preaching Cross just inside the churchyard is mistaken for a memorial. It made me think maybe it was time to reprise and update articles I wrote in 2018.

In the lead-up to 2014, and the start of the commemoration of a century since the First World War, a great deal of work was done thinking about how to mark this time, and much research was done on War Memorials. I saw an area of this in my role as a School Archivist. The most striking feature was the huge range of ways in which the fallen were remembered in their local communities, and invariably in churches and churchyards.

The memorials in the Berrow Benefice reflect that variety.

The War Memorial in Berrow is a brass plaque inside the Parish Church of St Faith, on the north wall. I always find it very moving that one of the six listed was the vicar's son.

In Birtsmorton and Hollybush, there are stone memorials in the churchyard, near the entrances. I imagine that would be a deliberate decision, as much as the placing of a font as you enter the church. Indeed, I try to remember as I walk along the path at Hollybush, past the 9-foot high granite cross; and it's interesting that this elegant memorial was listed – Grade II – before the church was.

At Birtsmorton, where the memorial is clearly seen from the road, my memory probably turns first to Ted Hill, much missed as the person who laid the British Legion wreath on the community's behalf.

Perhaps a little unusually – in Pendock the memorial is in the school. At Pendock Primary School, there is a wooden memorial, above the inside window to the reception office; it lists the former scholars who died. And again, surely the position would have been tenderly chosen, so that daily a glance would reaffirm remembrance, and that the sacrifice of those young men, not long out of school, would not be forgotten.

An illustrated Roll of Honour at Eldersfield lists the names of all who took

part in the war, as well as those who died. The reredos and the fine porch are also memorials to the fallen.

There were many creative gestures made to mark our respect. At Eldersfield, a group crocheted poppies to sell to raise funds for the British Legion, with enough to provide an evocative covering of them on the pulpit, that brought to mind the art installation Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red at the Tower of London saw 888,246 ceramic poppies filling the moat

Another commemorative project was led by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The aim of the initiative was to increase awareness of war graves in the United Kingdom and to remind the public that they need not travel abroad to find Commonwealth commemorations; and to put signage on churchyard gates.

There are these green and white signs on the gates to Hollybush and Eldersfield Church, and also I feel at Castlemorton Church. At Hollybush, the grave is on the left of the path as you approach the church. At Eldersfield, the sign is on the double gates, and the grave there is on the right side of the path above, five rows back.

# https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/

I'd forgotten these statistics for other cemeteries in Worcestershire. And it caught my eye that Pershore Cemetery has 70 graves, also that at St Faith's Overbury there are 5.

It was also hoped 1,400 bell ringers would be recruited by 2018, representing the number who died in the 'Great' war. I'm not sure how that has gone, but I do feel an extraordinary sense of completion in that the installation of 6 bells at St Faith's in 1915 was reduced to 5 by the outbreak of World War I. Not only had the funds not been raised but of course the bell foundries were then making munitions. The incredible donation of a 6<sup>th</sup> bell raised in June 2025 was marked by a full peal on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025. The ringing of our church bells is one of the most poignant ways we commemorate those who gave their lives in the service of others.

# Elisabeth Rambridge, Churchwarden

#### Job Vacancy:





**Castlemorton CE Primary School** is looking for a caring and enthusiastic person to run our after-school wraparound care (3–6pm, term time).

This important role helps support our children and families at the end of the school day.

Part-time and full-time options will be considered.

For more information, please contact the school office: office@castlemorton.dowmat.education

#### **Forthcoming Event:**



### Lest We Forget

# Saturday 8 November 10am until 1pm Castlemorton Parish Hall



An exhibition of World War memorabilia as supplied by residents follows the interest in last year's project of the restoration of Castlemorton War Memorial. This is an informal event offering the opportunity to view and read the information available.

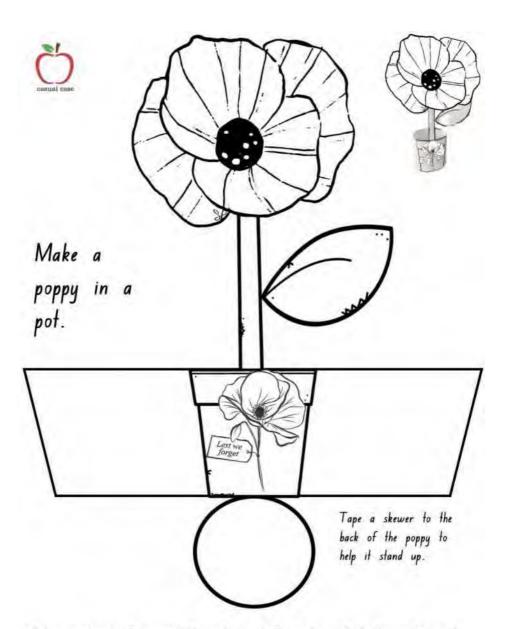
If you have any memorabilia you would like to share with others, please contact:

Christi na Leake: 01684 310409 Email: christi namorlea@gmail.com

# Job Vacancy:

**Castlemorton Parish Hall Trust** seek a cleaner for the Parish Hall for a couple of hours a week.

For more information please contact: manager@castlemortonparishhall.org.uk



Colour and cut all around the outside of the picture. Fold the circle up to form the base of the pot and curve the sides of the pot backwards to complete the pot. Secure with sticky tape.

November is the month in which we remember those who died for us in war; this year it is also the 80th anniversary of the start of the greatest war crimes trials in history - those at Nuremberg. You are likely to hear and read much about these trials, particularly what an exemplar of justice and impartiality they were, and as you do you may wish to retain some thoughts in mind.

The objective of the trials was to show to the world that the Germans had behaved badly and that the Allies, and in particular the Americans who were then dominant, could mete out justice fairly and proportionately. Much was at stake. A good number of convictions was essential for purely political reasons; acquittals, if any, would serve only to show that the trials were fair.

The best way to secure these convictions was to choose a playing field steeply canted in favour of the prosecutors. 'Impossible', I hear you say. Read on ...

In the London Charter agreed by the Allies in August 1945 a new offence was created: that of 'waging a war of aggression'. No definition of a 'war of aggression' was supplied and the interpretation of this term was left to the imagination of the judges. Not surprisingly they exercised that imagination in a manner which furthered the political interests of their motherlands. Six Germans were found guilty but in 1846 the United States had declared war on Mexico and seized one third of that country - the present Arizona and New Mexico - with a view to realising its dream of building an empire stretching 'from sea to shining sea'; the possibility of illegality was not even contemplated. And after Nuremberg, the United States went on to invade Vietnam, Grenada, Iraq and ... the list is long, but no court has found any of those wars to be a war of aggression. The fact is that the sole perpetrators of this crime in the whole of history have been the Germans, between 1939 and 1945.

Another stratagem was to create a crime of being party to a conspiracy with respect to the above (and two other) offences. A conspiracy is where a group of people act together in furtherance of a common aim. Under this definition every single German was guilty; whether you were a general in the SS or a private citizen who merely paid your taxes which funded the army, you aided the war effort and, under this definition, you were a conspirator and a potential target for the prosecutors. A law which criminalises an entire nation cannot be a good law.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For reasons of space references are not given here but are available on request

Established law was overthrown. At the Belsen trial, which had closed only two days before the Nuremberg Trials opened, it was accepted that a state could murder as many of its own citizens as it wished without violating international law (any such murders would be matters for its domestic law) but at Nuremberg that principle was considered too restrictive and was simply reversed and, for good measure, with retroactive effect.

Apart from the law, the proceedings of the court were carefully managed. The unprovoked attack in November 1939 by the USSR, then an ally of Germany, on Finland, was simply ignored. But that management was not perfect: Admiral Doenitz was charged that the orders he had given to his submarine fleet constituted war crimes but the American Admiral Nimitz pointed out that these were a mirror image of the orders he had given to US submarines. It was an unstated assumption that the Allies did not commit war crimes.

The political need to demonstrate German evil sometimes overcame good legal practice. It has been a principle of US law since 1791 that a defendant must be present at his trial in order to ensure that the trial is fair. This rule, considered essential for trials of Americans in America, was not thought appropriate for Germans at Nuremberg and was discarded. The prosecution could not find Martin Bormann but still wished to parade his alleged wrong doing before the world and so a trial was mounted. His advocate apologised that he had not been able to take instructions from his client and could not therefore provide a defence. The court duly passed a guilty verdict and imposed the death sentence. This was nothing more than a show trial for purely political purposes.

Other criticisms can be raised.

hearsay evidence is not permitted in criminal trials in either England or the USA because it is thought to be potentially prejudicial to the defendant; at Nuremberg it was freely admitted.

At Nuremberg 'I was only following orders' was expressly rejected as a defence but, at his court martial in the UK in 2006, Flt Lt Kendall-Smith was told that British soldiers 'cannot pick and choose which orders they obey'. That contradicts the Nuremberg ruling.

Benjamin B. Ferencz was a senior prosecutor and in 2005 admitted to having threatened certain witnesses with death if they did not provide evidence – and to having six killed<sup>i</sup>. Evidence obtained under duress is not admissible.

A hammer is good for some jobs, but not for all. The same is true of the law.

By asking the law to decide matters which it is not equipped to deal with, we do two things: we demean ourselves and we debase the law.

# **QUEENHILL AND DISTRICT WI REPORT October 2025**

After a successful Summer visit there, Queenhill WI members were very happy to welcome Philip Collins as our speaker on the subject of Sudeley Castle.

Once the business meeting was completed, we were keen to hear Philip's talk. He is an excellent speaker - and those of us whose hearing is not perfect were grateful for someone who spoke clearly and audibly as well as knowledgeably.

We enjoyed hearing a comprehensive account of the history of Sudeley Castle from the earliest times. It was a lovely mixture of lighthearted and entertaining stories about interesting people and their lives, and fascinating details of significant events in the past. There was so much that we don't usually get to hear about or read in guidebooks. What a treat!

Our meeting ended in the usual way with good food and conversation, raffle and competition items and plenty to look forward to next month.

Next month our meeting begins at the earlier time of 2pm on Thursday November 13th at WI Hall (WR8 0QZ). Neil Faram will talk about Upton Railway Bridges. There are many of us who know too little about our local area perhaps you, too, would like to know more. You would be most welcome to join us.

#### Harmonium for sale- offers invited

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# **Harvest Supper 2025 The Farmer's Arms**

**Neil writes:** Once again a packed marque was the setting for our annual harvest supper, sold out after the whisper of a date was mentioned!

After the small task of serving 61 hungry mouths was completed, it was on to the equally challenging job of extracting maximum bids from our audience. Our resident auctioneer Charles Rambridge, was joined by assistant Camilla, by now adept at showcasing the various offerings and attempting to garner interest from yet another box of apples!

Stars of the show included some beautiful crochet creations with some pumpkins making £50, a real life pumpkin grown and donated by a local child, making an impressive £40. Pickled onions once again perked the crowd up and got to £60 a jar! My locals delighted in running me up to pay £60 for a sponge cake I had made that morning! The top lot of the day was once again the harvest loaf, lovingly created by Jill Moore and once again hitting top spot at £150!

After spirited bidding the total raised from the auction was £1579, with a further £132 in very generous donations bringing that to £1711, a donation from the earlier supper means the total

raised on the night was a staggering £1850! This will be split between Acorns Children's Hospice and The Children's Society with each receiving £925.

A massive thanks to all who attended, our fantastic auctioneer & assistant, and all of the staff and helpers who made this event possible.



www.thechildrenssociety.org.uk

A massive 'Thank You' to Neil, the wonderful team at The Farmer's Arms and Charles Rambridge for all their hard work and generosity at the 2025 Harvest Auction raising £925 for The Children's Society. Well done to everyone who, again, supported the event so amazingly and generously. The Children's Society works with thousands of children across the U.K. helping those who are in danger and in desperate need of care and support.

Your ongoing help is changing children's lives.
Thank you.



Come and join us for the merriest of mornings!

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - Pole to Pole

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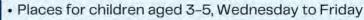
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# REVERSE ADVENT

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TINNED SWEETCORN 9	WASHING UP LIQUID 10	TINNED CARROTS 11	UHT MILK
SHAMPOO 13	SELECTION BOX 14	WASHING POWDER 15	BAKED BEANS <sub>16</sub>
TINNED CUSTARD 17	TINNED MEAT 18	JAM 19	BABY FOOD20
BISCUITS 21	TOOTHBRUSH 22	MINCE PIES 23	XMAS CAKE OR PUDDING 24





Collection Centres...

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Working in partnership to support the community

# The Berrow & Pendock Village Hall Committee are also looking for a new volunteer member to join the team.



As a committee member you will be helping us to ensure the future of the hall as a much-needed facility for the area.

You will be enthusiastic and hands on and keen to help us organise community events at the hall.

If you live in Berrow or Pendock and have a passion for helping your community and preserving a local historical building please get in touch.

Message Emily - 07899 984921

berrowvillagehallmalvern@gmail.com

# Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms

Although both benefices are in interregnum (ie without a full-time paid priest) at the moment, we are still able to be there for our communities to help with the milestone moments of life.

Our Churches are wonderful sacred spaces in which to celebrate a marriage or the birth and baptism of a child. We can provide all the help, guidance and expertise you need to plan out a service which works for you and your family. Our church buildings also provide the time and space to grieve – and to remember and give thanks for the life of a loved one who is no longer with us.

Your first point of contact to organize a wedding or baptism would be Rev Anthea Elston, contact details at the front of this magazine. For funerals, you will be working with your preferred funeral director who will get in touch with Rev Anthea to agree a suitable date and time.

Our medieval and more modern buildings are, first and foremost, places of worship, but they are also community spaces, where we would love to be able to help you to celebrate your times of joy and provide comfort and support in times of sadness. Please do be in touch with Rev Anthea or with your local church warden if we can help in any way.

# **Rev Anthea Elston**

# https://berrowlongdon.org.uk/resources

Services in the Benefices of Berrow and Longdon
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
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Queenhill Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 11. 1 – 10 Romans 15. 4 – 13	ТВА	ТВА
Z''' Sunday of Advent	Eldersfield Church	4pm	Carols, Candles and Cakes	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА
14th Documber	Bushley Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Isaiah 35. 1 – 10 James 5. 7 – 10	TBA	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of	Birtsmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 35. 1 – 10 James 5. 7 10	Mel Roberts	Doug Braund
Advent	Hollybush Church	5pm	Hollybush Christmas	TBA	ТВА	TBA
	Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Kaleidoscope	TBA	ТВА	TBA
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Longdon Church	7pm	Carol Service	ТВА	TBA	ТВА
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Bushley Church	7pm	Carol Service	ТВА	ТВА	TBA
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Castlemorton Church	7pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Queenhill Church	7pm	Carol Service	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА
21st December	Castlemorton Church	10.30am	Family Communion	Isaiah 7. 10 – 16 Romans 1. 1 – 7	ТВА	ТВА
4 <sup></sup> Sunday of Advent	Berrow Church	6.30pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА

23 <sup>rd</sup> December	Castlemorton Church	4pm	Crib Service	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА
24 <sup>th</sup> December	Eldersfield Church	5pm	Crib and Christingle	TBA	TBA	TBA
Christmas Eve	Hollybush Church	11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Isaiah 52. 7 – 10 Hebrews 1. 1 – 4	Shirley Williams	Liz Lean
25 <sup>th</sup> December	Queenhill Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 9. 2 – 7 Titus 2. 11 – 14	ABT	TBA
Christmas Day	Berrow Church	10.30am	10.30am Family Service	Isaiah 65. 17 25 Luke 2. 1 20	Elisabeth Rambridge	Ann Ward
28th December 1st Sunday of Christmas	Longdon Church	10.30am	10.30am Holy Communion	Isaiah 63. 7 – 9 Hebrews 2. 10 – End	ТВА	ТВА

Please Note: Compline will be held on Zoom Every Friday at 7.00 pm
Details of how to join Zoom services are published on the Berrow and Longdon Benefices website https://berrowlongdon.org.uk/resources



# Ethical Funeral Directors

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Rachele is our Colwall and Ledbury Funeral Director.









Wells Road, Malvern 01684 563983 www.jacksonfamilyfunerals.com



# Services in the Benefices of Berrow and Longdon

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

30th November		0	(	1. 0. 2. 1. 1.	ć H	ć H
1st Sunday of Advent	Busniey Church	10.30am	10.30am Holy Communion	Isalah 2. 1 – 5 Romans 13. 11 – End	IBA	BA BA

Details of how to join Zoom services are published on the Berrow and Longdon Benefices website Please Note: Compline will be held on Zoom Every Friday at 7.00 pm

https://berrowlongdon.org.uk/resources

# December / January Double Issue

Will all contributors please note that the next magazine is the December / January double issue so if you have any events taking place in January and early February please make sure we receive details by 10th November.

Services in the Benefices of Berrow and Longdon

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 November	Hollybush Church	3pm	All Souls Act of Remembrance for those	Philippians1 18 – 26 Luke 14 1.7 – 11	TBA	A/A
All Souls			we love but see no more			N/A
2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Queenhill Church	10.30am	Holy Communion f	Daniel 7. 1-3, 15-18 Ephesians 1. 11-End	ТВА	TBA
All Saints	Hollybush Church	5pm	Evensong	Isaiah 65. 17 - End Hebrews 11.32 – 12.2	Liz Lean	Celia Greatwood
9 <sup>th</sup> November	Bushley Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion Remembrance Sunday	Job 19. 23 – 27a 2Thessalonians 2. 1-5, 13 - End	ТВА	
Remembrance	Birtsmorton Church	10.45am	service	ТВА	TBA	ТВА
oullday	Castlemorton Church	10.45am	Service	ТВА	TBA	ТВА
	Queenhill Church	10.45am	Remembrance Sunday Service	ТВА	TBA	TBA
16 <sup>th</sup> November	Eldersfield Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	TBA	TBA	TBA
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent	Castlemorton Church	10.30am	Family Communion	Malachi 4. 1 – 2a 2Thessalonians3. 6-13	TBA	TBA
23rd November	Fldersfield	8 30am	BCP Holy Communion	Jeremiah 23. 1 – 6 Colossians 1 11 – 20	lanet Peters	
Christ the King	<b>Church</b> Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Jeremiah 23. 1 – 6 Colossians 1. 11 – 20	Elisabeth Rambridge	Doug Braund
	Longdon Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Jeremiah 23. 1 – 6 Colossians 1. 11 – 20	TBA	ТВА

Details of how to join Zoom services are published on the Berrow and Longdon Benefices website Please Note: Compline will be held on Zoom Every Friday at 7.00 pm

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Three Counties Showground, Malvern WR13 6NW

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Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Tirley Christmas Table-Top Sale

Tirley Village Hall 10am – 2pm

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