

June 2026

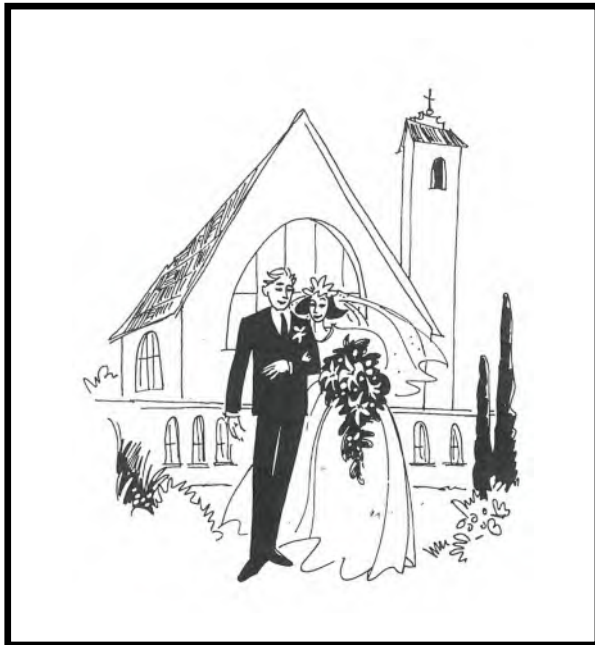
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The Benefice of Berrow

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

Associate Priest	The Rev Anthea Elston The Plough, Eight Oaks, Castlemorton WR13 6BU (Day Off – Friday)	01684 833278 revanth@eightoaks.com
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Pastoral Visitor	POST VACANT	
Benefice Choir	Mrs Mel Roberts BERROW WITH PENDOCK	01531 650698 melroberts5554@gmail.com
Churchwarden & P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs E Rambridge	01531 650230
Treasurer	Mr A Rambridge	01531 650230
BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH		
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P.C.C. Secretary	POST VACANT	
Treasurer	Mrs S Williams	01531 650431
BUSHLEY		
Churchwarden	Mr Mark Taylor	markrtaylor1976@gmail.com
P.C.C. Secretary	POST VACANT	
Treasurer	Mr S Evans	01684 296380
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Churchwardens	Mr M Lister Mrs S Musgrave	01684 631503 01684 310330 / 07715 562311
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Tower Captain	Miss J Peters	01452 840211

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Churchwarden	POST VACANT	
P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs T Mullins	trishmullins@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Rev'd G Moore	07961 505871

QUEENHILL WITH HOLDFAST

Churchwarden	Mr J Corbet-Milward	07796 983567
P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs N Inchbald	07785 280165
Treasurer	Mr L Kelly	07821 750855

BERROW VILLAGE HALL

Bookings	Caroline Samsonoff	07709 487883
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According to Rodgers and Hammerstein in their musical 'Carousel', "June is bustin' out all over". There is a tradition that, if a woman marries in June, she will always be a bride (Rodgers and Hammerstein had a song for that, too, but it's from a slightly dodgier musical). And keeping with the musicals theme, summertime is apparently "when the living is easy" (Gershwin, this time).

The month of June is named after Juno, an important and powerful Roman goddess associated with marriage, childbirth and youth. This may account for the close association of the month with marriage which is thought to have started during the Roman era. I suspect that, in our modern times, the prospect of better weather and the likelihood of at least some outdoor photography is much more of a factor.

So, what does the Bible have to tell us about summertime? Well, the Bible doesn't suggest that it is a good time to get married so let's allow the Romans to have the last word on that one, but it does reference summertime as a time of life and growth - something that also mirrors our spiritual abundance, too.

Jesus often used metaphors from everyday life in his teaching; and the abundance of summertime is no exception. On one occasion, He used a fig tree as a living object lesson - "as soon as its twigs become tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near." Of course, our everyday lives are rather different from those in first century Israel and not many of us see a fig tree coming into leaf at first hand but, nonetheless, we can all understand that the signs of nature can be seen and read. The disciples had been asking Jesus about the signs of His second coming. The response is not quite as clear as we might like but one thing is clear. Like the visible signs on the fig tree, when the time comes, no one will have the slightest doubt that something very significant is about to happen.

The summertime invites us outside (most of the time anyway) which gives us an opportunity for moments of rest and reflection. Next time you worship at one of our wonderful churches, take a little time to pause in the churchyard. We are blessed with beautiful spaces (and that beacon of early summertime - swifts - in at least one of them). It is a joy to pause and meditate or pray outside, and to connect with God's wonderful creation. Although if you are anything like me, pausing outside in the garden never lasts very long before you see something that needs tidying, staking, tying up or pruning

In all its glory, let's stop and savour the wonder, beauty and complexity of God's summertime.

PS. Just as I was about to send this article to Brian and Leta, I heard our first cuckoo of the year - how glorious! It's now a "Red List Species" and we are so lucky to have them here. Our yearly miracle all the way from Africa!

With love

Trish

Trish Mullins, Authorised Lay Minister

Rogation

Did you notice in the grid of services in May, the intriguing entry 'Rogation', Queenhill – on a farm!?

That did indeed take place led by Rev Gary Crellin, the Area Dean, with a service put together by Luke Kelly, Treasurer of Queenhill PCC, when nearly 30 of us gathered for prayer and praise at the key different settings of a farm. We began in the barn by the indispensable work horse of modern farming a tractor; on then through the fields to look out over a lush green landscape for a superb view over to Upton. We heard the challenges of the weather and especially flooding, and looked towards in the distance a very fine group of cattle. Rev Gary was determined the proper order be followed and so we moved to where a splendid group of younger cattle joined in with the congregation 'attentively'. This was by some water so prayers could be offered there too. We then moved to the farmhouse where we remembered the reality of the incredibly hard work that is involved in being a farmer in these challenging times.

An excellent tea came out of the generosity of parishioners across the two benefices in responding to a call for a 'bring and share'.

The hymns chosen were the great anthems to the natural world – All things bright and beautiful and We plough the fields and scatter – with also the most tender of reminder ~

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green: he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

And have I strayed? Here is the answer. Rogation Sunday is the 5th Sunday after Easter Day and when traditionally from the Latin 'rogare' 'to ask' blessings were sought for the land, the crops and the livestock. Sometimes there is a reference too, to the 'beating of the bounds' which is just that - checking on borders and boundaries. It's thought these ceremonies came to Britain in the 7th century.

The most sincere thanks go to Mike Guilding of Southend Farm who welcomed us so warmly and informed us so wisely.

Elisabeth Rambridge

Bishop Hugh's art competition for Students in Church Schools across the Diocese are being encouraged to get creative and enter our new diocesan art competition.

We are looking for pieces of art which represent the biblical themes of faith, hope and love, with the winning entries displayed on the wall of Bishop Hugh's office in Worcester.

Pupils of all ages are welcome to take part and can produce their artwork as individuals or in pairs. There will be one winner each from EYFS & Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2 and Key Stages 3 & 4 and all the winning entries from each of our schools that enter will also form part of a public display in the Cathedral.

It is hoped that schools might integrate the competition into RE or Arts lessons and encourage as many entries as possible. One winner for each Key Stage will be chosen by each school and more information will then be provided as to where these final pieces should be taken before the end of term for judging by Bishop Hugh over the summer.

We are hoping that all entrants will be exhibited at Worcester Cathedral at some point during the summer with the overall winners announced at an event in September. The winners will be invited to afternoon tea with Bishop Hugh to see their artwork hanging in his office.

Parishes can also take part in the competition with their children's or youth group. Please get in touch with us on education@cofe-worcester.org.uk to make arrangements to do this.



Saturday June 20th, 5 - 8 pm.
Strawberries, cream teas &
Grand Summer Auction at Eldersfield Court

Tour the beautiful gardens, enjoy Cream Teas &
Strawberries

Short interlude with songs by local choir,
followed by Grand Auction:

Auctioneer Charles Rambridge

Lots from cakes to firewood – from meals out to pamper hamper, fitness session to fine wine and many more lots.

The cash bar will be open throughout.

There will be a cash raffle.

Entrance by ticket: £10, children free.



Please contact one of the team for your ticket and to reserve your place: Liane Barton: 07376 236504. wendyburr455@gmail.com Frieda Griffiths (07879 465853), Andy Holt 01452 780429, Cathy Powell-Chandler 01531 635794.

Proceeds to our beautiful church in Eldersfield



Love Your Burial Ground Week
&
Churches Count on Nature
Saturday 6 to Sunday 14 June

Caring for God's Acre was established in 2000 as a national charity, promoting the conservation of burial sites and supporting the people who look after and maintain them.

Here's a message from them ~

We would love to know about the wildlife you see in churchyards, cemeteries, or other types of burial grounds (in the United Kingdom).

Across the UK, there are over 25,000 burial sites, ranging from small & big rural churchyards to large urban cemeteries.

These sites serve as wonderful sanctuaries for our native wildlife. By gathering records, we can discover just how important they are, and use this information to make better management decisions.

*Let's join in this national project at
St Faith's Church by counting the swifts.*

From Monday 8 June to Friday 12 June,

I'll be in the churchyard from **6 pm to 7pm** which tends to be a great time for swift-spotting and photographing them.

Do join me! Elisabeth



The Swifts of
St Faith's Church, Berrow

Elisabeth Rambridge, Churchwarden
of Berrow with Pendock,
will share some insights
into the colony of swifts that return yearly,
as well as more general commentary
on swifts from her reading.

She's not a specialist - she is an enthusiast!

There's nothing better than seeing these wonderful
birds for yourself, so do come along to a talk in the
Berrow and Pendock Village Hall,
which has recently been refurbished –

Saturday 6 June, 5.30 to 6pm

followed by -
the chance to see where the swifts
nest in the eaves of the church &
(on a prayer and a wing)
swifts in action!

Suggested donation £5 to support the Village Hall

CaCoffany!

**St Gregory's Church, Castlemorton
WR13 6BQ**

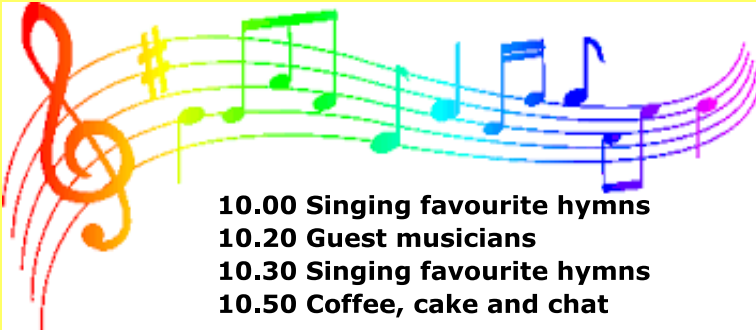
Saturdays 10.00-11.30am

2026 Dates

**6 June, 4 July
5 September, 3 October, 7 November,
5 December (Christmas Special)**

A monthly coffee morning
with the chance to sing uplifting hymns and listen to guest musicians

No singing experience needed – just come and sing
or simply enjoy the coffee and delicious cakes!



**10.00 Singing favourite hymns
10.20 Guest musicians
10.30 Singing favourite hymns
10.50 Coffee, cake and chat**

**Email Sarah with your requests for the programme
sjmusgrave33@gmail.com**

*No admission charge
Proceeds from Bring and Buy stall support maintenance of our lovely church
Donations appreciated*



All Welcome!



Kaleidoscope

at St Gregory's Church, Castlemorton
6.30pm on the Second Sunday of each month



A lay-led, relaxed and informal service featuring a variety of worship music, bible readings, prayer and a short address

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father,
Who art in Heaven
Hallowed be thy name
Thy Kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive our trespasses
As we forgive those who
trespass against us
And lead us not in to temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the Kingdom
The Power and the Glory
Forever and ever
Amen

Throughout 2026 we shall examine
in greater depth a phrase of
The Lord's Prayer each month.

14 Jun	On Earth as it is in heaven
1 Jul	Give us this day our daily bread
9 Aug	Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us
13 Sep	Lead us not into temptation
11 Oct	But deliver us from evil
13 Dec	For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever, AMEN

To give you an idea of the hymns and songs we use, the music which supported January's theme was

Pater Noster (before the service)
How Deep the Father's Love for Us
And He Shall Give his Angels charge Over Thee – from Mendessohn's *Elijah*
Father, I place into Your Hands the things I cannot do
Our Father – Don Moen
Great is Thy Faithfulness
A Clare Benediction – John Rutter

All are very welcome - do come along and join us!

Sherry and non-alcoholic alternatives are served after all Kaleidoscope services.



BIRTSMORTON
CASTLEMORTON
HOLLYBUSH

LOCAL HISTORY .
www.bcharchive.org.uk

COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday JUNE 24th, 10.30-12.30

Castlemorton Parish Hall

*Illustrated talk by David Smallwood: "Coombe
Green Common"*

Local History Archives on display; refreshments

BCH Journals on sale

FREE ENTRY: DO JOIN US - ALL WELCOME!



Delhi Home-Style Yellow Gobi Matar

Recipes go international!

Ingredients

- 1 small cauliflower cut into small florets
- 250g peas (frozen)
- 1 tsp cumin seeds
- 1 green chilli
- ½ inch ginger chopped
- ¾ tsp turmeric
- 1 tsp coriander powder
- Salt
- 1 tbsp oil

Method

1. heat oil
2. add cumin til they sizzle
3. add ginger + green chilli
4. cook them for a few minutes
5. add cauliflower + turmeric + salt + coriander powder.
6. stir well.
7. add a tiny splash of water only
8. cover low heat 10–12 mins
9. add peas near end.
10. cook until soft and slightly “melded together”

Serve with steamed rice and a cucumber raita (mix yoghurt with grated cucumber add pinch of cumin powder - and add salt just before serving)

Enjoy your **Cauliflower (gobi) and pea (matar) curry**,

*With good wishes from **Lucy***

in India

And let's hope for a hot summer!



3rd Berrow and Pendock Pumpkin Festival

**Saturday 17th October 2026
12 p.m. ~ 3 p.m.**

Berrow and Pendock Village Hall, WR13 6JN

**We're back!!!
SAVE THE DATE!
Get your seeds ready for planting!**

Once again, due to the huge success of the last two years, we will be hosting pumpkin growing competitions, arts & crafts competitions and photography. There will also be teas, homemade soup, sausage rolls & cakes in the village hall. Many fun stalls in the church yard.

Grow your own pumpkins and squash and enter our competitions

For information or details on competition classes please contact us at:

BerrowVillageHallMalvern@gmail.com

Or message us on our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/BerrowAndPendockVillageHall





WHY DO FAMILIES CHOOSE ELDERSFIELD?

Ofsted

Outstanding school, inspected 2016
and 2019, with a well-earned



4 residential visits from Year 3 - 6



Professional weekly rugby coaching



Extensive co-curricular opportunities including Young Voices and London trips



Beautiful rural grounds including professional rugby posts and a weather running track



Church and school partnership award



Parent led Equestrian club



Pro-active and supportive PTFA

ACADEMIC RESULTS



100% KS2 SATs in Reading, Grammar, punctuation and spelling and Science in 2023



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www.eldersfieldlawn.worcs.sch.uk



The Siblings Peal

At the end of April a full peal was scored by two sets of siblings. Malcolm Taylor who has done so much to look after the bells at St Faith's Church for many years and who played a pivotal role in the installation of a sixth bell organised this splendid grouping and occasion. He was joined by his brother Bernard, in his time, Tower Captain of Worcester Cathedral, as well as their sister Hilda. Richard Clements led the other group of siblings, joined by his brother Michael and Elizabeth.

Whenever a peal is attempted at St Faith's I go to be there – and am in awe of those who take part. Richard has already written for us about the bells, and I felt brave enough that day to ask him some questions and whether he might allow his answers to be published.

Elisabeth: It seems taking part in a peal is an act of endurance. Please explain some of the qualities you need: is it mental perseverance or physical – or both? And do you prepare beforehand?

Richard: A peal takes anything from two and a half to four and a half hours – largely depending on the weight of the bells. Most ringers who ring peals are more experienced and most peals are rung on bells of about average weight like Berrow. With good technique and given bells that are reasonably easy to ring there is no great physical endurance or effort required. To achieve good ringing a high level of concentration to avoid mistakes is needed. The conductor also needs to concentrate not just on his or her own bell but also giving the instructions to the band throughout the peal having learnt the composition beforehand – no visual aids are allowed.

Elisabeth: I always ask ringers to write an entry in the Visitors' Book and am intrigued by all the references, and quaint names. Please can you explain how these come about.

Richard: Ringing has a lot of its own jargon; indeed, to a non-ringer it might sound like a language of its own. Some phrases such as "ringing the changes" have passed into general use. Ringing in the English manner probably developed from the late 1500s. Fairly soon the aim became to ring the bells in a different order from one pull ("stroke") to

the next; the order in which the bells strike often being called a “change”. The patterns for generating these changes are called “methods”. Method names can be quaint. Examples are Primrose Surprise Minor (one of the methods we rang in the recent peal at Berrow), or London Scholars’ Pleasure Treble Bob Minor. The last word in the name indicates how many bells are involved in the method; “Minor” indicating 6 bells. The band that first rings a significant length of a new method has always had the privilege of naming the method though there are rules about using the same name for methods on different numbers of bells. The number of methods that have been rung and named is in the thousands – already – and new methods are being named all the time.

Elisabeth: There’s lots of camaraderie amongst bell-ringers and I enjoyed hearing the good ‘craic’ (as my Northern Irish brother-in-law would have described it). The numbers of peals members of the band had achieved seemed incredible – 1000, 2000, and so on. How do peals come about? Is it that one wants to mark an anniversary? Or try with a different set of bells - or indeed a different set of ringers?

Richard: Ringing is generally a friendly activity. I could turn up at a practice night at a distant tower where I knew none of the ringers and be confident that I would be made welcome and be invited to ring with them. This is helped by the publication of a weekly magazine, the Ringing World. All peals, to be accepted by the Central Council of Church Bellringers must have their details published in the Ringing World. Hence an active peal ringer will probably be recognised by name by other ringers who he or she has never met. A few ringers accumulate a large number of peals over the years – the leading peal ringer to date has rung over 8000 peals. The average number of peals rung by the members of the band in the peal at Berrow was over 1000.

Peals are rung for a variety of reasons. Some mark important events such as coronations or anniversaries, or the death of a local or national figure. Some mark local events. A lot are rung to help develop the skills of those taking part – a peal provides opportunity to try to produce high quality ringing giving time for the band to fully master the bells. Some are rung to meet the challenge of ringing particularly heavy or difficult bells or to ring a complicated method. On your final point I have rung peals with over 1100 different ringers at more than 450 different towers.

Elisabeth: You know I'm always interested in the history of stuff – when did the first peal ever take place? How did it come about?

Richard: The first recorded peal took place at St Peter Mancroft church Norwich on 2nd May 1715. The method was Grandsire Bob Triples. "Triples" indicates that it was rung on 7 working bells (with the tenor "covering" (i.e. ringing last in each change) for musical effect) which have a possible 5040 different changes. This became accepted as the minimum number of changes to be rung for a performance to qualify as a peal. Since then nearly a third of a million peals have been rung, the majority being since WWII. Michael is a member of the Sunday service band at Mancroft. Elizabeth rings at Great St Mary Church in Cambridge which had its first peal in 1725. Peals were rare by current standards until the late 19th century.

Elisabeth: This peal was to celebrate the first peal your sister Elizabeth rang – at St Faith's some 50 years ago. What sort of age do ringers first have a go?

Richard: The starting age varies. It depends on a person's stature to some extent, but I have known children as young as 10 learning to handle a bell. My preference would be for a learner to start at about 11 or 12 years old, but I have known people start in their early 40s or later and become useful ringers. All the band in the recent peal came from families where earlier generations were ringers. Even a well-coordinated person will take some time when well taught to ring a bell well. If someone rings their first peal within 12 months of starting to ring, they have done well.

This is all so fascinating – thank you very much, Richard, for answering my questions, and I'm delighted there will be more in next month's magazine.

Elisabeth Rambridge, Churchwarden

1st Staunton & Corse Scout Group

The 1st Staunton & Corse Scout Group is a thriving local Scout Group that currently has around 75 young people in three sections: Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

We also have 14 adult volunteers running these sections: 6 with the Scouts, 5 with Cubs and 3 with Beavers.

Due to ill health our current Beaver leader is having to step down and we are wanting to recruit a new Beaver Leader for the start of the Autumn term in September.

Beavers are our youngest section and is for boys and girls from the ages of 6 until 8 when they move up to Cubs. Beavers meet on a Monday at 5pm and finishes at 6:15pm. No previous scouting experience is necessary as full training will be provided.

You will have to pass a DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service) and complete mandatory training: Safety, Safeguarding and First Response.

Age is not an issue. We can take male and female adult volunteers from the age of 18 to..... as long as you are able to stay!

We also run an annual 5 night summer camp which you would be invited to participate in!

If you are interested and want to know more then please email me (Tim Brown) at :

stauntonandcorse@forestofdeanscouts.org

This is an essay about a country called Israel; it is not about Jews, who are largely irrelevant to my theme.

The state of Israel saw its first morning (as did I) on 15th May 1948. It was the flowering of the seed planted by the Balfour Declaration of 1917 which foresaw a land shared by Jew and Arab in which 'nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine'. How differently it has turned out!

The first 78 years of the new state's existence have been marked by constant war: 1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, 2006, 2014 and from 2023 to today. You might think that such a long series of conflicts betrays a bellicose streak in the Israeli character and not a pacific one. Given the experiences of the initial Israeli settlers from war-torn Europe this may be understandable.

These wars have been made possible in large measure by substantial American help, by Americans beguiled by the idea of immigrants settling in a foreign land and associating it with their own genesis. That help has often been military, with Israel being the largest single recipient of American arms for many years. That help has not been driven by unalloyed altruism. Wars require weapons and people who make weapons become rich; those people also fund political parties. The confluence of personal interests in Washington has global implications.

Israeli actions in Gaza are instructive. No one can dispute that the Hamas attack of October 2023 was outrageous and that a response, a severe one, was justified - but on condition that it was reasonable and proportionate. So what has the response been?

Gaza is, or was, a community of some two million people of whom half were under the age of 18 – children. Half were female. It had schools and universities, hospitals and a working, albeit fragile, system of electricity and water supply, and sanitation¹.

Since October 2023 Israel has received \$21 bn of military aid from the USA and this has been used to inflict enormous damage. With it, Israelis have killed 72,000 Gazans and wounded 173,000 – i.e. more than 10% of the population. Most, if not all, of the educational establishments and hospitals have been severely damaged or destroyed. Electricity and water are scarce and sewage flows in the streets. Of the houses, 90% have been rendered uninhabitable; today we live in an era of precision weapons but photographs show scenes reminiscent of Dresden, Hamburg and Berlin.

¹ For reasons of space references are not given here but are available on request

The famous apophthegm of Tacitus comes to mind: 'they created a desert and called it peace'.

The Israeli Defence Forces, who describe themselves as the 'most moral' in the world, do not allow free access to foreign media organisations. Nevertheless there are Arab journalists within Gaza and the respected Committee to Protect Journalists, based in New York, says that 'Israel is engaging in the deadliest and most deliberate effort to kill and silence journalists'ⁱⁱ. The most moral army in the world may have something to hide.

This policy of erasing the enemy is now being applied elsewhere. The Israelis see Iran as an existential threat which on their own they cannot eliminate. By persuading Trump to join them in a war they might have a chance. It does not matter to them whether the war is short or long, so long as the destruction of Iran is achieved. The Americans have used their air force to great tactical effect and destroyed much Iranian military matériel but they have failed in one significant manner: they have failed to understand that Iran, by controlling the Straits of Hormuz, holds a strategic ace. And as Sun Tzu said, tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat. They must now either fold or prepare for a long campaign.

Both, for the Americans, constitute defeat. That defeat will have a number of consequences. Some Gulf states are already questioning whether hosting American forces is an asset or liability and this could lead to a reduction in the presence in the theatre of such forces; other countries will necessarily ask themselves the same question. The Iranian Supreme Leader who disavowed nuclear weapons has been killed and the power of the hard-line IRGC has been increased. And the lesson has been sent to all potential nuclear powers that to be safe from attack by the Americans it is better to have the bomb than not: Gaddafi and Saddam Hussein did not learn that lesson but Kim Jong Un has.

Israel has now sets its sights on the Lebanon and is trying to replicate in that country its accomplishments in Gaza: to date (end April 2026) 14% of the country is occupied; 2,000 people have been killed and large areas razedⁱⁱⁱ. It will have made few friends.

America has displayed to the world its suit of emperor's clothes. Its influence is on the wane. We can expect to see American military presence in the world decline, its forces being both pulled out by an American public tired of foreign ventures and pushed out by countries who see the US as a liability. If that happens, Israel – whose support by the American public is in precipitous decline^{iv} - and Iran will be left to decide matters themselves.

And Israel is the only state in the Middle East with nuclear weapons.

Candles for Ukraine

This is an initiative to collect used candles and tins to repurpose into “trench candles”, these are wax filled tins with a wick that can be used for heat, light and cooking on the frontline and blacked out areas of Ukraine.

Further information can be found online by searching for “Candles for Ukraine”

What is Needed:

Cans - Empty, clean 400g food cans, without a plastic lining.

Wax – Old, new or partially used candles. The wax will be melted down to fill the tins.

Where to Donate:

Please leave any donations in Hollybush church porch.

Reptomania

Coming to Corse and Staunton Village Hall on

Saturday 11th July from 1.00pm to 4.00pm

Entrance £3 per person. Family of 4 £10

Opportunity to handle reptiles

Other activities will be taking place

Refreshments available

Margaret Griffiths

Margaret Griffiths lived in The Old School House, Queenhill for 59 years. Her ashes were interred in Queenhill Churchyard on her birthday, 21st April this year, and some spread in the garden of her beloved home.

Born in 1937, Margaret grew up in North Wales, firstly on Anglesey and later in St Asaph and Ruthin where her father was a bank manager. She loved nothing more than riding bareback amongst the Welsh hills on her pony for hours, happily alone in that beautiful landscape. Her father came from a farming family and continued to keep sheep and cattle even when he began to work for the bank. It was Margaret, not her brother David, who helped her father with the stockkeeping and something she willingly did. Margaret was sent to Clarendon boarding school, Kinmel Hall, where she was educated alongside the Granddaughters of the Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia.

After leaving school Margaret went to Radbrook Agricultural College where she learned poultry management and cheese making before finding a job on a Cheshire dairy farm. She spent three years making cheese and working on the farm. Time off was spent riding a failed, difficult to handle racehorse – a challenge she really enjoyed. Following that she moved south to work with bull terriers and Irish setters before coming to Tewkesbury where she worked in a hotel. It was there that she met her future husband, Bill, and came to live at the Old School House which Bill purchased at auction. Sadly, it was not a happy marriage. Following the divorce and time living elsewhere, Margaret came back to live at the Old School House. The garden, keeping chickens, breeding and training golden retrievers were her passions. She worked as a milk recorder on local farms, ran a B and B and, for a number of years, was a valued member of staff at The Boynes Nursing Home. Not renowned for her patience, Margaret was quite wonderful with animals, the sick, the old and the infirm. When it came to people she knew and met it was always pretty obvious who she decided she liked – and who she didn't!

Although Margaret always toyed with the idea of going back to Denbigh she never did. Being in Queenhill, surrounded by people she knew well and in the home she loved above all, was where she wanted to be. Life became difficult when walking became a problem and she could no longer get out into the fields with her dog. Latterly she would walk with her dog down to the Church where she would sit inside the church or in the porch. She would reminisce about good friends who had died and were buried there. Her physical decline was followed by an operation on her knee and then mental health deterioration when she lost the will to live. After several spells in hospital Margaret died peacefully in The Boynes on 7th November 2025. Margaret was a great character and will be much missed by all who knew her, especially her friends and neighbours in Queenhill.

Sharing a Local Initiative Supporting Adults with Reading Confidence

Many of us take reading for granted, but for some adults, it can be a daily challenge. There are people in our local communities who struggle with reading and this can make everyday tasks such as understanding letters, filling in forms or reading instructions feel overwhelming.

Read Easy South Worcestershire is a local charity offering free, confidential, one-to-one reading coaching for adults who would like to improve their reading confidence. Each learner is supported by a fully trained and DBS-checked volunteer, meeting regularly in The Hive library in a relaxed and friendly way. There are no classrooms, no tests and no cost, simply patient support at a pace that suits the individual.

Building reading confidence can make a real difference. It can help people feel more independent, self-assured and enable them to manage everyday life more easily.

You may not know if someone struggles with reading as it is often hidden. Sometimes, a gentle conversation or simply being aware that support exists can make all the difference.

Read Easy works well as a simple signposting option and we often find that friends, family members or others in the community are aware of someone who might benefit from this kind of support.

If you, or someone you know, would like to find out more, please contact our Coordinator, Lynn, on 07749 093 207 or via email at swcoordinator3@readeasy.org.uk

Together, we can help more people in our community discover the confidence and joy that reading can bring.

From the Archives June 1988 (Gardening Notes submitted by Godfrey Baseley)

GARDENING NOTES FOR JUNE

This is the month of the Rose, and there are a number of jobs to be carried out in order to obtain the best results.

First, protection from pests and diseases. Damage from Greenfly and Blackspot can be avoided if the bushes are given the protection of an early spraying, and this is then continued at regular intervals. Early mornings or late evenings are the best time for spraying.

A number of 'twiggy' growths where there is no sign of buds forming, will need to be trimmed off the bushes. Cut these back close to the stem from which they emanated.

Roses pay for feeding with a liquid fertiliser. I have always found that Epsom salts at the rate of one ounce to two gallons of water will be much appreciated, and the leaves will take on a good glossy appearance. Ask your chemist for commercial or agricultural Epsom salts. Liquid feeds are best applied when the soil is already in a moist condition.

If grass mowings are free of weed seeds, they make an excellent mulch for roses, and also help to suppress weeds. Again apply when the soil is moist.

If you wish to be able to produce specimen blooms, it is wise to start to bisbud at the earliest possible stage, always taking great care not to damage the terminal bud.



Move it or Lose it classes are held every Tuesday at Castlemorton Village Hall at 2pm. The first lesson is free so that you can give it a try.

Move it or Lose it is a UK wide organisation based in Birmingham. Move it or Lose it believes that staying active should be fun, friendly and accessible to all.

The fitness classes are designed specifically to help the over 60s to stay young by improving strength, flexibility, aerobic capacity, balance and overall health as we age, helping us all to live life to its fullest!

The classes are led by specifically qualified and trained Instructors. Developed in conjunction with the Centre for Healthy Ageing Research at the University of Birmingham the exercises can be done either standing or seated without the need for floor work! Experts on our Advisory board include the founder and CEO Julie Robinson, Professor Janet Lord CBE and Professor Sir Muir Gray CBE. Our classes are often recommended by NHS professionals.

Jane has been involved in the fitness industry for several years. After taking early retirement from her business in Hanley Swan she loves being able to devote her time to teaching six classes per week in the area.

Regular movement is not just good for your body, it also boosts mental well-being, so improve your fitness, confidence and make new friends. Come along and join us – no need to book - it's fun and friendly and the first lesson is free!

Contact – Jane Creese 07879671080

Email – jane.creese@moveitorloseit.co.uk

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

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
5 th July 5 th Sunday after Trinity	Queenhill Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Zechariah 9:9-12 Romans 7:15-25a	TBA	TBA
	Hollybush Church	5pm	Evensong	2 Samuel 2:1-11, 3:1 Luke 18:31-19:10	Liz Lean	Celia Greatwood
12 th July 6 th Sunday after Trinity	Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Start the Week	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Bushley Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Isaiah 55:10-13 Romans 8:1-11	TBA	-----
	Britsmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 55:10-13 Romans 8:1-11	Mel Roberts	Doug Braund
19 th July 7 th Sunday after Trinity	Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Kaleidoscope	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Castlemorton Church	10.30am	Family Communion	Isaiah 46:6-8 Romans 8:12-25	TBA	TBA
	Eldersfield Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	TBA	TBA	TBA
26 th July 8 th Sunday after Trinity	Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Start the Week	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	1 Kings 3:5-12 Romans 8:26 – end	Janet Peters	
	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	1 Kings 3:5-12 Romans 8:26 – end	Elisabeth Rambridge	Ann Ward
	Longdon Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	1 Kings 3:5-12 Romans 8:26 – end	TBA	TBA
	Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Start the Week	TBA	TBA	TBA

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>

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 th June 1 st Sunday after Trinity	Queenhill Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Hosea 5:15 – 6:6 Romans 4:13–end	TBA	TBA
	Hollybush Church	5pm	Evensong	1 Samuel 18:1-16 Luke 8:41-end	Grenville Simons	Liz Lean
	Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Start the Week	TBA	TBA	TBA
14 th June 2 nd Sunday after Trinity	Bushley Church	7pm	Songs of Praise!	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Bushley Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Exodus 19:2-8a Romans 5:1-8	TBA	-----
	Birtsmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Exodus 19:2-8a Romans 5:1-8	Elisabeth Rambridge	Cathy Powell-Chandler
21 st June 3 rd Sunday after Trinity	Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Kaleidoscope	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Castlemorton Church	10.30am	Family Communion	Jeremiah 20:7-13 Romans 6:1b-11	TBA	TBA
	Eldersfield Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	TBA	TBA	TBA
28 th June 4 th Sunday after Trinity	Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Start the Week	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Romans 6:12 - end	Fiona Collins	Doug Braund
	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Romans 6:12 - end	Ros Willder	TBA
Longdon Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Romans 6:12 - end	TBA	TBA	
Castlemorton Church	6.30pm	Start the Week	TBA	TBA	TBA	

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
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Director of Training and Resources at Biblical Counselling UK



<https://abbeychurch.net/event/ladiesday/>

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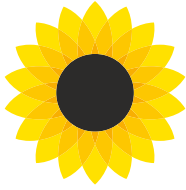
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