

# PARISH MAGAZINE

for

Ashton-under-Hill

Beckford

Overbury

Alstone

Teddington

Don't you imagine the leaves dream now  
how comfortable it will be to touch  
the earth instead of the  
nothingness of the air and the endless  
freshets of wind? And don't you think  
the trees, especially those with  
mossy hollows, are beginning to look for

the birds that will come – six, a dozen – to sleep  
inside their bodies? And don't you hear  
the goldenrod whispering goodbye,  
the everlasting being crowned with the first  
tuffets of snow? The pond  
stiffens and the white field over which  
the fox runs so quickly brings out  
its long blue shadows. The wind wags  
its many tails. And in the evening  
the piled firewood shifts a little,  
longing to be on its way.

*Song for Autumn*

Mary Oliver

October 2025

£1

## Welcome to the October Parish News

Autumn is here – the days are shortening and the long-awaited rain has arrived!

The villages, clubs and societies are in full swing – Halloween trick or treat, Christmas shopping, music and quizzes – so much to fit in, check out the events in this magazine.

I would like to end by saying a big thank you to everyone who has contributed to the magazine this month. I could not have produced this edition without your help.

If you have an article or notice to publish, or just a diary date

***the deadline for contributions for the November edition is 14th October.***

Please send contributions to [helen.wilkes64@gmail.com](mailto:helen.wilkes64@gmail.com) in WORD format.

*Helen Wilkes (Editor)*

### Changing Seasons by Bishop Martin

This has been a tough year for many of our farmers, with many affected not just by uncertainties over taxation and subsidies, but by the hot and dry spring and summer. I saw cattle standing in parched fields with winter hay and silage being fed to them in August. There has been a mixed harvest for arable crops I gather, while many of our fruit farmers have done well, which is good news for them at least, an important part of the rural economy across Worcestershire. Jesus was very familiar with rural life, and spoke memorably of the harvest.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Matthew 9.36-38

Have you considered whether God is calling you to be a labourer in his Church? There are lots of opportunities to get involved - why not have a look at this page on our website: Your Christian Calling - Diocese of Worcester

I've been Bishop of Dudley for almost six years now, and Acting Bishop of Worcester too since September 2024. It has been a busy and demanding year for me as you can imagine, but I've very much enjoyed the opportunity to serve the whole diocese in this way. I couldn't have done it without my excellent colleagues in the Bishops' Office, the parish support hub in Worcester, and all of you across the Diocese. I am always so grateful for your regular prayers and messages of support. Thank you!

Bishop Hugh Nelson will join us early in 2026. He is already a good friend and colleague from the House of Bishops, and I am very much looking forward to working alongside him here. Bishop Hugh brings a deep sense of calling to this role and that shone through all his visits and encounters with people when we introduced him to the Diocese in July. I know he is very much looking forward to joining us in the new year. Please keep Hugh and his family in your prayers as they prepare to move here.

*Gracious and loving God,  
through your Son Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd,  
you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church:  
we thank you for calling your servant Hugh to be Bishop of Worcester;  
sustain him by your love, strengthen him in faith,  
encourage him in hope and grant him the needful gifts of grace;  
that through his ministry among us we may live and grow as Kingdom People  
sharing faith, hope and love in Jesus' name.  
Amen*



## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

**1st November – Teddington Village Hall**

10:00am to 1:00pm

Beautiful crafts for sale – either for Christmas  
or a treat for yourself.

Tea & Homemade Cakes – Raffle



## Rota for October 2025

Date	Time	Place and Service	Presiding
5 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	9.00am	Besford – Harvest Worship	Rev Sooz Magee
	10.45am	Bredon – Holy Communion	Rev Alma Organ
	10.45am	Little Comberton – Harvest Worship	Rev Katryn
12 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	9.00am	Bredon's Norton – Holy Communion	Rev Catherine Lack
	10.45am	Elmley Castle – Morning Worship with prayers for all	Rev Katryn
	10.45am	Eckington – Harvest	Rev Sooz Magee
	4.00pm	Overbury – Harvest Service	Rev Katryn
	10.45am	Bredon – Morning Praise	Elaine Simpson
19 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	9.00am	Eckington – Holy Communion	Rev Katryn
	10.45am	Bredon – Holy Communion	Rev Catherine Lack
	10.45am	Beckford – Holy Communion	Rev Katryn
	3.00pm	Overbury - Messy Church	Rev Katryn
	5.00pm	Elmley Castle Harvest Service	Peter Hayes
	6.00pm	Alstone – Harvest Service and John Wood Lecture	Rev Katryn
26 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	9.00am	Ashton Under Hill - Holy Communion	Rev Katryn
	10.45am	Defford – Holy Communion	Rev Alma Organ
	10.45am	Great Comberton – Harvest Worship	Rev Katryn
	10.45am	Bredon – Village Worship	Ken Magowan

### Midweek Iona Community

15th October – Iona Communion – Rev Katryn

22nd October – Iona Communion – Rev Katryn

**The poem “For Scouts and Guides Across the World” published in the September edition was written by Lynette Mantle**

**If anyone has anything they wish to share, please contact Helen at**  
[\*\*helen.wilkes64@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:helen.wilkes64@gmail.com)

## NEWS FROM ST.JOHN THE BAPTIST, BECKFORD



### Unexpected Visitors in Beckford.....

On Friday 5th September, Rev'd Katryn received a call from a small band of pilgrims walking from Leeds to Glastonbury, seeking permission to camp in the churchyard, or inside the church, that night. Permission was given and a little later the small contingent hove into view along Station Road, carrying two large crosses. It transpired that the group of four dedicated young men had undertaken the formidable journey, with their heavy crosses, to draw attention to the ideals of the Christian way of life and had helped various people, homeless or destitute, along the way.

Footsore and weary they happily set up temporary home inside the church and apparently slept well between those ancient walls. Supported by a back-up vehicle they produced a firebowl on which they cooked their meals in the open air, augmented by occasional visits to the Old Post Office for breakfast.

In the event they spent the weekend (there being no services) in Beckford church before moving on on Monday morning, intending a ten-mile walk to a Cheltenham church where they hoped to find refuge that night. Cheerful, stalwart and very grateful for the hospitality, they left the church in the immaculate condition in which they'd found it.



### Beckford Service

Our service at St John the Baptist this month will be Holy Communion at 10.45am on Sunday 19th October, led by Rev'd Katryn and followed, as always, by coffee.

### Beckford Coffee Morning

With September's Macmillan Coffee Morning behind us – a report on which will appear next month – funds raised this month will go to support the maintenance and ministry of our village church. We shall meet, in the chancel as always, on **Friday 31st October from 10.30am to 12 noon.**

We look forward to seeing you!

*David Carvill*

## NEWS FROM ST.FAITH'S – OVERBURY & CONDERTON

Late September and early October is traditionally the time to celebrate Harvest Festival. Our Harvest Festival Service will be on October 12th at 4pm. It has been another difficult season for our farmers and what better opportunity to say thank you for their hard work, for the harvest and for all the good things we enjoy. Bring the whole family, bring a friend to a welcoming service for all ages. All donations of produce, tins, etc, gratefully accepted if you would like to bring them to St Faith's a few days before. These will go to Caring Hands in the Vale in Evesham. Refreshments and time to chat after the service.

The church will be decorated for the service at 10am on the 11th. All help is much appreciated. People are also needed to join the Flower Rota, if you are interested, come along on the 11th or contact Stef on 01386 725325.

**A Tale of two Cities and several Ladies.** All are welcome to join this series of three talks from the Revd Dr Gerard Moate on connections between London and the cities of Philippi, Corinth & Rome as well as women known to St Paul and others who lived in London. The connections will be used to illustrate aspects of the Christian virtue of generosity. October 7th, 14th, 21st October 7-8.30pm at St Faith's. Free entry, refreshments will be provided.

**The Overbury Sessions** September violin and piano Concert was a was fantastic event with first class performances by Shuwai Zuo and Jiayi Chen. The Medieval church of St Faith's was the perfect setting, creating an ideal acoustic environment for this classical concert and the historical and spiritual atmosphere of the church added to the concert's charm and intimate feel. Thanks again to the Voiseys for bringing exceptional music, at such reasonable prices to Overbury. Just under £200 was raised towards church funds.

**The Bible study group** will resume on Tuesday October 14th at 2pm. The subject this Autumn/winter is Romans. Paul's letter to the Romans is a powerful message of God's love and grace. It shows us that salvation is a gift through faith in Jesus, and calls us to live with hope, unity, and love. Join us as we informally explore Romans together. Everyone really welcome. As the village hall is closed for repairs we will meet at The Old Village Shop, Overbury, GL20 7NT

Harvest Festival: Sunday October 12th, 4pm.

Messy Church: Sunday October 19th, 3-4pm.

Iona Holy Communion: Wednesday October 22nd, 10am.

Juliet - 07384630225 - [julietvines@gmail.com](mailto:julietvines@gmail.com)



## Overbury Sessions

**'bringing world class musicians to our rural communities'**

Thank you to everyone who supported the recent violin and piano recital – the performers were amazing, the church was full and we were able to make a large donation to church funds.

**The next session is something completely different!**

**Saturday 15 November @ 7.30pm, bar from 6.45pm,  
Overbury Village Hall  
'American Highway'**

*'So many great songs in one evening from some absolutely timeless bands. What a great night's entertainment'*

The national touring band American Highway, fronted by Overbury's own Gary Charman, enjoy huge success on the UK theatre and festival circuit and are coming to Overbury for one night only!

Join us on a journey back to the golden era of American 'West Coast' music, where the sun-kissed melodies and laid-back vibes were the soundtrack of a generation, featuring the songs of Don Henley, The Eagles, The Byrds, America, The Band, Tom Petty, Bob Seger, Doobie Bros, Bruce Springsteen, Steve Miller Band, Neil Young and many more. Only 100 tickets available so book early!

Tickets £16 at

[www.ticketebo.co.uk/american-highway](http://www.ticketebo.co.uk/american-highway)

or

[overburysessions@outlook.com](mailto:overburysessions@outlook.com)

## Simply Soup



### Returns to Beckford Village Hall


As the seasons change and the days grow cooler, Beckford Village Hall once again opens its doors for the return of Simply Soup—a warm and welcoming monthly lunch event running from October through to May.

For just £5.00 per person, guests can enjoy a choice of homemade soups, followed by a dessert, and finished with tea or coffee. It's a simple, satisfying way to spend an afternoon—and a lovely opportunity to catch up with friends or enjoy a quiet moment among friendly faces.

New to the village? Or never been before? You'll be made very welcome. Simply Soup is open to everyone, and many who come along for the first time soon become regulars. Whether you come alone or with a friend, there's always someone to chat to and plenty of smiles to go around.

The event is organised and run by volunteers, with the aim of bringing people together in a relaxed and friendly setting. After covering the cost of ingredients and hall hire, any remaining funds are donated to local organisations or used to help maintain and improve the village hall.

 Next Simply Soup: Tuesday, 14th October at 12.30pm  
 Beckford Village Hall

 £5.00 per person – includes soup, dessert, tea & coffee

**No need to book—just turn up and enjoy good food and good company. We look forward to seeing you there.**

**Charles Archer - FROM THE ARCHIVES**

**Evesham Journal October 18th 1862**

### BECKFORD HARVEST HOME

We are informed by a correspondent that last year there was a great united harvest home at Beckford which it was hoped would have been continued into succeeding times, but this year the landowners and landholders could not agree to unite Mr. Robert Timbrill, Mr. Joseph Freeman, and Thos. Bluck who gave their harvest homes on the modern and improved system on Friday the 3rd inst, at the above mentioned village. On entering Beckford before morning service, the bells may have been heard on the day in question proclaiming the festival to the delighted villagers assembled for the general holiday. At eleven o'clock a procession left the Vicarage Farm, in the occupation of Robt. Timbrell carrying flags and banners inscribed with the mottoes, "Speed the plough", "God Save the Queen", "Unity is strength", "Honesty and Progress", &c. and headed by a brass band, proceeded through the village to church where a very large congregation attended. The Reverend E. Robinson preached from 1st chap. 24th verse, The Rev. gentleman founded hereupon an eminently practical discourse, adapted to the congregation and the occasion. At the close of the service a large party proceeded to the scene of the festivities, a field in the occupation of Mr. Jas. Smith near the Vicarage Farm. The chair at the dinner was taken by Robt. Prance, Esq. of Great Washbourne, supported on his right by Rev. E. Robinson and W. E. Faulkner, and on his left by the Rev. R. Lambert and R. Timbrill Esq. Amongst the company were Mr. T. Bluck Mr. H. Bluck, Messrs. Messrs. W. and, J. New, Ashton; Mr. Walker & Sons, Little Washbourne; Messrs. Attwood, Conderton; Mr. J. Freeman and Mr. F. Marshall, solicitor, Cheltenham, with several ladies and other gentlemen. After dinner the usual loyal and agricultural toasts were proposed and responded to. The health of the ladies of the ladies was proposed by Mr. T. Bluck in very appropriate and humorous speech. Afterwards the company proceeded to hear the minstrels in their model theatre erected for the occasion, and from the applause and encores which greeted the entertainment it must have given general satisfaction, especially "Old Bob" and "Sarah Ridley" and "Perfect Cure" in character. During the interval a variety of games was indulged in, in the field, including "Aunt sally," football and foot races for young boys of the age of eight and old ladies of the age of sixty. These races were under the management of those well-known sporting gentlemen, Mr. H. Bluck and Mr. F. Marshall, who gave general satisfaction in awarding the prizes, which consisted of, money, hats, gown pieces, &c. We cannot conclude these remarks without the regret expressed at the absence of several of the labourers who were debarred from taking part in the holiday through some objections or misunderstanding on the part of their masters but we trust that before another harvest is ended all discord will be at an end and at the next harvest festival we shall see a banner inscribed with the words "Friendship and Unity" and that we shall be able to head our report the "Beckford United Harvest Festival."



## NEWS FROM ST.BARBARA'S – ASHTON



Harvest Festival will take place on September 28th at 10.45 am. Please bring donations of goods into the Church on Saturday 27th. These will go to Caring Hands foodbank in Evesham who always welcome these. Tins or packets with a good shelf life are most useful to them.

Future dates:

HC Service on 26th October 9am.

Organist Philip Richardson.

Remembrance Sunday 10th November:

Service at St Barbara's. Refreshments in Village Hall afterwards. Times and details to be confirmed.

Well done to Nettie Mantle for completing the annual Ride and Stride on 13th September despite poor weather conditions. She notched up 25 miles and 13 churches and always accepts donations. These are shared between the Historic Churches Fund in the Diocese and St Barbara's Church.

Thank you!

"Open the Book" is continuing at Ashton under Hill, with a small group from St Barbara's and friends from the Chapel. We would welcome volunteers so do contact us if you are interested. We present a Bible story under a scheme run by The Bible Society, which offers a structured programme for the children. The head teacher of the First School from this term is Emma Tulley and we wish her all the best in her new role. The retiring head, Alison Peacey, is taking on some part-time work, tutoring in Gloucestershire, and we wish her all the best too.

### *Beckford Nature Reserve*

#### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The AGM of Beckford Nature Reserve will take place on

**WEDNESDAY 8TH OCTOBER at 7.00 pm**

at

**THE STABLING, COURT FARM LANE, BECKFORD**

***All are most welcome to attend.***

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPELRIES – ALSTONE & TEDDINGTON

The next service in the Chapelries will be a combined Harvest Festival and John Wood service for all the family on October 19th at 6pm at Margaret's church, Alstone.

John Wood was the benefactor of St, Margaret's church who, in his will of 1640, left 10 pounds per annum for a priest to preach a monthly sermon here. Now this doesn't see very much these days but, in those days, it would have been worth the equivalent of over a thousand and you can work out the amount online.

Please do come and bring your Harvest produce offerings or leave them in the coolness of the church on Friday or Saturday or you can bring them on the day. It will be on the Monday or Tuesday that they will be taken to our usual charity who very much appreciates everything they receive.

Please also see page 3 of this magazine for other services in our GROUP



**Charles Archer - FROM THE ARCHIVES**

**Evesham Standard Saturday October 12th 1889**

#### **ASHTON-UNDER-HILL HARVEST FESTIVAL**

The annual harvest thanksgiving services were held at St. Barbabra's Church on Friday, October 4th, a very large congregation being present. The service at 7 p.m. was full choral, commencing with the hymn "Come ye thankful people come." The church was very prettily and effectively decorated. The communion and altar rails were most beautifully arranged by Miss Bunchie Baldwyn, assisted by Miss. Ayliffe, with corn, vegetables, fruit, and flowers, and in the front of the rails was a monstrous loaf and several small ones, sent by Mr. Court. The pulpit and lectern were profusely and tastefully adorned by Miss. Maggie Clements; in the centre of the pulpit was a handsome cross, composed of clematis and maiden-hair fern, and floral baskets artistically arranged by Miss. Kate Clements. The font, which was the work of Miss. Bosley, was immensely admired, the top of it being adorned with a mass of white flowers and fern on a moss bed. Much praise is due to the excellent taste displayed by Miss. N. Carter in decorating the windows, the whole looked so light and graceful. The pillars, arches, porch, &c., were decorated by Miss. Court and Miss N. Clements. Flowers, fruit, and vegetables were kindly sent by Mrs. Nind, Mrs. and Mr. H. Harrison, of Beckford, also by Mr. H. Boswell of Evesham. The service which was bright and hearty was repeated on the following Sunday. Mr. Burge played the harmonium. The anthem, "Blessed be the name of the Lord," was beautifully rendered by the choir, and appropriate sermons were preached by the Rector, the Rev. J. Harrison.



## TEDDINGTON & ALSTONE VILLAGE HALL NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2025

The extensive building work carried out on the village hall this year has now been completed. This major project involved installing a new roof and modern insulation material, together with a Solar Energy System. The work also included the installation of an Air-to-Air Source Heat Pump System, with interior wall-mounted units capable of either heating or cooling the hall.

We are now fully open for all types of booking, so here's a reminder of our competitive hire fees for both Parishioners and Non-Parishioners.

Description	Parishioners Rates	Non-Parishioner Rates
Hourly Rate	£10	£11
5 Hour Rental Period	£45	£50
8 Hour Rental Period	£70	£80
8+ Hour Rental Period (full day/evening)	£85	£95
Full Use of Kitchen equipment	£20	£20

If you're thinking of holding an event at the hall, a committee member would be pleased to show you around the building and point out the many facilities available. The kitchen includes an electric oven, fridge, microwave oven, linen table-cloths and crockery/cutlery. The toilet suite has 2 individual cubicles plus a separate accessible toilet along with baby-changing area.

Detailed information can be found on our website [www.teddington-and-alstone-village-hall.org.uk](http://www.teddington-and-alstone-village-hall.org.uk)



Please contact us if you wish to make a booking, view the hall & the facilities or have any questions.

Teddington & Alstone Village Hall Management Committee

Contacts: Sue Carter: 01242 620264 or [susancarter1402@gmail.com](mailto:susancarter1402@gmail.com)

Brian W Foreman: 01242 620898 or [brianforeman@btinternet.com](mailto:brianforeman@btinternet.com)

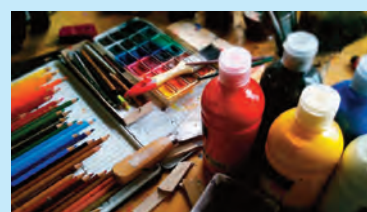
### CRAFT CLUB

Teddington Village Hall

Friday 17th October, 10.00 – 12.00

Bring your own craft – tea & biscuits included

All welcome – £3





## OVERBURY CRICKET CLUB

Founded 1886



### A SUCCESSFUL SEASON FOR OVERBURY CRICKET CLUB

What a successful summer that was for OCC – and virtually no matches were called off as we had the driest summer for decades!! It has been a tremendous season for our men's 1st X1 Senior League team. They have won 15 matches and only three were lost. For the second year running they have won promotion; next season they will be in Division 2 of the Cotswold Hills League. For the first time in a number of years we also had a Second League team. Four games were won in Division 5 and one tied.

An extremely good effort !

Plenty of friendly matches have been played this year too, both on Sunday afternoons (8 victories) and Wednesday evenings (5 matches won and one tied), all of them well supported by players. We hope to continue with a similar programme next year.

The Hoppers ladies' team had a really good League season of softball cricket. They played 10 matches, won seven and finished second in their division. As I write, they are looking forward to playing in a Finals event on 21st September.

**Our Annual General Meeting will take place in the pavilion on Sunday 26th October at 3pm.**

Plans for indoor training over the winter are already in place; practice for the Hoppers will take place in the Village Hall and nets for the men will start early in 2026, at Winchcombe Sports Hall. We will give you more details nearer the time.

Dave Devereux (Chair)    Dave Westmore (Youth Co-ordinator)

07949 648372

07747 092870

<http://overbury.play-cricket.com>



Grafton



## BECKFORD WI

Our president, Clare Henderson, welcomed 20 members and our speaker Ged Cassell. Apologies had been received from several members still enjoying their summer holidays.

The minutes from the July meeting were approved and signed. Clare then introduced our speaker for the evening - Ged Cassell to talk to us about his passion "Ancient Egypt". Ged has a master's in Archaeology and Egyptology from the renowned Manchester University.

Ged's presentation was very visual including lots of pictures from his own personal collection. For those of us who have never visited Egypt or those who have not visited extensively this really gave us a sense of the scale of the ancient Pyramids and Temples. The engineering and crafting skills were beyond belief.

Ged started by reminding us that Egypt's ancient life all revolved around "the Nile" – this being the only hospitable area of the country. He talked about the "the gift of The Nile", how the flooding of The Nile left behind fertile land which they could cultivate. Over time this led to consistent crops and farms, and they reached to point where they had excess food and were able to store it for famine years but more importantly it allowed them to trade it. This was the start of The Egyptians becoming a civilised nation.

We also learnt about The Egyptians belief system – they believed in keeping the Gods happy to ensure The Nile flooded to keep their ordered society working. They were not as focused on death as we think but they did believe that to get to the "after life" you needed to preserve the body. This is how and why The Pyramids came about. The Pyramid shape also being a sacred shape due to its ordered nature.

Ged showed us carvings of the various Pharaohs; he also taught us the correct pronunciation of Tutankhamun (Thoth Ankh Amun). He reminded us of the importance of "the Rosetta stone" discovered in 1799. When they realised the inscription was the same but in 3 scripts – Egyptian hieroglyphs, Demotic and Ancient Greek this paved the way for the understanding of the hieroglyphics in much more detail.

He concluded by encouraging us to visit as there are so many amazing sites, but we can also see and learn lots closer to home: The British Museum – Ashmolean Museum in Oxford – Highclere Castle – and various collections in Paris, Berlin and Netherlands.

Refreshments were taken and the general business of the evening was conducted. Clare then introduced our member Cheryl who had attended a recent GFWI event "the missing link" about the construction of the 3 mile missing link, (i.e. the only section that is not dual carriage way part of the A417). The trip sounded very interesting with them learning about the logistics of construction, the preservation of the landscape, costings and much more – we learnt it is costing 460 million to produce but the improvement with safety and with the increase in capacity it is a worthwhile investment.

**Next meeting – Monday 13th October 2025**

**Daylesford Organic with Jez Taylor**

**Visitors are welcome.**



## ASHTON WI

Our September meeting on 2nd was attended by twenty-five members. The evening took the form of a session of Bingo which was very enjoyable, and great fun.

Cards had been ordered, prizes bought, and Dorothy acted as our caller for the evening. She was brilliant, with a little bit of patter, and kept us on our toes. She had been able to borrow an electronic counter which made it simple and accurate, as there is no arguing with a machine! We managed four games in total with a fun prize for a line, or four corners, or a diagonal line, as well as a Full House. These variants were new to some of us, but we managed prizes for everyone in the end. WI starts up in earnest in September and we have an outing to Croome to look forward to in October, and the annual County meeting and Craft competition fall in this month as well. Local walks continue into the Autumn when we hope for fair weather, and Book Club has some interesting titles in the pipeline. Thank you to everyone who organizes these group activities for us. Sue Burnham has been running a table sale of cards made by Cobalt, the Cheltenham charity. All the cards of a wide variety are skilfully re-cycled by volunteers from donations and are very reasonably priced with all profits going to the Charity.

### Next meeting

Our next meeting on 7th October is an evening of Tai-Chi with Mark Sanger Davies.

7pm – Participation will be fun.

### Visitors are welcome.

There are two de-fibrillator training sessions coming up on 9th and 16th October. There are a few places available.

If anyone is interested, please contact

Judith on 01386 882087.

## QUIZ NIGHT

**In aid of The Chapelries**

**November 29th 7:00pm for 7:30 start**

**Teddington Village Hall**

**Why not join us for a fun quiz?**

**Recruit your family & friends  
to form teams of 4.**

**Ploughmans Supper**

**(please advise any dietary requirements  
at the time of booking)  
and Raffle.**

**£10 per person – please register your  
interest with Helen by 23/11/25  
at [hiw64@btinternet.com](mailto:hiw64@btinternet.com)**



## TEWKESBURY AND BREDON HILL PROBUS CLUB

**The Club for retired and  
semi-retired Professionals  
and Businessmen**

Members of Probus Club are always interested in learning more about historical events and activities and recently we have had a number of talks on different subjects from the past.

One very major topic presented to us by Nigel Thompson was the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain in the 18th and 19th centuries. The subject matter was so far reaching that Nigel presented his talk in two parts, the first part covering the events and innovations that made this country a world leader and encompassing the period from around 1750 up to 1870. The term Revolution may seem to many people as an overstatement but when one considers the huge innovations, inventions and developments in engineering, ship building, roads, railways and bridge construction, water purification and sewerage and gas and electricity, the impact on the population of this country was immense.

Nigel's follow-up talk covered the years from around 1820 to 1920 primarily focusing on the impact that Britain's Industrial Revolution had had on the rest of the world, particularly concentrating on the United States. Examples of these included the development of motor manufacturing, the oil industry and the iron and steel business in America, all inspired by the industrial and social developments in Great Britain.

In complete contrast but exploring more of a social and human aspect of history was a talk from Angela Dunsby from Tewkesbury's John Moore Museum who presented her talk entitled History's Deadliest Deaths. Angela took us on a grisly and gruesome journey in graphic detail through the public executions attended by thousands of people, fascinated by seeing criminals die in agony and some of the more ghastly

engines of torture inflicted on those unfortunate enough to have fallen foul of the law in times gone by.

**For more information on Probus Club please visit  
our website or contact our Secretary  
Steve Tucker on 07803 907243.**

**Forthcoming Events in October:**

**7 Oct - The SS Uganda in the Falklands (with Zak Coombs)**

**14 Oct - The work of Porton Down  
(with Professor Nigel Silman)**

**21 Oct - Tragedy in Paris  
(with Captain John Hutchinson)**

**28 Oct - Norman Wisdom - his life story  
(with Paul Murphy)**



*Chris Brown*

<https://probusclub.net/tewkesbredon/>

## **Live Jazz at The Fox and Hounds**

**Wednesday 1st October**

featuring the trio led by  
acclaimed pianist Rich Hughes,  
plus lyrical singer Penny Powell

**Starts at 7.30pm**

**Free admission – Raffle**

**Fox and Hounds Pub/Restaurant  
Church Street,  
Bredon, GL20 7LA**



**"Beckford Hotel" from an old postcard**

# **BECKFORD VILLAGE HALL**

## **DARK NIGHTS AND SCARY STORIES**

**Saturday 1st November**  
**Starting at 6.30pm on the Field**

**FUNNY, SPOOKY SCARY  
 STORY TELLING AROUND  
 A FIREPIT WITH  
 HOT DOGS & PUNCH**



Suitable for all ages. £5 per person

Tickets in advance from Paul or Anne 01386 881508

Or from [treasurer.beckfordvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.beckfordvillagehall@gmail.com)

**BRING YOUR PUMPKINS, BLANKETS AND  
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# BECKFORD OPEN VILLAGE 2026

## YOU'RE INVITED TO THE LAUNCH EVENT


We're delighted to announce that **Beckford Open Village 2026** will take place on **Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th June** and we can't wait to build on the incredible success of BOV24.

While the event raises vital funds for our local groups and Beckford Church, it's also a celebration of village life, bringing us together and showcasing everything that makes Beckford so special.

To kick things off, we're hosting a **Launch Event** on:

 **Sunday 9th November**  
 **6–7pm**  
 **Beckford Village Hall**

Come along to hear our plans for BOV 2026, share your ideas, and find out how you can get involved. We'll also be giving an update on how BOV24 supported our community groups and unveiling exciting developments for **Project 900**, our long-term plans to secure the Church's future as a community asset. Plans include adding essential facilities like a kitchen and toilets to make the space more usable for local events.

 Wine and nibbles will be served as we reconnect with friends old and new.

If you have any questions in the meantime then please contact:

**Mark McCauley**

 **01386 882929**

 **janeandmarkathome@gmail.com**

## What's happening in the cutting garden in October?



Finally we have had some rain and the garden is beginning to look green again! The flowers have all been behaving strangely in response to the heat: either late to flower or short when they arrive....however, there are now plenty of late season dahlias here now to keep me cutting.

Here are some of the things I will be up to this month so that you can garden along too...

We have an air frost date of around October 16th (which is when we can expect temperatures at night to fall below 2 degrees) The frost dates can be found on line and are worked out for each area using historical data. They are essential for guiding gardeners with their plans (although not always 'to the letter')

At this point I will be taking in to the greenhouse any 'tender' plants that don't like the cold. I have a willow leaf sage (leucantha) that will be one of them and it will be time to make way for the chrysanthemums too. They are late to flower and a relatively new addition to my garden menu but I appear to be quite successful at propagating them so have quite a few now. They are in pots so that they can be easily relocated when it gets cold.

It's a good time to stock up on any protection for tender plants in the ground too. I will be shaking out the fleeces in readiness and making sure I have enough for the new areas of garden I have created this year.

I will continue cutting dahlias as they flower - there will be quite a few weeks left in them and they will keep going until we have a frost.

There will be lots of leaf fall now that we are in autumn so I will be clearing up leaves endlessly to replenish the leaf pile used to create a mulch. Leaves that remain on the lawn too long can create bald patches so I try and sweep up as many as possible.

We have had regular visits from a hedgehog that appears to have a home under the wisteria so we will continue to feed her (she likes cat food!) to fatten her up

before hibernation. The birds will also get the bird feeders replenished now.

October is a good time to plant daffodils and crocus for next spring. They look good in flower beds, pots or in a lawn. Plant them tip facing upwards in a sunny spot at a depth of 3 times the size of the bulb. Cover well and that's it.

Don't be tempted to plant tulips just yet, even though they have been in the garden centres for months. They do like it to be cold before planting, reducing the risk of tulip blight. November will be soon enough for them.

I will be sowing my first set of sweet peas! They will give an early crop for next year but can also be sown much later on (between Christmas and new year is a popular time) into 2026 so don't feel you need to rush. They do need a bit more care and attention when sown early and that's not necessarily a good thing!

Enjoy the change of season and I will see you around the village.

Happy gardening!

*Julia*

*Grown in Beckford.*

*Tel : 07496 815642*

# Grown in Beckford

Locally grown seasonal flowers

### about me

In 2023 new flower beds were added to the garden and planted up with annual and perennial flowers. There were soon too many to deal with and local villagers received free bunches every Friday (flowers on Friday) Demand increased and so Grown in Beckford started to grow.

### my flowers

I offer seasonally grown, pesticide free garden flowers as bunches or as monthly subscriptions. I can also provide graveside flowers as well as funeral flowers (without the use of foam or plastic) that can be completely compostable.

contact Julia to discuss or order : 07496 815642



## JustMoney Movement

Rosie Venner is a member of St Martin's Church, London Road Worcester and is also Director of Movement Building at The JustMoney Movement, a national Christian Charity which works towards a fairer, greener world.

"The charity is all about where money, faith and justice interconnects," said Rosie. "We want individuals and churches to be exploring issues like how ethical their banking is and how our tax system might be made more fair for the poorest in society." Before re-branding a couple of years ago, JustMoney Movement was known as the Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility, which was established in 1989. It worked to encourage a better understanding of the power of church investments and to hold companies, particularly oil and mining companies, to account when money was invested in communities around the world.

Dick Johnson, Faith at Work Development Officer in our Diocese, and lead chaplain at West Mercia Police and Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service, has been a Trustee of the charity for a number of years. He said: "Industrial Mission played a key part in setting up and running the charity, which is why I ended up getting involved. We encouraged people to buy some shares in a company and then attend the AGM to ask questions about the ethics of their investment. This is still an approach which we take today so that we can work with companies to help them improve how money is used across the world."

Members of JustMoney Movement sit as observers on the Church Investors Group to help ensure money is invested as ethically as possible. They also have a number of campaigns which churches can get involved with including the Big Bank Switch to encourage individuals to switch to greener banks, petitioning for greener, fairer pensions and encouraging people to write to their MPs on tax justice issues. Each year the charity marks Good Money Sunday (this year on 12 October), Tax Justice Sunday (in June) and publishes their Greener, Fairer Banking Guide for Churches.



Rosie continued: "The Church still has quite a weighty voice in the investment world, where we are seen as offering a moral perspective. Locally, we can make a difference too. If all of our congregation members switched to more ethical and climate-friendly banking, and looked at where our pension funds are investing, we would have a considerable impact as a community."

JustMoney Movement works in partnership with other charities such as Operation Noah, Christian Aid, USPG, the Student Christian Movement and A Rocha. They also work alongside the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers (ACAT).

"Our work has many links with Eco Church as we can support churches and individuals to make greener financial choices. We want to make it as easy as possible for those who are volunteers to make a difference in their churches and decide how to apply their faith and values to their money. We'd love, for example, for churches to switch to a greener bank or to make the 'Green Investment Declaration', committing to invest at least 5% in climate solutions and telling people they're doing it. As a charity we also play an advocacy role, going back to the more ethical banks to let them know what churches need from them to be able to switch their accounts," said Rosie.

"Our ultimate goal is that the system as a whole will be oriented towards a fairer, greener economy so that people don't have to think about making a choice. However, until that time, we can offer resources to help people make ethical financial choices and write to their MP on fairer, greener finance issues; campaigning in a gentle way to promote change."

# PRISONS WEEK

## A WEEK OF PRAYER

Prisons Week takes place this year from 12 to 18 October.

“You learn about society by seeing how people are treated in its prisons, and it’s an absolute mess in ours. The prison system is insanely broken – people here are not treated like human beings. The maximum emphasis is on punishment with only superficial mention of rehabilitation. Many resort to smashing the contents of their cells or self-harming as a way to access help. It is absolutely no wonder that re-offending rates are so high when those leaving prison are in a worse way than when they came in. Whatever stability people had in their lives before prison, whether it’s housing or employment, is ripped away when you step inside and there is minimal help to put things back together”.

These are the views of a 24-year-old man in prison for the first time who is serving two years for political activism.

Prisons’ Sunday on 12 October marks the start of the annual week of prayer to raise awareness of issues faced by those affected by the criminal justice system. It will be marked, as usual, in the Cathedral with the diocesan Criminal Justice Affairs Group (CJAG) having an input in this morning’s service.

On Prisons' Sunday and throughout the rest of the week, we pray not only for offenders and victims of crime (recognising that many people in prison are both) - we pray also for families, friends, prison staff, chaplains, police, probation and all who make decisions which impact people’s lives. We are all created in the image of God who came to earth to be with us and to enter into our pain and suffering as well as our joys and delight. We will pause to reflect on Jesus Christ’s encounters with people when he walked on earth, and his compassion, always offering hope and the possibility of transformation even in places of suffering.

*Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen*



On Bredon Hill

## LIVE & LOCAL

Surprising shows in surprising places.

We are delighted to tell you that we are able to bring two amazing shows to Ashton under Hill village hall over the next year. Apart from the incredible talent that you will be watching, these shows are always a great opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours.

Tickets will still be only £12.50 each, and as usual bring your own drinks and we will provide a few nibbles.

**AWOL - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**Venue:** Ashton Village Hall

**Start Time:** 19:30

**Tickets:** £12.50

Call 07768751342 to book tickets



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Lecture 1 London & Philippi—Lydia of Thyratira & Lottie Spinks—Generous Prudence

Lecture 2 London & Corinth—Priscilla of Corinth & Edith Ramsey—Generous Courage

Lecture 3 London & Rome—Phoebe of Rome & Mary Knox—Generous Kindness

### When + Where

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## PARISH DIARY

1 <sup>st</sup> October		Fox & Hounds pub/restaurant	Jazz Night
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	12:30 pm	Chapel Hall, Ashton	Lunch Club
7 <sup>th</sup> October	10:15 am	Bredon Village Hall	Probus— <i>The SS Uganda in the Falklands</i>
7 <sup>th</sup> October	07:00 pm	Ashton Village Hall	Ashton WI— <i>Tai-Chi with Mark Sanger Davies</i>
7 <sup>th</sup> October	07:00 pm	St Faith's, Overbury	Rev'd Dr Gerard Moat Lecture
8 <sup>th</sup> October	07:00 pm	The Stablings, Court Farm Lane	Beckford Nature Reserve AGM
9 <sup>th</sup> October	TBA	Ashton	De-fibrillator Training
13 <sup>th</sup> October	07:30 pm	Beckford Village Hall	Beckford WI— <i>Ancient Egypt</i>
14 <sup>th</sup> October	07:00 pm	St Faith's, Overbury	Rev'd Dr Gerard Moat Lecture
14 <sup>th</sup> October	12:30 pm	Beckford Village Hall	Simply Soup
14 <sup>th</sup> October	10:15 am	Bredon Village Hall	Probus – <i>The work of Porton Down</i>
14 <sup>th</sup> October			Cut-Off for November Parish News
16 <sup>th</sup> October	TBA	Ashton	De-fibrillator Training
17 <sup>th</sup> October	10:00 – 12:00	Teddington Village Hall	Craft Club
21 <sup>st</sup> October	10:15 am	Bredon Village Hall	Probus - <i>Tragedy in Paris</i>
21 <sup>st</sup> October	07:00 pm	St Faith's, Overbury	Rev'd Dr Gerard Moat Lecture
26 <sup>th</sup> October	03:00 pm	The Pavilion	Overbury CC AGM
28 <sup>th</sup> October	10:15 am	Bredon Village Hall	Probus— Norman Wisdom - his life story
31 <sup>st</sup> October	10:30 am	St John the Baptist	Coffee Morning

## PUB QUIZ

1. What company was initially known as "Blue Ribbon Sports"?
2. Complete the following lyrics: "I should have changed that stupid lock...."
3. In which country would you find Mount Kilimanjaro?
4. What is the name of the world's first artificial satellite?
5. What was the name of the peace treaty that ended World War I?
6. What is the difference between brandy and cognac?
7. What is the longest-running Broadway musical?
8. Where does the Tour de France finish each year?
9. What is the only mammal capable of true flight?
10. What is a word, phrase, number, or other sequence of characters that reads the same backward as forward?

Champs-Élysées in Paris 9. Bat 10. Palindrome

Cognac must come from the Cognac region of France 7. The Phantom of the Opera 8. Avenue des

1. Nike 2. "I should have made you leave your key" 3. Tanzania 4. Sputnik 1 5. Treaty of Versailles 6.

**Answers**



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Get in touch with the Estate Office, our administrative hub supporting the properties, farm, gardens, forestry and Grasshoppers Nursery teams if you would like to know more or are interested in renting one of our commercial or residential properties, as they are not always advertised.

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Phone: 01386 725111 or email

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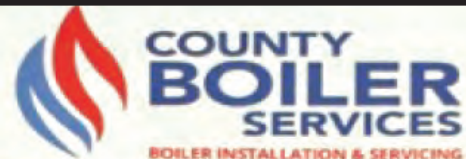
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PARISH DIRECTORY – October 2025

Revd Katryn Leclézio  
01386 710394  
klbhteam@gmail.com

Priest-in-Charge Beckford Group Parish  
Priest-in-Charge Elmley Castle Group Parish  
Associate Priest in Bredon Hill Group

Revd Allison Davies  
01386 750203  
eckingtonvicarage@hotmail.com

Associate Priest in Bredon Hill Group  
Vicar of Eckington with Defford and Besford  
Priest-in-Charge Bredon with Bredon's Norton

Treasurer Helen Wilkes 07871 581071  
Email: hiw64@btinternet.com

Administrative Co-ordinator Alison Khan 07984 748059  
Bredon Hill Team Email acbhteam@gmail.com

Parish Secretary Vacant

Saint John The Baptist’s Church, Beckford

Contact and Secretary Graham Galer 01386 882200  
Treasurer Helen Wilkes 07871 581071  
Flowers Helen Hodges 01386 881931  
Bell ringers Nick Hopkins 07790 831787

Saint Faith’s Church, Overbury

Churchwarden Juliet Vines  
julietvines@gmail.com  
Contact and Secretary overburychurchcommittee@gmail.com  
Treasurer Cherrelle Ford  
cherrelle@cjaccountingsolutions.co.uk  
Organist  
Flowers Stef Lemarechal 01386 725325  
Bell ringers Ros Long 01386 725111

Saint Barbara’s Church, Ashton-under-Hill

Contacts Alastair Humphrey 01386 881479  
David Hunter 07506 965122  
Treasurer David Hunter 07506 965122  
Organist Anthony Greenwood 01386 881278  
anthony.greenwood@hotmail.com  
Flowers Judith Hunter 01386 882087  
Bell ringers Nick Hopkins 07790 831787  
Choirmaster Alastair Humphrey 01386 881479  
Regular Giving Alastair Humphrey 01386 881479

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St. Nicholas’ Church, Teddington

Churchwardens  
de facto  
St Margaret’s VACANT  
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St Nicholas Kieran Whelan 01242 620763  
Secretary Nicholas Bentley 01242 620292  
Treasurer Helen Wilkes 07871 581071  
Flowers:  
Teddington Jan Mallett 01242 620765  
Sue Poole 01242 620112  
Alstone Lisa Drury 01242 621407

Transport Co-ordinators

Overbury Faith Hallett 01386 725206  
Teddington Kieran Whelan 01242 620763  
Ashton Vacant  
Beckford Vacant  
Minibus Andrew Barnett 01386 881145  
Paul Stephenson 01386 882052  
(backup co-ordinator) ashtonbeckford@gmail.com

Disability Awareness Officer

VACANT

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Nicki Pettitt 07979 857763

Magazine

Editor  
Helen Wilkes 07871 581071  
E-mail: helen.wilkes64@gmail.com  
Advertising  
Juliet Vines 01386 725316  
Email: julietvines@gmail.com

News Team

Beckford VACANT  
Chapelries VACANT  
Overbury Ros Long 01386 725111  
Ashton Alastair Humphrey 01386 881479

