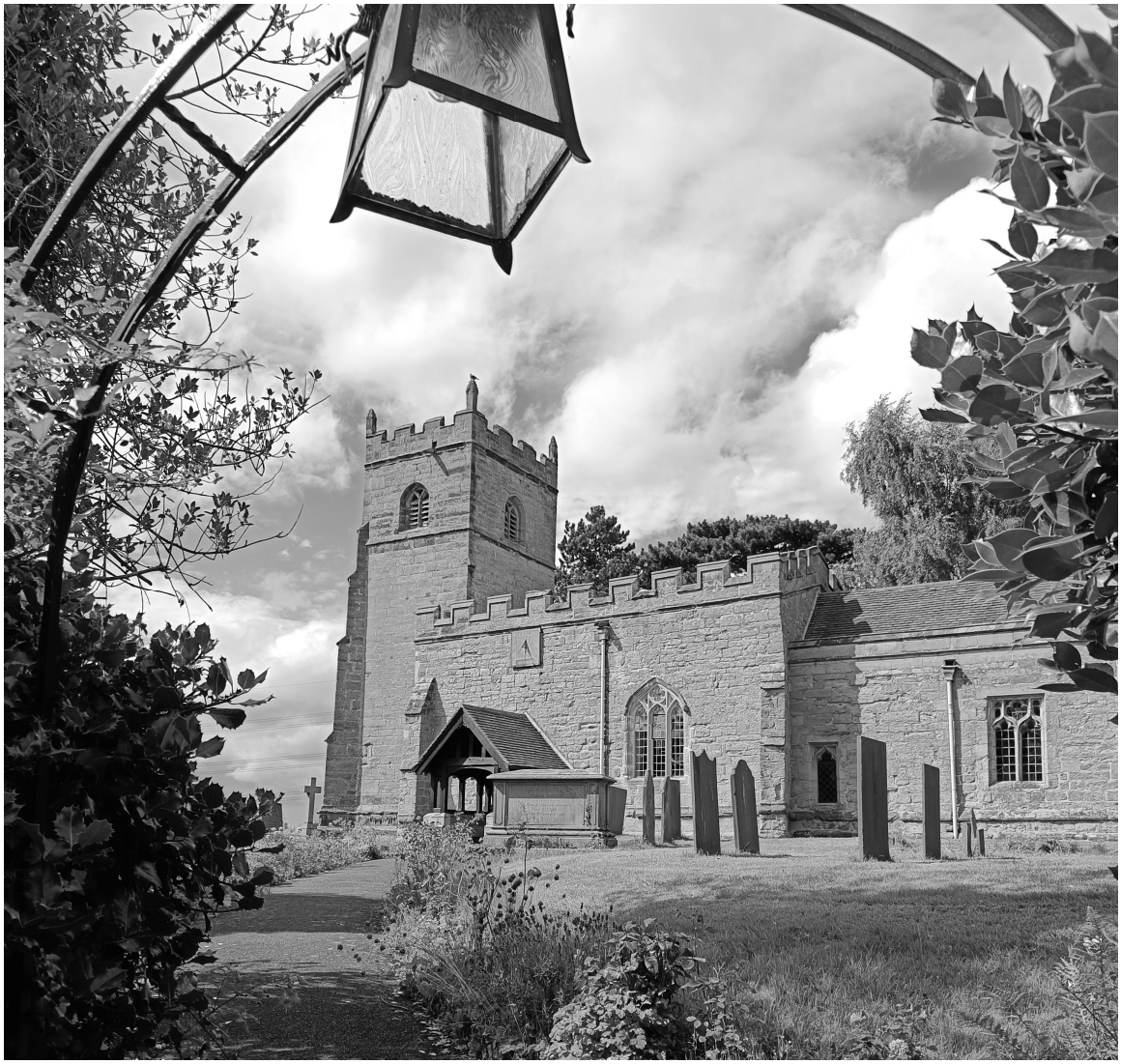

St Botolph's Church

BURTON HASTINGS WITH STRETTON BASKERVILLE

Heritage Open Day 19th September 2026
Visitors' Comments
Compiled by Anne Dickinson, Churchwarden

Introduction

Heritage Open Day 2026 was a great success. Those who attended were able to take part in a treasure hunt to discover some older features of the church and benefit from recent additions to the church, including running water!

Art Alert, a group of artists from Nuneaton, provided an excellent art exhibition.

Many enjoyed watching a continuous slide show showing village life which included some well-known characters from Burton Hastings.

A demonstration of stained-glass image creation was presented by an artist who lives in the village and people took a guided stroll along a section of a pilgrimage route.

Those attended were generous in their comments and their voluntary donations to the church.

Many thanks are due to all who contributed to this event in any way.

The next few pages show the transcript of the comments what were added to the visitors' book that day. These clearly show the heritage and community spirit of the parishes. In addition, with permission, there's a comment placed on the village's WhatsApp.

Cover picture: St Botolph's Church and entrance lamp, taken from the end of the path to the church.

A copy of a sketch by
R Atkinson, 1902

I was especially thrilled when watching the slide show to (unexpectedly) see a photo of my dad … He was a blacksmith in the village…

Lovely to see all the art in this beautiful old church and a wonderful village community.

This has always held a special place in our hearts as we all got married in the church!

A comment from the village's WhatsApp

I found this quite a fascinating visit this morning, learning a bit more local history of the area, village & church. I was especially thrilled when watching the slide show to (unexpectedly) see a photo of my dad with various dignitaries. He was a blacksmith in the village & I think living here as well as working here was the happiest time of his life. Some 'older' village residents may still remember him - Ray Jones.
😄

Transcript of visitors' book - 1

Lovely church and great exhibits.

44 years lived here. Lovely community!

Beautiful Church, lovely visit, enjoyable time meeting new people and hearing about the history and heritage!

Great exhibits, friendly and informative, loved the walk to the canal. Great views and lovely church.

A most interesting visit - lots to see and do. A successful day.

Lovely to see all the art in this beautiful old church and a wonderful village community.

Fabulous day - great artworks in a beautiful church, excellent tea and cake too.

What a beautiful church and village. You can sense the community spirit! Wonderful!

What a lovely day, sketching and chatting thanks xx T.

Transcript of visitors' book - 2

What a beautiful church and lovely exploration of the village - perfect for us newcomers ☺ Thank you Ann[e] for the amazing stories.

What a lovely church you have here. I have been past many times but never been inside before. Loved the Millennium window.

Well done to everyone... It's lovely to see myself so young.

Very special day for the village, beautifully presented. This all means a lot to our family. Thank you so much x

A beautiful and friendly church.

So interesting! In particular I really enjoyed the slideshow - so fascinating to see characters from the village and how the land has changed over the years.

Good to support this Heritage Day. Artists sketching in and around the church. P [Art Alert Exhibition]

Transcript of visitors' book - 3

This has always held a special place in our hearts as we all got married in the church! A beautiful place, a lovely exhibition and slideshow. Lovely welcoming people who care so much about the church - it deserves all the funding.

Lovely day. Very nice exhibition and the slideshow was very interesting and informative. Very enjoyable.

What a lovely church! My first visit. A great sense of history, calm and tranquility

Please give generously to support St Botolph's

You can

- Leave a cash donation (including brown envelopes) on the plate provided on your way in or out of Church

- Make an electronic donation via bank transfer or standing order (contact Churchwarden for more details).

- Online on JustGiving. The QR code will take you there. The link should contain charityId/678655

QR code for St Botolph's Church's JustGiving page

www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Botolph-Burton-Hastings