



The ARCH Messenger

To show our love for God and You
May 2025



Abbots Morton, Rous Lench, Church Lench & Harvington
www.archbenefice.org.uk

ARCH Benefice: parishes of Abbots Morton, Rous Lench, Church Lench and Harvington

Rector: The Reverend Canon Richard Thorniley
01386 870527, rector@archbenefice.org.uk

Pioneer Deacon: The Reverend Chris Sheehan
07977 072105, chris@archbenefice.org.uk

Office hours: 9.30am to 9.30pm Monday-Friday;
day off: Saturday; Sunday afternoons: quiet space
Urgent pastoral matters – any time

Readings

4th May Acts 9:1-6; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

11th May Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

18th May Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

25th May Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29

1st June Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21;
John 17:20-26

8th June Pentecost Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:26-35; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17

15th June Trinity Sunday Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

22nd June 1 Kings 19:1-15a; Psalm 42; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

29th June Lenches Flower Festival Acts 12:1-11; Psalm 125; 1 Peter 2:19-25; Matthew 16:13-19

Please use the 'Contact Us' page on our website
www.archbenefice.org.uk
to submit editorial or enquire about advertising.

Thought for the month

Strange new worlds

As I write this, my last editorial for the *ARCH Messenger*, stock markets are unsteady and businesses and individuals around the world fear they are in a new scary place. Politicians and companies are dealing with a new reality.

Richard and I are in a strange place at the moment too, saying goodbye to people and places that we have known and loved for almost 25 years. Looking at Richard's diary, it is full until the day after his leaving service in July and then all the pages are empty. We know things will get filled in but now the future, as a friend's daughter wrote and sang, 'is still unwritten.'

For the early disciples, followers of Jesus, the story was still unwritten too. Easter had changed everything. Jesus had risen from the dead and ascended, and the Holy Spirit came to them, but they wrestled with what it all meant. After all the excitement, they faced both persecution and arguments amongst themselves. There never was a golden age of church agreement. Their new reality was **dangerous and difficult but also exciting and alive with possibility. If you haven't read the Acts of the Apostles in the Bible, I really recommend it.** The disciples were living in a new reality and discussing daily what it meant for them and the church.

Whatever strange new world you are in at the moment, whether like us it is going into retirement and a new community, or marriage, welcoming a new child into the family, starting a new job or dealing with grief and loss – I wish you the peace of God, and hope and pray that amongst the strangeness and **possible difficulty, you will be 'surprised by joy'** as C S Lewis said.

And thank you all for being part of the journey we have had together over the last 24 years.

Gill Thorniley

Stop date for next issue: Monday 12th May

Rector's Corner

Daily prayers:
8.30am and 6pm

via Zoom – contact me for details
(e-mail rector@archbenefice.org.uk)
This replaces Tuesday prayers and Benefice prayers

Home Communion: I will contact the house-bound, and am open to requests.
(contact me on 01386 870527) *Please feel free to ask even if you are only temporarily out of commission*

Men's Night
8pm

Wednesday 14th May at The Coach & Horses, Harvington
Come and enjoy a pint. £12 for the kitty – any surplus wisely contributed to worthy causes. Reserve your place: rector@archbenefice.org.uk or 01386 870527



The Chosen



Sunday 25th May 3.30 - 5.30pm at Harvington Village Hall
Crafts, story, song and a FREE 2-course meal
All welcome!

From the Registers

Church Lench

1 st April	Funeral & burial	Diane Clarke
13 th April	Baptism	Leah Swale
13 th April	Baptism	Gabriella Swale

Harvington

15 th April	Funeral	Vera Rivett
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Notices

VE Day: 80th Anniversary Service
Thursday 8th **May, 11am at St James', Harvington**

Join us for a special VE Day anniversary service, followed by simple refreshments which could include wartime recipes or styles of biscuits from 1945. Let me know what you might be able to provide!

Richard Thorniley

Flower Festival walk
Reverend Richard's FINALE

Saturday 28th June, 10.30am
starting from St Peter's, Abbots Morton

A walk from Abbots Morton to Harvington, visiting the churches at Abbots Morton, Rous Lench and Church Lench to admire their floral decorations and pausing at Church Lench for a ploughman's lunch in the Village Hall.

Please bring your own drinks and arrange transport (if required) to Abbots Morton or back home from St James', Harvington.

Muddy Kids

Tuesday 22nd - Thursday 24th July, 10am-2.30pm

The Muddy Kids Holiday Club is running again this year! Lots of great activities plus the obstacle course at Ellenden Farm. We are looking for help so please check your availability and let us know!

£9 per day or £26 for 3 days (ages 5-10)

£7 per day or £20 for 3 days (young helpers, ages 11-16)

To reserve a place or offer help, please get in touch with Matthew Cook at harvingtonyouthproject@gmail.com

Job: what's the big idea?

Continuing the series introducing the books of the Bible...

'Why does God allow suffering?' This is a frequently asked question of Christians, because we believe in a God who is both good and powerful, and it is explored in the book of Job. This book is part of the wisdom literature, along with Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Job was both wealthy and righteous, yet he experienced catastrophic suffering, **losing all his wealth, children and health. This is portrayed as a result of Satan's challenge to God, testing whether Job's devotion to God was dependent on his circumstances or not.** The main body of the book (*Job 3:1-42:6*) consists of dialogues between Job, his friends (Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar) and God. Job and his friends assume that God is almighty and just, and that no human being is wholly innocent. In the three cycles of speeches they wrestle with the reasons for Job's suffering, remembering his morally upright character.

Finally, all are silenced by God as He speaks (*chapters 38-42*). He points out that **Job knows very little about the universe when he reflects on God's power.** Job confesses his lack of understanding and weakness, but goes on to confess his trust in God. This puts suffering in a right perspective. Job is not condemned, and the book ends with the restoration of his family and possessions.

The importance of this book is that it realistically addresses the painful questions of life, without offering simplistic answers. It focuses on *how* we should respond to suffering, rather than on *why* **God allows suffering.** *'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised'* (*Job 1:21*).

Revd Canon Paul Hardingham

Some perks of getting old

Things you buy now won't wear out.

Your eyes won't get much worse.

Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.

Must a church keep moving or can we rest?

There is a healthy tension at the heart of the Christian journey. It's the push and pull of staying or of getting up and going. And the Bible speaks of both as part of the normal Christian life.

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul seems to be spurring his readers on to do **even more**, *'Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters... always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain' (1 Corinthians 15:58)*.

But then, in John's Gospel, we hear Jesus warning us, *'I am the vine; you are the branches... apart from me you can do nothing' (John 15:5)*. Who wants to find they have moved on and achieved nothing?

In the process of transformation (becoming like Jesus) there seems to be this **healthy tension between 'doing' and 'abiding'**.

Some churches try to solve the tension by ticking the 'abiding' option. No one is challenged, the training of a new generation of leaders is half-hearted and resources are safely banked. We create a pathway that leads nowhere much, and then happily walk up and down it each week. We just 'are' Christians.

Other churches rush helter-skelter in the opposite direction. Exhaustion and burnout are their trademarks. They pile up meetings and programmes and use people until they are burnt out. There is no depth, no profound mystery and nowhere to rest and refresh the exhausted traveller.

If the journey into Christ-likeness needs us to rest as well as to get going, then as churches we need to plan for both. We need to be prepared to roll up our **sleeves, sacrifice comfort and pour ourselves out in God's service**. But we also need to take time to seek intimacy with Him, and to be transformed by His Spirit within us. We need to become an oasis of grace and love to the people we encounter.

Now that sounds like a balance well kept, when both 'going' and yet 'staying' are still options.

*Adapted from an article by the Langham
Partnership (UK & Ireland)*

Barnabas: a very likeable disciple

This month we remember St Barnabas, whose real name was Joseph, a wealthy Levite from Cyprus. However, he was better known by his nickname which means *Son of Encouragement* (Acts 4:36). Throughout Acts we see him encouraging others in different ways.

Barnabas was an example of generous giving (Acts 4:36-7) when he sold property and offered the money to the church for those in need. In the midst of a caring and sharing community, he was singled out as a symbol of generosity. Are we known as somebody who is generous to those in need around us?

Barnabas later encouraged a new Christian in the person of Paul (Acts 9:27).

After Paul's conversion, and knowing his reputation, Barnabas came alongside him and brought him into the fellowship of the church. Are we ready to help those who are new in the faith to find a place in our church?

Finally, Barnabas was sent to the church in Antioch where he '*saw the evidence of the grace of God*' (Acts 11:23). It was a church which brought Jewish and Gentile believers together for the first time. Like Barnabas, do we rejoice when we see God doing new things in people's lives? **Are we also willing to embrace these things and facilitate change?**

Encouragement is one of the spiritual gifts in the New Testament (Romans 12:8). It can be greatly undervalued, but it is crucial in growing the church. Like Barnabas, will we nurture gifting; strengthen the doubters and those tempted to give up; **show generosity to God's people and beyond the church; alongside strengthening people to move beyond their own comfort zones to help those in need?**

Let's be prepared to ask the following questions, 'Are there people alongside us who will encourage us?' and 'How can we be encouragers to others?'

Canon Paul Hardingham

Modern life

My mind is like an internet browser these days: at least 19 tabs are open, three of them are frozen and I have no clue where the music is coming from.

On why people should ALWAYS sit in the same pew...

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least, whose elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to his nephew Darren, a recently-ordained low-church curate...

My dear Nephew Darren,

I have to say that the couple who complained that you never noticed they had been missing from church had a point. There is a simple way of noticing when someone is absent: everyone sits in the same pew. Every Sunday. Always.

Little Miss Margison sits in the pew after the third pillar on the right here at St James-the-Least. As she walks up the aisle, you can sense her counting the pillars until she reaches the right one. If I ever have that pillar removed, then the following Sunday, she probably would have a complete mental collapse.

One Sunday a visiting family arrived early and sat down; three people in an empty church seating 200. Colonel Wainwright and his wife were the first of our regulars to arrive and froze in horror. The Colonel said in a deafening whisper **to his wife, 'There's someone sitting in our pew.' At least they had the grace** – no matter how reluctant – for one week, to sit somewhere else. Unlike the Prentice family of husband, wife and three children, who arrived to discover that a visiting family of husband, wife and four children were sitting in their pew; six people in a pew that held eight. Or, it normally holds eight. That Sunday, it held thirteen.

We have one iconoclast who makes a point of sitting in a different place every week. This thoroughly unsettles the rest of the congregation, who fear she may sit in their seats during her nomadic wanderings.

Occasionally the unexpected can happen. Mrs Cholmondeley arrived one week in good time, settled herself in her accustomed place, but half-way through the Service suddenly ran out of the building. Ten minutes later, she was back and in her usual place once again. When the church filled with the smell of burned bacon, we understood.

That is why replacing pews with chairs in your church was a mistake. Pews can never be moved. You know where everybody is – or should be!

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Rous Lench

St Peter's Church

VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday 21st May 7.30pm: AGM

NB revised date!

All residents are welcome to come along and find out what's been going on in the hall this year and what is planned for next year. The meeting will be followed by cheese and wine. Please give the committee your support and ideas.

Saturday 24th May, 4pm: Treasure hunt

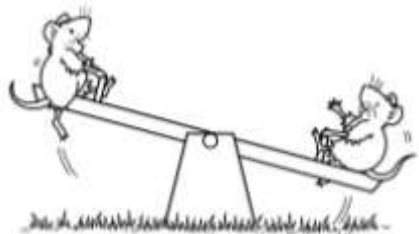
This is a great family event. Join your neighbours in exploring the village to find the hidden treasure. There will be a prize for the winning team and there may be a few surprises along the way! Tickets cost just £10 per adult, £5 for children aged 12-18 and FREE for children under 12. A jacket potato with a variety of fillings is included in the ticket price.

To register your team and get your tickets please contact Fran on ***** or *****@*****.

PIG ROAST

Saturday 28th June, 5pm onwards

All the usual fun, entertainment and delicious food at this traditional, not-to-be-missed highlight of the village year. The fun starts at 5pm on the village green.



Rous Lench

PARISH COUNCIL

Council meetings

All parishioners are welcome to attend our meetings. The next will be held on Monday 19th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Residents are invited to put forward any ideas, concerns or queries during public question time. If you cannot attend in person, please raise issues with the Clerk, Kerry Williamson, on rouslenchpc@gmail.com.

Annual Parish Meeting

This will be held on Monday 19th May at 7pm in Rous Lench Village Hall. This is not a Parish Council Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is for the Parish Council and other local organisations to let parishioners know what they have been doing over the past year. It is also an opportunity for you to have your say on anything that you feel is important to the people of the parish. Local organisations will be invited to attend, and all parishioners are welcome to come along. Hope to see you there.

The Parish Council meeting will follow this at 7.30pm.

Councillor vacancy

We currently have one vacancy and would love to hear from community-minded people who want to give something back to their local area. It is a voluntary position with an induction and training. Meetings are a couple of hours long on a Monday evening every other month. In the interim, about an hour per week is needed to keep up to date with council matters. For more information please contact the Clerk who will be happy to help.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Please note: the day and venue for our branch meetings has changed

We now meet at The Boot Inn, Flyford Flavell on the first Wednesday of each month at 11am. New members are very welcome to join us, whether you have a military connection or not. For more information find us on Facebook or contact the Chairman, Janice Briney on ***** or *****.

Church Lench First School News

Academy! On the 1st April we finally converted to an academy and are very excited to be working with Bengeworth Trust! We held a small celebration with the children on Tuesday with squash and cake to celebrate this moment. There will not be any changes in terms of the running of the school but leaders and staff will have access to more support, training and collaboration with other professionals. It has been a long journey but we finally made it!

We received a glowing report from a senior lead professional from the academy **who focused on our school's learning environment. We are incredibly proud of** all of our pupils and staff who make this school such a wonderful place!

Pottery and cricket! Last term we held a pottery workshop for all our pupils with *The Flying Potter*! The children an amazing time learning from Jon who showed them how clay can be moulded and shaped in lots of different ways, then fired at a high temperature and glazed. The children enjoyed making a variety of fish which will all be displayed in our school library.

We also held a cricket taster session for all pupils with Worcester Cricket Club. It was a great way to learn a variety of skills and play a few games. The children all loved the session and some are excited to join local cricket clubs!

Community Senior Games Afternoon, Thursday 19th June at 2pm: A couple of weeks ago, our head boy and head girl visited The Lenches Club at with some flyers to attract senior members of our community to come and play board games with our Year 4 and 5 pupils during the afternoon on 19th June. They recognised they could support members of our community who may sometimes feel lonely to come and socialise with our school pupils over a variety of games. We would love to hear from anyone who is interested in joining us!

Litter Picking: All our classes have recently been out litter picking. There were some interesting finds including a shoe and a bank note! Our eco committee has written to Wychavon Council to ask for two more waste bins to be placed around Church Lench. We look forward to hearing their response very soon!

School Fete: Our school fete takes place on Saturday 7th June so we hope to see many new and familiar faces supporting our small village school.

Mrs S Price, Headteacher

Church Lunch **All Saints' Church**

FLOWER ROTA

3 rd May	Jane Tinson
17 th May	Ann Quickenden
31 st May	Maggie Stroud
14 th June	Jenny Dainty

FLOWER FESTIVAL COFFEE MORNING

Tuesday 13th May, 10am-12 noon

Join us at a coffee morning at The Lenches Club to raise funds for the floral arrangements to be displayed in church during the forthcoming Flower Festival. Together with refreshments, there will be a raffle and a bring and buy stall. *Everyone is very welcome!*

THE LENCHES WALKING GROUP

Enjoy walking? Why not come out with The Lenches Walking Group?

We assemble one morning each week in the Lenches Club car park, then drive together to the start of a 5-6 mile circular walk. At the end of the walk, we enjoy a pub lunch before returning home. The meeting day changes every week so **there's at least one weekday when most people can participate.**

The Lenches Walking Group has no joining or membership fees, but all members are expected to lead a walk during the year. New members are always warmly welcomed. Fancy giving it a try? For more information about our very friendly group please contact Pete Marston at *****@***** or *****.



***Lenches' Ladies* Cricket**

Friday evenings, 6-7pm at The Lenches Cricket Club

All women & girls aged 13+ are welcome, whether or not you have previous experience! Come and give it a try – just turn up on a Friday or to find out more contact Sally on *****



Church Lench

VILLAGE HALL

Interested in hiring the hall for your summer party? For booking enquiries, please contact Bev Gillis at clvillagehallbookings@gmail.com or see our pages on www.thelenches.org.uk.

LENCHES WI – RIP

The WI is closing, and I am very sad,
But for all the friends that I have made, I am extremely glad.
We used to turn up every month, to welcome speakers to the floor,
All very interesting and they left us wanting more.
We always clapped politely, as WI ladies do
Although in this particular age we clap no matter who.
Now our branch is closing and we are going to plant a tree,
It will be sturdy, strong and colourful for everyone to see.
It will survive the frost and snow and all the stormy weather
And remind us of the good times that we all had together.

Christina Bacon

THE LENCHES TENNIS CLUB

We continue to welcome new members to take
part in social and match-level play

*New coaching courses including daytime courses
and Pickleball. Courses to suit all ages and abilities*

For more information, please contact

Junior coaching: *****@*****

Adult coaching: *****@*****

Membership information: *****@*****



Church Lench Flower Festival

Flower Festival weekend in All Saints' Church

The theme in church will be *The Joy of Retirement*
in recognition of Reverend Richard's retirement

Flower Festival Events

Friday 27th June

7.30pm *The Flower Festival Friday Frolic*

An evening of Song, Stories and Sauvignon. Come and hear Richard Churchley with Folklore and folk-songs of the West Midlands with a bit of audience participation, followed by wine and nibbles

Tickets: £10 from any member of the PCC

Saturday 28th June

11am- **Flower arrangements in All Saints' Church**

5pm Open gardens and scarecrow trail

Craft Fayre, plant sales and refreshments in the Village Hall

Sunday 29th June

11am **Flower Festival Holy Communion in All Saints' Church**

11am- Open gardens and scarecrow trail

5pm Craft Fayre, plant sales and refreshments in the Village Hall

*For further information about opening your garden, displaying a scarecrow or helping in any way over the weekend, please contact Lyndall (*****) or Nadine (*****, *****@*****)*

Church Lench

SOUTH LENCHES PARISH COUNCIL

www.southlenchesparishcouncil.org

***** , clerk@southlenchesparishcouncil.org

Parish Council Meetings

Information can be found on the notice boards in Atch Lench and Church Lench, the Parish Council website and the Lenches Community Facebook page. Meetings are held every two months, in January, March, May, July, September and November, and all parishioners are welcome to attend. The next meeting will be held on Monday 12th May at 7pm in Church Lench Village Hall.

Monday 12th May, 6pm: Annual Parish Meeting in Church Lench Village Hall

This is not a Parish Council Meeting. The purpose of the Annual Parish Meeting is for the Parish Council and other local organisations to let parishioners know what they have been doing over the past year. It is also an opportunity for you to have your say on anything that you feel is important to the people of the parish. Local organisations will be invited to attend, and all parishioners are welcome to come along. Hope to see you there!

The Parish Council meeting will follow this at 7pm.



...the theme of this morning's service is 'Preaching a Gospel of Simplicity'...

Harvington St James' Church

CAMEO TEAS

Wednesday 14th May, 3pm at Hillers Farm Shop

This is CAMEO Teas annual invitation to join us at Hillers for afternoon tea. Please let Sophie (***** , *****@*****) know as soon as possible if you wish to come along.

FAITH TODAY

Friday 16th May, 10am at Breslau, Leys Rd

David Foster will be leading a discussion on *The Future of the Church*. This will be a very thought-provoking subject and I'm sure you will all have your own opinions. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact Sophie on ***** or *****@*****.

Saturday
7th June
11am - 3pm



St James
Churchyard,
Church St

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN! FREE ENTRY

- ❖ vintage cars ❖ food & drink ❖ games stalls ❖ live entertainment ❖
❖ market stalls ❖ tombola ❖ book fair ❖ local craft stalls ❖

PLUS village shuttle bus - watch out for stops & times in next issue

Cash accepted for refreshments & market stalls.

Card and cash for games tokens

*We are looking for donations for the tombola, cake stall and a small chest freezer. If you can help with any of these, or for more information please contact Katie Horton ***** , eventssjch@outlook.com or on Facebook at **St James's Events***

Harvington First School News

Last half term our Year 2 pupils were learning about how to stay healthy. As part of the topic, they had a visitor who gave them some first aid training. The children had the chance to pretend to be a doctor or a nurse with a teddy bear as a patient, and learnt how to use plasters and cold compresses, how to put someone into the recovery position and how to phone for an ambulance. They had a lot of fun with bandages, slings, thermometers, stethoscopes and masks!

Nursery and Reception went on a joint trip to *All Things Wild* in Honeybourne. Each class had a workshop where they met some animals including a corn snake and an armadillo! The children loved seeing all the animals and dinosaurs and even had a ride on the dino-train!

During the Spring term, the whole school spent time learning about the Easter story. Year 5 did a fantastic job of organising our Easter service with each class presenting something they had been working on, including prayers, songs, poems, pictures and prayer stones.

This half term, our Christian value will be *Perseverance*. The children will be encouraged to have self-belief in order to keep on going, even when the going gets tough, and to speak out for what they believe is right. We will be testing our perseverance skills later this month as we carry out our sponsored walk. We have several different routes around the village so you might see us out and about! The children will be raising sponsorship for our PTFA funds and for our school charity. This year we are supporting Cancer Research UK in memory of Mrs Fishbourne.

*Becky Enstone,
Acting Headteacher*

Financial emergency? Extra help needed? Live in Harvington?

St James' Church manages an emergency fund on behalf of the community. If you need a little financial assistance, please call
***** and we will offer what support we can.

If you are in a position to top up the funds, we would be very grateful!

Richard Thorniley

Harvington

THANK YOU (1)

Thank you to everyone who helped at the *Big Spring Clean*, making the church sparkly and as free of huge cobwebs as possible! Thank you also to those who organised the much-needed refreshments!

THANK YOU (2)

Thank you to Mick Hurst and the Battle of Evesham team for a very informative afternoon. The presentation on *The Murder of Evesham* raised £330 from ticket sales, which was split between the Battle of Evesham Trust and St James' Church.

GARDENING TEAM

Saturday 10th May, 9.30am-12noon

Spring is my favourite season: young buds bursting and the bright greens of new leaves. Unfortunately, the weeds also start growing and by the time we meet in May, Joy and Julian will have a long list of jobs to be done! Please spare a little of your day to help the team. I can promise good company and a break will be arranged around 11am for tea, coffee and a chat.

Clive Allen

A QUINGO Night

Bingo ❖ Quiz ❖ Raffle

Friday 9th **May, 7.30pm (eyes down 8pm) at St James' Church**

Tickets £1.50 per person (includes tea, coffee, biscuits, raffle ticket and quiz sheet) can be purchased in advance or on the night.

*Cash and Prize Bingo ❖ Bingo books £3 or £5 purchased on the night
Bring your own drinks and snacks*

For tickets or further information please contact Katie Horton (*****,
eventssjch@outlook.com, Facebook message: **St James's Events**)

Harvington

HARVINGTON COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

(*****)

The Community Support Group are a small team of DBS-checked volunteers who are available to support residents needing a hand at any time. We are often able to assist with:



- ◆ transport for appointments or shopping
- ◆ small DIY jobs or gardening
- ◆ helping with admin eg form-filling
- ◆ a friendly visit or chat, or sit-in while a carer takes a short break

For bigger concerns we may be able to give advice or point you in the right direction. So, if you need help please contact Wendy and Konrad Monks on ***** (leave a message if we don't answer and we will get back to you).

FILM NIGHT

Friday 23rd May, 7.15pm: *The Heist* (cert 12)

It was a stroke of genius, but now the perfect crime is turning into a perfect disaster. Charles, Roger and George (Morgan Freeman, Christopher Walken and William H Macy) are the very picture of honest security guards. But when they learn their favourite artworks are being sent to another museum, they concoct a plan to switch the real masterpieces with fakes. All goes well until a mistake forces these first-time thieves into a last-minute escapade.

Doors open 7.15 pm; screen illumination 7.45pm

Buy a raffle ticket at the door for £3 and see the film for free!

Bring your own glasses, drinks and nibbles, and please take away all rubbish.



Harvington Singers presents an evening of

SUMMER SOUNDS

Friday 27th June, 7.30pm and Saturday 28th June, 7.30pm

at St James' Church, Harvington

Interval refreshments

*Tickets: £9 adults; £5 juniors. Book online at harvingtonsingers.org.uk,
e-mail tickets@harvingtonsingers.org.uk, phone ******



Abbots Morton **St Peter's Church**

(www.abbotsmorton.info/st-peters-church)

VILLAGE HALL

(www.abbotsmorton.info/abbots-morton-village-hall,
abbotsmortonvillagehall@gmail.com)

Following an emergency meeting after the heartbreaking loss of Colin Pemberton, the Village Hall Committee needed help. True to form, our community stepped up and we are thrilled to share that we now have a formal committee in place, with support from the newly-formed *The Friends of AMVH*. We have exciting plans for the summer looking ahead.

Tuesday 6th May, 10am-12noon: Community coffee morning

If you haven't been to one of our coffee mornings yet, do drop by any time between 10am and 12 noon. It's absolutely free and a lovely opportunity to spend a couple of hours with others in the community. Please join us – you'll get a warm welcome.

Art and yoga

Charli Farquharson runs art classes at the Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons in 6-week blocks at a cost of £150 per block. For more details or to book your place, visit *****@***** or call Charli on *****.

Amy Hoang-Jones from Astwood Bank now runs two yoga classes in the Village Hall on Monday and Thursday mornings, 9.45-10.45am. If you would like to join, please call Amy on *****.

Easyfundraising

We have 28 supporters to date and the Village Hall has benefited from the scheme by £1,400 thanks to their support. By joining you can help to raise funds for your Hall every time you shop online at NO cost to yourself. Just go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbotsmortonvillagehall and sign up to help the Village Hall.

See overleaf for more news from Abbots Morton

Abbots Morton

PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings and councillor vacancies

All parishioners are welcome to attend our Parish Council meetings. The next will be held on Thursday 22nd May at 8pm in the Village Hall. Residents are invited to put forward any ideas, concerns or queries during public question time. If you cannot attend a meeting in person, please raise issues with the Clerk at abbotsmortonpc@gmail.com.

There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor please contact the Clerk for more details.

Annual Parish Meeting

This will be held on Thursday 22nd May at 7.30pm in Abbots Morton Village Hall. This is not a Parish Council Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is for the Parish Council and other local organisations to let parishioners know what they have been doing over the past year. It is also an opportunity for you to have your say on anything that you feel is important to the people of the parish. Local organisations will be invited to attend, and all parishioners are welcome to come along. Hope to see you there.

The Parish Council meeting will follow this at 8pm.



*The Rogation procession
had taken the scenic
route*

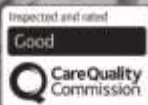
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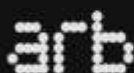
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Key to Church Services

- VH Village Hall
BCP Book of Common Prayer
Service

*All other communion services use
the Common Worship liturgy*

ARCH Benefice June 2025

(key on p26)	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
1 st June		10.00am Benefice Communion		
Wednesday 4 th June				11am Holy Communion (BCP)
8 th June Pentecost		8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Family Communion
15 th June Trinity Sunday	11am Holy Communion		11am Morning Service	9.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 18 th June				11am Holy Communion
22 nd June		11am Morning Service	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 3.30pm Messy Church at Church Lench VH	9.30am Family Service
29 th June Lenches Flower Festival	11am Flower Festival Morning Service	6.30pm Flower Festival Songs of Praise	11am Flower Festival Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion

ARCH Benefice May 2025

(key on p26)	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
4 th May		8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)
Thursday 8 th May				11am Holy Communion (BCP)
11 th May	11am Holy Communion		11am Morning Service	9.30am Morning Service
18 th May		11am Morning Service	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	10.00am Rogation with Harvington Baptist Church
25 th May	11am Rogation		11am Family Service	9.30am Holy Communion 3.30pm Messy Church at Harvington VH
Thursday 29 th May Ascension Day				11am Holy Communion