



The ARCH Messenger

*To show our love for God and You
June 2024*



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

2 nd June	Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Psalm 81:1-10; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12; Mark 2:23-3:6
9 th June	Genesis 3:8-15; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35
16 th June	Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92:1-8; 2 Corinthians 5:6-17; Mark 4:26-34
23 rd June	Genesis 1:1-2:3; Psalm 104:1-15, 31-34; Philippians 4:4-9; Matthew 6:25-34
30 th June Lenches Flower Festival	Acts 12:1-11; Psalm 125; 1 Peter 2:19-25; Matthew 16:13-19
7 th July	Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13
14 th July	Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29
21 st July	Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
28 ^h July	2 Kings 4:42-44; Psalm 145:10-19; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

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

Thought for the month

Sabbath and festivals

We read in Genesis, *'And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation'* (Genesis 2:2-3).

Why did God rest? Was he tired? No – **the Sabbath is described as 'holy and hallowed' and set aside by God, the rabbis of old tell us, so that time could be spent enjoying Creation which was so lovingly made.**

In June we will be offered time to enjoy Creation at our four churches' Flower Festivals and the Harvington Festival, with the opportunity to visit our neighbours' gardens. This time of year is one of my highlights as I observe nature bursting with colour and growth and the air filled with birdsong: an opportunity to recognise and revel in Creation's glory as God did on the Sabbath.

I appreciate nature best while walking or running but it's also a time to think and notice where nature is not being hallowed. Litter in the verge, the cars speeding by, and the silent, tree-free, hedge-light fields. It makes me reflect on how much I am participating in the desecration of Creation which God so lovingly made – and what I can do to protect it.

In the autumn we are inviting Chris Haynes, a local environmentalist, to tell us ways that we might consider adopting to change how we live our daily lives. We need to change so that future generations can have Sabbaths similar to ours, filled with colour, delight and birdsong.

Richard Thorniley

Stop date for next issue: Monday 10th June

Rector's Corner

Daily prayers: via Zoom – contact me for details
8.30am and 6pm (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 Wednesday 12th June at the Golden Cross, Harvington
8.30pm 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

Pastoral calls and contacts

If you know of anyone who could do with a call or help for any reason please let me know. And if you want to get in touch please do – it's good to hear from you and I enjoy a chat.

Richard Thorniley

From the Registers

Abbots Morton

23rd April Interment of ashes Pamela Brewer

Rous Lench

10th May Interment of ashes Sheila Virr

Harvington

30th April Funeral Diana Huggins

10th May Memorial service Helen Fishbourne

Notices

FLOWER FESTIVAL WALK WITH LUNCH ON THE WAY

Saturday 29th June, 10.30am at **St James', Harvington**

Starting from St James', Harvington, join a lovely walk round our churches to enjoy their floral decorations. We will visit the churches in Church Lench, Rous Lench and Abbots Morton on the way to view the Flower Festival floral arrangements, and will stop at Church Lench Village Hall **for a ploughman's lunch. The walk will finish at St Peter's, Abbots Morton**, where you can pick up a ride home (if needed).

Most of the walk will be on local paths with minimal use of roads, so appropriate footwear is required... and dress for whatever the weather may offer us on the day (suntan lotion essential!)

Please bring your own refreshments and arrange transport (if required) to Harvington or back home from Abbots Morton.



Messy Church

Sunday 23rd June 3.30-5.30pm
Church Lench Village Hall



Notices



The Lenches Amphitheatre



We are delighted to announce our 2024 open air theatre season:

- ◆ 16th June: *Dr. Dolittle* by Hugh Lofting
(performed by Illyria)
- ◆ 7th July: *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame
(performed by Boxtree Productions)
- ◆ 18th August: *Romeo & Juliet* by William Shakespeare
(performed by Illyria)
- ◆ 8th September: *Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare
(performed by Sweet Sorrow Theatre Company)

For more information, ticket prices and bookings please visit www.lenchestheatre.co.uk or scan the QR code.



★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
 ★
 ★
 ★ *Muddy Kids: 10th great year!* ★
 ★ Tuesday 30th July - Thursday 1st August, 10am-2.30pm ★
 ★ at ★★★★★ ★
 ★ ***'Create and Play in God's World!'*** ★
 ★ The '*Muddy Kids*' Holiday Club is running for its 10th year with the ★
 ★ obstacle course at Ellenden Farm plus other activities. ★
 ★ *BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN* ★
 ★ Ages catered for: 5-10 (school age) £9 per child per day/£26 for 3 days ★
 ★ We also need teenage helpers (ages 11-16): £7 per day/£20 for 3 days ★
 ★ To reserve a place or to offer help please get in touch with Richard ★
 ★ Thorniley on 01386 870527 or holidayclub@archbenefice.org.uk ★
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Is it sport? Or faith?

A former Liverpool manager Bill Shankly famously said, *'Some people believe football is a matter of life and death. I am very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that!'*

This month sees the start of the UEFA Euro 2024 football tournament which will be watched by millions across Europe and the world. Yet it also illustrates some key points about the Christian life. As Paul writes, *'But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus'* (Philippians 3:13b-14).

A prize to be won: The dream of every player in the competition is to be able to hold up the cup themselves. For us the prize is the eternal life, God's gift of relationship with Him for now and eternity through Jesus. But there's an important difference between football and the Christian faith. To win the Euros you have to be good enough, whereas Christ's love for us is undeserved and is not dependent on how well we've done.

Training to be undertaken: If a team is going to win Euro 2024, they need to have trained hard beforehand. Our training as Christians starts the moment we accept the gift of God's life. On a daily basis, we must train ourselves to say *no* to the wrong things in our lives.

As we build up our *godly muscles*, we are better able to choose to do what is right in God's eyes. To enable us to do all this we need to engage in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, studying the Bible and being part of a church and small group. How is your training going?

Canon Paul Hardingham

Definitions

Dust: mud with the juice squeezed out

Inflation: cutting money in half without damaging the paper

Committee: a body that keeps minutes and wastes hours

Mosquito: an insect that makes you like flies better

Judges: what's the big idea?

Continuing the series introducing the books of the Old Testament...

Following Joshua's death, a generation grew up who didn't know God (*Judges 2:11*) and 'every man did what was right in his own eyes' (*Judges 17:6, 21:25*). The book of Judges is a study in God's response to a permissive society.

The book takes its name from the *deliverers* that God raised up during this time. God empowered both men and women with His Spirit to rule and deliver the people. They included Ehud, Deborah, Gideon and his son Abimelech, Jephthah and Samson. The judges operated in the 350 years (from 1050BC) between **Joshua's death and the monarchy**.

We see a recurring cycle of apostasy, oppression, penitence and deliverance played out. When the people fell into sin, God sent an enemy nation to oppress them. As a result, they cried to God for help, and He responded by raising up a deliverer to free them.

The saddest words in Judges are those applied to Samson, '**He did not know that the Lord had left him**' (*Judges 16:20*). Rejecting God in our lives can begin with tolerating those things that are not in harmony with His will for our lives. **The people's toleration of the beliefs of their pagan neighbours led to a conformity in life and worship with them.** Yet God waited for His people to return to Him, when He responded with grace to deliver them.

Gideon stands out as somebody who was unwilling to compromise with the surrounding culture. Despite his weaknesses, God used him to deliver Israel from the Midianite invaders. We read: '*the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon*', literally '*the Spirit clothed Himself with Gideon*' (*Judges 6:34*). God's grace and faithfulness is at work in those who are prepared to trust Him.

Canon Paul Hardingham

Musings

Inanimate objects are classified scientifically into three major categories: those that don't work, those that break down and those that get lost. *Russell Baker*

I'm taking care of my procrastination issues. Just you wait and see.

Do you struggle with doubt?

Do you ever look at other Christians and wonder, 'Do they REALLY believe this Christian stuff? That Jesus really was the Son of God who rose again and is alive today?'

Doubt is an honest place to be, and it is not the opposite of Christian faith. To believe is to be in one mind. To disbelieve is also to be in one mind. To doubt is to waver between the two minds, to be in a state of 'double-ness' or 'two-ness'. To doubt something is to be willing to believe it – IF you can find evidence to back up the story.

If you are in this state of 'double-ness' just now, you may find the story of the disciple Thomas (*John 20:24-29*) helpful. Unlike the other disciples, he was not present on that first Easter night when Jesus appeared to the other disciples. Instead, Thomas was told that someone whom he'd seen crucified and dead was alive again three days later, and in perfect health!

Thomas had been devoted to Jesus, but the fact that dead people don't rise again made the story just too much for him. So, despite the joy of the other disciples, he could get only as far as '*unless I see the nail marks... I will not believe it.*' It was a week later that Jesus appeared again to His disciples and confronted Thomas. He said simply, '*Put your finger here; see my hands... Stop doubting and believe.*' Jesus then looked forward to all the millions of people in the future who would never meet Him in person, and so would have understandable grounds to doubt. '*Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.*'

Thomas needed physical recognition before he could say '*My Lord and My God.*' Today, if you want to believe but honestly struggle with doubt, consider using this simple prayer:

'Lord Jesus, I have never seen You in person so, I sometimes doubt that you exist. The Bible tells us that it is only the Holy Spirit who can open our "spiritual eyes", and so I ask You to do that for me. Please give me not physical recognition, but faith recognition. I will do my bit, and will read about you each day in the Bible. Through Your Word, please open my spiritual eyes so that I can see You clearly as Jesus, the risen Son of God. Amen.'

Revd Dr Roger Roberts

On the perils of building a kitchen in church...

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,

It never fails to amaze me how, in church life, an issue can suddenly become an Issue. Recently, we have acquired an Issue: a proposal to convert a space at the back of the church into a kitchen. Inevitably, battle lines have been drawn and trenches dug. Attendance at church council meetings has soared and unofficial **sub-committees meet in the car park after Services. It's obvious that feelings are running high** because people have become remarkably polite to one another.

Some who are wildly in favour see it as an opportunity to leave the pews ten minutes early in order to get ready for the rush for weak coffee and damp biscuits. I can already hear in my mind the final hymn being drowned by kettles being filled, biscuit tins opened, cups thunderingly placed on saucers while the volunteers discuss the dress sense of others in the congregation in deafening whispers. Naturally, smaller turf wars have broken out alongside the major battle: should we get new crockery, what colour carpet tiles would look right – and most importantly of all, who will take charge of the coffee rota?

I was a little surprised to hear that Colonel Wainwright was all in favour – until I realised it would give him a place to totter into to read his newspaper once he got bored with my sermon, which usually seems to happen in the first minute.


Others are totally against the project: the treasurer dreads the thought of signing yet more cheques, the churchwardens worry about removing pews which have quietly hidden the dry rot, and the theologically angst-ridden agonise about the fact that St Paul never mentioned coffee after Sabbath worship.

Naturally I encourage all sides, especially if it will bring any possibility of progress to a halt. I proposed bringing in flasks of coffee, thus stopping anyone being able to escape before the end of the Service; I suggested drinks being brought **to people in the pews, thus ruining the Colonel's hopes of finding a safe haven.**


I am sure by the time all these groups have come up with their conclusions, we will have safely moved on to fight the next Issue.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Church Lench
All Saints' Church



Church Lench
Flower Festival Concert



Friday 28th **June, 7.30pm in All Saints' Church**

Featuring Vale Harmony and friends

Tickets £10 from the PCC or at the door

Contact: *****@*****



FLOWER FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Friday 28th - Sunday 30th June

Friday 28th June, 7.30pm: Evening concert

An evening of musical entertainment in All Saints' Church

Tickets available in advance or on the door

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th June, 11am-5pm:

Open gardens and other attractions

Gardens open to the public

Scarecrow trail

Floral arrangements in All Saints' Church

Craft fayre, plant sales and refreshments (including homemade cakes and ploughman's lunches) in the Village Hall

Sunday 30th June, 11am: Flower Festival Holy Communion

Service of Holy Communion in All Saints' Church

*For more information about any of these events, please contact Lyndall (*****) or Nadine (*****)*

Church Lench First School News

New Christian value

Our Christian value this term is *Respect*. We have been thinking about the quote, 'So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets' (Matthew 7:12). We have linked this important Bible scripture to many different stories such as 'Jesus heals the servant of a Roman soldier', 'Moses in the wilderness' and 'Jesus calls Matthew' looking for how respect is earned and given to others. Our worship committee this half term have also performed a play of the story of 'Moses and the Burning Bush' for the rest of the school to enjoy.

Learning about the Mayans in the community orchard

The children in Class 3 made beautiful masks to match those made by the Maya to wear in battle or at important events. They also cooked over an open fire to make some traditional South American food.

Art in Church Lench First School



We have been learning about different artists throughout the school. Class 1 have learnt about the Victorian artist L.S.Lowry and how he drew what he could see around him during the industrial revolution. The children drew their own pictures with our beautiful Victorian school as the **background**. **Class 2** looked at Picasso and his 'Blue Period' and painted their own Picasso-inspired pieces. **Class 3** have learnt about Frida Kahlo and have refined their skills of sketching, cross-hatching, shading and blending to draw self-portraits.

We are looking forward to...

We are looking forward to some different trips during the second half of the summer term with **Class 3** going to the Hindu temple and then bell boating on the River Avon; **Class 2** spending a day climbing at Redpoint and enjoying 'The Buzz' inflatable playground in Worcester; and **Class 1** enjoying an exciting trip to Boundless Outdoor centre to try different adventurous activities.

*With very best wishes to you all
Hayley Pratley, Acting Headteacher*

Church Lench

FLOWER ROTA

8th June
Friday 28th June
6th July

Ann Quickenden
Flower Festival – combined effort
Wedding

SAVE THE DATE

I am planning to hold a drama workshop for children and families on Saturday 27th July at 2pm in **All Saints' Church**. We will spend the afternoon working on a story from the *Open the Book* version of the Bible which can be presented to parents and members of the community.

It should be great fun so put the date in your diaries!

Richard Thorniley

LENCHES WI

On Monday 19th June our WI will be holding their annual garden party in a member's garden. Although this meeting is exclusively for members and past members, if you are interested in seeing what our WI offers in the way of friendship and would like to join us on this fun occasion, please phone Jean Houlton, Secretary, on ***** for further information.

VILLAGE HALL

Thank you to everyone who attended our sell-out performance of *Confetti* in April. It was a great night. Also big thanks to all of you who attended our ever-popular *Big Breakfast* in May.

Hiring the hall

Interested in hiring the hall? For booking enquiries, please contact Bev Gillis at civillagehallbookings@gmail.com and see our pages on www.thelenches.org.uk.



South Lenches Parish Council

www.southlenchesparishcouncil.org
***** , clerk@southlenchesparishcouncil.org

Meetings of the Parish Council

Information can be found on the notice board in Atch Lench, the Parish Council website and the Lenches Community Facebook page. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Meetings are held every two months in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Members would like to thank Nicky Holland, our Parish Clerk, who has retired after nearly 20 years of service to this community. The work of a Parish Clerk is often unseen but it is vital to the smooth running of the council and the services provided at parish level. Nicky has worked tirelessly and diligently throughout her tenure at South Lenches PC and we will miss her wise counsel. She will continue to work as Clerk to Harvington Parish Council.

Nicky's replacement is Kerry Williamson. Kerry is already Clerk to Rous Lench and Abbots Morton Parish Councils. We are thrilled that she has chosen to add South Lenches to her portfolio and we are looking forward to working with her.



THE LENCHES TENNIS CLUB

Don't be shy – give us a try!

ADULT COACHING COURSES

For beginners, rusty racquets and advanced players

1 hour coaching: £7 (£8 for non members)

Phone Julie for a chat 07753 846320

NEW JUNIOR COURSES ON MONDAYS

4-7 years old at 3.45pm (£5); 8-13 years old at 5-6pm (£6)

Adults: contact *****@*****

Juniors: contact *****@*****

For membership: contact *****@*****



Harvington
St James' Church

ST JAMES' CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL

Saturday 8th June 11am-5pm & Sunday 9th June 11.30am-5pm

The Church will be adorned with magnificent displays
on the theme of *'The Four Seasons'*

PLUS

Saturday 8th June: Flower Festival Treasure Hunt

Sunday 9th June

11.30am: **Charlie Wild will perform some 'seasonal' music
on violin and viola d'amore**

5.30pm: *Songs of Praise Service* featuring the Harvington Singers.
Strawberries & cream served on arrival

*Write your favourite hymn on a slip of paper and drop it in the box at the
back of church. Nominations open Sunday 5th May - Sunday 2nd June*

ST JAMES'S CHURCH
PRESENTS.....

HARVINGTON SUMMER FETE

SATURDAY 8TH JUNE.

11am - 3pm

St James's Churchyard, Church Street

FUN & GAMES, LIVE MUSIC, FOOD & DRINK

follow us on facebook at 'St James's Events' for up to date information

Harvington First School News

Last half term was a difficult time for our school community as we very sadly lost our head teacher, Mrs Fishbourne. The children and staff have all pulled together to support one another. As part of our work about loss, the children produced a range of work including drawings and poems for a memory book dedicated to Mrs Fishbourne to remember the fantastic work she did throughout the 33 years she worked at our school.

Last half term our core value was *Respect*: the children were thinking about how to show respect to one another. During Collective Worship sessions we were reflecting on the Bible story of the Good Samaritan, thinking about who was **respectful and who wasn't**. **This half term our value is *Perseverance*** – a very important one as children prepare to move onto new schools and new classes.

The children have recently experienced a range of exciting learning opportunities including acquiring some very useful skills for life. Year 5 were able to practise their cycling skills – you may have seen them out and about in the village learning how to be safe on the roads. Some classes have been developing their food preparation skills with Year 1 designing and making fruit smoothies and Year 5 creating Bolognese sauce.

We are also very proud of our recent sports achievements with KS2 taking part in, and winning, the Evesham swimming gala and Year 5 getting through to the final of the cluster football tournament! Well done to everyone who has represented our school in these competitions.

Although, with all the rain, it hasn't felt like we are in the summer term, this half term will focus on preparing the children for moving to their new classes in school or moving onto their new schools. We also have some very exciting trips which we look forward to telling you about in the near future.

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.

Harvington

SUMMER FETE

Saturday 8th June, 11am-3pm

St James' Church is holding its Summer Fete at the church alongside its Flower Festival. The flowers will be on display inside the church with the various fete stalls around the churchyard. Great care is being taken to treat the churchyard with the love and respect that is its due. So come along and enjoy the space that has a sanctity and joy unique to the village – and appreciate the life that it brings, as all such events do.

Richard Thorniley

GARDENING TEAM

Saturday 1st June, 9.30am-12noon

Saturday 1st June is the first day of meteorological summer, with astronomical summer beginning on the summer solstice a few weeks later. So there should be sunshine by the time we meet when, with the help of Joy and Julian, there will be a list of jobs for our loyal team to do to prepare for the Fete.

Please spare a little of your day to help. I can only hope for good weather, but I can promise good company and a break around 11am for tea, coffee and chat.

Clive Allen

FAITH TODAY

Friday 14th June, 10am at *****

In our June meeting we are going to be talking about *Jesus the Rebel*, led by Clive Allen. This will be a fascinating subject and we are all looking forward to **finding out what scripture tells us and how we can interpret it into today's way of life.** We hope you can join us for a lively chat!

If you have any questions or would like to know more, please contact Sophie (*****, *****@*****).



Harvington

CAMEO TEAS

Wednesday 12th June, 1.30pm at **St James' Church**

This month we welcome the Year 5 children from Harvington First School who will be joining us in church for our CAMEO Tea. Come and meet them and hear about what they have been doing in school.

Please note the earlier start time of 1.30pm

HARVINGTON COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

(*****)



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

- ◆ transport for appointments or shopping
- ◆ small DIY jobs or gardening
- ◆ dealing 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).

HARVINGTON OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd June, 2-5pm

Tickets £5

Teas and tickets available at Harvington Baptist Church

Please mark your calendars, invite your friends and enjoy an afternoon wandering the village garden delights and be inspired



Harvington

FILM NIGHT

Part of the Harvington Festival 2024

Friday 14th June, 7.15pm: *Erin Brockovich* (cert 15)

Erin Brockovich (Julia Roberts) is a woman in a tight spot. Following a car accident in which Erin is not at fault, Erin pleads with her attorney Ed Masry (Albert Finney) to hire her at his law firm. Erin stumbles upon some medical records placed in real estate files. Based on a true story, the film shows the strength it takes for a woman to stand up for a cause and be noticed in a man's world. That Brockovich would come out a winner could be seen from the very beginning, but the process, rather than the result, became the most important thing.

A led discussion will explore the themes raised by this gripping story

Tickets cost £5 to include a glass of wine or soft drink

In the Village Hall – doors open 7.15 pm; screen illumination 7.45pm



*...well, you cannot fault the efficacy
of the new 'Planned Giving' scheme...*



*Shirley caught the flower ladies
red-handed, dealing trugs*

Abbots Morton St Peter's Church

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

FLOWER FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Saturday 29th June and Sunday 30th June

The Flower Festival weekend will see the parish church beautifully decorated with floral displays on the theme of *Holidays* for all to visit.

On Sunday 30th June, at 12.30pm, there will be a free *Bring and Share* lunch in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Bring your own lunch plus *a little* extra. Savoury or sweet cold finger food is easiest. Food will be set out buffet-style and shared, so lots of variety needed. Plates, glasses and cutlery will be provided but please bring your own drinks. There will be a raffle to raise funds for the church – any offer of prizes will be welcome. *All are welcome to join us.*

Further information please contact Roma Jones at *****@*****.



PRAYER CORNER

With the help of Jacki and Stephen Allum, the Rector has created a prayer corner in the church near the font. It's a quiet space to spend some time with God.

PCC VACANCIES

St Peter's urgently needs people in the parish to join the Parochial Church Council (PCC). If you would like to get involved in looking after your church, please come onto the PCC. We meet once every two months to plan and carry out maintenance and developments to the church and churchyard, organise fundraising events and contribute to the kinds of services we hold. Please contact Revd Richard Thorniley (870527) or Colin Pemberton (PCC Secretary, *****) if you would like to join.

Abbots Morton

VILLAGE HALL

(www.abbotsmorton.info/abbots-morton-village-hall)

Tuesday 4th June, 10am-12noon: Community coffee morning
Everyone is welcome to come along for a chat and meet people from the neighbourhood. There is no entry fee and the refreshments are free of charge! Come out for a while and join in this relaxed get-together.

Villagehallantes

A play on the word 'vigilantes', we're attempting to find some volunteers to lend a hand on Saturday 13th July from 10am - 12noon sprucing up various parts of the hall, inside and out. We wanted something a bit more upbeat than saying 'working party'... so can you be a *villagehallante* on that Saturday in July? We'll provide the tools and allocate the jobs to be done... and refreshments will be available! If you want to be a *villagehallante*, please contact the village hall secretary, Pat Willingale, on ***.**

New trustees needed

Lynne repeated her appeal for new members to join the hall's management committee. If you would like to be part of running this wonderful community space, please call Lynne on ***.**

Easyfundraising

We'd love to recruit our 27th or a 28th supporter! If you shop online and would like to help to raise funds for the village hall, please sign up today by visiting www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbotsmortonvillagehall. Our 26 EasyFundraisers have brought a total of £1,284 to the village hall accounts since we started the scheme in 2015.

PARISH COUNCIL

All parishioners are welcome to attend our Parish Council meetings. Meetings are held in January, March, May, July, September and November. Please see the Parish Council's website www.abbotsmorton.info for the date of the next meeting. Residents are invited to put forward any ideas, concerns or queries during public question time. If you cannot attend a meeting in person then please raise issues with the Clerk at abbotsmortonpc@gmail.com.

Rous Lench
St Peter's Church

PIG ROAST 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Saturday 29th June, 5-10pm on the Village Green

This fun, traditional village event is 40 years old this year! Come and celebrate this momentous occasion on the village green from 5pm onwards. All the usual attractions will be there including children's entertainment, live music from *George Webb* and *Juke Box Hero*, cakes galore and lots of tombola and raffle prizes, not forgetting the all-important delicious hot pork rolls, hot dogs and vegetarian samosas plus a fully-stocked bar. There is something for everyone so come and join in the fun!

Please also watch out for information about pig roast planning meetings and come along to see how you can help. We need lots of volunteers to make this event a success.

Put the date in your diary, you don't want to miss this!

PARISH COUNCIL

Council meetings

All parishioners are welcome to attend our meetings which are held in the months of January, March, May, July, September and November. Residents are invited to put forward any ideas, concerns or queries during public question time. If you cannot attend a meeting in person then please raise issues with the Clerk, Kerry Williamson, on rouslenchpc@gmail.com.

Councillor vacancies

We currently have one vacancy on the council 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 every other month and are a couple of hours long on a Monday evening. In the interim, about an hour per week is needed to keep up to date with council matters. Are you interested? Would you like more information? Please contact the Clerk who will be happy to help.

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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 July 2024

	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
(key on p26)				
Wednesday 3 rd July				11am Holy Communion (BCP)
7 th July		8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Service 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)
14 th July	11am Holy Communion		11am Morning Service	9.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 17 th July				11am Holy Communion
21 st July		11am Morning Service	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30am Family Service
28 th July	11am Morning Service			9.30am Holy Communion

ARCH Benefice June 2024

(key on p26)	Abbots Morton	Rous Lench	Church Lench	Harvington
2 nd June		8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Service 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)
Wednesday 5 th June				11am Holy Communion (BCP)
9 th June	11am Holy Communion		11am Morning Service	9.30am Holy Communion 5.30pm Songs of Praise
16 th June		11am Morning Service	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30am Family Service
Wednesday 19 th June				11am Holy Communion
23 rd June	10am Benefice Communion		3.30pm Messy Church at Church Lench VH	
30 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