

NEWSLETTER

FOR

THE MORVILLE GROUP OF PARISHES

VILLAGE HALL



ASTON EYRE



MORVILLE SCHOOL

PARISH COUNCIL



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

OCTOBER 2025

Morville Church Harvest Festival Service
Sunday October 5th

This year's Harvest Festival at Morville Church will be held on Sunday October 5th at 11.15am. All welcome. Bring along produce for donation to the Bridgnorth Food Bank

Quiz
at
Ditton Priors Village Hall

Saturday, 15th November 7pm for 7.30 start
tea and coffee

(Bring your own additional drinks and glasses)

Hot food served at 7pm & puddings at the interval

Prior booking is preferred but not essential

Teams of 4 or come along and make a team up on the night

Prizes and raffle

Contact Derek or Gill Pugh on 01746 789403 (leave a message if no answer)

Or [email pughsfeeds@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pughsfeeds@hotmail.co.uk)

All profits to St Peter's Church, Monkhopton

Morville Parish Council

The next Parish Council Meeting will now be held on Monday 10th November, at 7.00pm at Morville Village Hall.

Morville W I

Our September meeting began with a welcome to everyone from our president, followed by the WI anthem, Jerusalem.

Unfortunately the speaker booked for the evening, was forced to cancel and therefore our back-up plan was put into action. So after business of the evening was concluded we played Beetle.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with Beetle, it is a party game where you have to draw a beetle & to get all the different parts, you throw a dice. It's fun, noisy and involves winners and losers moving tables. Oh and it can be very competitive!

After all that excitement everyone was ready to enjoy the delicious tea which the lovely Carol, Jenny, Debbie W and Margaret B had prepared.

Next month along with most other WI's up and down the country, is Morville WI's AGM. This is when we will be reflecting on the year and electing a committee and president for 2026.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about Morville WI you would be most welcome to come along to a meeting, and the first one is free. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month and have a welcome drink from 7.15pm with the meeting starting at 7.30.

We follow our meeting with a delicious tea and have a raffle and competition each month. There is also a sales table.

You can just turn up on the night or if you would like any further information we can be contacted by e mail at morvillewomensinstitute@gmail.com or check us out on Facebook.

2025 is a Mast Year

A mast year is when trees and shrubs produce an unusual abundance of fruits, nuts and seeds, known as "mast".

Instead of a scattering of acorns or the usual crop of berries, mast years bring thick carpets of nuts and seeds, heavy branches of fruit and a veritable feast for all wildlife.

One of the mysteries of mast years is how trees and bushes manage to act as one, synchronising across vast areas, all producing bumper crops in the same year.

Is it climate and the weather patterns, or do they communicate through the release of chemical signals, or do they synchronise through pollen exchange?

WELCOME :

Richard Smith and Zoe Walters, and their son Harrison, to Upton Cressett

Freddie Hamilton- Russell and Annabel Mundy to Aston Eyre

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Cathy Dyson and Dafydd Jenkins on their forthcoming marriage in Aston Eyre Church

BEST WISHES TO:

the Malone family, Linda, Quinton, Ben and Dan, who have moved from Haughton to Atterley (and thank you to Linda and Dan for continuing to deliver the Haughton newsletters.)

Sarah and Chris Brentnall, who have moved from Aston Eyre

(A message from the Brentnalls:

After 34 happy years living in Aston Eyre, Sarah and Chris Brentnall have moved out of the area to be closer to family. We have so enjoyed being part of the wider Morville community and wish all the parishes and everyone well for the future. We hope the new owners of Ouseley Farm, Freddie Hamilton-Russell and Annabel Mundy will enjoy living here as much as we have.

With best wishes and so many fond memories. Sarah + Chris)

Birds' Nests by Edward Thomas

The summer nests uncovered by autumn wind,
Some torn, others dislodged, all dark,
Everyone sees them: low or high in tree,
Or hedge, or single bush, they hang like a mark.
Since there's no need of eyes to see them with
I cannot help a little shame
That I missed most, even at eye's level, till
The leaves blew off and made the seeing no game.
'Tis a light pang. I like to see the nests
Still in their places, now first known,
At home and by far roads. Boys knew them not,
Whatever jays and squirrels may have done.
And most I like the winter nests deep-hid
That leaves and berries fell into:
Once a dormouse dined there on hazel-nuts,
And grass and goose-grass seeds found soil and grew.

Hello from the Morville school family

We have had a calm and peaceful start to the new academic year 2025/2026 and the children have already settled so well into their new year groups, classes or school in some cases. It has been wonderful to hear all the children's summer news, and I am sure every single child has grown just a bit taller once more.

The children have already started their new topic for this half term, and the school are busy already beginning to rehearse for Harvest Festival in church. This year's theme is Harvest Festival around the world, and I know the children are enjoying learning the songs and hymns.

The sports season has also already commenced, with two pupils representing us in Cross Country at Oldbury Wells this week. The children did a fantastic job showing real determination and skill. There will be further cross-country races over the next three weeks as well as Bronze Ambassador training, This Girl Can Sports mornings and KS1 multi skills. I look forward to updating you on our progress at these events.

In Oak tree class this half term the children will be covering the topic 'This is Me' In Year One they will start by locating our school on a photograph and will identify features of our local area. They will create maps of the classroom using objects and will use directional language to describe the location of key features. The Reception children will be busy exploring maps. They will learn to identify different features by playing pirate bingo and will use collage to create aerial maps of our school.

In Birch Tree Class the children are exploring the topic of 'Castles, Kings and Queens.' In history, they will be learning about famous queens of Britain. They will be focusing on Queen Elizabeth I, II and III as well as Queen Victoria. This will help them to develop their awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time. The children will use timelines to help them place the people and events that they are studying in chronological order and find similarities and differences within different time periods.

In Chestnut Tree Class the children will be learning all about 'The Marvellous Maya'. They will learn when and where the Maya civilisation was before learning more about their leaders and cities. They will consider the evidence left behind by the Maya and what this can (and can't) tell them about city states and life for the Maya people. The children will learn the Maya number and calendar system as well as learning about daily life and trade including important foods.

They will also learn what Maya people may have believed as well as what they may have done in their free time, including learning about the Maya ball game, pok-ta-pok.

Looking forward to sharing our next update – Miss Docherty

Reader Ramblings (from Jane Peeler)

I find the challenge of solving puzzles really satisfying, be it cryptic crosswords or number puzzles I love making sense out of what seems to be nonsense. If you know me you'll also know that I like order, it must be the librarian gene, if it comes my way I'll classify, catalogue and shelve it. And I'm sure I'm not alone when I say, that I like to feel I have at least some measure of control over the events in my life.

At the end of the year on my birthday I have to give up my Reader's licence and take a sabbatical. In readiness for that day I've had lots to do and think about as well as plans to make, not only for the time leading up to it, but for the three months of the sabbatical and beyond.

It has been quite challenging because there were and still are many what ifs, so many variables that are not in my control and when life is out of control my instinct is to try to fix it, and that can cause stress. As you would expect I prayed and meditated asking God for His peace. I came to realise that I was so focused on the challenge to solve the puzzles and answer all of the questions that I was leaving God out of the process. Then I read something that had a profound effect on me, I could almost hear God saying it to me, and I share it with you now.

"I've not asked you to feed the five thousand Jane, I've only asked you to bring the bread and the fish".

Light bulb moment! I wasn't meant to figure it all out on my own, to have all the answers. Jesus was asking me to trust him, because I'm not the miracle worker, he is. As Proverbs 3:5-6 says: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight."

I believe God is not looking for our strategies, God is looking for our surrender. We don't need to know all the answers when we know and trust the one who does. When we move our focus from what we don't have, in my case – all the answers, to what we do have – a loving Heavenly Father who we can trust; then as it says in Philippians 4:6-7 and I paraphrase, we will not be anxious about anything but in every situation by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, we will present our requests to God, and the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Peace is often not the absence of a storm but the presence of Jesus in the midst of the storm.

I end these thoughts with words that I wrote on a piece of paper, I've no idea when I wrote them, the paper fell out of a book I took down from a shelf to give away a few weeks ago. I still gave away the book but I kept the scrap of paper, it now lives on my fridge.

"Don't let the clutter of life distract you from what you need to do and what God requires of you.

Surrender yourself. Surrender it all."

Love and blessings,
Jane

Letter from the Archdeacon of Hereford

Harvest - as I drove out of Hereford, I was struck by the hard work that is going on in the countryside around the city. Straw is being collected from the fields, in some places silage is being cut and in others harvesting continues. When we were in Devon the celebration of Harvest took place across our villages from the end of August through to early October. Here in Hereford the pattern is similar, and our rural multi parish benefices are now beginning to celebrate Harvest.

The modern harvest festival celebrations that we know today was introduced in the Cornish parish of Morwenstow in 1843 by Rev Robert Hawker. Hawker was quite the eccentric and also on occasions was reputed to have dressed up as a mermaid! He invited his parishioners to a Harvest service as he wanted to give thanks to God for providing such plenty. However, this was to counter the festivities and merriment of much more ancient pagan celebrations, and he was keen to turn his parishioners towards a Christian celebration of harvest. The Christian Harvest celebrations that Hawker wanted to connect with were based on what he saw in the Old Testament, and he drew on the Jewish festival of Sukkot or feast of Tabernacles.

“You shall keep the Feast of Harvest, of the first fruits of your labour, of what you sow in the field. You shall keep the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labour.”

Exodus 23:16

Even today with modern farming methods It is still an opportunity to give thanks to God for his provision for us and an opportunity to share with generosity the riches we have received. Paul was very clear in his teaching that generosity begins in our hearts and is a reflection of the gratitude we have towards God for what he has done for us. Generosity is not something we have to be coerced into but instead it is something freely given. We perhaps need this reminder because our wealth and belongings ultimately belong to God, and we are simply stewards of what we have.

“So, I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready as a willing gift, not as an exaction. The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:5-7

Our harvest services should reflect this attitude of generosity because it points to what is at the heart of our faith that God has given us new life in Jesus freely and without condition. This is the grace of God at work in our lives. However, as Christians we are also called to work in God's harvest field. Jesus in his teaching told the disciples that they were called to be labourers in the Kingdom.

“When he 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

As disciples we are called to share the good news of the Kingdom and to help bring in God's harvest of new followers of Jesus. These are the disciples that Jesus calls us to make in the Great Commission, and it is part of our role not simply to make converts but to mentor and coach the next generation. We need to see the harvest not just in terms of crops, fruit and vegetables but as a spiritual reality that sees us offer the story of Jesus to a world in need.

The Venerable Derek Chedzey Archdeacon of Hereford

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

MORVILLE

Sun	5 th	11.15am	Harvest (JP) Refreshments
Mon	6 th	2.30pm	Morville School Harvest Festival
Sun	12 th	11.15am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
Sun	19 th	11.15am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
Sun	26 th	11.15am	Holy Communion (SB) Refreshments

ASTON EYRE

Sun	12 th	18.00pm	Harvest (JP)
Sun	26 th	10.00am	Holy Communion (SB)

MONKHOPTON

Sun	5 th	18.00pm	Harvest (Lay)
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ACTON ROUND

Sun	12 th	18.00pm	Harvest (Lay)
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Morville Readers and Readings for October

		First Reading	Second Reading
Sun	5 th	Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 (Alison Foxall)	John 6: 25-35 (Helen Smith)
Sun	12 th	2 Timothy 2:8-15 (Louise Shropshire)	Luke 17: 11-19 (Tim Heatley)
Sun	19 th	2 Timothy 3: 14- 4:5 (Tim Morris)	Luke 18: 1-8 (Elaine Crisp)
Sun	26 th	Romans 15: 1-6 (Hilary Evans)	Luke 4: 16-24 (Mike Skinner)

NB Lectionary Readings for all Harvest Services

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 John 6: 25-35

Sun	Nov 2 nd	Ephesians 1:11-end	Luke 6: 20-31
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SHROPSHIRE RURAL SUPPORT 0300 123 2825 freephone helpline

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All views represent the opinion of the authors and the information contained in the Newsletter is provided purely for information purposes and is provided "as is" without warranty either expressed or implied.

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BEFORE 24th OF THE MONTH**

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