

CHURCH SERVICES

Thursday 1st October

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

Sunday 4th October

09.00	Welsh Newton	Meditation, Bible Study and Outdoor Church
11.00	Llangarron	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Harvest Festival Service
11.00	Wyesham	Harvest Festival Service
15.00	Ganarew	Harvest Festival Service
18.00	Llangrove	Harvest Festival (Tea at 17.00)

Wednesday 7th October

18.00	Whitchurch	Night Prayer (Compline)
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Thursday 8th October

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

Sunday 11th October

09.00	Welsh Newton	Holy Communion
10.00	Llangrove	Lay Led
10.0	Marstow	Holy Communion
11.00	Goodrich	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Chatty Church
15.00	Bishopswood	Harvest Festival Service at the Village Hall

Thursday 15th October

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

Services Cont'd p47



BORDER NEWS

Wye Reaches and Wye Brooks Parish Magazine

Produced by volunteers for the community

****Your ACE 2025 Award Winning Magazine****



OCTOBER 2026



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Vicar

Revd Tim Starling

07980204572

revtimstarling@gmail.com

Associate Minister - Licensed to Wye Brooks Benefice

Revd Simon Tarlton 07462 893457 simon.tarlton@gmail.com

Retired Priests - Supporting our Benefices

Revd Penny Powdrill 01600 714096 pennypowdrill547@gmail.com

Revd Jill Stephens 01600 890975 jill.stephens1@btinternet.com

Please submit material for next month's issue NO LATER than 8th of the month to your parish correspondent

The email address for each correspondent can be found in the Parish News pages

Our Editor, Bobby, can be contacted via bneditor@mail.com

**Our Border News Advertising Manager
Bobby can be contacted on 01989 770256
or via bnads@mail.com**

CHURCH SERVICES Cont'd

Sunday 18th October

09.00	Welsh Newton	Meditation, Bible Study and Outdoor Church
09.30	Ganarew	Sunday Praise
10.00	Llangrove	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion

Wednesday 21st October

18.00	Whitchurch	Taizé Prayer
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Thursday 22nd October

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

Friday 23rd October

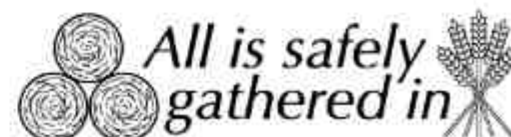
18.00	Llangarron	Harvest Festival
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Sunday 25th October

09.00	Welsh Newton	Holy Communion
09.30	Dixon	Harvest Festival Service
10.00	Llangrove	Café Church
10.00	Marstow	Family Service
11.00	Goodrich	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Sunday Praise
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion

Thursday 29th October

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study



Walking alongside one another

Many of us can look back and recognise people who have helped us in our faith: a parent, a friend, a church leader, or perhaps someone who was simply willing to listen, pray and encourage us at the right moment.

The Christian life has never been a path we are expected to travel alone. Throughout the gospels, we see how Jesus spent time with a small group of people, His disciples, and helped them grow. The early Church continued this pattern, learning together what it meant to follow Christ in everyday life.

Yet many of us wonder whether we have anything to offer others. Life is busy, and we may feel we don't know enough or have enough time to make a difference.

What if discipleship is simpler than we imagine? Often it begins with a conversation over coffee, offering to pray for someone, opening the Bible together, or taking the time to listen well.

The *Alongsider Course* has recently been launched by the Navigators: a free seven-session video course that explores what it means to walk alongside others and together take steps towards Jesus. Drawing on many years of experience helping people grow in faith, the course encourages ordinary Christians to be intentional about the relationships God has already given them, in their families, friendships, workplaces and churches.

In a world where many people feel isolated, there is something quietly powerful about walking alongside someone and seeing what God can do. Who might God be inviting you to walk alongside?

Further info: www.alongsidercourse.com



WELCOME FROM YOUR CLERGY TEAM

The season of Creation in the Church runs from 1st September to St Francis Day, 4th October. Incidentally, it will be 800 years since St Francis died. He wasn't just a Saint for animals, although he regarded them as an important part of creation, equally his brothers and sisters, as humans were. He wanted to call all people back to God so that they could live in peace with each other and all of creation. Unfortunately, we don't appear to have been doing that very well over the last 150 years, global warming and habitat loss are having a detrimental effect on the world.

The current exploitation of land, plants, animals and minerals for profit results in the loss of habitats that are homes for millions of species, including humans, homes are at risk due to climate change, as we have seen recently in Nepal and Tibet. We are experiencing the most severe El Nino weather pattern for centuries, which is going to affect all of us, our weather and food supply.

We are made from and of the Earth, and are cared for by our co-creatures and the land. Economic, social and political relationships affect the balance of creation. Everything that we fabricate, use and produce has its origin in the Earth, whether mineral, plant or animal based. Our habit of consuming energy and goods affect the resilience of the Earth to heal itself and sustain life.

Genesis 2:15 reminds us that among our co-creatures, the Creator has given humans a special vocation to tend and keep God's world. Sustaining just ecological, social, economic and political relationships requires faith, reason and wisdom. By faith, we join the Psalmist in remembering that we are not stewards of an inanimate creation, but caretakers within the dynamic and living community of creation. The Earth, and all that is, is not a given but a gift we hold in trust. We are called not to dominate, but to safeguard through wisdom as we pay careful attention to natural systems and processes, to the inherited and indigenous traditions, and to God's revelation in word and Spirit.

Jill xx



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS MONTH

As we welcome to our churches with the baptism of

Lily Eira Baker at Christ Church, Llangrove on Sunday 4th October 2026

Celebrate the marriage of:

Clare Bailey and Joe Worgan at Christ Church, Llangrove on the Saturday 12th September 2026

Pray for the souls and lives of :

John Pearson whose funeral took place at St Dubricius, Whitchurch, on 22nd August 2026.

Joyce Ranscombe whose funeral took place at St James, Wyesham on 28th August 2026.

Prayers for Harvest and October

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God of autumn, as we embrace the autumn chill and misty mornings, fill our hearts with joy. May joy radiate from us in the same way that the brilliant colours of the leaves radiate from the trees.

On this Bible Sunday, we come before You with open hearts and a thirst for spiritual enlightenment. May Your Word illuminate our minds and lead us to a deeper understanding of Your truth. Grant us the wisdom to apply Your teachings in our daily lives.

Bible Sunday 25th October

Slimming World

Healthy habits, lasting change!

No matter how you start your weight loss journey, with medication or without, one thing is universal. Nobody wants the weight to come back. To give yourself the best possible chance of long-lasting success, **support is essential**. At Slimming World, support isn't just an add-on. It's at the centre of our whole approach. Research shows that being part of a supportive group significantly boosts your chances of long-term weight loss success.

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Debra who runs Slimming World groups in both Monmouth (Wyesham) and Ross-on-Wye says: "In our groups you'll discover

- encouragement and accountability
- practical ideas, strategies and swaps
- understanding and reassurance
- recognition for every step forward

and all this for just **£6.95 per week or £6.65 if 60 or above!**"

If you would love to come along to a group which flexes around you, please feel free to pop along or contact me for more information.

MONMOUTH: St James Community Hall, Wyesham, NP25 3JY

Tuesdays at 5.30pm

ROSS-ON-WYE: The Larruperz Centre, HR9 7QD Mondays at 5.30pm and Tuesdays at 7.30am, 9.00am & 10.30am.

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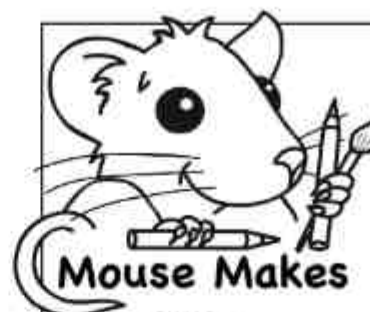
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The **Bible** encourages us, corrects us and teaches us about God and how we can be friends with Him.



1. How many books are there in the New Testament?

2. Which book of the Bible has the shortest title?



4. He was an Old Testament prophet that has a book named after him.

9. The Old Testament book of poetry and songs.

11. The last book in the Old Testament.

12. Which book tells the story of the spread of Christianity?



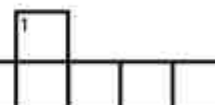
5. The first book of the Bible.



8. The last book in the Bible.

10. Who wrote the third book of the New Testament?

of God.
Hebrews 4:12



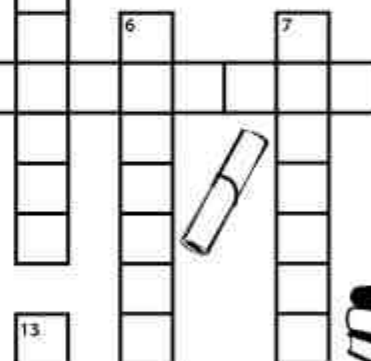
3. The Word of God is sharper than a two edged

Hebrews 4:12

6. God's word is like? A _____ and a _____
Psalm 119:105



7. What are the first four books of the New Testament known as?



13.

14.

14. A book of the Bible named after a woman





Let's not take our cathedrals for granted

By the Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts.

US Vice-President JD Vance may have criticised an art installation at Canterbury Cathedral – but a new report shows that the Church of England's cathedrals are its most popular places of worship.

They are also vital centres of community, arts and music and are major tourist attractions. But the latest research shows that many of the historic buildings are facing major financial challenges.

Religion think-tank Theos has published a detailed report looking at the role of cathedrals in modern England. The report, 'Living Stones: English Cathedrals as Sacred Spaces in Changing Times,' revealed that more than three-quarters (77 per cent) of adults in England had visited a cathedral at least once in the past three years.

The research showed that "Cathedrals reach beyond regular churchgoers. A majority of those with no religious affiliation have visited a cathedral in the last three years, and many enjoy worship, music, prayer or stillness while doing so." Other research confirms that cathedrals have significant economic benefits, generating around £235 million of additional expenditure in their local communities a year, creating more than 6,000 jobs and mobilising 13,000 volunteers.

Yet the Theos research also points out that four out of five of the cathedrals operate 'in structural deficit' with no guaranteed national funding for their core functions.

In recent years, cathedrals have attracted criticism for activities aimed at drawing new visitors into their buildings. Last autumn, JD Vance criticised an art installation at Canterbury Cathedral, saying that the graffiti-style artworks had made "a beautiful historical building really ugly." Other cathedrals have prompted complaints after installing a temporary fairground 'helter-skelter' inside the building or hosting silent discos.

Research from the Bible Society has shown that one of the top three places for people with no religion, or non-practising Christians to

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encounter the Bible was while sightseeing in a cathedral or church. But one of the Theos report's main findings highlights the growing gap "between the scale of public benefit cathedrals provide and the level of recognition, understanding and support they receive."

The report concludes that, to survive and thrive, cathedrals need sustainable investment from funders that recognise the cathedrals' public benefits. It also encourages visitors and local community members to consider joining a 'friends' scheme or making a regular donation.

I love visiting Hereford Cathedral both on a spiritual level or just for coffee before I begin shopping but here are a few events being held at the cathedral in October. *Ed*

In Print: 550 Years of Printing in England until Saturday 10 April 2027 10am–4.30pm The latest exhibition in the Mappa Mundi and Chained Library celebrates the evolution of print in England, featuring printed books from the 15th to the 21st centuries.

Drawn to Imperfection Tuesday 6 October until Monday 2 November A touring art exhibition that brings the Bible to life through a collection of 21 large-scale contemporary portraits. Created by artist Dave Nevard and writer David Painting, the exhibition gives visitors the opportunity to come face to face with the humanity of the people whose stories fill the pages of the Bible.

Cantilupe Lecture 'If all of these stories were told, they would produce a play that would never end' Friday 2 October, 4 pm The Revd Canon James Pacey, Chancellor of Hereford Cathedral reflects on the artistic and theological processes that have shaped the trilogy. He will consider how the Bible might become a two-hour play and explore the potential of theatre as a medium for the proclamation of the Gospel. This is a free event, but booking is essential.

Afternoon Music Peter Dyke Saturday 3 October 3.15pm Everyone is welcome to join us for a short concert of beautiful music played on the Father Willis organ. Admission is free with a retiring collection.

Tickets can be booked in advance via the cathedral website, in person or by calling the ticket desk (01432 374 202)



800 years since the death of St Francis of Assisi

You'll have heard of Giovanni di Pietro di Bernadone, although he is more probably familiar as Francis of Assisi. The 4th October we will mark 800 years since his death, as Jill noted in this month's welcome opening letter. Such was his fame, influence and holiness that he was declared a saint by the pope less than two years after his death.

Francis was born into a prosperous family of silk merchants in Assisi, central Italy, probably in 1181. As a young man he loved clothes, spent money lavishly, and enjoyed a reputation of a jack-the-lad, pleasure-loving and irresponsible. But experience both as a prisoner of war and of illness led him to think deeply about his life, although it took some time for this reappraisal to bear fruit.

Just outside Assisi was the ruined chapel of San Damiano, and it was here that he felt God speak to him, asking him to "repair my church, which as you can see, is falling into ruin". Little did Francis know at that point that 'repairing my church' meant much more than repairing this simple chapel - a task he set about doing.

Francis became known for his devotion to Christ and also his commitment to the poor and bereft. Others were attracted to join him in preaching the gospel and serving the poor. Eventually this was organised into a congregation of poor men (friars), which today we know as the Franciscans. He established a Rule of Life for these men, later revised as more joined them. A sister organisation, the Poor Clares, was founded for women who wanted to give their lives to God and the service of the poor. Two years before his death, in a period of intense prayer, he is said to have displayed the *stigmata* - the wounds of Christ - in his hands and side. By then he was increasingly ill; blindness and malaria took its toll and he died aged just 45.

Simplicity was a hallmark of his life, which has come down to us in a number of ways. Care for the environment is one way; patron saint of animals is another. World Animal Day is marked on the same day as Francis' death. Many churches will be holding a 'Blessing of the

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Animals' service, often a cheerful riot of barking dogs, hissing cats, rats and mice in cages, even a stick insect, and horses tethered outside.

We should see Francis as a visionary and inspirer, who, impelled by the love of Christ, was able to give himself to, and draw others to, a life of service to the poor, care for the environment, and prayer. By the time he died, there were Franciscan friars over much of Europe. Today, inspired by his legacy, his followers - friars, sisters and lay people - are found all over the world.



Churches invited to pray for all affected by drought, heatwaves and wildfires

As five successive heatwaves hit the UK this summer, bringing drought, extreme heat and wildfires, local churches have been helping the people affected, both through practical support - and prayers.

The prayers they used are found in *A Time for Creation*, a newly expanded C of E service book. Included are 'Prayers in times of extreme weather' and 'A prayer for the farming community in a time of crisis', as well as intercessions for those affected by extreme weather through drought, storms, flood, wildfires and other events.

The Bishop of Lichfield, Dr Michael Ipgrave, Chair of the Church of England's Liturgical Commission, has encouraged churches to draw from the prayers. He said that this continues "a longstanding tradition going back to the 1662 Book of Common Prayer", which even includes a Prayer for Rain. "For centuries, the people of England have turned to prayer in times of extreme weather of all sorts. The prayer book asks that we may receive 'in our necessity such moderate rain and showers' as we need. Our prayers invite us to ask, to wait and to know the glory and awesomeness of God when they are answered."

The new Festival of Creation was launched in September, and sets out the Christian understanding of the environmental crises facing the world, rooting care for creation in the biblical story of creation, redemption and renewal.



The UN and EU warn against rising religious persecution

The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, has spoken out against the rise in religious persecution worldwide. "Across the world, bloodshed based on religious affiliation runs rampant," Mr Guterres said. "Festivals have been attacked, places of worship desecrated. And many believers, especially among religious minorities, face hostility online and off. Such acts are an assault on human rights and human dignity. They must end now."

Instead, Mr Guterres stressed that the UN is committed to "building societies where all faiths can live and worship in peace." And so, he urged governments to "bring perpetrators to justice" and to counter "all forms of discrimination and hate speech."

He appealed to religious leaders "to speak out against violence." And he challenged digital technology companies to ensure their platforms were designed and moderated "to protect users from stigma and scapegoating".

Meanwhile, the European Union Council has said that two-thirds of the world's population is living under the threat of "serious abuses and violations" of religious rights. This is despite the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights promising religious freedom. The EU is promoting "specific initiatives" to curb anti-religious discrimination in Europe, and is also funding projects to promote peaceful religious co-existence in Asia and Africa's Sahel region.

The EU Council said: "Millions of people suffer daily from intolerance, discrimination, hatred, hostility and violence because of their actual or perceived religion or belief, or lack thereof. We have a responsibility to keep working actively towards a world where freedom, respect, tolerance and peace for persons of all religions and beliefs are no longer an exception but the norm."




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Sunday 11th our next Sunday service in Bishopswood our **Harvest Festival**, which takes place at 3.00pm at the Village Hall. The organist is booked so warm up your vocal chords for some wonderful harvest hymns.

Saturday 10th **Café Bishopswood** 10.00 am – Midday Table Top Sale – Come along and sell your wares. - £5 per Table Email Louise to book your table : admin@bvhonline.co.uk

Delicious cakes and refreshments (Gluten free available)

Friday 23th **Quiz Night** Teams of four - £8 per person including a light supper. Everyone welcome - if you haven't got a team, we can make up teams on the night. Doors and Bar open 7.00pm Quiz starts at 7.30pm Booking Only to secure your place telephone 01600891277 or email treasurer@bvhonline.co.uk

GOODRICH

Marlene Corker marlenecorker@yahoo.co.uk

St. Giles Church

"Autumn is a second spring, when every leaf is a flower" Albert Camus.

A quiet month for the church with time to look around the edges and get a few things done. If you have any **carpentry skills**, and you think you could repair our notice board, please get in touch. We are also looking for someone who could set up a new website for the church.

Saturday 5th December we are holding **Santa's Soup Kitchen** once again. If you had a table in the past and would like to again this year, please let me know. One of our intentions is for one of the prizes to be a wheelbarrow full of drinks, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic. The person who guesses the correct number of bottles wins the lot! I already have the wheelbarrow, so donations for the bottles would be

gratefully received from now on. A superb party season bonus!

Village Hall Events <https://goodrichvillagehall.co.uk/whats-on/>

Saturday 24th **Arts Alive Event: Behind Enemy Lines** Extraordinary women whose courage, daring, ingenuity and sacrifice defeated Nazi terror. Behind Enemy Lines is a solo performance of live music, original songs, storytelling, soundscape, acting and choreography. Join Louise Jordan as she honours the inspirational lives of some of history's lesser-known women. Tickets £12 adults, child £6. It starts at 7.30pm.

Thursday 29th Flicks will be showing **My Mother's Wedding** (15), starring Kirsten Scott Thomas, Scarlett Johansson, Sienna Miller. Three sisters return home for the third wedding of their twice widowed mother. But mother and daughters are forced to revisit the past and confront the future, with the help of unexpected wedding guests. Tickets £5 and the bar will be open.

WYESHAM

Jo Townsend & Marguerite Gordon

Thursday 1st **Bingo** 7.30pm St James' Community Hall

Saturday 3rd **Wydean Embroiderers** 10.30am - 2.30pm St James' Community Hall

Sunday 4th **Harvest Festival** 11.00am St James' Church, followed by refreshments

Monday 5th **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 9.00 -10.00am Kymin View School

Monday 5th **Ladies Prayer Group** 2.00 - 3.00pm Wyesham Christian Fellowship with Rev. Penny

Wednesday 7th **Monmouth Breast Cancer Support Group** 2.00 - 3.00pm Woodland View Shop

Monday 12th **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 9.00 -10.00am Kymin View School

Monday 12th **Ladies Prayer Group** at Connie's 2.30pm

Monday 12th **WI** 7.30pm St James' Community Hall

Tuesday 13th **Kymin View School Harvest Festival** St James Church

Thursday 15th **Bingo** 7.30pm St James' Community Hall

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Monday 19th **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 9.00 -10.00am Kymin View School

Monday 19th **Ladies Prayer Group** 2.30pm at Connie's

Monday 19th **Craft Group** 6.30pm St James' Community Hall

Monday 26th **Ladies Prayer Group** 2.30pm at Connie's

Thursday 29th **Bingo** 7.30pm St James' Community Hall

Saturday 31st **Community Coffee Morning** 10.00 -12.00 noon St James' Church

LLANGARRON

Helen Edwards edwardshelen82@gmail.com

Saturday 3rd **Auction of Promises** 7.00 – 10.30pm Katy Andrews will be hosting an Auction of Promises on behalf of the Community Association. A wide range of exciting, unique experiences, and gifts will be available to the highest bidder! Examples include local vineyard tour & tasting, a jaunt around the local area in an Aston Martin, personalised yoga session for 4-6 people, or a quirky evening divining on your land - plus many others! A full list of items will be available on Llangarron Life and published in the Newsletter a few weeks prior to the event. Doors will open at 7.00pm for bidding to begin at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 per person including dessert. The pop-up bar will be available throughout the evening. Keep the date free for a fun evening. Contact Katy Andrews mkchandrewsuk@gmail.com for tickets or to pledge a promise! The money raised will be put towards a new music system and redecoration of the Garron Centre.

Thursday 15th **Llangarron Community Association Annual General Meeting** 7.00 - 9.00pm The LCA will be holding our first AGM since renewal of a new 10-year Licence with the Diocese of Hereford in Spring 2026. Please come along to offer your support and ideas on the future of our Community Association. Papers will be sent to members two weeks ahead of the AGM.

Saturday 17th **Community Cafe** 10.00 - 12.00 The village cafe will be open from 10.00am serving bacon rolls, cakes, coffees and teas. Dogs and their well-behaved humans are welcome to attend.



Wednesday 21st Talk **"Grave Concerns"** by **Caroline Meller** from 7.00 - 9.00pm Have you ever wondered about the lives of those buried in our local parish churchyards? Caroline Meller will be sharing the fascinating history of burial traditions in the area. Why was it so important to respect the bees? What was the role of the sin-eater? From the Bronze Age to World War 2 there are stories to be told. Doors open at 7pm for light refreshments before the talk begins at 7.30pm. Admission is by donation to raise much-needed funds for the fabric of St Deinst Church, Llangarron. Contact Caroline via llangarronhistory@gmail.com for more information.

Friday 23rd **The Annual Harvest Supper** from 6.00pm on behalf of the PCC The Harvest Thanksgiving Service will take place in St Deinst Church at 6.00pm followed by the Harvest Supper in the Garron Centre at 7.00pm. Tickets are £15 per person. Catering volunteers would be appreciated. Please contact Caroline 07518 234 132 or cmbmeller@gmail.com.

Wednesday 4th November **'Brave Hearts in Archenfield'** 7.30pm at the Garron Centre, Llangarron. The first in a series of military-orientated talks will focus on the service and sacrifice of local people during the late 19th century through to the mid-20th century. From Rorke's Drift to the 18-year-old who witnessed the Battle of Jutland, the local women who worked at Rotherwas Munitions Factory to the VC hero who opened a Llangarron Fete. The military heritage of this area is, it can be argued, both varied and substantial.

If you would like to attend this talk then admission is by donation, the proceeds going to the Herefordshire Branch of the Royal British Legion. The doors will open at 7.00pm when light refreshments will be on offer. No booking required but if you have any queries then please contact Caroline at llangarronhistory@gmail.com.

The 2026 Poppy Appeal launches on 22nd October. This simple act of wearing a poppy sends a personal message of thanks and support for the Armed Forces community to see.



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Sunday 4th 3.00pm Harvest Festival Please join us for our harvest service, followed by light refreshments.

DIXTON

Kate Richards - kate@summerleas.com

Sunday 24th **Harvest Festival** 9.30am. As a farmer's daughter this is always a special time in the annual calendar for me, one that we would celebrate with a meal of as much home grown food as we could manage. Usually this would be potatoes, veggies, a home reared chicken, followed by apple and blackberry crumble. We grew wheat and sugar beet so all but the butter in the crumble we could claim to have produced ourselves!

The **clocks change** that day so you'll have an extra hour in bed before coming to the service! Coffee and cake afterwards (possibly also the little cheesy soda bread bites which Tim is rather partial too!). We look forward to seeing friends old and new at the service and hope that you will join us afterwards.

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We don't have any extra events in October, but please do save a couple of dates in November.

Sunday 1st November **Remembering Our Loved Ones Service** 6.00pm A quiet, contemplative service to remember those who have died and to pray for the bereaved.

Sunday 8th November **Act of Remembrance** 10.00am (after 9.00am Holy Communion). We will gather at the War Memorial in Welsh Newton for a short Act of Remembrance, followed by refreshments in the church.



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At Christ Church we have been very grateful to the **Rev. Simon Tarlton** from Goodrich who has led our Holy Communion Services on the first Sunday of the month for some years. A big thank you to Rev. Simon and we wish you well in your new job. Rev. Penny from Monmouth will continue to lead our Holy Communion Services.

Sunday 4th **Harvest Festival Service** 6.00pm There will be a *Bring and Share Tea* with fresh local apple juice, from 5.00pm.

Saturday 10th There is a meeting on for church representatives in the benefice as we **review the advert** for our next minister. Fridays at Llangrove Village Hall from 9.00 to 11.00am **Little Explorers** (under 5s) and their carers. Chat for the carers and fun for the youngsters. All Welcome.

Wednesday 14th **Coffee Morning** 10.30am at Llangrove Village Hall. Amazing Raffle. Good Company.

Sunday 25th **Cafe Church** 10.00am for refreshments, fellowship and a short informal service as we encourage each other in God's Kingdom here on earth.

Fridays from 11.00am **Warm Welcome** in Llangrove Village Hall. Coffee and light lunches. Afternoon refreshments from 3.15pm

Food Bank continues to be available and used in Christ Church. It is accessible to all. Please add to if you can and help yourself as needed.

Playground Update - the grass is growing and we continue to fundraise and to be very grateful to contributions towards this project so that our young people can get the best deal we can give them. Look out for posters about a **Race Night** on Saturday 17th October.

Saturday 3rd and Wednesday 7th 9.30am **Working parties** at Tretawdy Nature Reserve.

Saturday 3rd **Apple Juicing Day** 1.00 - 4.00pm Llangrove Village Hall organised by ACEG.



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Llangrove and District Gardening Society Talks

Thursday 1st **Universal Ways to Grow Veg.** by Sue Mabberley of Nant-y-Bedd garden.

Thursday 5th November **Apple Trees** by an expert from Frank P Matthews Ltd.

Llangrove Village Hall, doors open at 7.00pm Admission for non members £5. Contact: llangrovegardeningociety@outlook.com

Llangrove Community Productions are starting to get together to put on a new panto in 2027. Look out for posters if you are keen to get involved in any way

MARSTOW

Sue Rolfe rolfe653@btinternet.com Tel: 07971 411020

Website: marstowchurch.org

West End bookings Phyll Hannah 01989 770617

CHURCH NEWS and EVENTS

Bishops's Visit to St Matthew's Church we were delighted to welcome Bishop Richard and friends from neighbouring parishes to Marstow on September 9th for a simple service of prayer and reflection as part of the prayer movement week. The opportunity to meet for prayer and refreshments after the service was much appreciated.

Sunday 18th – Sunday 25th **Marstow Pumpkin People Trail** fund raiser Fun for all the family. Follow the trail of pumpkin montages and see how many of the children's book titles you can guess. Trail guides will be available in the daytime all week from the 18th at the church, post code HR9 6HE. Bring your completed entries to the church on the 25th between 2.00 and 5.00pm enjoy tea and cakes and pay the fee of £5.00 per entry.

ST MATTHEW'S WEST END EVENTS

Wednesday 21st **Marstow Makers Craft Evening** 7.00 – 9.30pm We would love to see you at this relaxed and friendly evening of crafting. Join in with the planned activity or bring your own project if you prefer, or just come along for some company. Refreshments will be on offer. Materials are provided and sessions are free to attend.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

No meeting in October See the Parish Council website for future dates and agendas marstowpc.org.uk. A list of Marstow Parish councillors is also on the website.



Remembering Our Loved Ones

November 1st is All Saint's Day and is the feast of all the redeemed, known and unknown, who are now in heaven. We now mark the day by remembering loved ones, St Mary's Welsh Newton are holding a special Remembering Our Loved One's service on Sunday 1st.

The act of remembering a loved one has taken many forms over the centuries, and as we sit in church one can't help but notice the numerous dedication plaques to people who donated the money to buy the item or in whose name the item was purchased.

Of course, many people donate financially and give specific items in their own name or in memory of someone else without wishing for this to be publicly noted. But often when folk donate something they do like it made clear.

A couple of centuries ago people would leave money after their death for a mass to be said for their soul. In some rich cases this would be every day for a year or even longer. The 'very' rich paid for a new altar to be placed in the church building or even in an extension to the building – a chantry. This is where their personal mass would be conducted each day. In these cases, a stipend would also be paid to cover the cost of a separate priest to do this task, rather than the rector or vicar having it as an extra daily task.

This all stems from the belief that we have sinned and will be punished in purgatory or hell but can 'buy' time off through prayers. Today our theology has moved back to a more biblical understanding, that Christ is the one who bore our sins on the cross, and we can't earn our way to

Cont'd...



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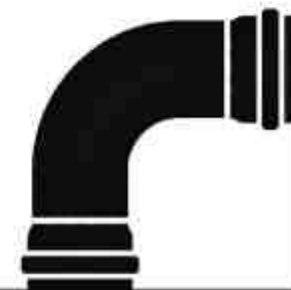
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heaven; we can only get there by faith in Him. But we still love and think about the people whom we loved, even though they are dead. Some Christians believe that, as we prayed for them in life, why should we stop just because they are dead?

As C.S. Lewis wrote;

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me."


Congratulations!

BBC Hereford & Worcester Make A Difference Awards

We all appreciate good neighbours. I'm sure we all try to be good neighbours ourselves. It's wonderful when someone is recognised for the work they do to support others. Sheila Jones of Upperfield Farm was selected from hundreds of entries to be named as a winner at the BBC Radio Hereford & Worcester Make a Difference Awards. Sheila donates weeks at her holiday barns to charities, and regularly organises fundraising events. In particular Sheila was recognised for creating a weekly quilting and sewing group, the "Sewciopaths," providing supportive friendship to other rural women. Watch out for the next quilting exhibition in Sheila's barns. Congratulations to Sheila, but as always Sheila plays down her incredible endeavours, simply saying 'it's just what people do'.

Congratulations from all at Border News and across the Parishes *Ed*

October's Harvest Festival and Supper Dates

Sunday 4th Llangrove 6.00pm Bring and Share tea at 5.00pm

Sunday 11th Bishopswood 3.00pm

Friday 23rd Llangarron 6.00pm followed by Harvest Supper

Sunday 25th Dixton 9.30am followed by coffee and cake



How Tyndale affects what you say - today

On Sunday 25th we mark Bible Sunday, interestingly of the more than 7,000 documented languages in the world today, over half do not have written Christian scriptures. This means that 209 million people do not, or cannot, possess any part of the Bible in their own language. Those of us who do are fortunate and owe much to one man.

This year we celebrate that it is 500 years since William Tyndale printed the very first English translation of the New Testament.

And hundreds of millions of people today are still quoting him, though they don't know it. For in 1526 Tyndale invented what would become some of the most famous idioms in the English-speaking world.

For instance –

"The salt of the earth"; "Go the extra mile"; "The powers that be"; "Eat, drink and be merry"; "A city on a hill"; "The apple of his eye"; "In the twinkling of an eye"; "Signs of the times"; "My brother's keeper"; "Fight the good fight"; "Broken-hearted"; "Fallen flat on his face".

These phrases were all invented by Tyndale, during his translation from the original Greek of the New Testament.

As a young Catholic priest in England, Tyndale had been inspired by Martin Luther's groundbreaking translation of the Bible into German, and he went to work doing the same for English speakers. No wonder that the Bible Society describes Tyndale as a 'background radical' during Henry VIII's reign (he's mentioned in *Wolf Hall* but doesn't get involved in the action).

Tyndale invented words, too, when he couldn't find a direct English equivalent for a Greek or Hebrew concept. Here are just some:

Scapegoat: To describe the goat burdened with the sins of the people and sent into the wilderness.

Atonement: Literally "at-one-ment", created to describe being at one with God.

Cont'd...



Community Apple Juicing Day
Sat 3rd October 1-4pm
Llangrove Village Hall



Repair Cafe
Sat 10th October - 2-4pm
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THE PHANTOM RASPBERRY BLOWER OF OLD LONDON TOWN
Thursday 22nd at 7.30pm

RUSSELL KANE AND FRIENDS Friday 23rd at 8pm

K-POP SUPERSTARS Thursday 29th at 7pm

KIND HEARTS AND CORONETS Friday 30th at 7.30pm

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR Saturday 31st at 1pm

SPECIAL CINEMA EVENTS

DAVID HOCKNEY AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY: Thurs 1st

PRACTICAL MAGIC 2: Sunday 4th - Wednesday 7th

THE POUT POUT FISH: 10th, 11th, 17th, 18th

PRESSURE: Saturday 10th - Thursday 15th

HADESTOWN: Tuesday 13th and Sunday 18th

BAD APPLES: Saturday 17th - Wednesday 21st

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY: Friday 23rd - Thursday 29th

SHAUN THE SHEEP AND

THE BEAST OF MOSSY BOTTOM: Fri 23rd - Sun Nov 1st

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WWW.MONMOUTH-SAVOY.CO.UK

Passover: Coined to describe the Jewish holiday where the angel of death passed over the homes of the Israelites.

Busybody: Invented to describe someone who meddles in other people's business.

Tyndale's work has survived multiple revisions of the Bible down the centuries. It is found in the Authorised Version of the Bible, the RSV, the ASV or the ESV, among others.

More at Bible Society's website: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk> Just type 'Tyndale' into its 'search' box.

Light Parties – a happier alternative to Halloween

While many may buy Halloween-themed confectionary, pumpkins, decorations and even costumes this month, thousands have no intention of celebrating Halloween. Instead, they will be attending Light Parties hosted by local churches, where children will enjoy a positive and upbeat alternative to traditional Halloween celebrations.

Scripture Union, the Christian charity that first pioneered Light Parties, reports that around 8,000 churches and youth organisations now request their Light Party Pack each year. And churches of all the major denominations are in full and active support. The C of E often sets up localised search engines on its website, specifically to help families track down local 'light and bright parties' in their dioceses. Meanwhile, Methodist, Baptist, and Elim Pentecostal churches also offer Light Parties, to which all are welcome.

Just for the record, a Light Party is a family-friendly Christian event held on 31st October. Instead of featuring ghosts, ghouls and darkness, it celebrates the themes of light and hope in Jesus Christ. Children dress up in bright, colourful outfits, enjoy games such as glow-in-the-dark, eat party snacks and enjoy themselves without any element of fear or oppression. The organisers usually close with a simple, positive message of faith and light.





May God grant you courage - message of solidarity with the people of Ukraine

Amongst the many conflicts around the world the situation in Ukraine drags on following the full-scale invasion by Russia in February 2022. More than 1,000 Ukrainians have now found safety, support and a warm welcome in Herefordshire, and it reflects the generosity of local residents who have opened their homes to those forced to flee conflict.

The Bishop of Worcester, Hugh Nelson, who is the C of E's Bishop to the Armed Forces, recently went to Kyiv to join Ukrainian church leaders, other religious leaders and government officials at the National Prayer Breakfast in Kyiv. Bishop Hugh also met with the leader of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, His Beatitude Metropolitan Epiphany.

Bishop Hugh brought a message from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally. She promised that the Anglican Church would continue to "stand in prayerful solidarity" with Ukraine, and she acknowledged the "immense sacrifices" which the Ukrainians are making "in defence of your country, its people and the values of freedom and human dignity".

Archbishop Sarah also commended Ukraine's constitutional commitments to freedom of religion and conscience. She rejected the language of "holy war" used to justify the attempts to occupy and subjugate Ukraine by the current regime in Moscow.

"We pray for those who have lost their lives, for those who mourn, for the wounded, the displaced, and all who live under the daily shadow of violence and fear. May the peace of Christ, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in the days ahead."



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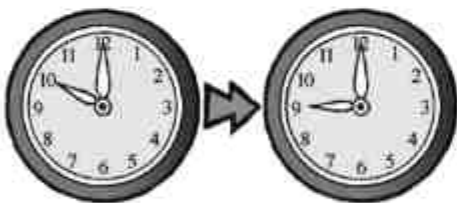
Pick up a Trail guide any day starting 18th October from
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Find the pumpkin montages and guess the titles of the books

Ends Sunday 25th October

Finish the trail, deliver your answers back to St Matthew's, pay the
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Contact Katy Andrews for
tickets mkchandrewsuk@gmail.com



100 years of Winnie-the-Pooh

One hundred years ago, on 14th October 1926, the children's
book *Winnie-the-Pooh*, by A A Milne, was published.

It was set in the Hundred Acre Wood, an innocent world described as
"largely Edenic" but based on Ashdown Forest in East Sussex, which
the Milne family often explored from their home in nearby Hartfield.
Alan Alexander Milne was firstly a playwright and occasional mystery
story writer who wrote the book of children's verse *When We Were
Very Young*, with his colleague E H Shepard. This contained the
seeds of *Winnie-the-Pooh* and its sequel, *The House on Pooh Corner*,
all of which proved extremely popular.

It was apparently during a family visit to London Zoo, where
Christopher Robin encountered a tame bear called Winnipeg, that the
book was conceived. Winnie's literary friends, such as Piglet and
Eeyore, were originally toys of the real Christopher Robin.

Sadly, the book eventually had an adverse effect on the Milne family.
The author said that he felt "amazement and disgust" at the fame his
son had had thrust upon him: "I do not want C R Milne to ever wish
that his name was Charles Robert." Nevertheless, the son did become
estranged from his parents, especially following his marriage to his
mother's niece.

The effect of the book on others has been happier. A plaque at
Ashdown Forest declares that Milne and Shepard "captured the magic
of Ashdown Forest and gave it to the world".

The four Winnie-the-Pooh books went on to sell more than 50 million
copies worldwide. The first book became the first-ever foreign-
language book on the *New York Times* bestseller list.



PARISH EVENTS AT A GLANCE



October

- Every Friday *New* Little Explorers Llangrove Village Hall 9.00 - 11.00*
& Warm Welcome Llangrove Village Hall 11.00
- 1st Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.30
 LDGS "Universal Ways to Grow Veg" Llangrove Village Hall 19.30
- 3rd Tretawdy Nature Reserve volunteer session 9.30
 ACEG Apple Juicing 13.00 - 16.00
 Wydean Embroiderers St James' Community Hall 10.00 - 14.30
 Auction of Promises The Garron Centre 19.00
- 5th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00 - 10.00
 Ladies Prayer Group Wyesham Christian Fellowship 14.00 - 15.00
- 7th Tretawdy Nature Reserve volunteer session 9.30
 Monmouth Breast Cancer Support Group Wyesham 14.00
- 10th Café Bishopswood at Village Hall 10.00 - 12.00
 ACEG Repair Café Llangrove Village Hall 14.00 - 16.00
- 12th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00 - 10.00
 Ladies Prayer Group at Connie's 14.30
 WI St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00
- 13th Kymin School Harvest Festival St James' Church
- 14th Coffee Morning Llangrove Village Hall 10.30
- 15th LCA AGM The Garron Centre 19.00
 Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.30
- 17th Community Coffee Morning Garron Centre 10.00 - 12.00
 Race Night Llangrove Village Hall 19.00
- 18th - 25th Marstow Pumpkin People Trail (see page 26)
- 19th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00 - 10.00
 Ladies Prayer Group at Connie's 14.30
 Craft Group St James' Community Hall Wyesham 18.30
- 21st Talk "Grave Concerns" The Garron Centre 19.00
 Marstow Makers Craft Evening St Matthews West End Marstow 19.00

- 23rd Annual Harves Supper The Garron Centre 18.00
 Quiz Night Bishopswood Village Hall 19.00
- 24th Arts Alive: Behind Enemy Line Goodrich Village Hall 19.30
- 25th British Summer Times Ends Clocks Fall Back 1 Hour 02.00
- 26th Ladies Prayer Group at Connie's 14.30
- 29th Flicks in the Sticks 'My Mother's Wedding' Goodrich Village Hall 19.00
 Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.30
- 31st Coffee Morning St James' Church 10.00 - 12.00
- ### November
- 4th Talk "Brave Hearts of Archenfield" in aid of RBL Garron Centre 19.00
- 5th LDGS "Apple Trees" Llangrove Village Hall 19.30

Wye Reaches Churches

Remembrance Sunday Services

Sunday 8th November

10.30am Bishopswood War Memorial
 for our Act of Remembrance
 & 2-minute silence at 11am -
 followed by a Remembrance
 Service at the Village Hall.

10.30am Garsnew War Memorial
 for our Act of Remembrance
 & 2-minute silence at 11am -
 followed by a Remembrance
 Service at St Gwynn's church.

11.00am Remembrance Service at
 St James church, Wyesham.

2.45pm Whitechurch Act of Remembrance outside the
 Whitechurch & Garsnew Memorial Hall &
 2-minute silence - followed by a
 Remembrance Service in the Hall.

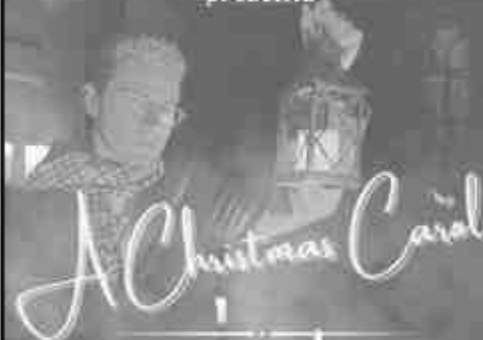
LEST WE FORGET

All welcome

www.wyereaches.org



Behind the Door Productions
 presents



by Charles Dickens

St Dubricius Church
 10 December @ 6pm

Behind the Door
 Tickets £15 - £20 (includes refreshments & a glass of wine)
 To reserve your place call 01792 771129