



# The Parish Magazine of Greater Whitbourne

November 2016 60p

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**Front cover: "Harvest Supper  
Celebrations" by Myrtle Kneen.**

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and also at Whitbourne Village Shop. The  
price is 60p or £7.00 for an annual  
subscription, collected at the beginning of  
the year. To subscribe, please call Mr  
Andrew Kneen.

Note: All numbers are 01886 unless  
otherwise stated.

# From our Assistant Priest

Why do we worship?

Surely it is to respond as best we can **to God's love for us. As Christians** we respond particularly to his love as it is revealed in Jesus Christ. There seem to be two impulses involved.

The first impulse in the relationship between God and ourselves comes **from God. "God so loved the world,"** St John tells us. The first creative impulse is his.

The second is perhaps harder to grasp. The reason is that our impulse to respond to his love also comes from God.

So far the only human being who has shown himself to be entirely devoted **to responding to God's love is Jesus Christ.** And in that devotion even **Jesus needed God's help.**

**So when we try to respond to God's** love it would be surprising if we were able to do so unaided, or even unprompted.

For many of us, for example, prayer sometimes proves very difficult, however hard we try. Our words – especially if they really are our own words – seem to echo in a great emptiness.

Some of the greatest Christian writers have told us humbly and powerfully of this experience. St Paul, in one of the many letters he wrote to encourage distant Christian congregations, said that we really have no idea how to pray, but God himself, in the Holy Spirit, hears our



inarticulate groans and turns them into prayer. Prayer that is heard by God.

So it seems reasonable to suppose that our worship, our effort to **respond to God's love, will be more** effective the more closely it responds to the prompting of God. For Christians that prompting is heard most powerfully in the words and actions of Jesus.

It so happens that the only form of Christian worship – apart from prayer – that we can trace directly back to Jesus is holy communion. Yes, he was himself baptised, and yes, he saved a wedding banquet from disaster, but the only service we can trace directly back to Jesus is holy communion (the **eucharist, the Lord's supper, the mass**).

A sympathetic and switched-on person, invited to help a small country church to make its witness more **effective, asked, "What are you trying**

to sell?" **Vulgar and crass, maybe, but** one got the point. What is the essential message you are trying to get across?

Fair enough. When the church is confused about essentials it is hardly likely to persuade outsiders to join.

**"Come and join us in our doubt" is** hardly an irresistible invitation.

So there seem to be a number of telling reasons why the church should hold the eucharist as the essential centre of its worship.

The first, already touched on, is that Jesus left it to us. What is more, he did so in such a way and at such a time as to explain to us the whole meaning of his life and death.

The second is that from the very beginning of the church, the eucharist has been central to its life and worship.

The third reason is simple honesty. We cannot proclaim ourselves followers of the risen Christ if we have pushed the eucharist to the margin of our life.

The last reason is that enquirers about the faith are hardly likely to be persuaded when we have side-lined its vital element.

On the other hand, the power of the eucharist increases when it is seen to be at the centre of life.

Two true stories:

A young soldier who had survived the battle of Imphal in Burma explained **why he was a catholic. "It's the mass," he said, "it's solid."**

A few years later Dr. William Neil, the celebrated Scots biblical scholar, was

asked what he considered the two most important things for the valid celebration of holy communion. He replied that he had celebrated the eucharist on the bonnet of a Jeep in Italy with tea and biscuits. The two essentials, he said, were the words of **institution: "This is my body . . . this is my blood"; and the true sense of the presence of Christ.**

If we are to be true to ourselves that seems a good place to begin. *Doiran Williams*

## Parish News

### Coffee & Chat

Would you like to meet friends and neighbours in the village for a friendly chat over a cup of coffee (or tea)? Then come and join us on the first Wednesday morning of the month at 11.00am - 12.30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. If you are new to the village it is a great way of meeting other Whitbournites.

The remaining dates for 2016 are: Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>; Dec 7<sup>th</sup>. If you would like more information, please contact Ann Roberts, 821063, or Eileen Badger, 821501. *Ann Roberts*

### Whitbourne W.I.

Our Speaker at the October Meeting was Mark Macleod of the Worcester George Marshall Medical Museum; home to a fascinating collection of objects illustrating the way medicine and healthcare have changed over the last 250 years.

Worcester Royal Infirmary, one of **England's oldest, was started in 1745** with eight beds and continued until

2002. He outlined the history of these years, the people involved and the medical advances, painting a fascinating picture of Victorian life in Worcester.

**It's not commonly known that the B.M.A., as we know it today, was started in Worcester by Charles Hastings in the 1830s; that Jenny Lind, the famous singer, came in 1849 to do some fundraising to build the Infirmary Chapel; and that Matron Mary Herbert, who got the nurses home built, was trained under Florence Nightingale.**

The final part of the talk involved a hand-round of Victorian medical instruments and a quiz - What was this for? - ingenious but scary! Clever lot those Victorians!

We look forward to the AGM (November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting) and the events around Christmas; Carol Service on Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm in the Church and the Christmas Party (Tuesday evening December 13<sup>th</sup>). Visitors and guests very welcome. *Maureen Schoonenberg*

Saltmarshe & District W.I.

Our October evening was ideal for those of us who long to travel and explore new places but because of one reason or another never get the chance to do so. It was marvellous to have our firm friend Mr. David Hill back for another of his interesting talks; this occasion on Cherry Blossom time in Japan.

His pictures captured scenes of life in railway stations, hotels and out and about in the cities; highly decorated

manhole covers, people waiting for a train bathing their feet, hotel rooms separated by what appeared to be paper thin screens, wonderful gardens including the inevitable bridges and very different types of food.

The tree blossom was spectacular both by day and by night-time illuminations.

Our social time was made more so by sharing food everyone had brought and enjoying a glass of wine. Elsie won our competition for the largest fir cone - so big it looked like a pineapple.



Next month is our Annual Meeting followed by a demonstration by our very talented Norma. Visitors are always welcome to our Meetings, so do feel free to come along on Wednesday November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in Saltmarshe & District Hall.

*Jean Spelman.*

Tedstone Delamere

My tenth and last Valentine evening will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at Sapey Golf Club. More details in later issues.

**I am very sorry that the ‘Valley Handbells’ will not be rung this**

Christmas, but hopefully next year we will be back. *Kathleen Harris.*

Whitbourne Village Hall News

I can report that use of the Village Hall continues to steadily improve and finances remain adequate.

The Village mobile Fish & Chip van will be located on the car park early evenings on alternate Tuesdays.

Stuart Andrews from Poplands Farm has kindly volunteered to join the Committee

The Autumn Draw for the 200 Club realised the following winners -: 1<sup>st</sup> Doreen Baseley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Clive Neal, 3<sup>rd</sup> Gordon Stephenson, 4<sup>th</sup> Christine Battrum and 5<sup>th</sup> Jerry Cummins

We have a number of issues on the horizon which need careful consideration by the Community at large. Our current Bookings Officer, Treasurer and Secretary have given notice of retirement from the next AGM in June/July. Whilst there appears plenty of time we need volunteers for these important posts to come forward as soon as possible. We have four Committee Meetings per year and the systems put in place by the current officers are efficient and adequate so that with a little assistance the handover should be relatively easy.

Without volunteers the Management Committee cannot function so I would urge interested parties to contact myself (Craig Jones) on [highfieldsfarm@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:highfieldsfarm@hotmail.co.uk) or speak to any other Committee Member - **Joanne O'Donnell, Kim Cunningham, Peter Wood, Gillie Wood, Adam Jones, Jerry Cummins** or Stuart Andrews  
*Craig Jones (Chairman)*

Clifton-upon-Teme Primary School News

Staff and children alike have embraced the new school year with enthusiasm. The school gives a warm welcome to a new group of Fledglings, who have settled into school-life very well indeed. Already this term, children across all classes enjoyed creating beautiful artwork **around the theme of ‘Peace’** to celebrate World Peace Day on 21<sup>st</sup> September. It was wonderful to see older children showing positive leadership as they sensitively and skilfully supported younger ones as they worked together. It was a wonderfully reflective start to the year.

A huge well done to the Tag Rugby team who attended a tournament at Tenbury High School. They applied themselves with determination and vigour playing to their very best. The **‘A’ Team progressed through to the final** against Burford Primary School, winning the game 4-2 to claim the tournament crown!

And finally, the children and staff would like to wish Mrs Wakefield a very happy retirement after many years of loyal service to the school.

*Jacqui Rowe, Parent Governor*

### Alfrick Community Choir French Evening

Join soloists Sarah Kings, Ben Cooper, the Community Choir at Alfrick and chamber ensemble for an evening of French music and food. The music will include Faure's Requiem and the 'Cantique de Jean Racine'.

Saturday 19th November, 7.30pm at Leigh Church

Tickets £10 (including food) available from Alfrick Shop, choir members or at the door. *Keith Bramich*

[www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com](http://www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com)

### Refugee update

Thank you for your Harvest donations that will have been delivered to refugees by the time you read this. Your donations will make a massive difference to people facing eviction from the Jungle camp this autumn and winter. Many will choose to remain in the Calais area and join the hundreds already living in smaller camps nearby. Also, the warehouse and systems in Calais are already starting to support refugees in Paris and elsewhere in France. An amazing 75% of the aid arriving in Calais comes from the UK and we will keep collecting and delivering your donations as long there's a need.

*David Bland, People in Motion*

### Whitbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) 2011-31 Parish Referendum

Voting Thursday 3rd November 2016 7am to 10pm at Whitbourne Village Hall. View the plan at Whitbourne Church, The Village Hall, Community Shop, Live & Let Live or contact your Parish Councillor. Also available online at

[www.whitbourneparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.whitbourneparishcouncil.org.uk)

*Please use your vote*

### Friends of Clifton-upon-Teme Primary School (PTA) fundraising events

On Thursday 1st December, join us for a Christmas shopping and pamper evening at Pitlands Farm. Enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie whilst you watch a floral demonstration of Christmas table arrangements, then browse the craft stalls for stocking fillers and treat yourself to a facial or manicure.

Tickets £8 (including mulled wine and mince pie). Contact Charlie Merrick on 01886 812562 / 07496 394731.

On Friday 9th December, the primary school will hold its Christmas Fayre from 2-4pm. The children will open the event with carol singing at 1.45pm. We welcome the community of Clifton to join us on this jolly occasion. Raffles, tombola, refreshments, crafts, grotto and lots more.

We welcome prospective stall holders to contact us for the above events and future events throughout the year. Please email [cutpta@gmail.com](mailto:cutpta@gmail.com)

*Charlie Merrick*

# Whitbourne Harvest Supper

When Sue and Alec Heywood said that they would cater for the Harvest Supper, we knew that it would be a treat. In the event it was a triumph of skill and organisation, a delicious meal for over eighty people, swiftly served by their team, even though Sue had badly scalded her hand removing an overflowing pudding from the oven.

**Noel Knight's display in the lobby** symbolised the fruitfulness of Autumn, and the hall had been transformed with silver candelabra entwined with hops and colourful flower arrangements on the tables. **The Garden Society's display of autumn produce** lined the front of the **stage and Chris Roberts' giant pumpkin** dominated the room. The competition to guess its weight resulted in a nail-biting tie. Bryony Jones won a bottle of champagne by raising her estimate by a lb.

The food was as good as the decor. Flavoursome pumpkin soup was followed by lashings of pulled pork with crackling and vegetables. Then came plum crumble or eves pudding, the produce of **Whitbourne's** own orchards and hedgerows,

cheese and biscuits for those who still had room, and coffee and chocolates. All for £10!

**Hazel Jones' efficiency made the raffle** an entertainment rather than an ordeal, and then our M.C., Angus Stormonth-Darling, turned auctioneer to sell obsolete bearings from the Church bells, transformed by Jerry Cummins into gleaming paperweights, and a set of souvenir plates with views of Whitbourne, donated by Dai and Sue Jones when they left the village. We look forward to seeing them on display in the "Live."

Sue and Alec amazingly had enough energy left to line up with Noelle Wilson and Sue Baylis, who had helped with the cooking, and end the evening with a performance of "Follow the Plough" and "John Barleycorn".

The chores of washing and tidying up were dealt with by Lisa Badger, assisted by the dishwasher machine.

Thank you to everyone who helped to give us such an enjoyable evening and raise a vital contribution to Church funds. *Andrew Kneen*



# Whitbourne Garden Society Informal Autumn Show

The village were invited to enter items for this show which was held at the Harvest Supper in October. A good number of interesting entries were offered in the "other fruit" category including a bunch of bananas, a quince and an aubergine. Clearly poor pollination, combined with a drop of fruit in the dry summer, meant that there were few pears in Whitbourne this year - only one entry reflecting the paucity of the harvest. A diverse selection of beautiful flower entries reflected the good early autumn weather that we have had.

Many of the entries were donated to an auction at the end of evening and many thanks to those that did that.

As usual the audience were given the task of voting for the best entry in each class using counters to indicate their vote and most people took up the challenge of this. The winners in each category were:

Eating apple: Margaret Lloyd-James

Cooking apple: Andrew Kneen

Pear: Rachel Freeman

Another fruit: Christine Battrum

Squash: Christine Battrum

A flower: Doreen Baseley

Many thanks to all those who supported the event and to Andrew and Myrtle who managed the show on the evening. *Christine Battrum*

## At a glance

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, In celebration of Bromyard & District **Local History Society's 50th Anniversary**, An evening with Philip Serrell **'An Auctioneer's Lot'**. The Conquest Theatre Wednesday 9th November at 7.30pm. Members free : non members £3.00

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November, Harvest Supper at Saltmarshe and District Hall, 7 for 7.30 pm. See advert page 11.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> **February Valentine's** Evening at Upper Sapey Golf Club.

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month Coffee & Chat in the Village Hall at 11am Everyone welcome.

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month. Upper Sapey Village Hall Whist Drives. 7.30pm

Every Saturday from 11am, Coffee Mornings at Upper Sapey Church.

Free to a good home  
Brown 3-seater settee,  
very good condition.

Kathleen Harris

01885 483681

## Bishops, Bells, Bearings and Blessings

(or, one Bishop, six bells, twelve bearings and umpteen blessings.)

Our Family Service on Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> will be rather special. The Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Richard Frith, is coming to bless the bells - or the bearings - or both. We now have new bearings on all the bells. The bearings are the brass bits which take all the weight of the bells. (Engineers will say that is not a good description, but perhaps you know what I mean.) The old ones were installed in 1908, when the bells were completely refurbished, so they had done a good job. Most of them were sold at the Harvest Supper. But they were plain bearings which made ringing rather hard work. The new bearings (ball bearings) were installed and tested just before Easter this year and since then we have had two quarter peals (for **Doiran's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday**, and to **celebrate David's nineteen years with us**) and one peal (last month, to celebrate the life of Sir Nicholas Harington Bt.).

Now Bishop Richard is honouring us with his presence on 6<sup>th</sup> November. Do come and meet him. This will also be the first occasion on which our amended service arrangements are tested. The Family Service at 10am will be followed at 11.15 by a separate said Communion Service, so you have the choice of going to either or both. Refreshments will be served after the Family Service.

SUNDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER  
WHITBOURNE CHURCH 10am

*Brenda Allan*

## Websites for Whitbourne and North Bromyard Parish councils

[www.whitbourneparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.whitbourneparishcouncil.org.uk)  
and [www.northbromyardgroupcc.com](http://www.northbromyardgroupcc.com)

The sites include a council diary page and agendas and minutes of meetings (when the minutes have been approved). Whitbourne Parish Council meets at 7.30pm on the first Monday of alternate months at the Village Hall. The next meeting is on November 7<sup>th</sup>. North Bromyard Group Parish Council meets at 8pm on the last Tuesday of alternate months at Upper Sapey Village Hall or at Saltmarshe and District Hall alternately. The next meeting is on November 29<sup>th</sup> at Saltmarshe and District Hall.

### Whitbourne Neighbourhood Planning Referendum

#### Notice of Poll

Notice is hereby given that a poll for the above election will be held on Thursday, 3rd November 2016 between the hours of 07:00am and 10:00pm to decide on the question:

Do you want Herefordshire Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Whitbourne to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

The Polling Station is at Whitbourne Village Hall (Large Hall), Whitbourne, Worcester, WR6 5RN. Persons entitled to vote: 1 to 645. *Colette Maund AEA (Cert), Electoral Services Manager, Herefordshire Council*

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# SALTMARSHE & DISTRICT HALL

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## Your views please!

This invitation goes to anyone who lives anywhere in the Greater Parish of Whitbourne.

As you know, that consists of six parishes – Edvin Loach, Tedstone Delamere, Tedstone Wafre, Upper Sapey, Whitbourne and Wolferlow, now united in one benefice.

During this time when we have no Rector, the Diocese has made it clear that changes to the boundary of the Greater Parish (G.P.) are under possible consideration. The reason is that we have only four active churches, whereas neighbouring benefices have seven or eight – an obvious imbalance.

It is plainly right that everyone in our G.P. should have the chance to air their views on any possible re-organisation: do we want parishes A and B to join the G.P. or parishes X and Y?

Before we start poring over the map **we'd do well to remember that any expansion must take place within Hereford Diocese – Worcester is out of bounds.**

**Subject to that proviso, let's think** seriously about how we would like the new G.P. to appear, remembering that (1) the parishes we have in mind may not at the end of the day want to join our G.P. and (2) that the final decision rests with the Diocese.

**When you've thought seriously about** the possibilities, please write to me (as briefly as possible!) with your views. They will be treated in strict confidence, though the figures and

the opinions will be disclosed to the Diocese in due course.

**May I ask you to write (not 'phone or e-mail, please) by 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2016. Thank you. Doiran Williams**

## An interview with Jim Wheeler

*Despite its name, only half the population of the (church) parish of Greater Whitbourne – and thus about half the readership of this magazine – live in the village of Whitbourne. Others live in Tedstone Delamere and Tedstone Wafre, Edvin Loach, Wolferlow and Upper Sapey, which together make up the (civil) North Bromyard Group Parish. Ed Jones asked the Chair of North Bromyard Group Parish to introduce himself to readers who **don't know him.***

My name is Jim Wheeler and I am the Chairman of the North Bromyard Group Parish Council. The council represents the residents of Edvin Loach & Saltmarshe; Tedstone Delamere; Tedstone Wafre; Upper Sapey and Wolferlow and meets every other month.



I worked for the Civil Service all my working life until, due to reorganisation, I was able to take early retirement. I served abroad for a short spell of three and a half years and on my return to the UK was eventually transferred to Worcester.

That was in 1978 and I moved to Edwyn Ralph. I retired in 1994 and moved to Wolferlow in 1996. I served as a parish councillor whilst living in Edwyn Ralph and when I moved to Wolferlow was encouraged to become a parish councillor representing that parish on the North Bromyard Group Parish Council, eventually being voted in as Chairman.

Not long after I moved to Wolferlow, the councillor for the parish resigned and I was asked to put my name forward as his replacement. I did, and was successful simply because no one else volunteered for the post!

I was also a parish councillor where I previously resided and found that it was an easy way to meet local people who were knowledgeable about the area and knew who to contact for any services I might require. Information about the local amenities and social life was also gained to enable myself and, at that time, my family to settle in and become part of the community.

So when I moved here and had the opportunity to do the same thing I willingly accepted the invitation.

Being part of the parish council you are advised by the county council of future developments in anything concerning your group of parishes for which the County Council is responsi-

ble, as well as the obvious ones such as planning applications.

Full details of the Parish Councillors representing the various parishes in the group can be found on the North Bromyard Group Parish Council website together with other relevant information concerning meetings etc.

Where were you born?

I was born in Gloucester

What brought you to the parish?

I came here because I was transferred to Worcester

**What's your favourite part of the parish?**

Favourite place in the parish is where I live, Wolferlow

Car, bike, tractor or horse?

I am very much a car person!

Are you a keen gardener?

My garden is mainly laid to lawn with a small vegetable patch but I have to admit that I am not a keen gardener.

*Ed Jones*



63  
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# Faster Broadband in Greater Whitbourne

Most of you (I hope!) will know that I am your ward councillor, representing you on Herefordshire Council. I am also a cabinet support officer, now assisting the leader of the council with the budget preparation. For a short while I also took on responsibility for Fastershire, the roll out of high speed broadband in Herefordshire. The council was responsible for placing an initial contract with BT and this is due to end in December. It was always anticipated that 10% of Herefordshire properties, in the most rural and logistically difficult locations, would not see any benefit from this program, and certainly not the 30Mbps download speed which was the Herefordshire target.

**Subsequent to BT's infrastructure** rollout, properties in Whitbourne and Upper Sapey will have seen a significant improvement in their broadband speeds, although homeowners may need to change their internet packages to make best use of this speed. You can check if you are fibre enabled by going to the website [www.fastershire.com](http://www.fastershire.com) and checking your telephone number. For those of you that are more technically minded, the BT site <http://www.dslchecker.bt.com/adsl/adslchecker.welcome> will provide specific detail on the speeds of the services that your line can receive.

There is an additional project to enable the remaining 10% of properties (Tedstone, Wolferlow, Edwin Ralph and other rural locations in Whit-

bourne and Upper Sapey) that were not enabled by BT. (This includes my address on Bringsty, currently fluctuating around 2Mbps.) This may be done by fibre, wireless, or even by satellite connectivity. These local properties are currently being tendered as a package to the market and it is anticipated that confirmation of the additional properties to be enabled will be available early in the New Year.

Any property currently receiving less than 2Mbps can register through the Fastershire site and obtain a subsidised installation of an improved service, delivered either by satellite or wireless *immediately*. This may not be at the 30Mbps rate, but if speed is vital to you then you can take this approach as an interim solution and your property will still be included in **this autumn's tender**.

If you are running a business in this area then there is a special scheme open to you to get you faster broadband. Details are again on the Fastershire site and there is still funding available for business installations.

All enquiries please through the Fastershire site – the team there are the experts and work for the council, **not BT**. If you don't get an adequate answer please do get in touch with me though. Email address and phone number below. *Cllr. Nigel Shaw*, 07980 643760, [Nigel.Shaw@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Nigel.Shaw@herefordshire.gov.uk)

# Conquest Theatre

Book online at [www.conquest-theatre.co.uk](http://www.conquest-theatre.co.uk) or call the box office 01885 488575

## Live on Stage

Nov 11 Folk in the Foyer Tom Lewis 7.30pm

Nov 18 \*NEW\* Comedy Club 7.30pm

Nov 30 Oddsocks - The Jungle Book 7.30pm

## Screenings

Nov 6 Bolshoi Bright Stream 3pm

Nov 19 Andre Rieu Christmas Concert 5pm

Dec 8 ROH The Nutcracker

Dec 15 NT Live No Man's Land

## Films @ Conquest

Nov 4 Me Before You

Dec 2 Absolutely Fabulous

**Conquest Panto now booking Dick Whittington Feb 10-18**

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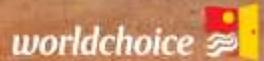
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## A PIECE OF HISTORY....

### Another Murder in Edvin Loach

On a dark and treacherous autumn night in 1387, Thomas Yedefen, lord of the neighbouring manor of Edwyn Ralph, stepped from the warmth and security of the Edvin Loach manor house to make his way home across the river to Edwyn Ralph. However, others had different plans for him, and as he left the inner bailey they fell upon him and stabbed him to **death.....**

Was this what really happened? And why? The archives certainly hint of dark deeds. I happened on the record of a pardon granted in 1392 by King Richard II, at the special request of Sir William Bagot (a favoured courtier), to

an aristocratic gang. Their crime? **They had been convicted of “lying in wait” in Edvin Loach, Worcestershire, “and murdering one Thomas Yedefen of Herefordshire.”**

**The “gang” comprised various members of the Aston family, lords of the manor of Colton in Staffordshire, and Sir William Devereux. The Astons had close links with the powerful Mortimer family of Tedstone Wafre, who were on their way to taking over the manor of Edvin Loach.**

Some time later, by chance, I came across the will of Sir William Devereux senior, made and proved in 1384, three years before the murder. It had been preserved in the records of the Bishops of Hereford probably because it included a bequest of **money for the repair of Devereux’s**



Where the deed took place - nothing remains now of the house where Thomas Yedefen met his end, except a mound of earth filled with rubble, with an ash tree on top. Edvin Loach church is in the background.

manorial chapel in Halmonds Frome. Devereux had not been short of money but much of it was tied up in an unrecovered debt owed to him by Thomas Yedefen, lord of the manor of Edwyn Ralph. Devereux left a big sum to his two sons William and Stephen, on condition that they recovered it from Thomas Yedefen, a task which had so far defeated him.

If Sir William Devereux of the **'aristocratic gang'** was indeed the son and heir of Sir William Devereux the will-maker, did this explain why, with his friends, he plotted and carried out this brutal murder? And why was Thomas Yedefen in Edvin Loach that night anyway?

The tenancy of the Edvin Loach manor appears to have been uncertain in those days. These were unsettled times. And as long as there was uncertainty, the then locally powerful de Yedefens of Edwyn Ralph, would be interested in expanding their holdings.

Perhaps Sir William Devereux the younger, having failed to recover his inheritance, was happy enough to prevent the de Yedefens gaining control of Edvin Loach. If so, he sacrificed the money but at least he got his revenge.

He also got away with murder. In those days what the law said was less important than who you knew. This is **where Richard II's courtier, Sir William Bagot, comes in.** He had close links with the Aston family, **Devereux's accomplices, and with the Mortimers of Tedstone Wafre,** who would have been happy at the removal of Thomas de Yedefen, proba-

bly their rival for the manor of Edvin Loach. Reasons enough to petition the king for a pardon.

And people think village life these days is complicated! *Allan Wyatt.*

## Upper Sapey - Progress Report

The Friendship Room is now fitted out with all the kitchen fittings and cupboards in place, and the toilet complete and operational. It now needs the heating to be commissioned, once the three phase supply is connected and final decorating and second fix electrical work and light fittings etc. completed.

The oak floor will be one of the last jobs to be done. The screen is complete and glazed, apart from the doors and just needs the final finish. The structural work to the arch and the East wall is now complete and was carried out with the minimum of disturbance to the existing structure. It is a huge relief to have this work behind us, as it was the state of the arch that was putting the whole future of the church at risk, but the work involved was far more extensive than originally proposed and this has put the cost of this work well over the original allowances.

The church is currently full of scaffolding to enable the ceiling and walls to be decorated. Once this is complete the repairs to the floor and panelling in the Chancel can be carried out and the heaters and light fittings installed.

The porch doors are still to be fixed and the fourth Medieval pew installed in the porch (the other three are

accommodated in the church), but these jobs need to be done last. The access path is the final item on my agenda, but I am a little concerned about the cost and also concerned about the safety aspects if we do nothing!!!

Completion dates have inevitably slipped, and although I have no definitive date, it is highly unlikely to be completed before the end of November. *David Roberts, Project Manager*

## From the PCC Secretary

Nothing happening? To most of you it must seem that nothing is happening regarding a new incumbent.

**However, since Archdeacon Paddy's** visit to us on 24<sup>th</sup> September, there have been many discussions taking place. You may remember he said there are two basic options (plus other alternatives which are unlikely): either a part-time somebody in some form, or extending the Benefice boundaries to take in neighbouring churches. It is not our choice, although we can of course express a preference. This will be listened to. An added complication is the rather precarious financial position of the Diocese. Each option has its advantages and disadvantages and each has its advocates, but in the end our future depends upon the sort of person we get. As I write, in mid-October, discussions are taking place between the other parishes in the Deanery, the Rural Dean, Archdeacon and Bishop.

I was talking to Kina Robertshaw the other day (she is the new curate at Bromyard). She has the answer. She reminded me of something we all seem to have forgotten. Where is

**God in all this? God's church (as in a body of Christian people - I am not talking about church buildings) has been here in our corner of Herefordshire for more than a millennium. In all that time, we have had a priest of some sort to care for us. Perhaps we should pray in faith that we will be sent the right sort of person to carry on David Howell's good work.**

*Brenda Allan*

**STOP PRESS! Latest news on new parish priest....**

There has been an unexpected development in the process of filling the vacancy as Rector for the parish of Greater Whitbourne. Below is some news from the Venerable Paddy Benson, Archdeacon of Hereford:-

I am delighted to say that Rev Dawn Hyett has been requested by the Bishop of Hereford, and has agreed, to serve as Interim Minister in the Parish of Greater Whitbourne, working closely with Rev Doiran Williams.

This is not permanent, and the usual legal arrangements for a vacancy will continue. However, the bishop hopes that for most day to day purposes the Interim Minister will be received as the incumbent, leading the parish while the future pattern of ministry in the Greater Parish is being considered.

The Bishop of Hereford will commission Rev Hyett at 10am on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, at Whitbourne Church.

***Ven Paddy Benson, Archdeacon of the Hereford Diocese.***

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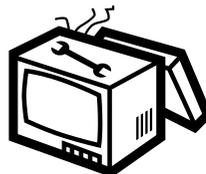
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# Church Services in Greater Whitbourne

Sundays	Whitbourne St John the Baptist WR6 5RS	Upper Sapey St Michael & all Angels WR6 6XR	Tedstone Delamere St James HR7 4PS	Edvin Loach St Mary HR7 4PW
6 November 3 before Advent	10 am Family Service (Bishop Frith); 11.15 am Said Holy Communion			
13 November 2 before Advent	9.15 am Said Holy Communion; 10 am Remembrance Service ending at the War Memorial	10.45 am Remembrance Service		
20 November Next before Advent; Christ the King	9.30 am Holy Communion		11 am Holy Communion	3 pm Evening Prayer
27 November Advent Sunday	9.30 am Holy Communion		6 pm Candle-light Carol Service	
4 December Advent 2	10 am Family Service 11.15 am Said Holy Communion			
11 December Advent 3	9.30 am Holy Communion	11 am Holy Communion		
18 December Advent 4	9.30 am Holy Communion		11 am Holy Communion	3 pm Carol Service
24 December Christmas Eve	6 pm Crib Service 11.30 pm Midnight Mass		6 pm Carol Service	7.30 pm Holy Communion
25 December Christmas Day	9.30 am Holy Communion	9.30 am Holy Communion	11 am Holy Communion	

# Church Rotas

## Flowers and Brasses

Nov 6th	Mrs Muriel Jones
Nov 13th	Mrs Muriel Jones
Nov 20th	Mrs Heather Colley
Nov 27th	Mrs Heather Colley
Dec 4th	Mrs A. Taylor
Dec 11th	Mrs A. Taylor
Dec 18th	Mrs Mary Jones
Dec 25th	Mrs Mary Jones

## Sidesmen—Whitbourne

Nov 6th	Mr S. Cole
Nov 13th	Mr C. Short
Nov 20th	Mr J. Allan
Nov 27th	Mrs G. Stormonth-Darling
Dec 4th	Mr J. Cummins
Dec 11th	Mr R. Freeman
Dec 18th	Mrs M. Kneen
Dec 25th	Mr C. Short

## Parish Communion Readers—Whitbourne

Nov 6th	Lay Team
Nov 13th	Mr J. Allan
Nov 20th	Mrs M. Kneen
Nov 27th	Mr C. Evans
Dec 4th	Lay Team
Dec 11th	Mrs S. Dodd
Dec 18th	Mrs G. Stormonth-Darling
Dec 25th	Mr C. Short

## Church Cleaning—Whitbourne

Nov 5th	Mrs A. Evans
Nov 12th	Mrs E. James
Nov 19th	Mrs M. Kneen
Nov 26th	Mrs E. & Miss L. Badger
Dec 3rd	Mrs C. Buxton
Dec 10th	Mrs A. Morrison
Dec 17th	Mrs G. Stormonth-Darling
Dec 24th	Mrs A. Evans

## Upper Sapey

Nov/Dec	Carol Evans Fisher/Carol Wilde/Carol Evans Fisher
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## Coffee - Whitbourne

Nov 6th	Mrs E. Badger and Mrs P. Ransley
Nov 13th	No refreshments
Nov 20th	Mrs M. Malkin and Mrs M. Kneen
Nov 27th	Mrs A. Taylor & Mrs M. Schoonenberg
Dec 4th	Mrs W. Cummins and Mrs S. Dodd
Dec 11th	Mrs E. Badger and Mrs P. Ransley
Dec 18th	Mrs M. Malkin and Mrs M. Kneen
Dec 25th	Mrs A. Evans

Thank you to all who put so much time and effort into keeping our Churches looking so welcoming and cared for.

If the dates shown above are inconvenient for you, and you cannot change with anyone else please contact Carol Evans-Fisher on 01886 853 441 (for Upper Sapey) or Anne Evans on 01886 821 534 (for Whitbourne). Any flower arranging queries (for Whitbourne) please contact Ann Taylor on 01886 821744.

# Unique Yoga on your Doorstep.

**I've been practising yoga for thirty** years and teaching aerial dance for twenty years so last year I decided to bring the two things together with aerial yoga.

I looked around at training opportunities and tried five different classes in various parts of the country. I was amazed at how different each class

was; one seemed about tricks and making amazing shapes with the body, one was like an upside down aerobics class and one just got me completely tangled up in fabric! But eventually I discovered the work of Ana Prada which worked at a much gentler, deeper level, allowing the body to unwind, strengthen and lengthen. I was really pleased to have the chance to study on her teacher training and felt absolutely wonderful at the end of it.

Vayu Aerial Yoga is a practice that was developed to create space mentally and physically, by opening up the body through various postures, using a custom designed yoga swing.

The Vayu Swing is a support system and tool used to facilitate and understand alignment while creating space within the body. Through specific articulation of movement we incorporate strength and the lengthening of the

muscles isometrically to create core strength and balance.

The Vayu practice takes the body to a much deeper level. Using the support of the swing we are able to challenge the body moving through various postures, as well as allowing the nervous system to relax, encouraging a letting-go into complete surrender.

Inverting the body while suspended in the air not only provides many physical

benefits such as spinal decompression, it also expands the mind by creating confidence, overcoming fear and allowing a change in the standard physical perception.

## **I've been teaching**

Vayu yoga for twelve months and have seen learners develop into confident and accomplished practitioners.

*"My body feels light inside, it's lovely"*

*"It's more than yoga"*

A few people have expressed an interest in classes but with a **follow up of "but I could never do it"**.

With this in mind I am offering two taster sessions at Whit-

bourne Village Hall for absolute beginners on Sunday 6th November 7.45pm - 8.45pm and Monday 7th November 11.15am - 12.15pm, £8, sixteen years + welcome. Places are limited so please pre-book by phone 07870429528 or

email [rachel.freeman@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rachel.freeman@yahoo.co.uk)

Rachel Freeman

