TEAMTALK

50P WHEN SOLD

The Magazine of All Saints, Holy Trinity and St Nicholas', Hereford
St Michael's, Breinton and Breinton Parish Council





NOVEMBER 2026

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Tuesday mornings 9-11am
Thursday 9.30am-4pm
Answer phone at other times.

Baptisms

May their lives be long and happy

Weddings

May their lives together be long and happy

Funerals

Please remember the departed their family and friends in your prayers

19th October 2026
Hereford Crematorium
Dennis Edwards



Light for the next step

When I moved to my previous parish and found myself living in a village for the first time in my life, I experienced quite a few surprises. As a priest, I usually have a bag packed with the tools of my trade: Bible, pens, anointing oil, a book of pastoral prayers, the kind you reach for at a bedside when someone is dying and the right words will not come on their own. What I quickly discovered I was lacking was a decent torch.

I bought a metal one, solid enough to have some heft to it. From the vicarage I could shine it right across the churchyard to the church tower, a stretch of ground that got properly dark at night. We were on the edge of Oxford, and it was reassuring to have something substantial in hand on a dark path.

The phone did not always ring for weighty reasons, mind you. There was the night the pigeons set off the roof alarm and woke half the village, and the night the verger forgot to lock the church door and a good citizen, walking home from the pub, noticed and rang to tell me. Some of it was just the ordinary, slightly ridiculous business of looking after an old building in a small place.

I think about that torch at this time of year. The clocks have gone back and the evenings close in early. Familiar paths need a little more care when you cannot quite see where you are putting your feet.

November also brings opportunities to remember: those who have died, at All Souls, and those who gave their lives in war, on Remembrance Sunday. Alongside these public occasions are the ordinary moments when we miss someone: coming home to an empty house, hearing a familiar song, having something to tell them.

Across the team we hold a service for remembering those we have lost, at Holy Trinity on 15 November at 4pm. All are welcome, whether the loss is recent or long carried.

Remembering can bring comfort, and it can hurt. Sometimes the same memory does both. At the service there will be room for whatever we bring, and the company of others who know something of loss.

The torch never lit the whole churchyard at once, but it helped me find my way across it. I think faith often works like that. God gives us enough light to go on, sometimes through a familiar prayer, sometimes through the kindness of someone who stays beside us.

My prayer for us as winter approaches is that we may recognise that light when it comes, and find courage for the next step.

With my prayers and good wishes,

Jonathan

West Hereford Bereavement group requests donations of cake for refreshments after the Service of Remembrance on

Sunday November 15th

in Holy Trinity Church at 4p.m.

We would like to thank again everyone who provided cakes in the past.

Families have been delighted by the opportunity to remember their relative and chat after the service with tea and cake.

HELP NEEDED!



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POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL CHILD OR ADULT CONCERN – 01597 827666 (DAYTIME)
EMERGENCY DUTY TEAM – 0845 0544847(AFTER5PM, WEEKENDS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY)

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Dear Friends

As I write this, I have just returned from a visit to our link diocese in Tanzania. We visited the Diocese of Masasi in the south of the country which celebrated its 100th anniversary at the end of September. It was an experience both joyful and gruelling in equal measure. I'm not sure the Church of England is quite yet ready for four-hour ordination services in 85-degree heat. The celebration service for the anniversary was an hour longer laced with local music, ululation, joyful singing and a nun playing the vuvuzela! She played it again when we went to the convent for dinner one evening as part of the nuns' dancing and singing welcome – you had to be there really.

Alongside the joy is grinding poverty and a huge disparity of wealth. Whilst Tanzania is one of the most stable democracies in Africa, there is still widespread corruption and a poorly maintained infrastructure. It took us 13 hours to drive the 600 km from Dar Es Salaam to our Masasi hostel. Periods of fast driving were interspersed with bouncing through potholes almost as bad as South Shropshire.

It is easy to look at the Church in Tanzania with its spectacular growth, driven by genuine conversions to Jesus rather than church hopping, and think if only we transferred their patterns here we could have a similar experience. A simple transfer of methodology is unlikely to be successful. Culturally, English people are not as expressive. Similarly, we have such busy lives that 3-4 hour services with preaching of 45 minutes may not gain much traction.

The Christian message has always had to adapt as it moved from one culture to another through its history. Even the early churches described in the New Testament were very different from one another. There was conformity of belief, but great diversity of practice. The same is actually true in Tanzania depending on which UK missionary agency first brought the gospel to each part of the country. Even in the church of England, there is now a huge variation in congregational worship, even in the same parish. Perhaps the greatest lesson was not about a particular style, but the motivating question. In Tanzania it was 'how can we adapt our practice to make the message more accessible to those outside the Church so they can become followers of Jesus'? There don't seem to be many arguments about style of worship rooted in their personal preference. Mission comes first. Congregations are agents of community transformation. God is the one on whom they depend for everything, not a spiritual lifestyle accessory. I think all of us who visited found this profoundly challenging. I hope we all might also.

+Richard

November Saint of the Month: Hilda (19th November)



Hilda was a Northumbrian princess born in 614 of the royal house of Northumbria and was baptized in York at the age of twelve by Paulinus (last month's saint). Aidan of Lindisfarne took her under his wing, and she became a nun at the age of thirty-three. Like many other royal princesses who chose this path rather than a dynastic marriage she was helped to found and then lead monasteries, at Hartlepool and Whitby, which became a great centre of learning and the meeting-place for the important Synod of Whitby in the year 664 at which it was decided to adopt the Roman tradition in preference to Celtic customs. Hilda helped those of the Celtic tradition like her accept the Synod's decision. She is also remembered encouraging Caedmon's gift of vernacular song (She died on 17 November in the year 680.

Eternal God,
who made the abbess Hilda to shine like a jewel in our land
and through her holiness and leadership
blessed your Church with new life and unity:
help us, like her, to yearn for the gospel of Christ
and to reconcile those who are divided;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Could This Be You?

Holy Trinity needs three people to step into key roles as soon as possible: a Church Warden, a Treasurer, and a PCC Secretary. Each one keeps the church running in a different way, and each one matters.

Church Warden – Wardens are the practical backbone of a parish. The role covers looking after the building and its upkeep, supporting the vicar, and acting as a point of contact for the congregation and the wider community. It suits someone organised, approachable, and willing to get their hands dirty when something needs fixing or arranging.

Treasurer—The Treasurer oversees the church's finances and reports to the PCC, working alongside our bookkeeper, who handles the day-to-day accounts. You don't need to be an accountant. What matters is a head for figures, sound judgement, and a willingness to keep an eye on the bigger financial picture. Holy Trinity uses Data Developments for its accounts, and training and support are available.

PCC Secretary –The Secretary keeps the Parochial Church Council running smoothly: arranging meetings, taking minutes, and making sure decisions are recorded and followed through. It's a role for someone well organised, a clear writer, and comfortable keeping people on track.

None of these roles requires special qualifications. What they need is someone willing to give time and care to a job that keeps the church functioning for everyone else.

If you think you could help with any of these, or you'd simply like to know more about what's involved, get in touch with Jonathan on jonathan@westhereford.org.uk or 01432 806470.

AN INVITATION TO ALL WHO HAVE LOST SOMEONE AT ANY STAGE IN THEIR LIVES.

A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15TH AT 4PM

An opportunity to celebrate the life of a loved one with music and prayer and to chat with others who may have similar feelings to yours…

Tea, coffee, a piece of cake and company will be there after the service, if you would like to stay.

Individual invitations are being sent to anyone, known to us who was bereaved this year.

Help is always available at all the churches in the West Hereford Team, if you feel low, have any sort of worry , guilt or fear.

You may simply want to talk about how much you miss someone and what was special about them.

It doesn't have to be 'heavy', embarrassing or feel silly.

Every person's life has the right to be celebrated and every emotion is important.

Don't be afraid to approach a priest. That's what they are all about. Helping others!

See westhereford.org.uk

For more information



Some of the options open to you - if you need them:

BVG - The Bereavement Group. Always ready to listen

The Samaritans - non religious, listen to all types of problems

CHATT—a chance to make more friends. Maybe some of them feel a little like you?

Maybe even our Repair Café if you are sorting things out.

Exploring Faith with Credo

Got Questions About Faith? Try *Credo* This Autumn

Whether you are exploring Christianity for the first time, returning after years away, or simply looking for a quiet, welcoming space to ask life's big questions—you are warmly invited to ***Credo***.

Credo (meaning "I believe") is a simple, six-week course designed to introduce the foundations of Christian faith in a relaxed, no-pressure environment. The course title says it all: *questions welcome*. Doubt is embraced here as a natural part of the journey.

What to Expect Each 75 minute session includes a short 20-minute talk, 15 minutes of open small-group discussion, and a brief introduction to a practical daily habit (like simple prayer or reading Scripture) that you can try out at home. There are no textbooks to buy, no pre-reading required, and no expectation to speak out loud unless you want to.

Course Details

- Where: Holy Trinity
- When: Mondays at 7:00 PM
- Dates: 5, 12, 19 October and 2, 9, 16 November
- Cost: Completely free (with tea, coffee, and cake provided)

If you've ever wondered about faith, God, or what Christianity looks like in daily life, come along and test the waters.

How to Register To save your spot or simply ask a few questions before deciding, drop an email to credo@westhereford.org.uk. We'd love to see you there!





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questions welcome

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CREDO is a gentle, six-week course introducing the foundations of faith through short talks, open discussion, and practical spirituality.

HOLY TRINITY, WHITECROSS ROAD

7–8:30PM

5th, 12th, 19th October & 2nd, 9th, and 16th November

Come with your questions or doubts—just as you are

westhereford.org.uk/credo 01432 273086

West Hereford Team

St Nicholas Mothers' Union

Theme 2025 -2028 Join us and Join in. We are changing lives! 1876 – 2026

In October we welcomed Melody Carter to our meeting. Three years ago, Melody founded Faith in Art at All Saints and since then there has been monthly meetings and two or three exhibitions staged a year at All Saints. The Faith in Art Group is quite flexible with members joining in when they can. I am part of the Faith in Art group and it was good to hear all that we have achieved, as a group, since it first started.

In November please join us at Price's Chapel for talk about Fire Safety in the Home. Also, if you are able, please support us on Saturday 28 November.

November

Mon 2	14:00 MU meeting, Price's Chapel, Bricknell Close
Thurs 12	Midday Prayers, Cathedral
Mon 23	11:00 Blue Christmas Service with Holy Communion.

The Mascall Centre, Ludlow.

Sat 28	**12:45 No More 1 in 3 Vigil, ending at 1.03 pm, outside the West Door of Hereford Cathedral**
Sun 29	Advent Sunday
Mon 30	Trustee Meeting, Hereford

December

Sun 6	**St Nicholas Day**
Mon 7	12: 00 Noon MU meeting, Price's Chapel, Bricknell Close
Thurs 10	Midday Prayers, Cathedral

16 Days of Activism 25 Nov to 10 Dec against Domestic Abuse

Vigil Saturday 28 November 2026

January 2027

Mon 4	14:15 MU meeting, Price's Chapel
Thurs 14	Midday Prayers, Cathedral

Please see church notice sheets for updates about meetings and just our theme says

Join Us and Join In.

If you want more details please contact me: 07988 750673, annenewman57@hotmail.com, or just turn up at one of our meetings!

Anne Newman, Branch Leader

Mothers' Union Diocese of Hereford

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence is an extension of the day-to-day grassroots work of the Mothers' Union, where we work alongside communities to help end gender-based violence and to support those affected by it.

#NoMore1in3 – 1 in 3 women will be impacted by some form of violence in their life and we believe that this is unacceptable.

This international campaign takes place each year from 25 November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) until 10 December (International Human Rights Day).

150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION

Join us, Join in

1826-2026

Saturday 28 November
12:45 pm Vigil and Service
outside the West Door of Hereford Cathedral,
Please join us if you can.

Mothers' UNION
#Nomore1in3
End abuse and violence now

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Holy Communion Service 23rd November at 11.00 a.m.

Venue Mascall Centre Ludlow

Light refreshment of coffee/tea and biscuits will be served following the service. Venue information The Mascall Centre Postcode is SY8 1RZ and has free parking it is approximately a quarter of a mile off the A49 at the roundabout with Tuffins Garage alongside.

The Blue Christmas service is for everyone, but it will be a quieter service to reflect and acknowledge that Christmas time is often sombre for the lonely, the sad, those whose loved ones are far away; in fact all those for whom the high intensity revelry is not for them. Nevertheless, there will be a warm welcome and special fellowship of member as we all anticipate the annual journey to the Christmas celebrations, in whatever form they may take.





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Ancient Songs from a King

People have been praying the psalms for three thousand years. Shepherds and kings prayed them, and so did Jesus, in the synagogue and on the cross. They have brought hope to monks in their cells and to exiles far from home, and they hold grief and praise, doubt and trust, in the same breath. Over the next ten months we will take one psalm at a time and dwell on it long enough to let it speak.

Come and listen to an old prayer, and see what it has to say to us now.
November 2026: Psalm 90 | Home in a Fading World

> *Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.*

November is a month of remembering. Names are read aloud at war memorials. Wreaths are laid. For two minutes, ordinary life stops and we stand in silence. We remember people most of us never knew, alongside those whose absence is still felt around a table or in an empty chair.

Psalm 90 is an ancient prayer for such a season. Traditionally associated with Moses, it looks across generations that have come and gone and asks what remains when human lives are so brief.

Its answer comes in the opening words:

> *Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.*

Before Israel had a temple, before they had settled in a land they could call their own, God was already their home. Then the psalm looks honestly at us.

> *You turn us back to dust.*

> Our lives, it says, are like grass. In the morning it springs up green and new; by evening it has withered. It is a stark image, but November gives us plenty of such images. Leaves fall from the trees. The evenings close in. Another year is moving towards its end. At Remembrance we encounter that truth in human lives. Names carved into stone once belonged to people who got up in the morning, went to work, laughed with friends, worried about money, fell in love and made plans for the future. Their names remain because their lives mattered.

Later in the psalm comes the prayer:

> *Teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.*

To number our days is to recognise that they are precious because they are limited. Remembrance asks something similar of us. We remember the dead, and in doing so are invited to consider how we will live.

Christians read this ancient prayer knowing that God has entered the brief human life it describes. Jesus was born into time. He knew friendship and loss, suffering and death. And in his resurrection, we see the Christian hope at its clearest: death does not erase a human life or place it beyond the keeping of God.

> Jesus said, “*Abide in me, and I in you.”*

> To abide is to dwell, to make your home somewhere. The God who has been our dwelling place through all generations holds those who came before us, and will remain when our own brief years have passed.

Psalm 90 gives us a prayer for November: to remember those who have gone before us, to receive with gratitude the days that are ours, and to make our home in the God who remains.

Questions for reflection

Whom do you remember with particular gratitude? What might it mean to number your days wisely in the life you have been given?

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WITH A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTS TEAMTALK SO LOYALLY

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PC Stefan Hawes 07773054234 PCSO Christina Howard 07773052529 PCSO Adam Westlake 07773052580

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Down Memory Lane – Bishop James Atlay 1869–94



I was asked by Julian Gallimore whether I knew that Bishop James Atlay (1817-94) who was Bishop of Hereford 1869-94, '*was instrumental'* in getting Holy Trinity Church built. I had read in the 1910 history (The History of the Parish Church of Holy Trinity Hereford pub. 1910) that he had consecrated the church in 1885 but now when I reread it I discovered that, "*Bishop Atlay convened a Public Meeting in All Saint's Schoolroom on Monday, May 15 (1882)*". In his spoken introduction he expressed the opinion that it had been '*ventilated for years*' that a church was needed , "*as the united parishes of All Saints and Holmer had increased during the last thirty years from 4,000 to upwards of 8,000.*" How would this need be met? The meeting was '*influentially attended'* and as a result a resolution was expressed that due to the need of a church in the Whitecross area '*the members of this meeting pledge themselves to aid the effort to the utmost of their power.'* Eventually a committee of 70 names were submitted and approved, a Building Fund and Endowment Fund was opened and Mr C.G. Martin of the Gloucestershire Banking Co. was appointed treasurer.

A General Committee was formed from the 70 names to carry out the work. It was estimated that the building would cost £5,000 and subscriptions towards the cost were invited. Setting an example, the bishop gave £50 as did the Dean and Mayor and this first response reached £1,500, exceeding all expectations. The committee could now ask the architect F.R. Kempson to prepare plans, specifications and estimates. The church's foundation stone was laid in February 1884 by Mrs Atlay, only two years after the meeting.

The bishop launched a further appeal in 1885 for more funds towards the church fittings. Bishop Atlay needed men like Frank Woods, Vicar of All Saints to ensure the work he had started was carried out and the future of Holy Trinity was ensured. For meanwhile, under the leadership of Woods, an Iron Room was built on Whitecross Road, to hold church services which would take 300 people and a small but growing congregation for Holy Trinity was formed. Holy Trinity was built on land "*given by the Custos and Vicars of the Cathedral together with sufficient land for the vicarage*" with the nave being built first (Holy Trinity Hereford by Norman Owen pub 2000). The church was consecrated in May 1885 by the bishop assisted by Dean Herbert and the Archdeacon, Lord Saye and Sele and attended by other dignitaries including the Mayor and Corporation, the wardens of All Saints, Holmer and St Nicholas as well as members of the building committee. The task of "*turning the building into a church was the responsibility of the new parishioners*" under the leadership and guidance of Frank Woods and the elected churchwardens and Curate for the area (Norman Owen)

There is no doubt that Bishop Atlay was the force behind the relatively quick turnover from the thought that a church was needed, to calling a meeting, to forming a committee, to raising money for the building, obtaining land to build on, to getting an architect and finally builders to build the nave and also the foundations for a chancel and tower. Archbishop Benson described the bishop as "*the most beautiful combination of enthusiasm, manliness, and modesty*" and the St John's College Cambridge alumni list describes him as having, "*possessed great organising ability and an attractive personality*". Anyone who has had to lead the organisation for something new will know how hard it was for the bishop to lead the charge and obtain active support to get it done. The bishop was fortunate in that he had in Frank Woods as the man able to carry out his vision. However, you can't be a bishop without receiving criticism! Readers of Kilvert's diary will remember him describing the bishop as being "*overbearing and imperious"* and how he "*mistook a curate for his candidate for confirmation and despite protestation forcibly confirmed him*"! (A Dictionary of Herefordshire Biography by Philip Weaver 2015).

I went to the Cathedral Library and found a book on James Atlay by Karl Showler and also discovered that Kris Johnston had done a talk last year on 'The Lesser Known Bishops' which included our James. She tells the story that bishops at that time were persuading clergy to encourage Sunday collections even when there wasn't a Communion Service. In his Charge (a yearly talk to clergy) in April 1876

James Atlay has a section on Almsgiving and Offertory in which after a 117 word sentence he states, "*At risk of being tedious, by reminding you of what you know perfectly well, I must state the law upon this head* …" he then goes on with another lengthy paragraph, "…*having learnt the custom of giving on Communion Sundays they may grow to demand the privilege of giving on all Sundays to their great advantage of their own spiritual well-being and the benefit of the Church at large*." Many clergy were not happy with the changes and were unwilling to start them. But this 'habit' of church giving which we are used to today, started then, and we are now looking for ways of giving weekly not only by giving loose money but also direct giving straight from our bank accounts.

James Atlay had the reputation for long speeches and not being able to stop. In Karl Showler's book, he gives another quote from Francis Kilvert's diary where the bishop attended a bazaar in aid of Home Missions where he was invited to speak at 5.30. He '*spoke readily but not eloquently for an hour*' and says Kilvert, "*He is not a born orator and does not excite enthusiasm. But he was so engrossed in his subject he forgot all about the time and Mrs Webb had to give him a hint that a carriage was waiting to take him to Hay Station and if he stayed a few more minutes, he would lose the last train*."

He was living at a time when the church was deeply concerned with social welfare and establishing schools in villages and improving existing buildings were very important. This too received opposition in a rural county of Hereford far away from the industrial communities of the north where the steady change of keeping children away from employment in mills and encouraging education had become important. Here in Herefordshire children were employed for the annual harvests of bark peeling, hay, corn, hops, potatoes, apples and acorns as well as bird scaring (in autumn and spring), potato setting, hop tying and other domestic duties ('A Country School – The story of Kimbolton St James 1856-2006' by Thomas Pellow). The Education Act of 1870 made it important for schools to be built and education provided. This was relatively easily done here in the city with All Saints School established in 1871, but far more difficult in the countryside where children could be employed and where their wages would be missed.

James Atlay was 51 when he came to Hereford to be bishop after being Vicar of St Peter's Leeds and stayed here until he died in 1894. Living at the Bishop's Palace in Hereford he and his wife had 11 children most of them born there and in the 1881 census they had 12 servants living in, with only 7 of their children at home with a governess as their older sons went to private schools. Their eldest son James Beresford Atlay worked in Hereford from 1888-1910 where he worked as Diocesan Registrar until he was appointed as Supertax Commissioner and died at his home in London in 1912. A further 5 of a total of 8 sons died on active service or overseas. Bishop James Atlay was bishop for 25 years and his marble effigy is in the cathedral. There are Atlay descendants today who still have connections with Herefordshire.

Jean Thomson







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DECEMBER-JANUARY EDITION OF TEAMTALK IS

NOVEMBER 10th

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Jacqui Tonge

jaquitonge@yahoo.co.uk

Tel 07828055727

The Anger Dragon

It erupts, a molten nightmare,
Heaping fire on fire
Leaving dust and ashes
In its wake.

It hisses and spits
Words that scald and blister
And scar permanently;
Tramples daisies underfoot,
Kills laughter stone dead,
Chokes goodwill,
Melts the balm of human kindness,
Carves its name on Love,
Severs the bonds of friendship,
Rages through relationships,
Splinters marriages,
Sucks the air from lungs,
Lays waste cities,
Scorches the innocent
And murders children.

Blind, it scents its prey
Like a jackal in the dark;
Feeds on hurt
And drinks tears.

Sated, it slinks to its lair
In the underworld of consciousness;
Grows cold
And slumbers a Dragon's sleep,
Guarding the treasure of pain
Until it grows ravenous again.



CANCELLATION OF

HARVEST SUPPER IN AID OF'WE ARE FARMING MINDS'

It was very disappointing that we had to take the decision to cancel the Harvest Supper, which was due to take place in the Village Halt on Friday, 16 October 2026; however, with insufficient numbers to make it worthwhile, we had no other option.

We are very grateful to those who have donated their ticket money, which will be sent to the 'We are Farming Minds' Charity along with monies raised from the Draw, which took place at the Breinton History Group Meeting on Monday, 12 October 2026.

Final total raised: £390.00

Ann, Caroline and Lyn



Evergreen Immortals: Yew tree Folklore

In St George's Churchyard in Clun, Shropshire, stands a marvellous sight to behold. Estimated to be around 2,000 years old, lives a majestic ancient Yew tree. As the oldest tree in Shropshire, this beautiful specimen has likely bore witness to rich history. It has stood tall, guarding the churchyard since medieval times. If it could speak, it would surely have some stories to tell.

There are many Yews across the UK standing strong in churchyards and burial grounds, each with their own unique stories and heritage. The English Yew, *Taxus baccata*, is an evergreen tree that is commonly found in and associated with churchyards. Some are hundreds and even thousands of years old. Many of these Ancient Yews likely predate the churchyards they are found in, and have strong ties to Pagan, Celtic and Druidic traditions.

Yews are steeped in rich and sometimes dark folklore. They are known as the "tree of the dead" for several reasons. It is thought that these trees were planted in sacred places to watch over the dead and guide their passage to the other side. The species is known for its longevity and habit of rooting from drooping branches that touch the ground, further cementing its lore of being a tree of death and rebirth. All parts of the tree are toxic to humans, and even feature in Shakespeare's Scottish play, where a poisonous concoction featuring Yew berries is made.

The Kingley Vale Yews have a spooky local history. Legends say there was a great battle between local people and invading Vikings and when the local soldiers fell, their bodies were buried in the forests where the Yew trees now stand. The forests are supposedly haunted by the soldiers, who possess the Yews and come alive at night. We can't forget to mention the Bleeding Yews of Nevern Church in Pembrokeshire. These Yews appear to be continuously bleeding red sap from their trunks. Many legends and myths have arisen to explain this phenomenon, but one endearing explanation is that they bleed in sympathy with Jesus and his crucifixion. Nevertheless, Yews all over the UK will likely live on for hundreds more years, passing down their stories, legends and history forevermore.

If you find yourself with one of these majestic trees in your churchyard, here are a few things you can do to help them out. Most Yews don't need much management and generally like to be left alone. However, clearing anything over their root plate and underneath the trees as well as any ivy growing up the trunk will give them the best conditions to thrive. Get thinking about how you can involve your local communities with our Love Your Yew Week in Feb 2027. To find out more, follow the link to our website to read why Yews are so important to churchyards and how you can help them today.

Kaitlyn Elverson

Engagement Officer, Nature in Sacred Places Project (NiSP)

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk – individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**







BREINTON VILLAGE HALL

DON'T forget the QUIZ

NOVEMBER 13th AT 7PM

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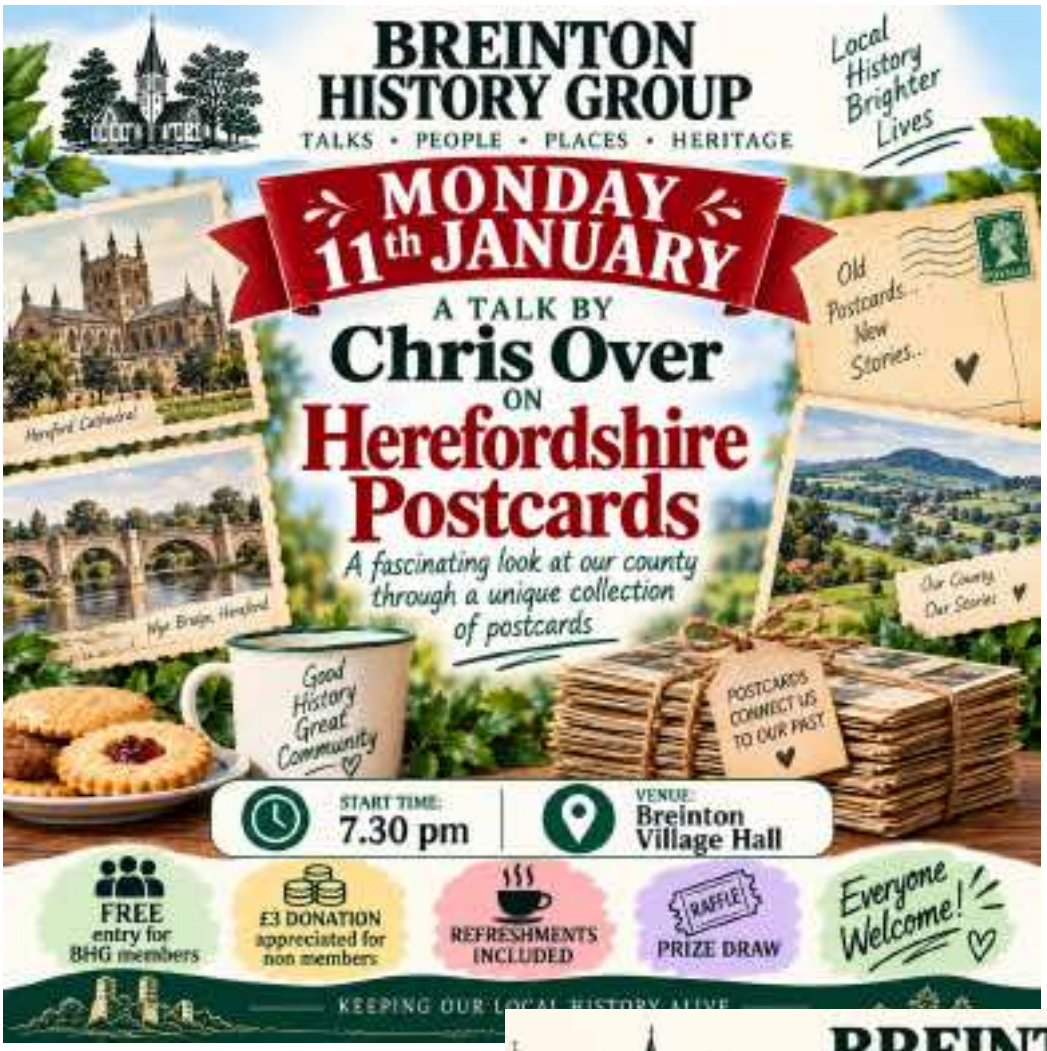
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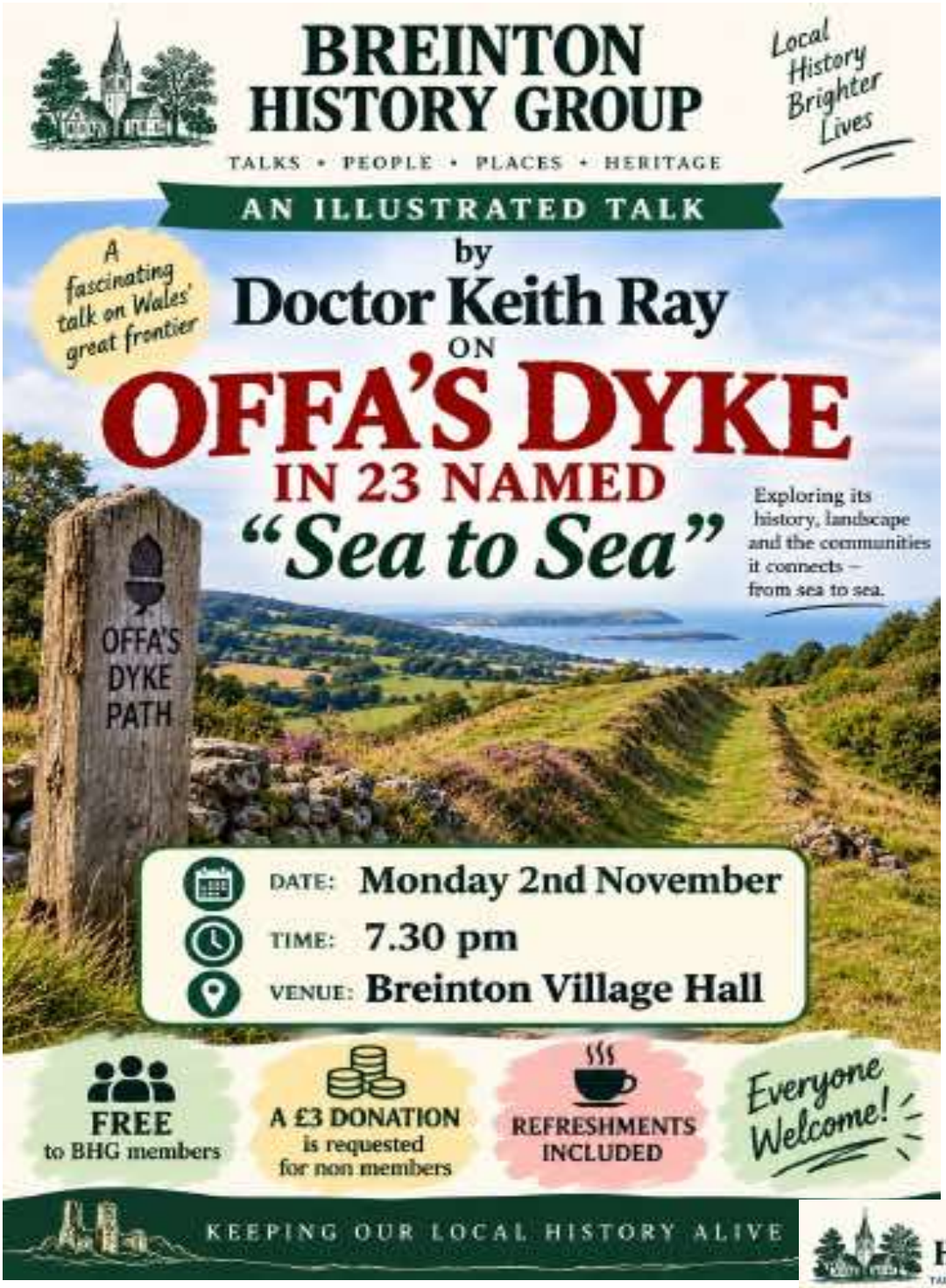
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MONDAY 11th JANUARY
A TALK BY
Chris Over
ON
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A fascinating look at our county through a unique collection of postcards
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Wye Bridge, Hereford
Our County Our Stories
Good History Great Community
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START TIME:
7.30 pm
VENUE:
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SATURDAY 23rd JANUARY
WASSAIL
A traditional celebration to bless the orchard for a healthy harvest
Good Company Good Traditions Brighter Tomorrows
WASSAIL GOOD HEALTH GOOD HARVEST HAPPY PEOPLE
TIME:
6.00 pm
VENUE:
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DONATIONS APPRECIATED
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2027





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If you wish to help St Michael's and have a Smartphone, you might like to use this QR code which will take you to our

Give a Little Page.
Thank you for your support.

SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION

Do you live in Breinton? Are you at university and needing books for your course? Or are you a teenager who needs equipment for a Duke of Edinburgh Award? Maybe you need help in buying school uniform for your children?

Breinton has access to limited funds which come partly from the rental of land left many years ago to support the education of young people in the Parish. This money is carefully managed for your use and you are invited to apply for it. If you are interested, either for yourself or for your child, please telephone Helen on 353850

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Line Dancing Success at Breinton Village Hall

Our recent line dancing event at Breinton Village Hall was a great success, with an amazing 80 people attending.

It was wonderful to see so many people come along to enjoy an evening of music, dancing and fun. There was a fantastic atmosphere, with plenty of smiles, laughter and some brilliant moves on the dance floor. A big thank you to Becks, who soon had everyone up on their feet and joining in.

We would like to thank everyone who came along and helped make the evening such a success. It was lovely to see the hall so full and everyone enjoying themselves.

A special thank you also goes to Breinton Parish Council for their kind donation, which helped make the event possible.

Following such a fantastic turnout, we hope to welcome everyone back to Breinton Village Hall for more enjoyable events in the future. Keep an eye out for further announcements.

Lorraine Lewis

Chair, Breinton Village Hall



If you enjoy events at Breinton Village Hall and would like to support your local church.

Please come to the Hall on NOVEMBER 13th at 7pm for our QUIZ

The questions aren't hard , there are nibbles and soft drinks and a piece of cake in the interval.

It just costs £5 for an enjoyable night out.

All money goes to help preserve our local church and landscape.



Many thanks to all who support St Michael's Breinton!!

Our church in Breinton would not be able to function if it were not for the generous contributions of its supporters, both within the congregation and more widely.

Thank you to all those who give their time in so many voluntary roles and to those who quietly provide biscuits, tea and coffee supplies, washing up liquid and so many other small but essential items – out of their own pocket!

St. Michael's faces ongoing financial challenges, as we all do, with inflation generally and rising energy costs in particular. Those who make regular donations, of course, help us to meet these demands. Without you, we would not be able to manage! Please consider increasing your gifts. *Some contributions have remained at the same level for some years and it would help us greatly to meet future challenges if you could assist in this way*. Electricity and gas costs alone rose significantly in 2025 and other costs, such as insurance and boiler servicing, cannot be avoided. All these are vital to maintaining the church and its role in the village community.

So, if you can give a little more, we would be very grateful.

Thank you.



Some good news!

As you will know, work is under way to address problems with the bell cote and the roof of St Michael's. We have some good news to report! The early stages of the work have been completed and the problems are no worse than had been anticipated by our surveyor and contractors.



We are very grateful to the Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust for their generous response to our application for financial assistance. We have been granted £8,000 towards the costs of the repairs! We are hopeful that other bodies will also help us and await further news.

However, as we have reported before, the work is expensive and the scaffolding alone has cost approximately £12,000. We have just received a further invoice for another £12,000. So you can appreciate why we are asking for help again from the parish. Many thanks to those who have already contributed but we still have a long way to go. Please consider if you are able to help by making a donation.

Every sum, large or small, is gratefully received.

You could make a donation through electronic banking. The church account name is Breinton Parochial Church Council. The sort code is 40-52-40 and the account number is 00006501 please insert "for fabric repairs" in the reference box

You could make a cash donation. This should be done through the West Hereford Team Office, Vowles Close, Hereford, HR4 0DF. Cheques should be made payable to Breinton Parochial Church Council with "for fabric repairs" written on the back of the cheque.

Other ways include:

You could make a one-off donation through the **Parish Giving** scheme. Scan this QR code

Or visit the Parish Giving website www.parishgiving.org.uk or phone them on 0333 002 1260. You could also set up a regular monthly donation if you wish.

You could make a **one-off donation online** through our **Give a Little** page https://givealittle.co/campaigns/1099258d-0548-401d-b95e-82b5312814dc

Or scan this QR code

If you are a UK taxpayer, you could gift aid your donation. Donating through **Gift Aid** means we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give from His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). It will not cost you any extra. You need to make a Gift Aid declaration for us to claim**.** You can do this by filling in a form**.** You may of course have already completed a Gift Aid form in which case there is no need to fill in another one.

DON'T FORGET!!! ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE QUIZ ON NOVEMBER 13th GO TO FUNDING THE REPAIRS TO THE CHURCH!!!

If you fancy getting a bit more involved with the Village Hall, we would love to hear from you. We are always grateful for an extra pair of hands to keep things running smoothly for the community. Even if you can only spare a couple of hours now and then, it really does help and is hugely appreciated. It's also a great way to meet people and be part of village life.

Contact us at:

breintonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com



We would like to help St. Michael's with our next QUIZ.

As always the entry fee is £5 per person but if you could possibly bring an extra donation with you that would be great.

Our last QUIZ raised £175 for Breast Cancer Now which was a fantastic amount as it was very hot . Cakes had to be sacrificed and choc ices substituted!!

As always many thanks to all those who were brave enough to attend and helped clear away.

Jackie is a star!

AND thanks to those, who are unable to attend but still contribute.

Our next QUIZ is planned for

NOVEMBER 13 th



SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Online Services

Evening Prayer, 6.30pm every Sunday, except the first Sunday of the month. Follow this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82460018059?pwd=eWUxRW1KM1FXRVNtYlkvK3o4WlpyUT09
Meeting ID: 824 6001 8059 Passcode: 072124

Morning Prayer, 8.30am Monday – Friday. Follow this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84352782015?pwd=OU1PNGNZV09OZzExUUo0OGJGajVsdz09
Meeting ID: 843 5278 2015 Passcode: 985657

Midweek Services

8:30am Monday - Friday – Morning Prayer Online (see above for details)

12:10pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday – Low Mass at All Saints'

10:00am Thursday – Holy Communion at Holy Trinity

N.B: RE. THE SERVICES LISTED

These services are correct at time of going to publication. For up to date information, please refer to our website www.westherefordteam.org.uk

TREE OF LIGHT AND HOPE

You are invited to place a star on the
TREE OF LIGHT AND HOPE
at the back of St Michael's Church from
Advent Sunday - November 29th— until Christmas.

A star can be in memory of a loved one, someone who is ill, a person in need of prayer, peace in the world, hope for the future or whatever you wish.

If you would like to donate to the work of the Church, this would be gratefully received.

Stars will be in the Church from Advent Sunday or contact

Ann Powell on Hereford 266432



THE LAST WORD - From the Editor

I like to have new and interesting articles for Teamtalk BUT I STRUGGLE with unknown quantities.

WORD is my friend and easy to use.

So PLEASE send everything in WORD! Many Thanks

Services during November 2026

Sunday 1st November 2026 – All Saints Day

Time	Church	Service Type
9:30am	All Saints	Parish Mass
9:30am	St Michael's Breinton	Holy Communion
11:00am	Holy Trinity	Eucharist

Sunday 8th November 2026 – Remembrance Sunday

Time	Church	Service Type
9:30am	All Saints	Parish Mass with Act of Remembrance
9:30am	St Michael's Breinton	Morning Worship with Act of Remembrance
10:45am	Holy Trinity	Morning Worship with Act of Remembrance
6:30pm	Online (see opposite)	Evening Prayer

Sunday 15th November 2026 – Safeguarding Sunday

Time	Church	Service Type
9:30am	All Saints	Parish Mass
9:30am	St Michael's Breinton	BCP Communion
11:00am	Holy Trinity	Eucharist
6:30pm	Online (see opposite)	Evening Prayer

Sunday 22nd November 2026

Time	Church	Service Type
9:30am	All Saints	Parish Mass
9:30am	St Michael's Breinton	Holy Communion
11:00am	Holy Trinity	All-Age Eucharist
6:30pm	Online (see opposite)	Evening Prayer

Sunday 29th November 2026 – Advent Sunday

Time	Church	Service Type
9:30am	All Saints	Parish Mass
9:30am	St Michael's Breinton	Morning Worship
11:00am	Holy Trinity	Eucharist
6:30pm	Online (see opposite)	Evening Prayer

Online Services

Evening Prayer, 6.30pm every Sunday, except the first Sunday of the month. Follow this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82460018059?pwd=eWUxRW1KM1FXRVNtYlkvK3o4WlpyUT09

Meeting ID: 824 6001 8059 Passcode: 072124

FOR FURTHER MIDWEEK SERVICES SEE OPPOSITE

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Advertising co-ordinator
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BENEFICE
For all Parish administration including Baptism and Marriage enquiries and some of the people listed as contact please call the Team Office 273086

Benefice Safeguarding Officer

Holy Trinity
Churchwardens
Vacancy
June Rynn 07944 676034
Verger
June Rynn

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)
Jane Jones

PCC Secretary
Vacancy

PCC Treasurer
Vacancy

Brass Cleaning Team
Kristine Way
Flower Guild
Janet Griffiths 340501

Director of Music
Ewan Murray
ewanmurray451@gmail.com

Pastoral Coordinators
Sian and Richard Bayliss

St. Nicholas'
Churchwardens
Paul Tompkins
Chris Wright

PCC and Electoral Roll Secretary
Julia Wright

PCC Treasurer
Vacant
Mothers' Union Secretary,
Bellringers' Secretary & PSO
Andy Lewis 357281

Written copy for the DECEMBER 2026 /JANUARY 2027 issue of Teamtalk should be sent to the Team Office by 10th NOVEMBER 2026 at the latest!
office@westhereford.org.uk

(WORD DOCUMENTS, PLEASE, preferably in Arial size 11)
or to Editor direct:

jesherfmag@gmail.com

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Churchwardens
Jackie Mumford
Trevor Bray

PCC Secretary
Maggie Fletcher 273149

PCC Treasurer
Jackie Mumford

Church Office
Jackie Mumford

Bellringers' Secretary
Anne Newman 07988 750673

PSO
Mel Carter

St Michael's
Churchwardens
Vacancy

Caroline Offley 07912031910

PSO
Lyn Gage 07443 598263

PCC Secretary
Lyn Gage 07443 598263

PCC Treasurer & Gift Aid
Grahame Sherfield 07895758157

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Breinton Village

Village Hall Lettings
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Parish Footpaths Officer
John Wade 355344

Clerk to the Charities
Helen Powers 353850

County Councillor
Charlotte Taylor 07742 880054

Parish Council Chairman
John Hull
07818 465182

Parish Councillors
Liz Morawiecka 264091
Jackie Morris 264410
Lorraine Lewis 0777 367 5774
Emil Morfett 07919350247
Dr. Chris Easter 07757 956 363

Parish Clerk
Lisa Law
Breinton Parish Council
Office 9
The Old Vicarage
1 Rowberry Street
Bromyard
HR7 4DU-
clerk@breintonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Hereford Rural North Safer Neighbourhood Team.
PC Stefan Hawes 07773054234
PCSO Christina Howard 07773052529
PCSO Adam Westlake 07773052580
These contact numbers are not for crime recording or for urgent calls. These should be directed to the emergency number 101 or online recording of crimes at the website https://www.westmercia.police.uk
USE 999 IN AN EMERGENCY