OFFENHAM

CHURCH AND VILLAGE MAGAZINE

April 2026

How Do I Get Something In The Magazine?

This magazine is produced by the Offenham PCC supported by the Parish Council to communicate local church and village events and news to the Offenham community. If you have a local event or news please send to the editor, including how long you would like your advertisement to run for, by the 15th of the month prior to the issue you would like your content included.

Please **email offenhammagazine@gmail.com**

For inclusion in the May issue please send your content by 15th April

Advertising rates are as follows:

- **Full Page £22.00, Half Page £12.00, Quarter Page £8.00, Separate Flyer £28.00**
- **Changes to your advert during that year are at the discretion of the editor.**
- **Discounts may be available, 10% discount applies for full year adverts.**

We reserve the right to adjust the design of any advertisement to fit the size constraints of the magazine.

Benefice website: www.eastvaleavon.com Church website: www.offenhamchurch.com

Offenham Church

Priest in Charge: Rev Jo Fielding revjo.eastvale@gmail.com - 01386 339669

For enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact the Benefice Administrator: Faith Quin – eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com

Parochial Church Council:

Secretary & Churchwarden:	Debbie Harrison	dh1971@hotmail.co.uk - 07933 212680 52 Myatt Road, Offenham WR11 8SD.
Treasurer:	Claire Penny	clairepenny99@btinternet.com - 07903 963233 Mock Morris, Boat Lane, Offenham, WR11 8QZ.

If you have a safeguarding concern contact Lisa Farmer on 07846 473894 lisaboreham_@hotmail.com or Rev Jo Fielding.

PCC Members: Angela Guoite (Churchwarden); Debbie Newman; Kathryn Kerr

Useful Phone Numbers

Offenham CE First School	01386 442038
Bengeworth CE Academy	01386 442047
Prince Henry's High School	01386 765588
The De Montfort School	01386 442060
Evesham Community Hospital	01386 502430
Worcestershire Trading Standards	01905 922799
Action Fraud	0300 123 2040

Police

Emergency: 999

Non-emergency: 101

East Vale and Avon Benefice

Services for March and April 2026

	9.30am Service	11.00am Service	Other Services
29th March Palm Sunday		Offenham Benefice Eucharist	
30th March Monday of Holy week			7pm Cleeve Prior Compline
31st March Tuesday of Holy Week			7pm Badsey Compline
1st April Wednesday of Holy Week			7pm South Littleton Tenebrae
2nd April Maundy Thursday			7pm Bretforton Maundy Thursday Eucharist
3rd April Good Friday			12 noon Offenham Benefice Meditation
4th April Easter Eve	NO SERVICES IN BENEFICE – VIGIL AT CATHEDRAL		
5th April Easter Day	Offenham Sunrise Service South Littleton Easter Eucharist	Easter Eucharists: Cleeve Prior Offenham Badsey Bretforton	
12th April 2nd Sunday of Easter		South Littleton Benefice Eucharist	
19th April 3rd Sunday of Easter	Offenham Morning Praise	Badsey Eucharist Cleeve Prior Morning Praise (followed by APCM)	7pm Bretforton Taize
26th April 4th Sunday of Easter	South Littleton Morning Praise	Bretforton Eucharist	

From the Parish Registers

Baptism. 22nd February Lilah Patricia Mary Gouldsborough.
Funerals. 13th March Hilda Southwell.
16th March Pauline Margaret Brotherton.

Offenham church is open every day from 10:00am until 3:00pm.
For more details please go to offenhamchurch.com

Letter Of The Month

Cogitations from Cleeve…….

Everything is growing!! Those extra hours of daylight, extra hours of warmth and gentle breezes all contribute to active spring life. As you watched the tips of trees gradually becoming greener, what were the clouds doing?

How often do we look up, stop and watch the clouds? If all we do is a quick glance, it may seem that nothing is moving up there. But wait, there is movement, there is change – almost imperceptibly but yes, there is definite movement. For many people, both during Lent and Ramadan, there has been that time to stop, to wait, to watch what is happening in God's world as well as in our own lives.

In fields and gardens, flowers, vegetables and weeds too, are sprouting - in our lives there are good things happening quietly, slowly – but also broken things are staying broken, families split apart as relationships sour and past difficulties seem insurmountable.

It happens across countries too – old hatreds continue to fester, newer hatreds grow and it all seems beyond any of us to change.

That was probably how the disciples of Jesus felt on that long ago Passover week. What had begun with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem amidst a joyful crowd had turned into an ugly near riot, an illegal trial. And cruel execution. It was the end……

No, No, No. Jesus had told them of his death – and of his rising again, but it was beyond them to grasp such an idea. They had to go through that desolation and despair of seeing their beloved Master destroyed. Yet…… there was life, a new life, Jesus met Mary Magdalene in the garden. The marks of his death were still there but it was her living Lord - Go, tell the other disciples, I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God. And she did, and they told others…… and somebody told us, so we too can learn how to experience the love and power of the risen Christ in our lives today. We can read the accounts in the New Testament part of the bible, in the Gospels of Matthew and John. In the book called the Acts of the Apostles, we can read what happened next. Thanks to modern technology we can read it in different languages, wherever we are in God's world. And in God's world today, good things ARE happening, women and men ARE learning how to live and work together for the common good. Families and communities ARE beginning to be reconciled. New life can come to each of us, gently, quietly, as we stop, look and listen to God at work in his world today through people who have discovered how to draw near to God and how to live for Him. We too are invited to work with God so that His Kingdom of Love and Peace comes. May God bless us and enable each of us to get on with it – together.

Rev Mary Godin

CHURCH HEATING

We are making progres with our fundraising and hope to have good news about the installation very soon. Huge thank you to everyone who has already donated.

If you would like to make a donation you can do so:
By Cheque: payable to St Mary & St Milburgh, Offenham PCC. You can give it to any member of the PCC or send to the treasurer (Claire Penny, Mock Morris, Boat Lane, Offenham, WR11 8QZ). Please write 'church heating' on the back of the cheque.

By Internet Banking: Please use the following details

Account Name	St Mary & St Milburgh, Offenham PCC
Sort Code	08-92-99
Account Number	67465866
Reference	Heating

If you would like to Gift Aid your donation please complete a Gift Aid form which can be found at the back of the church or downloaded from the website (www.offenhamchurch.com).

If you have any questions please contact Claire (clairepenny99@btinterent.com 07903 963233), or ask a member of the PCC.

Any money raised in this appeal will be restricted to the heating fund. In the event that there is money remaining after the entire project is finished this will be held in the restricted Fabric Fund which pays for emergency and general maintenance of the fabric of the building.

Offenham Church is excepted from registration with the Charity Commission, but is still regulated by them. Fundraising done by or on behalf of Offenham Church must comply with charity law and the code of practice laid down by the Fundraising Regulator.

Offenham Craftaholics

We are a group of ladies (although we would love to welcome some men!) who meet fortnightly to knit, sew, make cards, etc. We meet 7:00pm - 9:00pm on Wednesday evenings at the British Legion and would welcome new members. We know it's sometimes hard to walk in somewhere on your own but we really are a friendly bunch. Come and join us on 8th & 22nd April

Magazine goes online

We have started the process of putting the magazine online. We need people to test this, so if you would like to be involved, please email offenhammagazine@gmail.com and we will add you to the list

St Mary & St Milburgh Church, Offenham

100Club

The Offenham PCC 100Club returns in May 2026 to raise money for your church. There will be ten draws a year from May to February and half of the subscription will be used as the prize fund. There will be three prizes each month and a super-draw with larger prizes in in December. The draw is open to anyone 16 years old and above, they don't have to live in Offenham.

To enter the draw please complete the form on the back page, or collect one from the church, and return it by 30th April 2026. Payment can be made by cheque or internet banking but must be received by 30th April 2026. The first draw will be on Sunday 3rd May at the church during Time for Tea, and the winners will be notified as soon as possible afterwards.

Rules can be found on the website www.offenhamchurch.com or on the notice board in the church.

If you have any questions please contact Claire Penny or ask any member of the PCC.

Offenham Wombles

We are a group of Litter pickers who meet on the second Sunday of every month at 10:00am at the corner of Boat Lane and Mill Lane. We always welcome new pickers and provide all required equipment. Everyone is welcome, we only do an hour so if you can help, we would be really grateful, the more pickers we have the bigger area we can cover.

If you'd like to do some litter picking or keep your part of the village litter free, but can't come on a Sunday morning then we can provide you with the equipment and you can go out when it suits you.

Dressmaking

Do you have a sewing machine sitting at home collecting dust? Whether you are new to dress making or have experience you would be welcome to join us. We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month between 1.30pm and 4:00pm at the Village Hall in Offenham. Numbers will be limited to 12, (You must be member of U3a in order to attend.)

If you are happy to work from a commercial pattern, I will guide you how to get the best fit from your pattern, and examples being insert zips and adding pockets. If this is of interest to you please contact me, denise.crossman@hotmail.co.uk

Time For Tea

Time for Tea will take place on Sunday 5th April at 2.30pm in Offenham church. This is a good opportunity for residents to meet their neighbours and make new friends while enjoying a free cup of tea, coffee and cake. This popular event is a PCC initiative which is led by PCC members, and all donations received are given to the PCC Treasurer for the maintenance of Offenham church. The PCC thanks all who attend this event, helpers, and bakers, past and present, for their contribution over the eight years since Time for Tea began. Offenham church received almost £750 from supporters, during this time, for which it is grateful, and even managed to donate a small amount to a local charity in 2022, following lockdown, from the sale of Time for Tea recipe books. As Time for Tea coincides with Easter Day this year, everyone is encouraged to bring something connected with Easter or wear an Easter bonnet to celebrate the day. Hope to see you there.

Offenham Wake

Offenham Wake May Day Celebrations

Friday 1st May from 5.45pm till around 7.30pm
Crowning of the Wake Queen at 6:15pm

Morris Dancing and Maypole Dancing, Bar, Barbecue & Raffle

Wake Week

Sunday 7th am June Family Cricket
Sunday 7th pm June Art Competition and Wake Sports
Thursday 11th June Rounders
Saturday 13th June Wake Day
Sunday 14th June Treasure Hunt, Bell Boats and Duck Race

Maypole Club

Meeting Weds 22nd April 2.30 in the Legion Speaker TBA , Comp 'T'

Outing: Monday 13th April Warwick and then Rugby. 9am cost £10

Monday May 18th Kidderminster 10am cost £10

Contact Sue 01386 641620 for full details

OFFENHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

To see agendas, minutes of the meetings and other information and updates please see the OPC Website – www.offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/offenham-neighbourhood-plan

Updates are available on the ONP Facebook Group and you can contact the Steering Group on the following email address: ONP@offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Offenham Neighbourhood Plan (ONP) – Steering Committee continues to meet monthly as we move to the next stage following the completion of the Community Survey.

Key dates for your diaries:

- **Thursday 16th April**: Stakeholder Consultation Meeting at the British Legion (invitations to be issued in late March).
- **Sunday 26th April** – Public Consultation Meeting in the Village Hall (including results of Photography Competition)

Thank you to everyone who supported the Lent Lunch in March. £67 was raised for Caring Hands in the Vale.

Offenham Coffee Club

Every Tuesday from 10am at the Royal British Legion
* Tea * Coffee * Raffle *

Toddler Group - Village Hall

Every Friday during term time, 10:00am - 11.30am.
£2.00 per child, card payment available online.

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD

Your Local Team

The team is known as the Evesham and Pershore Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team. The team have 2 Facebook pages, 'Evesham Police' and 'Pershore Police'. Please follow these to keep up to date with our activities and to see when our local drop in/engagement sessions are.

Your local Neighbourhood Police Officers are PC Alex Prentice and PC Shaquille Lakin. Your local Police Community Support Officers are, PCSO Jasmine Hill, PCSO Lee Stirling, PCSO Kyle Westwood and PCSO Karen Kempton. The email addresses for each of them are first.surname@westmercia.police.uk. Karen will be leaving the team shortly as she'll be taking up a new role within West Mercia.

Drop-In Sessions and Neighbourhood Matters

Drop-in sessions are held weekly around the patch. If you have anything you wish to discuss, please pop along to one of these sessions. These sessions are advertised on the Evesham and Pershore Facebook page as well as Neighbourhood Matters. Neighbourhood Matters is a free service which allows you to receive updates regarding crime in your area and also allows you to message your local officer. Take a look at the website for further information: https://neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/.

Please feel free to come to any session you see advertised, you do not have to live in the village to attend. If you know people who do not have access to the internet, please feel free to share the information. The more people who know about these drop-ins, the better!

Reporting Incidents

Please remember to report crime and any incidents via 999, 101 or on the West Mercia website. Please do not email/ring/text individual officers if a crime has happened, this needs to be reported officially through the correct channels.

Evesham Festival of Words

The Evesham Festival of Words celebrates words in all their forms – written, spoken and sung. In 2026, the 10th year of the festival, there will be an exciting and interesting programme of events at different locations in and around Evesham. We have a variety of events throughout the year, a main weekend at the end of June and a smaller festival in October. It is an excellent opportunity to listen to a wide range of authors, other speakers and performers.

www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org/

OFFENHAM VILLAGE HALL
1931 - 2026 95th Anniversary Year

Offenham Village Hall is a great venue for all occasions. Clean & modern facilitates with it's classic style main hall. Perfectly equipped from a small (10) or a large (100) party.
Also Business meetings, Exercise classes, Large & Village events, Dance classes & group activities.
Having a party or family meal? Having to rearrange your home and protect your carpets?
Then why not Hire the Hall with or without our Fully Licensed Bar? Saving time & money buying or running out of drinks. Decorate the hall to your requirements. We can also clean up for you for a small charge. Simple plug & play music / sound system. Complete with Radio Microphones and Flashing Party Light, Low level stage, dance floor, kitchen, comfortable seating & projector.
Large Outside Illuminated Terrace & Large Car Park.
Arrange a viewing and discuss your event requirements at our Thursday Coffee Morning.
Go to www.offenhamvillagehall.org.uk for a booking form & details.
Bookings 07519 033287 or email bookings@offenhamvillagehall.org.uk
For general & car park enquires email contact@offenhamvillagehall.org.uk

Events for April
Men's Group 8 April
Women's Group 15 April
Activities & exercise classes for all

Volunteers Required
Would you like to get involved with your Village Hall? Could you help with our Website, Advertising and help with fund raising. Or become a Trustee.

Interested in helping us with our BAR?

We are a fully licensed premises and want to open our bar more often for Friends & Family Nights, Movie Nights, Football World Cup Matches, the occasional private party and fund raising events.
We need 2-3 volunteers who can work together and mange this between them and help the hall raise important funds.
If you are interested call Martin on 07986255739

Our Annual General Meeting took place on 9 March 2026
Sadly *No One came forward to represent their organisation or the Village.*
All Village Organisations should appoint a Trustee for the future of your hall.

The Village Hall is owned by the Village and the Trustees manage and care for it

More Trustees & management members are needed to help with our projects to take the hall forward and protect it's future.
You can still become a Trustee & Management Committee Member. Call Martin 07986255739
Our Future is Your Future

Our Community Coffee Morning
Every Thursday 10am - 12pm

Tea, Coffee, Bacon, Bacon & Sausage, New for 2026 add a poached egg.
All at a very low price.
All Welcome. Mums, Dads & Families & Well Behaved Dogs

!!!! HELP *SAVE OFFENHAM YOUTH CLUB* !!!!

Adults & Parents please come along to this public meeting to discuss how to re-open & save the **YOUTH CLUB**. Join a monthly rota or become a leader.
No previous experience necessary. If there is no support all equipment maybe be sold off

FRIDAY 10th April 2026 at the Village Hall

Call 07986255739 for more details

OFFENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Offenham Parish Councillors are:-

Cllr Ian Graham (Chairman), Cllr Sheila Briers, Cllr Marc Farmer, Cllr Martin Penny, Cllr Matthew Rea, Cllr Marcus Taylor, Cllr Claire Henderson, Cllr Samantha Muxworthy

Contact Details – through the Clerk

Mr Daniel Hinde – Email: info@offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Notice of Offenham Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of Offenham Parish Council will be held on Monday 13th April 2026 at Offenham Village Hall and will be held according to standard Parish Council Meeting regulations

The council would like to take the opportunity this month to bring the following to your attention:

- **Annual Parish Meeting**
  The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 13th April and everyone is invited and welcome to attend. We hope to have a range of speakers who will provide valuable information about our parish.

- **Councillor Vacancy**
  We currently have a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a councillor please register your interest with the clerk on the details above.

- **Planning**
  We as a parish council have recently been consulted on the following planning application and this were discussed at the last meeting on 2nd March 2026:

  Application Number - W/26/00354/HP
  Location - Sparrows Cottage, Laurels Road, Offenham, WR11 8RE
  Description – Proposed garage and extension of parking area.

  The council make a comment of no objection to this application.

COVER PHOTO is of the font in Offenham Church. This may well date to the 14th century.

Offenham Village Store & Post Office

Just to let people know if you are struggling to get out of the house, we are more than happy to drop some groceries off to you. Just give us a ring and if we can accommodate, we will always do our best.
Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 7:30am-8:00pm
Saturday 8:00am-7:00pm
Sunday 8:00am-6:00pm

If anyone is struggling don't hesitate to give us a ring, you won't be a nuisance and we will do our best to help you.

ST. JAMES CHURCH, BADSEY

EVERY MONDAY TERM TIME

8:45am - 11am

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M: John on 07977333719
E: jcsmotors@gmail.com
Location: rear of TJ Auto Electrics, Crossleigh, The Cross

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worcesterandwychavon@bluebirdcare.co.uk

St Mary & St Milburgh, Offenham 100 Club
Offenham Church 100Club Application Form

Name_____

Telephone/Email_____

If you win a prize:
Name (as it should be on a cheque)
_____

Postal Address (to which cheques will be sent)

I would like to purchase _____ numbers in the 100Club from May 2026 to February 2027 at £20 per number.
I enclose a cheque for £_____ payable to 'Offenham PCC'.
OR
I have made payment of £_____ by bank transfer (reference 100Club26)
Details for payment:

Account Name:	St Mary & St Milburgh, Offenham PCC
Sort Code:	08-92-99
Account Number:	67465866

I have read, understood and agree to the rules of the Offenham Church 100Club. I authorise my name to be displayed in the Parish Magazine and in Church advertising in the event that I am winner.

Signature_____

Date_____

Please return the form to Claire Penny, Mock Morris, Boat Lane, Offenham, WR11 8QZ or email them to clairepenny99@btinternet.com
Payment to be received by 30th April 2026