OFFENHAM

CHURCH AND VILLAGE MAGAZINE

August 2026

165th anniversary of Offenham Cricket Club

2026 marks the 165th anniversary of the founding of Offenham Cricket Club by Reverend William James Bristow (1835-1897), vicar of St Mary and St Milburgh church. To mark this auspicious occasion, the club created a commemorative booklet, which includes the club's history and fixtures, and is available for £10 from Andrew Harrison or Gordon Smith.

Offenham Cricket Club continues to be an important part of the local community since its establishment in 1861, fostering social connections and providing recreational opportunities for generations of residents and visitors alike. We wish them well in this special anniversary year and good luck for the future.

Photograph reproduced by kind permission of Offenham Cricket Club.

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 September issue please send your content to the editor by 15th August.

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 Hobbs – 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; Amanda Taylor

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 August

Please note that during the Summer holidays, there will be one Sunday service at 10.00am in the Benefice each week. Normal service will resume next month.

	10.00am Service		
2nd August 10th Sunday after Trinity	Benefice Eucharist Badsey		
9th August 11th Sunday after Trinity	Benefice Eucharist Offenham		
16th August 12th Sunday after Trinity	Benefice Eucharist Bretforton		
23rd August 13th Sunday after Trinity	Benefice Eucharist South Litttleton		
30th August 14th Sunday after Trinity	Benefice Eucharist Cleeve Prior		

Offenham church is open every day from 10am until 3pm. For details please go to offenhamchurch.com Please note that the church will be closed between 3rd and 7th August for heating work.

From the Parish Registers:
Wedding: Rhianon Taylor and Matthew Foxall 4th July.

Letter Of The Month

Are you melting?
This has been a summer to remember - for good reasons as well as the other sort. Now the long school holiday is here, will there be yet another heat wave? We have all struggled with the high temperatures and developed our own solutions indoors and out.

When we needed water, we turned on the tap – and it made me wonder just how do those without taps manage to survive? Of course, heat waves, floods and disasters have occurred throughout history. We just didn't know what happened elsewhere in our world - but now we do. Our TV screens show us, we see and hear how people are enduring in war zones, earthquake devastated cities, picturesque countryside, as well as huge stadiums with people cheering their football team on to win.

When my mother was widowed years ago, she never watched the news. What's the point? There's no-one to talk to about it, I just get upset, I can't do anything about any of it! It is easy to switch off from seeing and hearing the news but it flashes onto our phones nevertheless.

We cannot change events across the world but we can make a difference in our small bit of it. The wife of a country parson began to do exactly that in 1876. Mary Sumner realised how hard it was for new mothers to feed and clothe their family so she invited a small group of mums to her home and showed them how to sew, to make clothes for the children. She showed them how to cook too, even with few ingredients. She told other parsons wives and they started doing similar small gatherings. Thus began the Mothers Union, now an international organisation which now welcomes all comers into their meetings.

Mary Sumner knew that God loved her and she wanted to serve him. She saw a need in her small part of God's world and, with God's guidance, did something about it.

This is how! Her prayer each day was this:-
All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee, and every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live.

Being thankful for all the blessings we enjoy here in UK, let's use this prayer as we start today, adding Amen (so be it)
May God bless us as we make this small beginning here in our benefice of East Vale and Avon.
Rev Mary Godin. (Cleeve Prior church).

Offenham Church and Village Magazine

From January 2027 you will only receive a printed copy of the Church and Village Magazine if you request one. There will be forms available in the September, October and November editions for you to complete if you would like the magazine delivered to your home, or you can email your request to offenhammagazine@gmail.com. Make sure you include your address.

To receive the magazine each month by email please go to www.offenhamchurch.com and follow the link on the home page, or select 'Church and Village Magazine' from the menu. You only need to provide your email address, and you can unsubscribe at any time.

There will always be printed copies of the magazine available in the church, and you can download a copy from the website.

If you have any questions please ask a member of the PCC or email offenhammagazine@gmail.com

Time For Tea

This monthly café takes place on the first Sunday in Offenham church between 2.30 and 4pm. Refreshments are free of charge and any donations received will go towards the upkeep of our village church.

All ages are welcome, so why not bring a member of your family, invite a neighbour or call in on your own. The next event will be on 2nd August 2026.

Maypole Club

Outing: Tuesday 18th August Abergavenny 9am £15

Contact Sue on 01386 641620

Meeting: Wed. Aug. 26th Harvest B&B & Bingo. Comp. 'W'
2-30pm In the Legion club

St Mary & St Milburgh Church, Offenham

100Club

The winners of the July 100 Club draw are 1st Gina Fisher, 2nd Edith Peters, 3rd Linda Shrimpton.
Next draw will be Sunday 2nd August at Time for Tea in Offenham church.

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.

Summer Fete

It was wonderful to see so much support from the village for our Summer Fete on 11th July. We saw many faithful supporters plus new faces too which was very encouraging.

We are always looking for willing helpers to manage stalls, bake cakes or maybe if we are very lucky, join the committee. If you think you can help in any way, please contact Debbie Harrison or Lisa Farmer, contact details at the front of the mag.

Thank you again Offenham for supporting up to keep our church running.
Friends of St Mary and St Milburgh church.

OFFENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Website: www.offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Offenham Parish Councillors are:-

Cllr Ian Graham (Chairman), Cllr Marc Farmer (Vice Chairman), 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 3rd August 2026 at 730pm in 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:

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

- Hanging Basket/Tubs and Garden Competitions The judging for this year's hanging basket/tubs and garden competitions will take place in the first week of August. We look forward to seeing your displays.

- Villager of The Year Nominations for the Villager of the Year are now open. If you would like to nominate anyone within our parish who you feel needs recognition please contact the clerk on info@offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

CHURCH HEATING

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated to this appeal.

We have received a grant of £5,000 from Offenham Old School Education Trust which means we are in a position to complete phase 2 of the Heating Project.

THE CURCH WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY 3rd AUGUST TO FRIDAY 7th AUGUST while the new heating is installed. If you need access during this time please contact a member of the PCC, details at the front of this magazine.

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@btinternent.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 12th and 26th August.

OFFENHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Offenham Neighbourhood Plan (ONP) – Steering Committee continues to meet monthly in the British Legion. Andy Ford and Wendy Trimble from the Wychavon Planning Office attended one of our latest meetings and were complimentary about the progress that had been made to date. They provided useful information about the next steps in finalising the plan and use of a toolbox to help assess the sites that had been submitted for inclusion.

The ONP Steering Committee will continue to meet monthly to advance the plan following the laid down legal process. The next meeting is scheduled for 20th August 2026 at 7pm in the British Legion.

You can access the results of that feedback on the website alongside the agendas, minutes of meetings and other information and updates - www.offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/offenham-neighbourhood-plan.

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

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

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.

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www.cotswoldedgestudios.co.uk www.worcestershireopenstudios.org

St Mary and St Milburgh church

In October, Offenham will mark the 165th anniversary of the rebuilding of St Mary and St Milburgh. The church was rebuilt by Frederick Preedy (1820-1898), architect and stained glass expert, in Victorian Gothic style, with several examples of his work in alabaster and stained glass within the church.

In 2011, a booklet depicting the Preedy trail, which is a list of buildings attributed to Frederick Preedy in the Evesham area, was created by Mr John Grove, in association with Wychavon District Council. Please see this link for details: Preedy Trail - Visit Evesham

OFFENHAM VILLAGE HALL
1931 - 2026 95th Anniversary Year
www.offenhamvillagehall.org.uk

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 August
Men's Group 5 August
Women's Group 12 August
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.

Can you help us?
We need to raise another
£7,500
to replace the hall carpets
and floor coverings in the toilets.
Have you an idea
which can help us acheive this?
Please get in touch

OUR NEW KITCHEN EXTENSION
Has now started and will cost approx £92,000
Grants have been secured from the
National Lottery Awards for All.
Offenham Parish Council
The Garfield Weston Foundation
If you would to help raise more funds
please contact Martin 07986255739

Do you have a BAND or are you a Solo artist and would like to have a Showcase Evening With no fees to pay? Contact 07986255739

Late Breakfast & Coffee Morning
Every Thursday 10am - 12pm

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

We are recruiting volunteers to help with our Coffee Mornings.
Due to holidays & unforeseen circumstances we find ourselves at certain times short of help.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT HELPING AT THE HALL CONTACT MARTIN 07986255739

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. Tel: 01386 446364

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Offenham Old School Education Trust

(Charity No: 1049265)

Application Form for an Education grant for those over 18* years of age and resident in the Parish of St Mary & St Milburgh, Offenham

The Trustees of the Trust are pleased to be able to offer grants for those in Education and training for the academic year 2026-2027. This includes Higher Education Courses and Apprenticeships *(*consideration will be given to 16 & 17 years olds in full time apprenticeships)*

Please complete the details below **and enclose either proof of acceptance to commence the course or proof of satisfactorily completing the previous year of the course.**

If you do not yet have proof of your acceptance, for instance you might be awaiting exam results, then please submit this application form without such proof **and forward a copy of your letter of acceptance when it arrives.**

PLEASE NOTE: - No grant can be made before proof of completion/acceptance has been received.

Please return your completed application form to 12 Myatt Road, Offenham, WR11 8SD by the END OF AUGUST as the Trustees will be meeting at the beginning of September to consider this year's grants.

If your application arrives after the date of the meeting then we may have already allocated the whole of our budget for the academic year. Please note that we will not discuss your grant with your parents, carers or other third parties as this can cause confusion and could be construed as a breach of confidentiality.

Name: _____

Contact Telephone Number: _____ Mobile Number: _____

Email address: (please print clearly) _____

Home address: _____

_____

Date of Birth: _____

Age on 1st September this year: _____

Name of Educational Institution: _____

Name of Course: _____

Length of Course: _____

Year of Course which you are now entering: _____

Date when you expect to complete course: _____

Have you received a grant from the Old School Educational Trust for this or a similar course in the past?
If so, please give details. **(NOTE – you can apply annually for each year of your course if on a multi-year course)**

Any other information you think may be relevant (continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

I CERTIFY THAT ALL THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS TRUE AND CORRECT AT TIME OF SIGNING.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(NOTE: The level of individual grants may vary from year to year depending on number of applications received)