OFFENHAM

CHURCH AND VILLAGE MAGAZINE

July 2025

Parish & Church News - Local Groups – Events

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 August issue please send your content by 15th July

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); Amanda Taylor; 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

Letter Of The Month For July

Hello Everyone,

Yes, the rain has at last returned and everywhere looks fresher but if you have been watching the many TV programmes on aspects of our world, you will have understood more about the many changes that we humans have brought about. Yes, we humans have achieved great things BUT, scientific evidence for climate change is incontrovertible.
One of the ways in which this has occurred has been the relentless drive for MORE – we human beings are never satisfied but keep on reaching out, grabbing, taking, making, with little or no regard for consequences.
Now we are seeing the evidence of the damage we have done, collectively. We are also seeing evidence of the many efforts to repair and restore our environment.
But it is such a huge challenge – what possible difference can I, one individual make?
It has been said that every journey begins with a single step. If we each make that decision – yes, I will do something today – together, we will make those changes that are needed.
We already recycle, reuse or repair items we have bought. We also share usage of equipment. Many of us can remember wartime shortages which taught us to 'make do or mend' and also to accept 'can't have'.
Many organisations have adopted the principle of becoming carbon neutral and all the churches across the benefice are working towards Ecochurch Gold Standard. This entails looking at all aspects of church life so that we line up with biblical principles of caring for God's creation. We look at our buildings and how we care for them, the contents and how we use them, our church yards and how they reflect the beauty of creation, our teaching and how we reflect God's care for his world.
You and I CAN make changes to the way we live, so that we cause less damage, we CAN renew and repair our small patches of God's good earth and we CAN join together with others to tackle larger challenges.
It is our choice.
So, as we enjoy this summer and share time with family and friends, at home or away, let's ask ourselves what other things we could do to make a difference. At book clubs, bowls clubs, and any other group we are part of, we can ask what else can we do, have you got any ideas?
There are thousands of others across our world who face much bigger problems of droughts and floods brought about through our changing climate. Others are living in war zones, desperately trying to survive amidst more man made chaos. Even in these situations, we learn of courage, help and hope among people working together and making a difference right where they are. So let's share our hope and help and courage right where we are in this Benefice of East Vale and Avon, as well as praying for others across our beautiful but endangered planet.
May God guide and bless you in the choices you make this week.

Revd Mary Godin (retd Cleeve Prior)

THE BENEFICE OF THE EAST VALE & AVON CHURCHES

Services For July 2025

Please do take the opportunity to share fellowship and enjoy worship in any of the parish churches in our benefice.

	9.30am Service	11.00am Service	Other Services
6th July 3rd after Trinity	Badsey Morning Praise	Offenham Eucharist Cleeve Prior Eucharist	
13th July 4th after Trinity	Bretforton Morning Praise	South Littleton Eucharist	**7pm** Cleeve Prior Taizé
20th July St James		Badsey Benefice Patronal Eucharist With Bishop Martin	
22nd July 6th After Trinity	South Littleton Morning Praise	Bretforton Eucharist Cleeve Prior Morning Praise	

The church is open every day from 10:00am until 4:00pm.
For more details please go to
offenhamchurch.com

Maypole Club

Wednesday 23rd July

Bewdley for coffee, then The Fox Inn, Chaddesley Corbett for carvery & sweet.

£10 (non members £15)

Contact Edith on 01386 45247 for full details

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.

The Friends of St Mary and St Milburgh

SCARECROW Trail

Date: On August 30th 2025

Theme: Anything goes!

- Please have your scarecrow in place by 10am **on the Saturday** for viewing
- Scarecrows must be clearly visible from the road to avoid people needing to access your property
- Entry free!
- No judges, it's just for fun!

✂.....

Name: .....

Address: .....

Tel. No: .....

Please **return** this form in a sealed envelope by **August 25th** to Wendy Gittus (25 Milburgh Close), Lisa Farmer (Redwell, Leasowes Road) or Debbie Harrison (52 Myatt Road). This is so that we can create a trail map.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Offenham Parish Council have formed the Offenham Neighbourhood Plan (ONP) Steering Committee to lead on producing the ONP that will help determine what happens in our village over the next decade and beyond.

If you are passionate about our village and don't want to see its character and heritage ruined by piecemeal developments, then this is your chance.

Feedback from villagers at the Parish Council Wake Stall was mainly concerns about the amount and rate of development in the village with no clear plan on how this would be regulated in the future.

So if you think you can contribute to our Committee, or become a member, please contact us by email at ONP@offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk or come along to our next meeting in the Church on Thursday 3rd July at 7pm

Martin Penny
Chair, ONP Steering Committee

PARISH REGISTERS:

Wedding May 25th Rebekah Marie Henderson & Luke Adam Mountford

Funeral June 12th Christine Joy Parkinson

Church Heating

Thank you to everyone who came to the meeting in the church in May. If you were not able to attend all the information can be found on the website https://www.offenhamchurch.com/

Plans for the installation of electric heating are progressing and we will be applying for a faculty (permission) in the next week. We will then be launching a fundraising campaign and applying for grants to finance the project.

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

Time For Tea

Time for Tea will take place on Sunday 6th July in Offenham church from 2.30 to 4pm. Tea, coffee and cake are free, and any donations received will go towards the upkeep of our village church. Everyone is welcome.

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.

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 2nd, 16th and 30th July.

Offenham Coffee Club

Every Tuesday, from 10:00am
at 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.

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

Congratulations

The winners in the June draw of the Church 100Club were:

Mark Allard (99); Beccie Williams (36) and Pat Chamberlain (18)

The next draw will be on Sunday 6th July during Time for Tea in the Church

Offenham Parish Council

Chairman:	Ian Graham
Members:	Sheila Briers, James Moclair, Marc Farmer, Marcus Taylor, Matthew Rea, Sam Muxworthy, Martin Penny, Claire Allen.
Clerk:	Diane Cox: 07714 869946 (also street light faults.)
District Councillor:	Aaron Powell: 07404 065311 – aaron.powell@wychavon.net
County Councillor:	Hannah Robson: 07730 262031 – hrobson@worcestershire.gov.uk
Highways Issues:	Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765
Public Footpaths: (NOT pavements)	Roy Betts - metro.roy100@gmail.com.
Planning:	Full details at www.wychavon.gov.uk/planning

Next Parish Council Meeting: Monday 7th July at 7.30pm in Offenham Village Hall. Any organisation or individual wishing to attend, please contact the Clerk on 07714 869946.

- After more than 18 years as Parish Clerk, Diane Cox is retiring. Her replacement is Becky Bowser, her contact details will be advertised shortly but in the mean time please continue to email Diane.
- The new Parish Council website is up and running, if there is anything that you would like to see added to the website please contact the clerk.

A message from Diane.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank councillors, past and present, residents and some businesses for help over the years in supporting me to do a job that for the most part was a pleasure to do. I have met some lovely people and have many happy

Neighbourhood Alert

Who are your local Neighbourhood Officers for the 'Rural North' area?
Your local Neighbourhood Officers are PC Alex Prentice, PC Ben Trowman and PCSO Luke Harris. They can be contacted by email, alexandra.prentice@westmercia.police.uk, ben. trowman@westmercia.police.uk and luke.harris@ westermercia.police.uk.

The Evesham Safer Neighbourhood Team are actively now more than ever involved with our Evesham SNT Facebook page. Please follow Evesham SNT to keep up to date with our activities and to see when our local drop in/engagement sessions are.

Drop-In Sessions and Neighbourhood Matters

As you may know, we do frequent drop-in sessions in each of the areas. We are always open to listening to the public if they believe the engagements with the public should be done differently so please let us know if you have any ideas. Engagement dates will be sent out in advance on Neighbourhood Matters and on Facebook. 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! Some of the regular sessions we do are coffee mornings in the villages, outside village shops, in village halls (incl car park), coffee shops, meetings with the local farmers and rural community and school visits. As we approach the summer, we are inundated with requests for events to attend so please let us know in advance if you can. We are more than happy to attend these if we are on duty.

Reporting Incidents

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

Crime Prevention

Please make use of the drop-in sessions provided by officers if you want crime prevention advice. Officers are able to address concerns and offer crime prevention advice, such as handout of leaflets around home security, cctv, vehicle security, various signage for properties, shed/garage/bike security etc. We also have faraday pouches to provide to people who have keyless entry vehicles.

Tips for keeping your home safe this summer

We have some top tips to help keep you and your home safe this summer and deter potential burglars.

- During the hot weather people understandably like to have their windows and doors open, however this can make a home more vulnerable to intruders.
- Here's some advice to keep in mind during warmer weather:
- Ensure all windows and doors are locked when you leave the house – even if you're only popping out for a few minutes!
- Make sure to lock away ladders at all times
- Keep front, patio and back doors closed and locked when you are elsewhere in the house or the garden
- Trimming hedges and trees at the front of your property removes opportunities for burglars to hide out of sight
- Consider growing prickly hedges or roses around the perimeter of your back garden – these are known as defensive plants and provide a level of deterrence
- Installing a dusk to dawn security light (at head height by front and back doors) – this increases levels of surveillance and will deter offenders
- Intruder alarm systems and CCTV will improve security – not to be replaced of basic security methods!
- Make sure to keep garden sheds and other outbuildings locked at all times
- Secure side gates and keep them well maintained with padlocks on
- Keep valuables out of sight and away from windows and doors
- Lock your bike away in a secure shed or garage
- Clear or hide heavy, loose debris from garden areas such as bricks, slabs etc. as these can be used to access your home

Offenham Old School Education Trust – Advance Notice

(Charity No: 1049265)

Application Forms for an Education grant for those over 18* years of age and resident in the Parish of St Mary & St Milburgh, Offenham will be included in the August magazine.

The Trustees of the Trust are pleased to be able to offer grants for those in Education and training for the academic year 2025-2026. This includes Higher Education Courses and Apprenticeships

(*consideration will be given to 16 & 17 years olds in full time apprenticeships).

The deadline for applications will be 30 September

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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

VILLAGE HALL PROJECTS

Would you be interested in quoting for the following projects?
Painting the ceilings & rafters in the Main Hall
New kitchen extension (Planning Application Approved)
New meeting room with changing rooms & showers (Planning Application Approved)
Email your interests to projects@offenhamvillagehall.org.uk

MENS GROUP COFFEE MORNING

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2025 10 - 12

Come along for coffee / tea & a chat putting the world to rights
Then a game of French Boules for a bit of fun

SAVE THE DATE FOR LIVE MUSIC

SATURDAY 20th September

FUND RAISING EVENT FOR THE BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

WITH THE PLEASURE DOME Playing Classic 80's Pop & Rock

Tickets £10 Available Soon 07986255739

Weekly Activities At The HALL

Tuesday Yoga with Wendy, Silver Swans. Tap Dancing, Zumba with Kerry
Thursday Coffee Morning, Zumba with Tracey, Aikido Martial Arts
Friday Play & Stay Play group, Tai Chi for better health with Sally

Other Activities Include

Offenham Flower Club, Offenham Parish Council, Dress Making Classes,
Offenham Youth Club, Quilt Making Classes, Men's Group,

www.offenhamvillagehalll.org.uk

The Offenham Community Charities

'The Offenham Community Charities' is an Offenham village charity set up originally to help individuals or groups in need, hardship or distress.

More recently, it helps individuals or groups that would benefit from small grants to provide services, facilities or other items.

If you are an individual or run a group that would appreciate a helping hand, please provide the amount required with a brief overview of the project and who it will benefit to:

Andrea Evans, (Trustee)
Ty Gwyn, Church Street, Offenham WR11 8RW

or by emailing andreaevans54@gmail.com

All requests are confidential.

CALL 07875564893

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