OFFENHAM

CHURCH AND VILLAGE MAGAZINE

May 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 June issue please send your content by 15th May

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 May

	9.30am Service	11.00am Service	Other Services
3rd May 5th Sunday of Easter	Badsey Morning Praise	Offenham Eucharist Cleeve Prior Eucharist	
10th May 6th Sunday of Easter Rogation Sunday		Cleeve Prior Field Barn Benefice Eucharist for Rogation Sunday with The Venerable Mark Badger, Archdeacon of Worcester	7pm Bretforton Taizé
Thursday 14th May Ascension Day			7pm South Littleton Eucharist
17th May 7th Sunday of Easter (Bell Sunday)	Offenham Eucharist	Badsey Eucharist (followed by APCM) Cleeve Prior Eucharist	
24th May Pentecost		Bretforton Benefice Eucharist for Pentecost	
31st May Trinity Sunday		South Littleton Benefice Eucharist	Asparagus Blessing and Auction 7pm (*Fleece Inn*)

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

Letter Of The Month

Dear Neighbours, May is a busy month as we get out & about, enjoying what we hope will be warmer weather & sunnier days in early summer. The **May Bank Holiday** starts off in style with maypole dancing & celebrations in Offenham, & sets the tone for lots more summer events over the next few weeks, including weddings at several of our beautiful old churches in the Vale over the season.

How do you feel about hearing church bells ringing? For some (especially those who live very close to a church) they are an unwelcome interruption to a peaceful rest in the garden! For others, the sound of bells floating on the air tells us of a wedding celebration, or reminds us that a service is happening. Did you know there is a special day for church bells? You might hear church bells pealing out over the Bank Holiday weekend as visiting bell ringers come to try out their skills on our bells - (although all 6 of our churches have bells, St Michael's South Littleton has only 3, & the tower at St Nicholas N. Littleton is now too unsafe to allow its bells to be rung). **Sunday 17th May** is Bell Sunday - remembering St Dunstan, an early forger of bells. It's the day when our focus falls on our bells, but also our chance to say a big thank you to our ringers who turn up each week to practise, & who ring the bells before our Sunday services, or for a wedding, or who toll for a funeral. For the years before social media or watches, bells & church clocks linked to a chiming bell were often the only way that ordinary people in villages or towns could know what the time was, or when something special was going on in the community. If you like the sound of the bells, & would be interested in having a go, our 4 active bell towers always welcome newcomers, so please do get in touch or just turn up on a practice night in your local village.

What else is going on this month? The **10th May sees our annual Rogation service** – taking place at the Heritage Trust orchard & barn at Cleeve Prior at 11am. Come along meet Archdeacon Mark who will be with me; the first part is held in the gorgeous & peaceful community orchard. Rogation services go back a long way- but the service remains a really important one for us as a rural community, as we gather together to think about where our food comes from, to be thankful for all the people who take care of the land, & to ask for God's blessing on our farmers/food producers, on the land, & on our community. On the **24th May we join together at Bretforton** church to celebrate the Church's birthday -the startling arrival of the Holy Spirit at **Pentecost**, breathing life, confidence & God's peace into believers from that day to this. Definitely something worth celebrating!

Most of our congregations are holding their Annual Meetings (APCMs) during May -a time when we elect church officers/PCC members who work to ensure the smooth running of our churches & care for your church buildings/churchyard throughout the year. I am so thankful to all those who help keep the doors open, the bills paid, & the warm welcome given to everyone who walks in on a Sunday morning at our churches – & if you would like to find out more about what is

going on in your local church, please do come along to your APCM.

But even if you are not a regular church goer, please be assured that your church & your vicar are here for you whenever you need us. We offer support, a friendly face at any of our community events, & you can talk to us if you want to ask about a special service like a funeral, wedding or christening. Your church really is here for you.

Jo Fielding
Revjo.eastvale@gmail.com Tel 07561823135

St Mary & St Milburgh Church, Offenham

100Club

The first draw of the new cycle will take place during Time for Tea in the church on Sunday 3rd May. Applications and payment need to be with the treasurer by 30th April and you will receive you numbers before 3rd May. Good Luck!

Benefice German Partnership Visit

23rd - 27th July 2026

We are hosting our friends from Halberstadt Ost. If you would like to meet up with them or host a visitor for bed and breakfast, please contact me for more details.
Alex Christison 01386 830367 alex.christison257@gmail.com

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

Time For Tea

Time for Tea will take place on Sunday 3rd May at 2.30pm in Offenham church. Refreshments are free of charge and any donations received will be used for the upkeep of our lovely church.

CHURCH HEATING

We are in the process of applying for grants from various sources. Thank you to everyone who has already donated, your support and generosity is much appreciated.

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 6th and 20th May

Toddler Group - Village Hall

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

Offenham Coffee Club

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

Join us for an afternoon of festival inspired fun while raising funds for the school!

LIVE MUSIC, TOMBOLAS, PLANTS, BAR, BBQ, MAYPOLE DANCING, FACE PAINTING, HAIR BRAIDING, INFLATABLES, GAMES, REVOLVE PERFORMANCE AND MORE!

ENTRY: ADULTS £1 CHILDREN FREE

SUNDAY 10TH MAY

12PM – 3:30PM

OFFENHAM CE FIRST SCHOOL, MYATT ROAD

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 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.

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 towards the final stages following the completion of the Community Survey.

On Thursday 16th April we held a Stakeholder Consultation Meeting, followed by a Public Consultation Meeting in the Village Hall (including results of Photography Competition) on Sunday 26th April. You can see the competition results on the website alongside the agendas, minutes of meetings and other information and updates - www.offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/offenham-neighbourhood-plan.

There will be a final stakeholder meeting on 21st May, after which the plan will move towards its first full draft stage.

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

Offenham Church & Offenham Cricket Club
165th anniversary celebration

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 10 July 2026

Venue: Offenham Royal British Legion Club
Time: 7:30pm until 10:30pm
(Bar opens at 7:00pm)

Bar, Fun, Raffle, Heads & Tails, Prizes

£5 per head

To book a team (max 6 people per team)

Call Debbie or Andrew on
01386 442844 / 07598 794917
OR EMAIL: akharrison63@gmail.com

Maypole Club

Meeting Weds 27th May 2.30 in the Legion. Your family tree with Pauline. Comp 'U'

Outing: Monday 11th May, Aylesbury. 9am cost £12

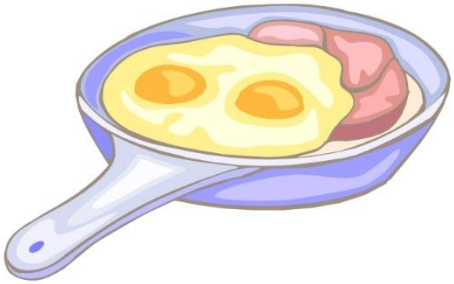
Please note change of date

Contact Sue 01386 641620 for details

Evesham u3a

Evesham and District u3a members are celebrating their 25th Anniversary. **Were you or someone you know a member of Evesham u3a in the early years?** Please get in touch with Lorna Slaughter via https://evesham.u3asite.uk/25-years/.

BREAKFAST FOR WATERAID



23 MAY

9.00 TO 10.30

ST. JAMES CHURCH

BADSEY

All donations to WaterAid

OFFENHAM COMMUNITY SOUP LUNCH

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. It is an excellent opportunity to listen to a wide range of authors, speakers and performers. We have a variety of events throughout the year, a main weekend at the end of June and a smaller festival in October.

Further information and tickets are available at the website www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org or contact Sue Ablett (Festival Chair) by email info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org or 07871 285606.

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 5th May 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:

- **Community Speedwatch**
  The Parish Council are looking for a volunteer to join the community speedwatch programme. All training and equipment will be provided. If you are interested please contact info@offenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

- **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 13th April 2026:

  Application Number - W/26/00675/FUL
  Location - Land Between Hawthorn Villa And 1 Linwood Cottage, Station Road, Offenham
  Description - Erection of two detached 3-bed dwellings

  Application Number - W/26/00715/HP
  Location - Milburgh House, Main Street, Offenham, Evesham, WR11 8QD
  Description - Erection of outbuilding

  The council had no objections to either of these applications.

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 13 May
Women's Group 20 May
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 towards the **KITCHEN EXTENSION**
If you are interested
call Martin on 07986255739

We are pleased to announce the *NEW KITCHEN EXTENSION* will start in July.
The cost of the project is £90,000
Grants have been secured from the
National Lottery Awards for All.
Offenham Parish Council
The Garfield Weston Foundation
We are still waiting confirmation from other grant providers for the £24,000 short fall.
If you would to help raise funds to build this much need improvement to the hall please contact Martin 07986255739
IMPROVING YOUR VILLAGE HALL FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Our Community 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

!!!! *OFFENHAM YOUTH CLUB SAVED!!!!*
We are excited to announce after a successful meeting
The Youth now has a Committee and a list of helpers to take forward into 2027
Plans are taking place to reopen in September
Details to follow shortly
Thank you for your support

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

DROP IN

FREE CUPPA

TOYS ~ MUSIC ~ BABY CHANGING FACILITIES

Interior & exterior decorating

Friendly, Reliable Service that's Fully Insured and Guaranteed

Paper Hanging, Coving, Skirting, Architrave, Dado-fitting, Wooden furniture converted to a superb painted finish and laminate floor fitting.

Free, no obligation, quotes available.

Evening and weekend quoting not a problem! For a free quote call now!

on 01386 830892 or 07818 033081

carl.icke@gmail.com

JCS Motor Engineer

Offering a full range of garage services in Offenham

Servicing, Brakes, Clutches, Diagnostics, Exhausts, Tyres, Timing Belts, Suspension, MOT Preparation and Repairs, Competitive Prices, Free local collection & return.

Over 40 years in the trade!

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

EVERGREEN GARDEN MAINTENANCE

- MOWING
- HEDGE CUTTING
- TREE PRUNING
- TURFING
- GARDEN CLEARANCE

No job too small.

Local references available.

For a free quote please phone

Tony

01386 854797/ 07752 613814

GLASSIER

Windows, Doors
Conservatories
Repairs & Sealed
Units
01905 841900
glassier.co.uk

Marcus Taylor
& Sons
Brickwork, Ground Works
& Maintenance
Digger & Plant Hire Available

- FOOTINGS
- FENCING
- BRICKWORK
- WATER MAINS
- CONCRETING
- SEWER REPAIR

ALL ASPECTS OF BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE WORK UNDERTAKEN

CALL US FOR A QUOTE TODAY

Tel: 01386 423005 Mob: 07776 202359

info@marcustaylorandsons.co.uk
No.4 Three Cocks Lane. Offenham.

We're here so your loved one can stay home, where they want to be. Where things are safe and familiar and they have the best chance to live a full and meaningful life.

Whether it's everyday companionship or everyday errands, Live-in Care or Home Care visits, our highly-trained Care Experts will give your loved one the support they need to live in the place they feel best: home.

See how we can *support you.*

It's good to be *home*

Find out more

Call us on

01386 575800

Or email

worcesterandwychavon@bluebirdcare.co.uk