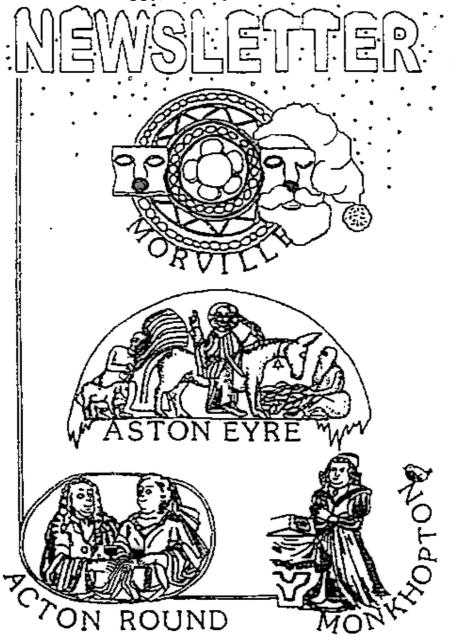
Merry Christmas 2023 and a Happy, Healthy New Year 2024 to All



Morville Church Carol Service Sunday 10th December at 4.00pm

followed by mince pies and mulled wine (note – no service in the morning)

All welcome to join in a service of carols and readings

Letter from Richard, Bishop of Hereford

In court, juries will be suspicious if all the witnesses come up with the same story. Their role is to weigh up accounts to discern where the truth lies. In most situations it's remarkable how diverse people's perceptions of events can be. Such variation adds to the credibility of a story. This is especially true of the Christmas story in the Bible. The events are examined from a variety of angles. Diverse witnesses provided the source material for the Gospel writers to distil their accounts. We have an angle from Kings, Shepherds, and theologians keen to analyse things in the light of what God had already said through prophets hundreds of years previously. In the centre of the story is Mary, the young peasant girl in her teens, who finds herself inexplicably pregnant.

Her response is the exemplar of what it is to be a follower of Jesus. The angel tells her what is about to happen with only the sketchiest discussion of the personal implications. Her response is, "may it be unto me as you have said." Confronted with the reality of God, her answer is, "yes, now what is the question." She is in a long line of heroes of faith who exemplify unconditional obedience. Isaiah, confronted with a vision of God said, "here am I send me." The disciples required just a word from Jesus to leave everything and follow him. St. Paul was struck blind on the road to Damascus and meekly waited for what God was to tell him he must do. We are coming to the end of our year of prayer in the diocese and moving to the year of faith. As we begin that journey together, Mary's, "yes, now what is the question?" is a good place to start. The Gospel was described by Rowan Williams as news not advice. The events of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection stand at the turning point of history inviting us to respond with our own unconditional, "yes!"

Aston Eyre Carol Service Sunday 17th 6.30pm with refreshments **Monkhopton** Carol Service Tuesday 19th 6.00pm

Acton Round Carol Service Thursday 21st 6.00pm refreshments at The Hall

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

the late Mrs Georgina (George) Fullerlove, formerly of Aston House, Morville

BEST WISHES FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

Mrs Pat Rowe of Morville

THANK YOU

Everyone at Morville Church would like to say a big thank you to Mr Andrew Houghton, Consultant General and Vascular Surgeon at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, for his generous donation of a large Christmas tree. Thank you Mr Houghton.

Morville Parish Council

The Parish Council will be holding a session of First Aid and Defibrillator training, arranged by Chris Phillips from 'Heartstart', in Morville Village Hall on Saturday January 27th, at 10am.

It will be free to attend, tea and coffee will be provided, and all parishioners are invited. Booking is necessary, as there is a limit on the number of people that the Village Hall can accommodate – please book your place with Cllr. Lesley Moxon-Jones, 07932 163402, or by email at cllr.lesleymoxon-jones@morville-pc.gov.uk

David Gibson, who has represented Monkhopton Ward on the Parish Council, is moving away from the Parish soon, and has now resigned from the Parish Council. We are very grateful for the work he has done for us, and we wish him well for the future.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on January 8th, in Morville Village Hall. Parishioners are welcome to attend, and there will be an opportunity for public questions at the beginning of the meeting. Please note that this meeting, and the following meeting in March, will start at **6.30 pm**

Pam Yuille's article "Morville Group Parishes Biodiversity Plan" is in this newsletter

		Morville Readers and	Readings for December
December		First Reading	Second Reading
Sun	$3^{\rm rd}$	Isaiah 64: 1-9	Mark 13: 24-end
		(Lucy Thompson)	(Tim Morris)
Sun	10^{th}	Carol Service Readers and	d Readings
Sun	17^{th}	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end	John 1:6-8,19-28
		(Helen Smith)	(Elaine Crisp)
Mon	25 th	Isaiah 52:7-10	John 1: 1-14
		(Hilary Evans)	(Mike Skinner)

Morville W I

Our meeting on Wednesday November 8th saw a change to our usual format, once Gel had welcomed everyone, including those members who had brought a neighbour to the meeting with them, and we had sung a rousing chorus of Jerusalem, we welcomed our speaker for the evening.

Vic Graham who is now a lecturer at Wrexham University, was, until she retired, a Lieutenant Commander in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service. Her talk was entitled "The Biscuit Club". Vic is a brilliant speaker who had the whole room enthralled with her story which focused on her time at Camp Bastion in the Helmand province of Afghanistan and the slides that brought everything vividly to life. This is where "The Biscuit Club" was born. Tea and biscuits is a very British tradition which can often bring people together and provide a little light relief especially in stressful situations.

Following the theme The Committee decided that homemade biscuits were the order of the day and what a marvellous selection were on offer, on the beautifully decorated table that Yvonne and Debbie had created. As always one of our members volunteered to bring flowers for the presidents table and a couple of raffle prizes, which were kindly supplemented this month with M&S cookies brought by Vic.

In December we do not have a meeting but go out for our Christmas meal. This year we are very much looking forward to going to The Asprey in Chelmarsh.

2024 will begin with our meeting on the 10th of January when we will be welcoming Pamela Thom-Rowe whose talk has the intriguing title "Of cider, ghosts and a Ring of Bells - folklore from Morville to Wenlock". Why not come along and see what WI is really all about? Your first "taster" meeting is free and you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Morville WI meet on the second Wednesday of each month at Morville Village Hall, from 7.15pm.

If you would like any further information we can be contacted by e mail at morvillewomensinstitute@gmail.com or check us out on Facebook.

Monkhopton

Monday, 18th December from 2pm onwards we shall be **decorating the church for Christmas**. Please come along and help if you are able.

Mor	ville	Readers	and	Readings	sfor	January	,

Janua	ry	First Reading	Second Reading
Sun	7^{th}	Isaiah 60: 1-6	Matthew 2: 1-12
		(Lucy Thompson)	(Tim Morris)
Sun	14^{th}	Revelation 5: 1-10	John 1: 43-end
		(Louise Shropshire)	(Tim Heatley)
Sun	21^{st}	Revelation 19: 6-10	John 2: 1-11
		(Helen Smith)	(Elaine Crisp)
Sun	28^{th}	Malachi 3: 1-5	Luke 2: 22-40
		(Hilary Evans)	(Mike Skinner)

Morville School News

Even though the dark nights are now drawing ever closer, and the weather has been decidedly gloomy on some days it has not dampened the spirits of the children and staff at Morville CE Primary School.

We may only be in Week 3 of this second half of the Autumn term, but the children have been busy.

Swimming

The children have been making a splash in the local swimming baths the last few weeks, partaking in their first few swimming sessions of the year. We have been very proud of the children's behaviour, conduct and independence in these sessions. Staff have commented on the children's resilience and determination in the session, and they are already progressing quickly.

Music Performances

The Shropshire Music Service joined the school last week for a whole school Live Music Performance of Folk music. The whole school was toe tapping and clapping along and it was wonderful to see the children asking about the range of instruments they brought with them. A lot of the children were excited to talk about music with real musicians on site and the session has really inspired our children to want to explore other types of cultural and traditional music.

The Bridgnorth Sinfonia also provided an exquisite music performance for the whole school with their rendition of 'The Snowman'; the children were in awe of the performance and again it has led to more discussions around music. It was wonderful for staff and children to have these musical enrichments to our curriculum.

Remembrance Day

The children really understood and drove the importance of reflection at Morville with our School Council Year 6 representatives raising money for the Royal British Legion with the Poppy Appeal in preparations for Remembrance Sunday. The school have spoken with the children about the importance of thinking about the people we remember during that two-minute silence. Chestnut Tree class even took time during their outdoor learning sessions to ask staff if they could further this reflection by saying thoughts, prayers and taking an additional two minute silence in the school teepee.

Courageous Advocacy

At Morville Church of England Primary School, we have a developing emphasis on encouraging our pupils to become courageous advocates, not just locally, but nationally and globally.

At some point in life we will all face challenges and need support to help us overcome these barriers. We teach our children that it is important to help others when we can, no matter who they are, where they come from or what challenges they may face. As a regular feature on our own school newsletters, we are working with the children to explore the work of different courageous advocates globally as well as share some of the work our own children are doing. The children of Oak Tree Class have been learning about hedgehogs and, following discussions, wanted to speak up for these creatures and educate our community on what we can all do to keep them safe particularly at this time of year. In the upcoming weeks the children will be sharing these messages through some artwork and you may see some of these in the local community.

Request for support

As I mentioned in the last update school will be holding a Bags 2 School collection on 27th November. Bag2School is a free eco-friendly fundraising scheme that helps schools, businesses, community groups, local councils, and charities raise funds through textile recycling as well as spreading textile recycling awareness. If anyone would like to help by donating any old clothing if you could drop these in tied bin bags to school between Monday 20th November and Friday 24th November in time for our collection, we would be very grateful.

Morville Group Parishes Biodiversity Plan

Parish Councils are encouraged to draw up biodiversity plans and, as I'm volunteer warden of Pam's Pools wildlife reserve www.pamspools.co.uk and have a special interest in this, I'm the councillor engaged in drawing up a draft for our council to vote on.

One plan I'm working on is to improve the "Green Corridor" along Mor Brook, in collaboration with the National Trust, Shropshire Wildlife Trust [SWT], Shropshire Council and other organisations.

It is just possible this could include Natural Flood Management [NFM] although that would be a very long-term project because of the large amount of grant funding needed. SWT's Technical Manager, Land & Water team, says if

enough "flood affected folk" are prepared to attend a public meeting, he is willing to describe how NFM measures have been employed in other areas and advise on setting up a local flood action group and "catchment walkovers".

The Restoring Shropshire Verges Project [RSVP] advises parish councils on liaising with Shropshire Council about the adoption of cutting regimes that are both better for wildlife and actually cheaper long-term than their current practices. RSVP also support parish councils, small groups of residents and local individuals on how to set up verge projects.

See https://middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk/restoring-shropshire-road-verges/ for more details.

I've just been approached by one group who want to "adopt a verge" and would welcome more such interested groups or individuals.

I'll also gladly discuss biodiversity suggestions of any kind with parishioners – hedges, trees, wildflowers, ponds or watercourses.

Pam Yuille 07793939291 pamela.yuille@doctors.org.uk

Anyone for Chess?

Would anyone in the Aston Eyre/Morville area be interested in the occasional game of chess? Nothing serious, and either meeting at the Acton Arms, or else at my house in Aston Eyre.

If so please contact Geoff at: 07968 726715 geoffkayson@me.com

Services for December 2023 and January 2024

MORVILLE

Decemb	er 2023		
Sun	$3^{\rm rd}$	11.15am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
Sun	10 th	4.00pm	Carol Service (JP) with refreshments
Sun	$17^{\rm th}$	11.15am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
Mon	18 th	2.30pm	Morville School Carol Service
Mon	25 th	11.00am	Christmas Day Holy Communion (SB)
January Sun Sun Sun Sun	2024 7 th 14 th 21 st 28 th	11.15am 11.15am 11.15am 11.15am	Morning Prayer (Lay) Morning Prayer (JP) Morning Prayer (Lay) Holy Communion (JD)

MONKHOPTON

Decembra Sun Tues	3 rd 19 th	10.00am 6.00pm	Morning Prayer (Lay) Carol Service
January Sun	7 2024 7 th	10.00am	Holy Communion (FG)

ASTON EYRE

Decen	nber 2023		
Sun	$10^{\rm th}$	10.00am	Morning Prayer (JP)
Sun	17 th	6.30pm	Carol Service (JP) with refreshments
Sun	24^{th}	10.00am	Christmas Eve Morning Prayer (Lay)
_	2024		
Januar			
Sun	14 th	10.00am	Morning Prayer (JP)
Sun	28^{th}	10.00am	Holy Communion (JD)

ACTON ROUND

December 202	23	
Sun 10 th	10.00am	Holy Communion and Baptism (DC)
Thurs 21st	6.00pm	Carol Service (Lay) Refreshments at The Hall
January 2024		
Sun 7 th	10.00am	Morning Prayer (Lay)

Morville, Acton Round, Aston Eyre, Monkhopton and Upton Cressett Parish Council

NOTICE UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 (Section 87(2)) VACANCY FOR A COUNCILLOR PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that a casual vacancy has occurred in the office of Councillor for Monkhopton Parish, following the resignation on 13th November 2023 of Councillor David Gibson.

Rule 5(2) of The Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules, 2006 now applies.

The rule allows **TEN ELECTORS** for the parish [ward] in which the casual vacancy has arisen to request the Returning Officer to hold an election to fill the vacancy.* That request must be made within **FOURTEEN DAYS**, calculated in accordance with the rules,** of the date of this notice.

The fourteen-day period ends on 8th December 2023.

What if a request to hold an election is not received during the permitted time?

Rule 5(5) of the above Rules will apply. The Parish Council must, as soon as practicable after the expiry of the fourteen-day period, co-opt a person to fill the vacancy.

The Returning Officer's address is:

Electoral Services, Shropshire Council,

The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 6ND

The telephone number for further guidance is 0345 678 9015.

This notice is dated 20th November 2023

Sarah D Skurr, Clerk to Morville Parish Council, clerk@morville-pc.gov.uk, 07851 677084

Note: Clerk covers all grouped parishes listed at the top of this notice

- * There is no form of words for this request, which might simply be a letter headed with such words as "We the undersigned being electors for the [Ward of] ... Parish, call for an election to fill the vacancy arising from the [death][resignation] of ...". A template entitled "Request for an Election" is available to download from Shropshire Council's website www.shropshire.gov.uk under "Current Council Vacancies". It is helpful if the ten signatures are accompanied by printed names and addresses.
- ** In calculating the notice period, day one is the day following the date of this notice; a Saturday, Sunday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a Bank Holiday or day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning shall be <u>disregarded</u>, and the period closes at midnight on the fourteenth day after the date of this notice. Rule 5(2) of The Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules, 2006 now applies.

<u>CLERGY</u> In the vacancy (the period of time between vicars) all enquiries about church services should be addressed to the church office at St Leonard's Hall church on Racecourse Drive, or to the church wardens of each parish.

ORGANIST MRS ALISON FOXALL 01746 761820
BELL TOWER CAPTAIN MR IAN ROWE 01746 714357
BRIDGNORTH TEAM SECRETARY 01746 767174

<u>CHURCH WARDENS</u> <u>P.C.C. SECRETARIES</u>

MORVILLE

MRS J BRICK MRS H SMITH

MR T HEATLEY

<u>MONKHOPTON</u>

MR T FELLOWS MRS G GIBSON

MR E PUGH

ACTON ROUND

MR T KENNEDY MRS J MADELEY

MRS B CHAPPUIS

ASTON EYRE

MR W WINTON MRS M BROWNING

MR D JENKINS

MORVILLE C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

EXEC. HEAD TEACHER MRS CLAIRE GASKIN 01746 714219

MORVILLE VILLAGE HALL

SECRETARY ELAINE CRISP 01746 714516

BOOKINGS MRS S DANGERFIELD 07821 003608

CHAIRMAN

CLERK TO MORVILLE P C SARAH SKURR 07851 677084

MORVILLE W I (SEC) MRS BEVERLY DOGGETT 01746 714322

POLICE ring 999 (emergency) or 101 (non urgent) CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111

All views represent the opinion of the authors and the information contained in the Newsletter is provided purely for information purposes and is provided "as is" without warranty either expressed or implied.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR & ADVERTS MRS C SKINNER Tel: 714285 COPY FOR THE NEWSLETTER MAY BE SENT TO THE EDITOR:

e-mail Carol Skinner at Newsletter@Morville.org.uk
BEFORE 25th OF THE MONTH

or by post to: PARK GRANGE, MORVILLE, BRIDGNORTH, WV16 4RN

Which New Year?

New Year's Day is January 1st isn't it?

Well, until 1582 the whole of Europe celebrated it on March 25th but then most countries adopted January 1st, following the Romans. Most countries, that is, except for Great Brutain, which waited until 1752.

Various religions keep different dates; Jewish New Year occurs on the first day of the month Tishri, varying between September 6^{th} and October 5^{th} . The Chinese New Year varies between January 20^{th} and February 20^{th} and Muslims reckon time by a year of 354 or 355 days, so their New Year is always changing. Hindu New Year or Vikram Samvat is celebrated by millions of Hindus worldwide every year on 22nd March.

Anne's Household Cleaning Services

Let me take care of your household chores
Regular or one-off clean when you need a helping hand
Ironing service available, collection and delivery

01746 714156

MIKE PAINTER HOME AND GARDEN RENOVATIONS

Decorating/Renovations/Repairs inside and out
Preparing your house for sale or need the garden tidying?
Services include Painting - Plumbing - Kitchen/Bathroom fitting
Carpentry - Guttering - Fencing - Hedge cutting - Grounds maintenance.....
and much more!

*No fee, no-obligation visit, quotation provided

* High quality results at reasonable rates.

Contact Mike Painter

07581077849 or mike4mpfltd@yahoo.co.uk

BEGINNERS BALLROOM SEQUENCE DANCING

A fun way to enter the world of ballroom! at CHETTON VILLAGE HALL starting on Tuesday 14th November 7pm to 8.30 pm £5 per person or 5 lessons for £20 For more information please contact Angie and Gerry Moore

01746 789430

RICHARD WAIN PAINTER & DECORATOR 01746 789372

RIDGE FUELS LTD Coal, Logs & Gas Bottles
ALL FUELS INC SMOKELESS. FREE
DELIVERY 01743 241122 www.ridgefuels.co.uk

LUXURY, SIZE-INCLUSIVE BRIDALWEAR 1-2-1 PRIVATE APPTS 07815550330 bridesview@outlook.com

TIM F VAUGHAN, NEW & USED AGRIC. MACHINERY BOUGHT & SOLD 01746 714221 or 07966 219755

PEST CONTROL. JOHN SEDGWICK MOLES+ OTHER RURAL PESTS 01746 716451 or 07971 694005

ANDY'S GARDENING SERVICES GENERAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE FENCING MOWING 01746 714081

MOWER MEC SALES-SERVICE-PARTS-REPAIRS BRIDGNORTH 01746 761731

R. Cooper, Bridgnorth. 07864853282 Brickwork, Building, Property Maintenance, Fibreglass flat roofing, Traditional Roofing

NORTHWOOD & SONS Funeral Directors Pre-paid Plans info@northwoodfunerals.co.uk Andrew Woodhouse 01952 727248

PUGH'S FEEDS FOR MASSEY BROS BULK& BAGGED FEED for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY & GAME 01746 789403

BRIGGSTHOMAS ENGINEERING LTD Agri Repairs, Machinery & Trailer Sales 01746712217 / 07868440423 DRY LOGS DELIVERED LOCALLY RAYMOND BASON, TEL. 01746 785009 AND 07773552457

GILL HOWARD Contemporary Silver Jewellery www.gillhoward.com

NFU Mutual Bridgnorth Agency Motor, Home, Business, Farm, Equine, Travel, Life Insurance, 01746 763198

Jake Broster Valeting Professional Valeting & Detailing Contact: 07534367683

TELE - SATT AERIALS LTD Chris Burroughs 01746 767381 07988 539200

GOLDEN HANDS DOMESTIC CLEANING SERVICE / IRONING / CARE 01746 714114 or 07875 555940

MUCKLEY FARM STORAGE, FOR ALL YOUR STORAGE NEEDS. LIGHT TRANSIT REMOVAL VAN AVAILABLE 01746 714114

MEAT AT KEITH'S (ALDERSON) 12 SYDNEY COTTAGE DRIVE BRIDGNORTH 01746 766112

THE WOODBERRY INN 01746 762950 SEASONAL LOCAL PRODUCE, REAL ALES enquiries@thewoodberryinn.co.uk

BEAUTY BENEFITS THE ART OF LOOKING GOOD BRIDGNORTH 01746 768035

MAWS GALLERY
PROFESSIONAL PICTURE FRAMERS
01952 588855 www.maws-gallery.co.uk

CARAVAN STORAGE at Weston Indoors & Secure 07932163402 lesleyvandyke@gmail.com 01746 785630 ASJ PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES Gas, Oil & LPG Andy Jennings 07710 793683

PETER FOLLETTE
PAINTER & DECORATOR
01746 761843 & 07889 750532

GARDEN MACHINERY; SERVICE & REPAIRS.BRIDGNORTH & DISTRICT PHIL ELLIS TEL. 07752 137251

MARTIN REIDY 01746 785313 / 07815567877 e-mail mortmartreidy@gmail.com KITCHENS BATHROOMS AND BUILDING WORK

EMPIRE PLUMBINGGAS & 0IL SERVICES L.P.G & HETAS STOVE INSTALLER PAUL GAMSTON 07833101269 BROWNS PLANT HIRE & GROUNDWORKS browns.westfarm@gmail.com
or 07949 126516

RICH EVANS 07539257004

Shepherds Huts, Glamping pods, Rustic Garden furniture. Garden Rooms, Pergolas and much more!

BALANCED HEALTH with HOMEOPATHY
Anne-Marie Shilling, Ditton Priors 07854 779256
ams.homeopathy21@gmail.com
M J S WINDOW CLEANING
01746 767188 Mobile 07795594598
ALL AREAS COVERED

FRENCH TUITION EXPERIENCED TEACHER GCSE, A LEVEL Sarah Brentnall 07968624443