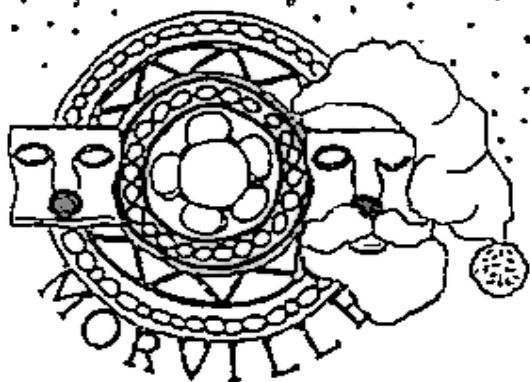


Merry Christmas 2025
and a Happy, Healthy New Year 2026 to All

NEWSLETTER



Carol Services

St Gregory's, Morville

Sunday 14th December at 4pm, followed by mince pies and mulled wine. Please come along to join a service of Christmas Carols and Readings, led by Anna Chaplain Jane Peeler. (There will be **no service** at 11.15am on that day)

Monday 15th December at 2.30pm, Morville School Carols by Candlelight

Aston Eyre

Sunday, 21st December at 6.30pm , led by Mrs Jane Peeler (See invitation on page 4)

Acton Round

Sunday, 21st December at 6pm (with refreshments), led by Rev'd Vickie Dunlop

Monkhopton

Tuesday, 23rd December at 6pm (with refreshments), led by Rev'd Vickie Dunlop

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Christmas Day at St Gregory's , Morville

11.15am

Holy Communion for all the family, led by Rev'd Simon Boxall

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Sunday 7th December - There will be no service at Morville Church on Sunday 7th December as all the Morville parish congregations are invited to attend the Licensing Service for Rev Suzan Williams, currently Priest in Charge of the benefice, who is to be appointed Rector of Bridgnorth and Morville Parishes Benefice. The Licensing Service will be at St Marys Church, Bridgnorth at 10.30am on 7th December.

**WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PEACEFUL
NEW YEAR FROM EVERYONE
AT MORVILLE CHURCH**

Village Hall News

As we reach the end of 2025, we'd like to say a big thank you to all our regular subscribers and everyone who booked us for an event or donated funds.

Moving into 2026 we do still have sessions available, so if you know anyone looking for a venue for a group or event, please contact Sarah Dangerfield at

morvillevillagehall@gmail.co.uk

or tel: 07793 156645

Morville WI

As we always do, after our president had welcomed everyone to the meeting, we stood to sing Jerusalem.

It was then on to business for the evening which included our treasurer's annual report carried forward from last month's AGM. It was good to hear that Morville WI now has 37 paid up members, and that the programme for next year has now been finalised.

In a change to our usual meeting format, we then proceeded to have supper. Some delicious sandwiches and cake were provided by Corinne, Heather, Jo & Rose, all washed down with a nice cup of tea.

When everything was cleared away it was onto the eagerly awaited craft activities. Beverley and Yvonne B had worked really hard preparing and organising everything for us to make a chocolate wreath, and a Christmas lantern from a re-cycled jam jar.

We all had great fun with glue, epsom salts, string, bits of greenery and berries for the lanterns which we lit with strings of lights or tealights. Then it was onto creating our chocolate wreath with cellophane, Lindor chocolates (other chocolates could be used!), string, ribbon and little bells.

The evening was a great success with everyone helping everyone else & so happy with their makes.

If you would like to see what WI is all about, we are always delighted to welcome visitors, and the first meeting is free. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at Morville Village Hall, from 7.15pm.

Our meetings have a speaker or activity, supper, a raffle, a competition and sales table each month.

You can just turn up on the night or if you would like any further information we can be contacted by e mail at morvillewomensinstitute@gmail.com or check us out on Facebook.

Next month we are looking forward to going to The Gaskell in Much Wenlock for our Christmas meal, but we will be back at the Village Hall on Wednesday 14th January.

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

the late Mr Bob Browning of Aston Eyre

BEST WISHES TO:

Anna Chaplain Jane Peeler, for her 3-month sabbatical

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

the owner of Brides View for winning her category in the West Midlands regional heat of the Wedding Industry Awards and all good wishes for the national finals in London

THANK YOU TO:

Mr Eric Bunning, who has retired after almost 50 years of cutting the hedges at Morville Church and...

Thank you to Mr John Cantrill for cutting the hedges this season

*Parish Church of Aston Eyre
Carol Service*



Sunday 21st December 2025 6.30 pm

*The PCC warmly invites everyone to join us in church as we celebrate the good
news of
Jesus' birth.*

*Following the service by kind invitation of Debbie and David we will all gather for
refreshments at
West Farm
(just across the road from the church)*

Morville School News

Hello from the Morville school family.

Our whole school had an exciting start to this half term with all classes going on their school trips. Oak Tree class and Birch Tree class had lots of fun den building and orienteering at Edgmond Hall and the children all enjoyed the beautiful woodlands and searching the gardens using a giant map. Chestnut Tree class kick-started their new topic with a trip to Birmingham Botanical Gardens where they wowed their workshop leader with their knowledge of the rainforest! The children had opportunity to see some real-life rainforest plants and learn how they have adapted to their unique environment.

There have also been lots of exciting performances organised for the children. In November the Bridgnorth Sinfonia came in with their Performance of Pirates and Sorcerers and in December the whole school will be walking to Morville Village Hall for the pantomime, The Suitcase Storytellers Christmas Adventures.

In **Oak Tree class** this half term the topic is Twinkly Lights and Gloomy Nights. The children are enjoying learning all about different festivals celebrated at this time of year. The children began the term by learning all about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot. They had great fun in their role play as plotters creating their own giant fuse to the gunpowder which snaked around their entire classroom.

The children became history detectives by finding out about life and religion during the Stuart era and created a timeline showing the events of the gunpowder plot. They are also enjoying learning how music and movement are used to celebrate the festivals of Diwali, Hanukkah, Kwanza and Christmas. The children will finish the term by learning about the true meaning of Christmas and will explore different Christmas traditions, including participating in their Christmas nativity.

In **Birch Tree Class** the children have been busy being amazing map makers. The children learnt to name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom. Following this they learnt to use simple compass directions to describe the location of features and routes on a map. They then learnt to draw human and physical features on a sketch map and investigated local habitats before learning all about the oceans of the world. Alongside their map work in Geography the children have been using their creativity to represent maps in different ways. They began by investigating maps as a stimulus for drawing and used these to create an abstract composition. The children will finish the term by creating their own felt maps and designing a printing tile of their map.

In **Chestnut Tree Class** as well as learning all about the Rainforest the children have been very excited to have taken part in a brand-new sign language course called 'The School of Signs'. They were recruited as secret agents into 'Covert Learning and School Surveillance' to learn a special spy language – British Sign Language. The course was an online course and delivered by deaf teachers which involved the children using their new BSL skills to solve lots of interactive quizzes and puzzles. The children and staff have all really enjoyed being secret agents!

Finally, we are all looking forward to ending this term with our wonderful Christmas performances. The children in Oak Tree class and Birch Tree class will be performing their Christmas Nativity, 'Knock Knock', at Morville Village Hall and Chestnut Tree class will be performing their traditional Carol concert at Morville Church. The children always make us extremely proud with their singing and performing and it will certainly help us all get in the Christmas spirit!

We look forward to sharing more about the school and the children's learning with you in the next issue and wish you all a happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Miss Docherty and Mrs Billington

Morville Parish Council

Road Safety and Biodiversity issues were discussed at the Parish Council Meeting on 10.11.2025:

The parish council has received reports that the Speed Indicator Device installed at the Bridgnorth end of Morville has successfully reduced traffic speeds. Our second SID was fortunately delivered just before the company we had bought it from went into receivership. The site for its installation at Weston has been identified and the next step is to get a suitable post erected for it. Once this SID has been installed, we will try and erect a similar post at the Much Wenlock end of Morville, where speeding traffic is still an issue. This may prove more difficult as the only possible site is at a location where there may well be underground structures. It was therefore agreed to go for the easier option first.

Cllr Pam Yuille and James Lawrence of the National Trust responded to Shropshire Council's Local Nature Recovery Strategy Survey by making the case for the A458 and the Mor Brook Catchment being included in Shropshire's obligatory 30% Biodiversity area by 2030. Pam will report the outcome once Shropshire Council have published it.

A premature verge cut by Shropshire Council and then the drought resulted in Pam only needing to carry out one volunteer litter pick followed by a "cut and collect" in 2025 and so we only spent £1,500 out of the £4,500 [for three cuts] allocated for our Restore Shropshire Verges Project between Morville and Muckley Cross along the A458.

She proposed that the unspent £3,000 be rolled over to augment the environmental maintenance sum that we will be requesting for 2026/27 and we will be voting on this at our next council meeting. If agreed, it will allow for up to 3 cut & collects next year plus paying for litter-pickers before each cut if volunteers cannot be recruited.

Pam will continue to lead the litter-picking, and be responsible for supplying equipment, signage, risk assessments etc. The single litter-pick this year took her and seven other volunteers 2½ hours, a total of 20 hours work. Volunteers for next year would mean savings of up to £1000 which could then be spent on other environmental work. Anyone willing to volunteer or who has an environmental issue to report, please contact her on pamyuille@gmail.com or phone/text 07793939291.

Information about our council can be found on www.morville-pc.gov.uk and on Facebook: Morville Parish Council.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 12th January at 7.00pm at Morville Village Hall.

Dean's Letter

Not Christmas.

I'm not going to wish you a merry Christmas even though this is technically my last opportunity before the great day to infest the whole diocese with my festive cheer, at least in print. Please understand that it isn't that I DON'T wish you a blessed and happy Christmas – that would be unusual and distinctly unclerical, (not to mention untrue). But as I write this, the thoughtful season of advent has not even begun – the time when we God-Botherers ponder how much we need a Saviour – so I don't want to ho ho ho at you just yet. I do hope that despite the chill in the air caused by national and global events you will avail yourselves when the time comes of all the hope and joy that your local church and community can muster.

Advent is about looking at ourselves and at the world and realising just how much we need a Saviour. Christmas would be pointless if we didn't - just a marketing ploy cooked up by sellers of toys, perfumes and frozen party nibbles to get us all to spend as much money as possible. Let's face it, if a fire engine screeched to a halt outside your house with sirens blaring and blue lights flashing you might wonder what it was doing there if your house was not on fire. You might be mildly interested but you would hardly celebrate your salvation! In the same way the baby whose birth we celebrate on Christmas Day and who we hail as Saviour is similarly baffling and underwhelming if you cannot see anything that we need saving from!

Sometimes it seems easier to believe in evil than in God. But if you do believe that evil exists – if you see it in all its brutality in our daily news, if it touches you in grief, fear, loneliness, hatred, jealousy- then you may dimly begin to understand why we need our Saviour. If you look at the impact on individuals of national, international and corporate greed then you may begin to understand why we need our Saviour. If you look at the wars devastating communities across the globe you will understand why we need our Saviour. If you dare to look into the devices and desires of your own heart you may begin to ruefully understand why you need a Saviour.

Perhaps deep inside we all vaguely sense the need for a Saviour because we can all see what is wrong. It is only a step- a stride admittedly- from faintly sensing the need for a Saviour to considering that salvation might come from God and not human endeavour and then another step again to truly recognizing Him from the Christmas story repeated every year for 2 millennia by those persistent folk in the churches and deliciously enacted by our tiny children with tea towels on their heads.

The Very Revd Sarah Brown

Dean of Hereford

Message from a passer by:



‘Many people pass up and down the Craven Arms Road. Through the banner, they see the Good Lord lives in Aston Eyre, even if they do not go to church. The publicity nature of the message it gives is tremendous. Well done to those over many years who promote the Lord’s presence in Aston Eyre.’ **Chris Magnet**

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

MORVILLE

Sun	14 th	4.00pm	Carol Service (JP) Refreshments
Mon	15 th	2.30pm	Morville School Carols by Candlelight
Sun	21 st	11.15am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
Thurs	25 th	11.15am	Christmas Day Holy Communion (SB)

ASTON EYRE

Sun	14 th	10.00am	Morning Prayer (JP)
Sun	21 st	6.30pm	Carol Service (JP) Refreshments

MONKHOPTON

Tues	23 rd	6.00pm	Carol Service (VD) Refreshments
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ACTON ROUND

Sun	14 th	10.00am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
Sun	21 st	6.00pm	Carol Service (VD) Refreshments

SERVICES FOR JANUARY

MORVILLE

Sun	4 th	11.15am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
Sun	11 th	11.15am	Morning Prayer (VD) Refreshments
Sun	18 th	11.15am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
Sun	25 th	11.15am	Holy Communion (SB) Refreshments

MONKHOPTON

Sun	4 th	10.00am	Morning Prayer (Lay)
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ASTON EYRE

Sun	11 th	10.00am	Morning Prayer (VD)
Sun	25 th	10.00am	Holy Communion (SB)

ACTON ROUND

Sun	11 th	10.00am	Holy Communion (SW)
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Morville Readers and Readings for December

	First Reading	Second Reading
Sun 14 th	Carol Service Readers and Readings	
Sun 21 st	Isaiah 7: 10-16 (Tim Morris)	Matthew 1: 18-end (Elaine Crisp)
Wed 25 th	Isaiah 52: 7+10 (Readers for Christmas Day)	John 1:1-14

Morville Readers and Readings for January

	First Reading	Second Reading
Sun 4 ^h	Isaiah 60: 1-8 (Alison Foxall)	Matthew 2: 1-12 (Helen Smith)
Sun 11 th	Isaiah 42: 1-9 (Louise Shropshire)	Matthew 3:13-end (Tim Heatley)
Sun 18 th	1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (Tim Morris)	John 1:29-42 (Elaine Crisp)
Sun 25 th	Acts 9:1-22 (Hilary Evans)	Matthew 19: 27-end (Mike Skinner)

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(Sun 1 st Feb.	Malachi 3: 1-5	Luke 2: 22-40)
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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.

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COPY FOR THE NEWSLETTER MAY BE SENT TO THE EDITOR:

**e-mail Carol Skinner at Newsletter@Morville.org.uk
BEFORE 24th OF THE MONTH**

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

Food Bank Collection Box

A collection box has been placed in Morville Church Porch.

All donations gratefully received and will be gifted to Bridgnorth Food Bank.

Regrettably no fresh, perishable or packaged produce. Tins and jars only please.

Thank you!

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