

Trips out with a religious connection
A selection of churches within a 10-mile radius of Worcester



Martin at All Saints' Church, Spetchley Park, Worcester.

Day One itinerary – north and west of Worcester

Magda and I booked an overnight stay at the Premier Inn on Junction 7 of the M5 at Worcester, in order to visit churches located around the periphery of the city.



We began the day due north of Worcester at St John the Baptist, Claines; continuing to St Philip and St James Hallow; then to Christ Church Lower Broadheath and St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas, then visited Brockhampton Estate; and concluded with St Leonard's, Cotheridge on our route back to the Premier Inn.



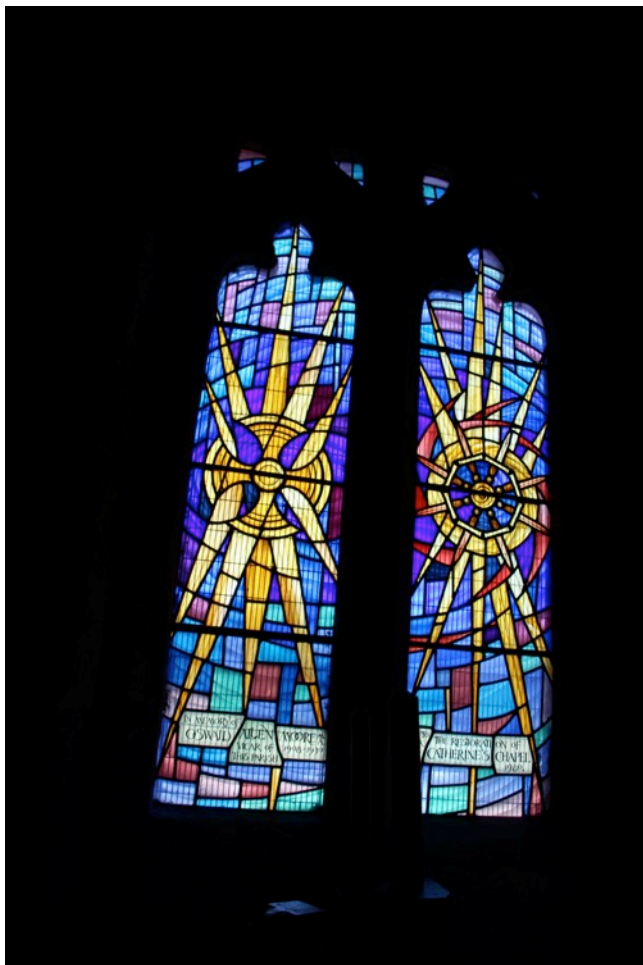
The beautiful lych gate at St John the Baptist, Claines.



A beautiful mosaic depicting the 'Tree of Jesse' (relating Jesus's lineage) at St John the Baptist, Claines.



The East window and altar at St John the Baptist, Claines



The striking Millennium Window at St John the Baptist, Claines.

Our second visit on Day One was to St Philip and St James at Hallow, to the west of Claines.



St Philip and St James, Hallow.



The superb reredos at St Philip and St James, Hallow by R Boulton; made from alabaster and marble. Crucifixion scene beneath a highly ornate vaulted canopy, surmounted by angels.



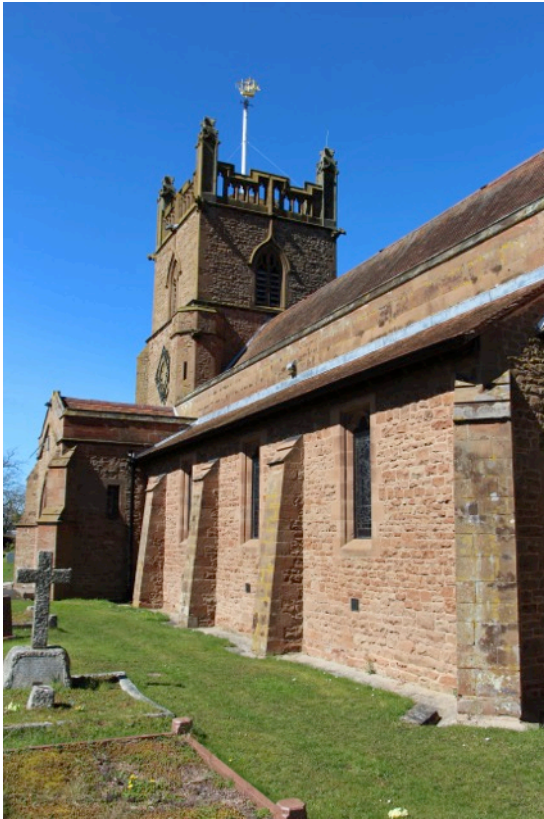
The altar and reredos, which depicts the crucifixion scene.



A beautiful display of Eastertide flowers at St Philip and St James, Hallow.

Continuing further westwards, after St Philip and St James, Hallow, we visited **Christ Church, Lower Broadheath.**

Alas it turned out to be our first disappointment of the day, as it was closed.



Christ Church, Lower Broadheath was closed when we called.

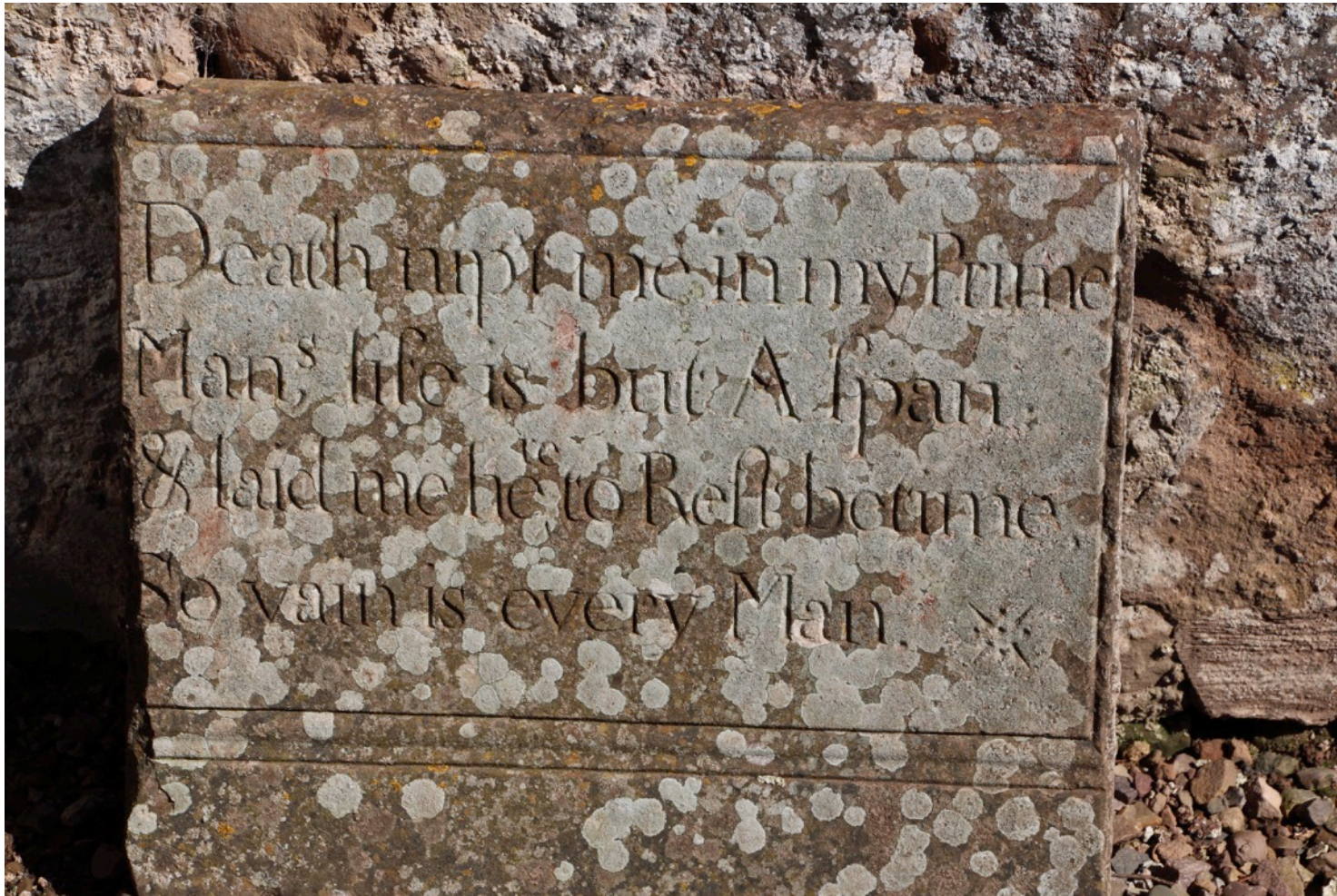
Moving in a westerly direction, we came to our next church on Day One, which was the **Church of St Mary Magdalene in Broadwas**, which looked spectacular from the outside.



The spectacularly beautiful and original design of the weatherboarded tower at St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas.



Unusual patterned woodwork in the porchway at St Mary Madgalene, Broadwas. The side spaces are glazed and etched.



An epitaph on a gravestone at St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas: 'Death nipped me in my prime; Man's Life is but a Span; and laid me here to rest betime; So Vain is every man'.



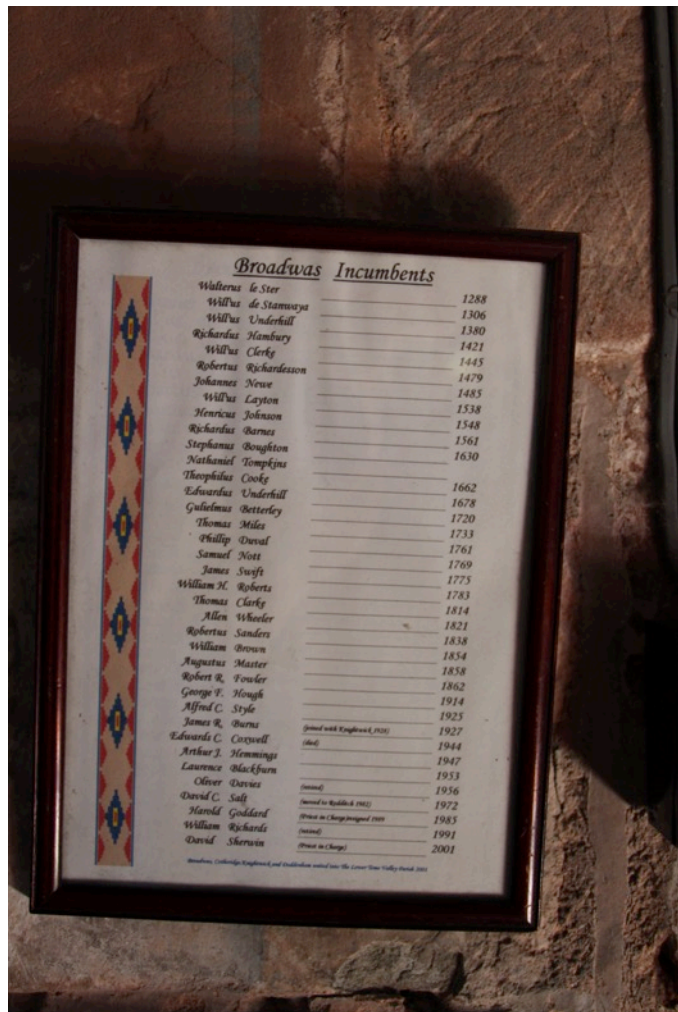
The extraordinary roofwork construction at St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas.



St Mary Magdalene to whom the church is dedicated, kisses the foot of Jesus, a reredos in the Lady Chapel.



A view from the altar - the nave and ceiling at St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas.



A beautifully inscribed list of Broadwas incumbents goes back to the year 1288.

Having visited four churches in an afternoon we decided to vary our trip with a visit to Brockhampton Estate. We'd ended up here on a previous churches tour - but it was well worth another visit on a glorious Spring day.



The National Trust property was bathed in glorious sunshine – the Gatehouse and Manor House at Brockhampton.



The abandoned Saxon Church on the Brockhampton Estate.

Having enjoyed the beautiful Brockhampton estate, we turned east towards our hotel near the M5 motorway at Junction 6. The last church we visited on Day One of our tour of churches around Worcester was **St Leonard's in Cotheridge**.



Another weatherboarded tower at St Leonard's, Cotheridge.



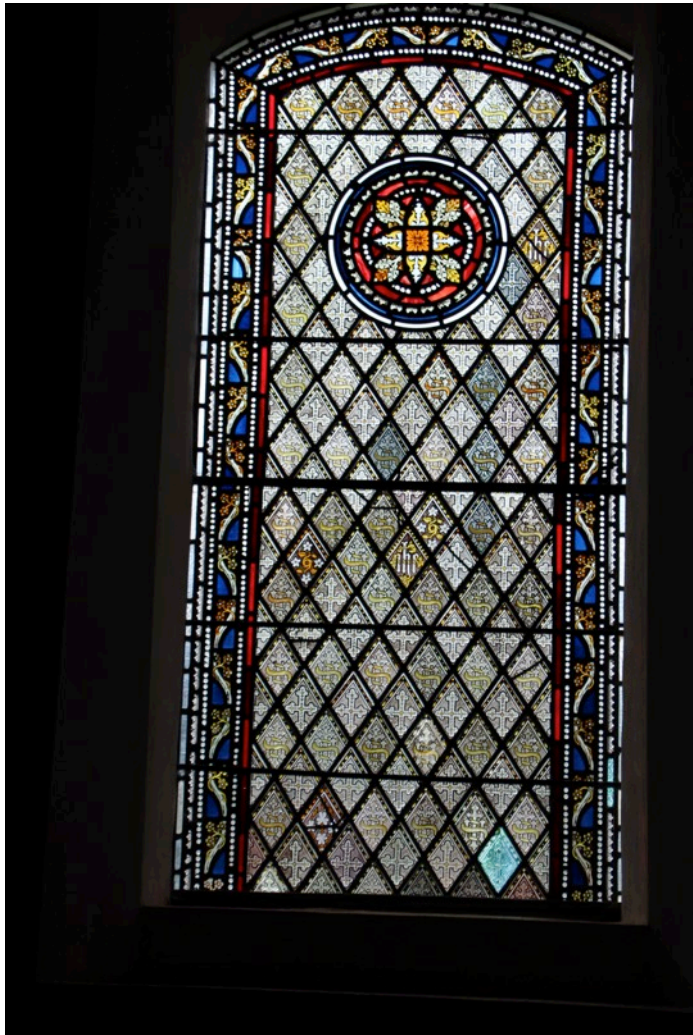
The beautiful weathered oak doorway to the porch at St Leonard's, Cotheridge.



The East Window and altar at St Leonard's, Cotheridge.



Old box pews at St Leonard, Cotheridge.



A beautifully ornate window at St Leonard's Cotheridge.



A wheeled coffin bier acts as a stand for church information at St Leonard's, Cotheridge.



A pulpit with sounding board above at St Leonard's Cotheridge.

We made our way to the Worcester Premier Inn at Junction 6 of the M5 at the end of day one of our tour of the churches around the periphery of Worcester.



The end of Day One – the Premier Inn at Junction 6 of the M5.

Martin and Magda Jones

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Version 1 – more detail on the featured churches to follow.