

JULY/AUGUST 2020



SERVING THE PARISHES OF

ALL SAINTS'
Baschurch

HOLY TRINITY
Weston Lullingfields

ST MARY'S
Hordley

50p
Per issue

BIBLE READINGS FOR SUNDAYS

JULY

5th – Zechariah 9:9-12 or Romans 7:15-25a

Gospel - Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-end

12th-Isaiah 55:10-13 or Romans 8:1-11

Gospel – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

19th– Isaiah 44:6-8 or Romans 8:12-25

Gospel – Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

26th – 1 Kings 3:5-12 or Romans 8:26-end

Gospel – Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

AUGUST

2nd – Isaiah 55:1-5 or Romans 9:1-5

Gospel – Matthew 14:13-21

9th – 1 Kings 19:9-18 or Romans 10:5-15

Gospel – Matthew 14:22-33

16th – Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 or Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Gospel – Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

23rd – Isaiah 51:1-6 or Romans 12:1-8

Gospel – Matthew 16:13-20

30th – Jeremiah 15:15-21 or Romans 12:9-end

Gospel – Matthew 16:21-end

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	2
THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE	4
RE-OPENING OF CHURCHES.....	6
THE BISHOP'S PASTORAL LETTER.....	8
BASCHURCH NEWS.....	10
LIFE UNDER LOCKDOWN	12
SHAVUOT	14
HORDLEY NEWS	16
CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE.....	17
CROSSWORD.....	18
REBECCA'S BLOG	20
PREVIOUS ARTICLES REPRINTED	22-27
INDEX OF ADVERTISERS	37
WHO'S WHO	38
MOUSE MAKES.....	39

Pages 22 to 27 are reproduced from the May and June issues for the benefit of those readers who were unable to read them on the Baschurch website.

SUBMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE

Please send your stories, pictures or notices for the next issue by

15th AUGUST 2020

to: **churchfamilynews@gmail.com**

Front cover: a bluetit feeding her young in the nest.

Photograph by Anita Weeks

THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

I hope and pray that you are all still keeping well. It now feels such a long time since we met but you have certainly not been forgotten. Deborah and myself, along with the pastoral team and various other members of each of the three churches have been trying to keep in touch by ringing those of you for whom we have contact details. I know there are some of you I've certainly not managed to catch up with, some because I have no telephone number and others I have tried but you've been out, I suspect tending your gardens and enjoying the lovely weather we've had, apart from the last few days that is. Others of you I've seen as I've been out on the daily deliveries from Spar and it's been good to stop and chat albeit from a distance.

I do hope and pray that no one feels they have been forgotten, but I recognize that it is possible, but not intentional.

Apart from gardening though I wonder what has kept you busy and occupied whilst you have been unable to go out? I hear some people have been decorating and others trying out new crafts, some even finishing projects started long ago – I'm afraid to say I haven't yet managed to complete my long since started new stole. Other people have been learning new languages, including sign language. This time of isolation, whilst frustrating for some has been a real gift to others, but whatever you've been doing I think we will all emerge having discovered or learnt something new, even if it's just the fact we dislike not being able to go out. Whatever you discover, take the time to reflect on it and what difference it has or could have on your life going forward.

Obviously this time of lockdown has brought for some a time of sadness and distress as they been unable to say goodbye to loved ones or even see them in their last days. This is very painful and the things we normally seek or do for comfort we've been unable to do. So I'd like to share with you a poem that I wrote to help me when I was going through a difficult and very sad time in my life.

Aching, yearning, will it ever stop?
Pain, often ignored,
So intense, real, paralyzing,
Yet invisible to the naked eye.

Draining, crushing, life stilling,
The world's end
No beat, no colour,
No music or laughter, just tears.

Eating away from inside,
A silent killer,
No mercy, no reprieve,
Just darkness, and nothing!

And yet there is light!
A God in who we trust,
Who experienced pain
And fought the tears.

A God of love and peace,
Who cares,
Who comforts,
Who is faithful.

A creator God
Who lives, redeems,
Who rescues,
Who breathes new life.

We've all been mourning, for lost lives, our freedom and the things we once took for granted. But there is light; the gradual lifting of the lockdown, the chance to create new bubbles and see loved ones, the re-opening of shops and various amenities. There is light in the things we've learnt, the things we've achieved that might never have happened, and the coming together of communities as they've looked out and cared for each other. In all of this, both the darkness and the light God has been with us. God is faithful, God is the Creator and when His creation hurts, God hurts. But God loves us and God breathes new life into His creation. His world will emerge, not the same, but transformed and more beautiful through His love and the power of the Holy Spirit working in us His children.

Wherever we are, whether together or in isolation, God is with us and God hears us. I pray this brings you peace, comfort and strength as we continue on this journey together.

With my love & continued prayers,

Linda

Re-Opening of Churches

You will have seen or heard that churches now have permission to be open, for the time being this is only for private prayer. Services of worship will continue as they are via the Facebook Page for All Saints'.

To enable us to open for private prayer there are various things that need to happen to keep us all safe and well. This includes a deep clean of our church buildings and measures to maintain social distancing once you enter the building. We are busy working on these measures as I write this. Once the PCCs have approved the Risk Assessments that we are required to have and the cleaning has taken place we will let you know when you can visit. It is likely that the churches, which have chosen to open, will open for 2 hours on 2 days, with a gap of 72 hours between days. This is the time it takes for the virus to cease being active on surfaces. There will be someone on duty in the open churches who will tell you where to go to pray and who will clean after each person has visited.

Please observe the signs and sanitize your hands on entering and leaving. Hand sanitizer will be readily available.

If you are suffering from any symptoms of the virus you are please asked not to attend. It is also advised that those who are clinically vulnerable remain at home.

Please do not attend the church building for any other reason than to pray.

It is hoped that All Saints' Baschurch and St. Mary's Hordley will open week commencing Monday 29th June. The actual days and times are still to be decided. We will email those for whom we have email addresses and the dates and times will be announced on the Website and Facebook pages along with posters at the churches and around the villages.

This is the first step and we hope it will not be too much longer before we are able to gather safely together again.

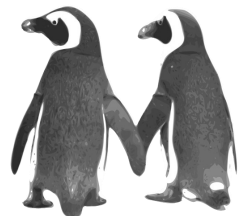
In the meantime do continue to join us at 11am on a Sunday. If you are reading this and have been unable to join us because you do not use the Internet but would like to receive a paper copy each week, please do let me know and we will do our best to get one to you. Some of you I know have been using the services that were published in the magazine at the beginning of lockdown, please feel free to continue with those.

Services are also available on the television and radio and there is also a short dial in service called 'Daily Hope' launched by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Daily Hope – a free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers.

Available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**

Linda



I WAS GLAD

Bishop Michael's pastoral letter for July 2020

The Psalmist's words have rung poignantly in my ears over the last weeks, as we have been unable to enter our churches to worship together. At the time I am writing, the timetable for our re-entry into church buildings is not yet clear, as it will be dependent on the government's gradual easing of restrictions, which in turn is contingent upon the effectiveness of those restrictions in containing the spread of the coronavirus. We do know, though, that we will have to move through different phases in taking up again the use of our churches, that many precautions will need to be taken to ensure that our churches are safe and clean, and that some limitations (on singing, on numbers, on distancing) will remain in place.

Nevertheless, there will be a time when 'our feet shall stand within the gates' of our churches together, and I look forward to that with eager anticipation. The closure of our buildings has been the right decision to help protect the common good of our society's health, but it has not been easy: we have been missing these places we love, hallowed by the prayers of generations; we have been missing the real fellowship of one another, fellow members of the body of Christ; and we have been missing sharing together in that body and blood in communion. When we meet again we will indeed be glad; and it will be for our churches collectively a time of restoration, a return from exile.

In the Bible, times of exile are of course full of longing for restoration; but they are also times of re-imagination. God's people during their years in Babylon learned so much more about the purposes of their God that they were able to shape their life in a new way when they returned to Jerusalem. And our own, much shorter, exile has been a time of re-imagination for us too. We have learned new ways of being together in virtual reality; we have found new patterns of worship; we have discovered in a new way what it means to serve our communities. While our buildings have been closed, our churches have been very much alive and learning. And it is vital that we should take that new learning into our

restored life together as we re-enter our churches.

Here are a few points of learning, taken from an evangelical website, which I have found helpful. The writer suggests that in our experience of this lock-down, God has been training us:

- as we are unable to gather physically as churches, to appreciate the vital importance of meeting together;
- as we feel our individual weakness and vulnerability, to repent of our self-dependence;
- as the vulnerable are in self-isolation for a long period, to care for others and put their needs ahead of our own; as we find ourselves restricted in our homes and communities, to gain a renewed evangelistic heart for our neighbours;
- if we find ourselves confined at home with family, to deepen our relationships;
- as we find ourselves unable to do many of the things we have taken for granted, to value what really matters in life; as we find ourselves threatened by something affecting the whole of society, to value good government;
- as we find ourselves with time on our hands, to regain a habit of daily prayer and bible reading;
- as we find ourselves in awe of healthcare workers and those performing essential jobs, to free us from our adulation of over-paid celebrities and sports stars;
- as we feel the fear of death and frailty of life, to appreciate the gospel hope of resurrection with joyful confidence in the future that awaits us;
- as we sense that the lock-down is going to last longer than we first imagined, to value the virtues of patience and long-suffering;
- as we begin to understand the devastating impact that the virus will have in less developed countries, to regain our passion for world mission and to care for our poorer brothers and sisters around the world.

These are things for us to take to heart in our own individual lives and in our local churches. We will also need to shape new ways of planning our mission and ministry at a diocesan and at a national level, and work is already beginning on that. In all that we do, as individuals or as churches, we will need to hold together the twin themes of restoration and re-imagination. So we pray, in the words of the eucharistic prayer for Lent that we were using at the beginning of all this, that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.

+Michael Bishop of Lichfield

BASCHURCH NEWS

All Saints "100 Club" winners

June 2020	No 90	Mrs O Peppiatt
	No 115	Mr V Cluderay

FAIRTRADE

I am still placing orders and most products are available. There has never been a greater need to support the farmers, growers and craftsmen overseas, many of whom have seen the demand for their goods disappear as a result of the pandemic. In the case of clothing, many suppliers have not been paid by major UK companies who are themselves struggling financially. So any support you can offer will be a lifeline to many.

If you would like to place an order or have a copy of the new catalogue that will shortly be available, please contact me on 261081 or at thepatdavies@hotmail.com

Pat Davies



FOODBANK

Our Church is currently supporting the Oswestry Foodbank, as the Ellesmere one has temporarily closed down. As you are no doubt aware there is a huge demand on Foodbanks with people having suddenly lost their income and children off school, needing to be fed. We have delivered on 3 occasions in the last 8 weeks and are always grateful for donations. They can be left on our doorstep at 6. Westfields Close, Baschurch if you are in the area or we are happy to collect.

Thank you

Pat & Glyn Davies

Giving

As you may imagine the financial situation for our churches has taken a bit of a hit. Sadly the bills still need to be paid, particularly the insurance.

I mentioned last month that we would be putting details on the website to enable people still to give regularly even though we are unable to gather. Those details are now available for all three churches and allow you to give by standing order or donate online. Forms are also available online to download if you prefer to use a form to post to your bank or building society.

The PCCs are very grateful to all who have continued to give by standing order and to those who have recently set one up and to those who have sent cheques or donated online. They are also grateful for donations that we have received from the communities, and I personally would like to say a thank you to those who have donated as a thank you for the Spar deliveries they have been receiving. It has been a pleasure and a joy to deliver to you and to see that you are safe and well.

In the next week we will be sending letters out to everyone regarding the financial situation of our churches. If you already give; have recently set up a standing order; or have sent a donation via cheque or online; then please ignore the letter and accept our grateful thanks.

Linda on behalf of the PCCs of St. Mary's Hordley, Holy Trinity Weston Lullingfields & All Saints' Baschurch.

Linda

LIFE UNDER LOCKDOWN

For us routine has taken on a new norm – generally going out for the walk or cycle ride for our “allowed exercise” early in the morning. We are still enjoying watching for birds and the changing appearance and colour of the lanes around Weston as the seasons progress. Cycling has taken us further afield – visiting Loppington at the end of May only to discover it has a pond surrounded by lots of delightful yellow flag iris. We read on a sign that it is called Loppington Tan Pit. A search on the internet provided some enlightenment. Loppington used to have a lot of cobblers and shoemakers and the author of the description said this:

“The area around Wem was once very reliant on bovine production, and once you've drunk the milk and eaten the roast beef, you need to do something with the wrapper.”

We spend the rest of the day working in the garden or in the house, writing, reading, cooking, crosswords and jigsaws. In spite of the extra time at home we have still not ticked off all the ideas and jobs on the list. But we have enjoyed phoning family and local and distant friends. Keeping in touch has become more important.

What we have greatly enjoyed is the chance to spend more time talking to our grandchildren on Skype. Daytime calls have centred around the home schooling work they have been doing – ranging from RE work on the water rituals in world religions - Zoroastrianism ; the names of baby animals – (did you know that the young of duck-billed platypus is a Puggle?); the countries our youngest granddaughter’s soft toys came from (the highest score actually went to Grandma’s supply of knitted toys, then China and some came from Indonesia); the history of the Scottish Parliament and the Independence Referendum; Highland Games – that involved creating some new games based on the actual games but which could be done in the house!); money and currency; drawing a self portrait; famous sea voyages; designing something using only household items – that produced a model of Elizabeth 1 with a small round light bulb as the head with plaited ginger wool for hair, lolly sticks for arms and a beautiful Elizabethan dress made from a scarf. Recently we have also started to do family quizzes on Zoom.

We continue to join in the benefice Sunday service and greatly enjoyed

the first Zoom coffee after the service. It has been impressive and interesting to see the ingenuity which is being used to manage deliveries and support during the Lockdown. We are also very grateful for the way our key workers continue to deliver all those vital services which keep everything running. We continue to pray for the pandemic to end and for a vaccine to be developed.

Anita Weeks

MORE LIFE UNDER LOCKDOWN

Our life under lockdown is very similar to Anita's as detailed above. We spend time in the garden, cycling and walking etc, I have even dusted down my old leg-powered bike for use when I go out alone; I can't keep up with Mary if she is using the electric motor and I am just pedalling.

The big thing at the moment is the family Zoom conference to discuss the crossword (from the previous week's Saturday paper) and the pub quiz (what's a pub?) from the new paper. Notes are compared and heads scratched in Ellesmere, London and Sydney to get these puzzles solved. It also gives us a chance to see the grandchildren and hear about school before they go to bed.

Andrew Thomson



SHAVUOT

Over the lockdown weeks John and I have been assisting our daughters and grandchildren with various items of enquiry and topics, which have led us to look at many different areas- toys, RE, History of Scotland, history, French, poetry and the names of animal young. This is one of the pieces we did for them.

Friday 29 May was Shavuot, a Jewish festival. Jewish people celebrate Shavuot to commemorate the day when they believe that God appeared to Moses and gave him The Torah, the first five books of the Old Testament of The Bible.

In those days the Jewish people had been conquered by the Egyptians, who rounded them all up and took them back to Egypt to be their slaves. Moses got the Jewish slaves together and led them in escaping from Egypt and trekking back to the lands where they had originally lived.

One stage in that long trek involved them in crossing Sinai, a triangle of land at the northern end of the Red Sea, wedged between Egypt and the Arabian peninsula.

While they were in Sinai, Moses climbed one of the mountains there to pray to God. He was feeling discouraged because it was hard work keeping the group together on such a long journey.

In lots of the world's religions it is believed that gods live somewhere in the sky, high above the earth. That is why people often go to the top of mountains to pray, to worship and to offer sacrifices – they believe that at a height they are nearer to their gods.

Jewish people believe that while Moses was on the mountain God appeared to him. God gave Moses The Torah, inscribed on tablets of stone. The Torah contains the Ten Commandments, which we try to follow. But The Torah contains many more commandments than ten. Its five books are full of rules about how to worship, about what can and cannot be eaten and about when to work and when to rest. Mixed in with all the detailed orders on religious practice are some sound pieces of advice about the ways people should live their lives. The Torah says, for example, “ Do not oppress strangers from other lands – for, remember, you were strangers yourselves once in Egypt.” And in another place it says, “Don't go along with the crowd, if the crowd is doing wrong

things.”

God declared that if the Jewish people followed those commandments and rules he would protect them and make sure they reached the lands Moses had promised to lead them to.

There are many communities of Jewish people all over the world. Different groups celebrate Shavuot in different ways. Two of those ways seem particularly attractive.

One of the stories told about Moses on the mountain top is that the mountain suddenly blossomed with flowers as a sign of welcome to God’s gift of The Torah. That would have been a miracle, for in those days, as now, Sinai was a desert area, and the mountains would have been bare rock. In memory of that miracle Jewish people decorate their homes for Shavuot, filling them with flowers, plants and greenery.

Another way of celebrating Shavuot is to have a special meal. The Hebrew word used in The Psalms for the mountain in Sinai is similar to the Hebrew word for cheese. Some Jewish communities mark Shavuot with meals heavy in cheese. Over the centuries many cheese recipes have been developed for Shavuot meals:

Atayef – pancakes filled with soft white cheese , served sprinkled with nuts and drenched in rose syrup

Blintzes – pancakes rolled into the shape of a fat cigar, filled with cream and topped with blackberry compote

Kelsonnes – ravioli parcels filled with cheese, which are first boiled and then baked , so that they are served crispy

Kreplach – small dumplings made of flour, water and eggs, filled with cheese and fried

Sambusak – triangular shaped pastries, filled with cheese.

In Nice there is an art gallery of paintings on biblical subjects by Marc Chagall, himself a person of Jewish heritage. One of them shows Moses receiving the tablets inscribed with The Torah. God is seen handing the tablets down from heaven. At the bottom the group of Jewish people is waiting for Moses to come back down from the mountain.

Anita Weeks

Hordley News

It is very good news to know that St Mary's will soon be open but only for personal and individual prayer (see Linda's information on pages 6 & 7). The church has been cleaned in preparation for opening and the proposed times are Tuesdays from 9 to 11 am and Fridays from 3 to 5 pm, starting on Tuesday 30th June. A member of the church will be present to explain and assist. At the time of writing, the "all clear" for opening has not been given so you may wish to check by phoning either Mary Thomson on 01691 622198 or Roger Paul on 01691 623066. Notices about opening times will be put in the church porch and in the village.

We hope that it won't be too long before some form of Sunday services can resume and we can all meet again, although it seems that the form of service is likely to be very different from what we are used to. In the meantime, we continue to be supported by Linda's online Sunday service and those on television and radio.

The winner of the Lottery Draw in June was Edward Jones with number 33.

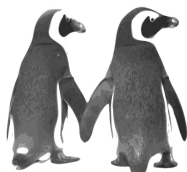
From The Registers

Baschurch

Dione Louise Elizabeth Pearson died 7th June 2020 aged 69.

Congratulations to Debbie and Nigel on the birth of Aurora to their daughter Naomi.

Our thoughts and prayers go to all those in our communities who have lost loved ones during the last couple of months. May God enfold you in his love and give you his peace.





The magic of moths

During lockdown we have been running a moth trap in our garden on fair weather nights. This has proved both rewarding and frustrating. Rewarding when you see how many nocturnal creatures use the garden and frustrating because there are over 2,500 different moths in the British Isles. This is an astonishing number, considering there are 59 butterfly species.

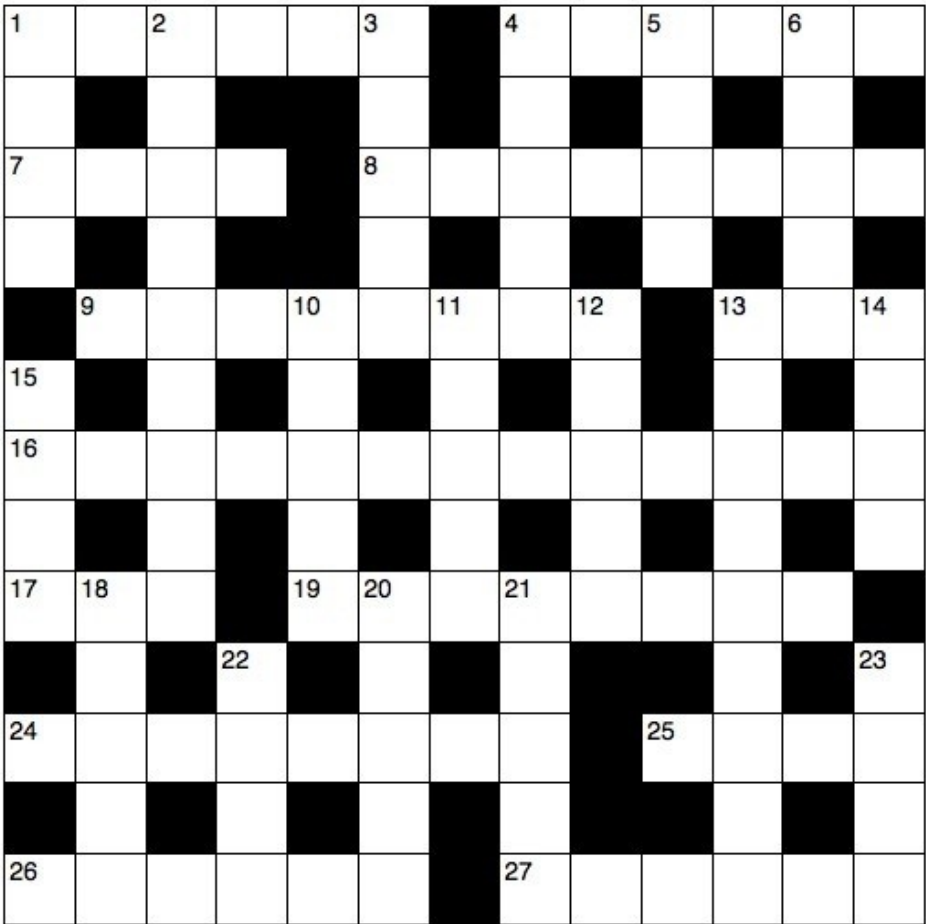
We have a good identification book, there are excellent websites and experienced moth enthusiasts are very helpful when sent photos, but we are beginners, looking at the big and beautiful rather than the 'small brown jobs'. Many moths have marvellous names; I yearn to see Satin Lutestring, Smoky Wainscot, Toadflax Brocade, Least Carpet, Cloaked Pug and Dark Spinach.

Species emerge in bursts, often in large numbers, we started seeing Hebrew Characters, moved on to Buff Ermines and Heart & Darts, then Elephant and Poplar Hawkmoths. The Peppered Moth was a thrill, this adapted to a blackened landscape, changing colour for camouflage in industrial areas during the nineteenth century. Thankfully, it is now pale again.

Our garden was created from scratch over the last twenty years, so it is amazing to glimpse the biodiversity that comes in when encouraged. We can help you to make churchyards more welcoming to wildlife too. If you would like a glimpse of the moths already using your churchyard, we may be able to arrange for someone (more experienced than me!) to visit.

All the best

Harriet Carty,



Across

- 1 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)
- 4 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)
- 7 'Praise the Lord, O my — ' (Psalm 103:1) (4)
- 8 See 5 Down
- 9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)
- 13 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)
- 16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)
- 17 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)

- 19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)
- 24 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)
- 25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)
- 26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)
- 27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)

Down

- 1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)
- 2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)
- 3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5)
- 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)
- 5 and 8 Across The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)
- 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)
- 10 Trout (anag.) (5)
- 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)
- 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)
- 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)
- 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me" (Mark 14:20) (4)
- 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)
- 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)
- 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5)
- 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)
- 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)
- 23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)

(answers on page 36)

Rebecca's Blog

I am not a knitter. But this week I finished a six-year knitting project: a scarf. Full disclosure – this should not have taken me six years; more like six weeks. But it was satisfying nonetheless to come to the end of this huge ball of rainbow wool that I bought in 2014 and have to Google “how to cast off” because it’s been that long since I finished knitting anything.

The act of knitting reminded me very much of how I feel about life right now. Repeating the same motion over and over and feeling like not much is happening. The ball of wool never seems to change in size, and the scarf never seems to get longer – until the day you notice it has. Days would go by without much change, and then one day I would pick up the scarf to resume and notice that it was so much longer than a few days ago. Those days when I noticed the difference gave me the motivation to keep going during the days when I felt like not much was happening.

Life may feel like it’s “on pause” for many of us right now. For others, things have been happening that, in a pandemic-free society, would have looked much different than they do now. I really struggle with feelings of helplessness – and it’s hard not to when we see the news, which seems to dominate both my phone and TV screens, looking for signs that things are getting better.

But, as a Christian, the hope that anchors my soul during this time is that God is not on pause, and He is not helpless. He is still at work – in me, in my church, and in the world – even if that’s hard to see. One of the things I love about working for Open Doors is that I get a global perspective of how the church around the world is showing God’s love to their communities. For example, in Sri Lanka, a church pastor has been handing out food rations to all of the families in their village

– including the people who attacked his congregation members. It's taken both the community, and the attackers, completely by surprise to receive such care.

The Apostle Paul writes in Colossians, “In Jesus, all things hold together.” (Colossians 1:17) Knitting reminds me that things are changing, bit by bit, and that one day I'll be able to look back and trace where God was and what He was doing during this strange time. He is weaving everything together – and He is holding me together.

Knitting also reminds me that change is in the small things. I can make a difference bit by bit, stitch by stitch – in every phone call I have with friends, in every conversation with a neighbour, in every work task I complete, and, most importantly, in every prayer I pray. When it comes to prayer, I am so easily discouraged – especially when I don't see answers immediately. It reminds me that I'm not a patient person, and that the best things take perseverance. (That might be why this scarf took six years to finish.) Praying is like knitting – lots of small, repetitive actions forming something much, much bigger. And, like knitting, it can take a long time to see the finished product. But if I don't knit, how will I ever finish my scarf? And, if I don't pray, how will I ever see God's answer?

“In Jesus, all things hold together.” I may have finished my scarf, but God hasn't finished – not by a long shot. He's not finished with me, or the world. So, I guess I'd better get myself some more wool and start all over again.

Rebecca Coatsworth



Introducing your new curate

Hello, my name is Steve Alston. I am to be the new curate for the benefice starting in late summer. Some of you might remember me as I did a 10-week placement with you in the summer of 2018 as part of my ordination training. I remember how warmly I was received by you all and am looking forward to getting to know you all better.

Linda has asked me to tell you a bit about myself so here goes. I was born in London and spent most of my life there. Ten years ago, I moved to Shrewsbury with my wife Rosie and two sons Jack (now 20) and Ben (now 19). Both Rosie and I are teachers, Rosie in primary school and I in secondary. We both spent many years working in inner London comprehensive schools. Currently Rosie works for the Shropshire Music Service and I at Concord College as a Biology teacher.

I have a passion for the natural world and, in a former life, worked as a research scientist in the Natural History Museum in London. Of all God's creatures, fish are my favourite and most of my research was on fish and their diseases. Family holidays also usually involve nature, we love climbing the Welsh peaks, sailing on the Norfolk Broads and peering into rock pools in north Devon.

My other, more important, passion is Jesus. In my late teens he changed my life, he has walked with me and my family over the years and has called me to serve his church. I am excited about the prospect of joining with you in telling and living 'Jesus story' in Baschurch, Weston Lullingfields and Hordley. One of my greatest joys is seeing people encountering Jesus and growing into deeper relationship with him. He is my hero and I want everyone to meet him!

Being your fulltime curate will certainly be a change from being a teacher, but I have been informed that I do not have to dye my hair pink to work in the benefice! I am excited at the prospect of joining in with what God is doing in your community and am looking forward to contributing and learning loads from Linda and the team.



Steve Alston (May 2020)

An Australian/Russian coronavirus story.

My son, who lives in Australia, sent me a link to an account of a group of typical outback Aussie blokes, who liked a drop or two of vodka in the pub. A few years ago they came up with the idea of singing Russian songs of the kind made famous a few decades ago by the Red Army Choir. They all live in a small remote town called Mullumbimby, which has a population about the same as Baschurch.



They had no previous connection with Russia and didn't know a word of the language, but they practised and you can see the result if you use the search term **australian-fake-russian-choir-dustytsky-goes-viral**.

They call their choir Dustytsky, which sounds suitably Russian, and made a recording of their efforts and posted it on social media; some time in 2017 it was seen in Russia, where it went viral, as the saying goes. They eventually received an invitation to go to Russia and perform in Red Square in Moscow during the 75th anniversary celebrations for VE day. Unfortunately, by that time the world was gripped, as it still is, by the coronavirus pandemic and so such a journey was not possible.



Meanwhile a group from the remote province of Udmurtia (no, I'd never heard of it either), which has about half the population of Wales in twice the area, decided to reciprocate by recording a version of Waltzing Matilda, sung in English. You can see their performance

by using the search term **waltzing matilda in Russia**. You can see from looking at them that time has moved on and coronavirus lockdown is in force: they are at home performing on Zoom, or some Russian equivalent.

Andrew Thomson

Reasons to be cheerful

Amidst all the worries, uncertainties, restrictions on normal life and tragic loss of family and friends it's good to focus on reasons to be cheerful.



We are blessed living in the three Parishes of Baschurch, Weston Lullingfields and Hordley to be in the midst of beautiful Shropshire countryside. Most of us don't have far to go to be walking on country lanes, footpaths and bridleways. If we meet other walkers it isn't difficult to avoid close contact while enjoying exchanges of welcome conversation. And we have been so

fortunate this Spring to be enjoying plenty of dry sunny days. It's never been so easy to keep on top of all the washing!!

Jan and I started the lockdown with son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren squeezed into our small house - and that's the way it has stayed, of course, since late March. We have had difficult times - the two granddaughters are missing their friends at Baschurch primary school and the Corbet and school days too (though they wouldn't admit it!) but we are learning tolerance, understanding and, most important of all, when to keep quiet! The "loss" of the liturgy over Holy Week and Easter has been tempered by the novel (for me) experience of taking part online in services as diverse as a Catholic Mass from Toronto, a lovely celebration of Palm Sunday from a large Methodist Church we know in California and beautiful liturgy from Salisbury Cathedral. And we much appreciate too Linda's messages, prayers and music.



Nick Bardsley - Weston Lullingfields

My World War 11 Memories

My recollections of the 2nd World War are rather limited as I was only eight on VE day, but as we lived in the suburbs of Birmingham quite close to the ammunition and aircraft factories at Castle Bromwich, I do recall vividly sitting under the stairs with my mother and two brothers during enemy air raids, hearing bombs whistling down followed by massive explosions. Mother would pray and sing hymns one of which I tearfully recall was 'Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep, keep Thy lambs in safety keep'. My father had served in France in the First World War, and being an ex army officer, was appointed area warden for the ARP (Air Raid Precautions) which kept him out most nights on duty. Windows had to be blacked out at night as any light showing could attract enemy aircraft and there were no street lights. My eldest sister gave up her high ranking job in the Civil Service to volunteer as a VAD Naval nursing officer (Voluntary Aid Detachment) or 'very adorable darlings' as they were affectionately called and spent the war years in Portsmouth. My two other sisters working in Birmingham often stayed late at their offices on fire watching duty which meant travelling home by tram, often during air raids, a frightening experience. I remember mornings following night raids, seeing firemen sitting exhausted beside the road after working all night. We had to take gas masks to school and had air raid warning drills in the playground. I recall father and some friends digging a massive hole in our back garden for an 'Anderson' shelter which, incidentally, we never used! Food, clothes, sweets, furniture etc were all rationed. It was, however, a time of great social cohesion with everyone pulling together, but it was also of course, a time of sadness. I lost an RAF pilot cousin and my two eldest sisters lost boyfriends, one at sea and the other in Sicily having just completed his officer training. He stayed with us on the night before he sailed for Italy.

Following VE Day, we had a great street party with bunting, long tables laden with food, a local band playing and a huge bonfire. There was great rejoicing.

David Morgan

What to do if you require help or assistance during the Coronavirus crisis.

In the event of self-isolation, or your family and friends being in isolation and you need assistance with shopping etc. what can you do?

There are people willing to help and I have a list of names and numbers. Please do give me a ring and we will do what we can for you.

If you are someone who lives alone, you may feel even more isolated as people stop visiting. If this is the case and you would like someone to ring and check that you are okay, then again please contact me and I will ensure someone rings you every couple of days.

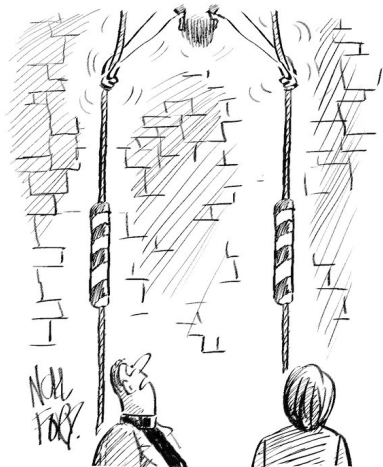
Please do not feel alone or scared at this time, we are here to help and assist in whatever we can.

Revd. Linda Cox 01939 260305

Email: linda@allsaintsbaschurch.com



They were trying to remember when they had last left the house.



Eric took social distancing while bell ringing very seriously.

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS

The Sunday Worship programme on BBC 1 has twice recently taken us to the cathedral of St Deiniol, at Bangor in North Wales. In the second such service, in which all of the hymns were recorded in March 2018, we heard the choir singing a beautiful hymn previously unknown to me and not included in the hymn book used in our churches. It is called “Light after Darkness” and was written around 150 years ago by Frances Ridley Havergal, whose best known hymn is “Take my life , and let it be.”

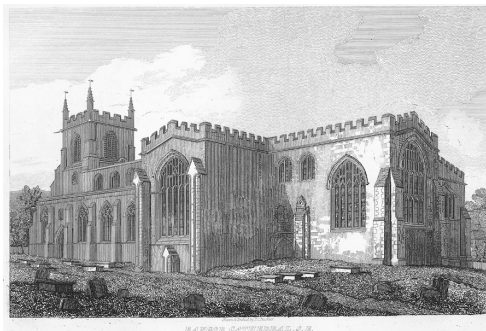
This hymn has three verses, with these the words:

<i>Light after darkness,</i>	<i>Sheaves after sowing,</i>	<i>Near after distant,</i>
<i>Gain after loss,</i>	<i>Sun after rain,</i>	<i>Gleam after gloom,</i>
<i>Strength after weakness</i>	<i>Sight after mystery,</i>	<i>Love after loneliness,</i>
<i>Crown after cross;</i>	<i>Peace after pain;</i>	<i>Life after tomb;</i>
<i>Sweet after bitter,</i>	<i>Joy after sorrow,</i>	<i>After long agony,</i>
<i>Hope after fears,</i>	<i>Calm after blast,</i>	<i>Rapture of bliss,</i>
<i>Home after wand'ring,</i>	<i>Rest after weariness,</i>	<i>Right was the pathway,</i>
<i>Praise after tears.</i>	<i>Sweet rest at last.</i>	<i>Leading to this.</i>

It struck me how appropriate these words are to our present situation, specially those in the first verse. Although written all those years ago, it makes us long for the end of the present darkness that envelops us all. The version sung at Bangor has four verses sung alternately in English and Welsh.

To see and hear it being sung by a choir in Bangor Cathedral search online using the search term “Light after darkness Bangor cathedral”.

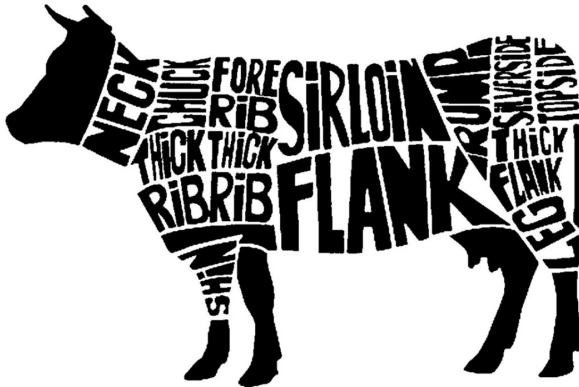
Andrew Thomson



MOOR FARM

SHOP & CAFE




Naturally Shropshire



WE DELIVER TO YOUR DOOR

Moor Farm Shop, Ruyton Road
Baschurch, SY4 2BA

During the COVID-19 lockdown we are offering a free delivery service. All our usual stock items are available along with key essentials. Let us know what you need.

moorfarmshop 
moorfarmshop 
moorfarmshropshire 

Deliveries will take place within 48 hours of placing your order.



www.moorfarmshop.co.uk
shop@moorfarmshop.co.uk
01939 262 632



The home of Shropshire's POLO.



EST  1936

Frank Painter & Sons

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Spring Gardens, Shrewsbury
01743 362024

— Incorporating —

Grindalls of Wem

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Aston Street, Wem
01939 233903

4th Generation family owned
bereavement service, covering all areas
Day or Night

www.frankpainterandsons.co.uk

Golden Charter 
Funeral Plans Available

CAKES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY
ENGAGEMENT, CHRISTMAS

MRS HAZEL RODENHURST
HORDLEY HALL, HORDLEY, ELLESMERE

TEL: **01691 622772**

BED & BREAKFAST *Hordley Hall*

Hordley, Ellesmere

Contact

Mrs Hazel Rodenhurst

Tel: 01691 622772

FT Fence Tree

All Types of Fencing
Tree and Hedge Planting
Woodland Maintenance

Stanwardine
Baschurch
Shrewsbury SY4 2HD

Tel: **01939 260573**
Mob: **07720 468597**

FENCE TREE

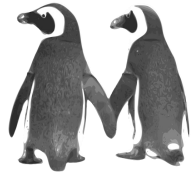
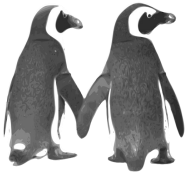
Pest and Weed
Control

Tel: **01939 260573**

Crossword answers.

ACROSS: 1, Riches. 4, Abner's. 7, Soul. 8, Damascus. 9, Statutes.
13, Add. 16, Craftsmanship. 17, Old. 19, Redeemer. 24, Walls are.
25, Wise. 26, Target. 27, Thief.

DOWN: 1, Rest. 2, Courtyard. 3, Sadhu. 4, Arm he. 5, Nose. 6,
Round. 10, Tutor. 11, Timid. 12, Sense. 13, Ashbelite. 14, Dips.
15, Echo. 18, Lhasa. 20, Exact. 21, Erect. 22, Flog. 23, Mede.



LANDSCAPING & GROUNDWORKS

ADH



SKIP & DIGGER HIRE

01939 261673 • 07711 469940

**SIDE OR REAR LOADING SKIPS
RANGE OF MINI DIGGERS FOR HIRE
PROMPT SERVICE 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Boreatton Lodge, Baschurch, Shrewsbury, SY4 2BA

P W CHURMS OPTICIANS

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT OPTICIANS



CALL 01939 261111

THE OLD POST OFFICE, STATION RD, BASCHURCH, SY4 2BB



**FREE EYE TEST & 15% OFF YOUR
GLASSES FOR ALL NEW PATIENTS**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO BRINGING QUALITY EYECARE
TO BASCHURCH AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY**

BOSS
HUGO BOSS

Calvin Klein

Chloé

Chopard

JAEGER

GIVENCHY

GUCCI

LACOSTE

MARC JACOBS

POLICE

TOM FORD

Kodak LENS

The KODAK trademark and trade dress are used under license from KODAK by Signet Armorit, Inc.

K0000422



DSD Plumbing & Heating Ltd

Damien: 07949791029

Office: 01743383859

E-Mail: dsdheatingltd@hotmail.co.uk

All works undertaken, no job too small.

Fully insured and qualified for over 15 years.

From tap washers to full central heating systems we cover all aspects of plumbing and heating.

Find us on:



ALAN DOVASTON

Quality Carpenter and Builder

Alterations and Extensions
Maintenance Inside and Outside
Wall and Floor Tiling
Windows - Timber and PVC
Plastering
Roofing
New Doors
First and Second Fix Joinery
Fitted Kitchens
Fitted Bathrooms and Wardrobes

01939 261240 ▶ 07752 074562



Home care with a difference

Tailor made to your individual requirements

- Award winning care
- Companionship services
- Home help services
- Personal care services
- Highly trained CAREGivers

If someone in your family needs a little help please call Rachael Birchall on **01743 387650**

<http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/shrewsburyandoswestry>
Email: rachael.birchall@homeinstead.co.uk

Suites 8 & 9
Leaton Forest Offices
Shrewsbury
SY4 3HX

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE
To us, it's personal.

Each Home Instead Senior Care® franchise office is independently owned and operated. Copyright © Home Instead 2016.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE®
To us, it's personal.

REWARDING PART-TIME WORK

We are looking for caring and compassionate people to join our team.

- No experience necessary as full training will be provided
- Flexible hours around the needs of the client
- Fulfilling work and a supportive team

Contact Suman on **01743 387650**

or email gareth.hughes@homeinstead.co.uk



www.homeinstead.co.uk/shrewsburyandoswestry

IAN WILLIAMS

Painter and Decorator

No Job Too Small

Tel:

07939 941922

01939 261578



SHREWSBURY GOLF DRIVING RANGE

Telford Way, Shrewsbury

Opening times

Weekdays 10.00 am - 9.00 pm

Sat and Sun 9.30 am - 5.30 pm

Tel: (01743) 354975

www.shrewsburydrivingrange.com

Advertising rates

Eighth page	£16.50
Quarter page	£27.50
Half page	£55.00
Full page	£110.00
10 issues per year.	

CHURCH ROAD GARAGE

The friendly team at Church Road Garage offer a full range of services for your vehicles at competitive prices.

MOT TESTING

Cars & Light Vans

SERVICING

To manufacturers' schedules with OE parts

AIR CONDITIONING

Service and repair

DIAGNOSTICS

Using the latest equipment

TYRES

Tracking, Punctures, Balancing

REPAIRS

Brakes, Clutches, Gearboxes, Suspension, Lights, Steering, Exhausts, Batteries etc

A fully skilled team with a top rate service ... and advice is free.

Phone: 01939 260702 Email: info@churchroadgarage.com

Website: www.churchroadgarage.com

7 Church Road, Baschurch, SY4 2EF

BED ^{AND} BREAKFAST

Welcome

Local artist offers a comfortable double en-suite room and full English breakfast in a quiet location in Baschurch.

Off-street car parking and local amenities nearby.

No smoking and no dogs please.

For more information apply to Artist Ruth on 01939 260257 or mobile: 07955 307398

Ray Pencavel

MSSCh, MBChA
HPC Registered

Chiropodist

Surgery:

18 High Street, Ellesmere
or home visits by appointment

Routine foot care
Treatment of problems

Tel: **07950 107927**

Tai Chi Qi Gong

Classes at
Weston Lullingfields Village Hall
Tues 10 - 11am

Also at
Oswestry Wed
Shrewsbury Thurs (MS class)
Improve Breathing, Stamina,
Flexibility and Concentration
Strengthen limbs
Fortify nervous system

Tel. Jean 01939 261299
079 000 81356
shiatsuwithjean@btinternet.com

Shiatsu Shin Tai Therapist

Jean Studd MRSS

01939 261299
079 000 81356

shiatsuwithjean@btinternet.com
www.shiatsuwithjean.co.uk





D.W. Thurston BVetMed MRCVS

School Road, Ruyton-XI-Towns, Nr Shrewsbury SY4 1JT

01939 261216

Domestic Pet, Horse and Farm Animal Practice

24-Hour Emergency Service

Consultation by Appointment

Morning, Afternoon and Evening Surgeries

ALL NEW CLIENTS WELCOME

Farm Animal Services Available

- ★ Routine Fertility Work
- ★ Herd Health Plans
- ★ Sheep and Goats
- ★ Alpaca Work

Small Animal Services Available

- ★ Microchip Identity
- ★ Diagnostic Xray and Ultrasound
- ★ In-House Laboratory Testing
- ★ Pet Food and Accessories
- ★ Free Pet Health Advice

Horse Work

- ★ Wormers Available (discounts on large quantity)
- ★ 'Vetting' for Pre-Purchase and Insurance



INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

Please say you saw the advert in the Church Family Magazine if you contact an advertiser

BUILDING SERVICES

Alan Dovaston, 32

DOMESTIC SERVICES

Dressmaking & Alterations, 37

FOOD & DRINK

Cakes for all Occasions, 29
Moor Farm Shop, 28

FUNERAL SERVICES

Frank Painter & Sons, 29

GARAGES & MECHANICS

Church Road Garage, 34
G.T. Harper & Son, 37

GARDENING & HANDYMAN

Fence Tree Fencing, 29
Fence Tree Pest & Weed, 29
David James, 37

GROUNDWORKS

ADH Skip & Digger Hire, 30

HEALTH & WELLBEING

P.W. Churms Opticians, 31
Ray Pencavel Chiroprapist, 35
Shiatsu Therapist, 35
Tai Chi Qi Gong, 35

HOTELS

Artist Ruth B&B, 35
Hordley Hall B&B, 29

HOME CARE

HomeInstead, 33

PAINTING & DECORATING

Ian Williams, 34

PETS

Green Hollow Surgery, 36

PLUMBERS

DSD Heating & Plumbing, 32

SPORT & RECREATION

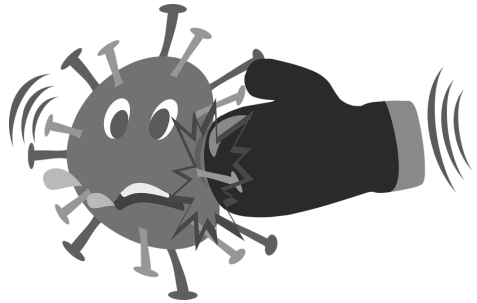
Shrewsbury Golf Range, 34

DRESSMAKING AND ALTERATIONS



FROM MAKING
WEDDING DRESSES TO
SHORTENING CURTAINS
COMPETITIVE PRICES

For information call
01939 260892



GARDENING AND HOME MAINTENANCE

House
maintenance;
carpentry,
joinery,
bespoke units



Lawns,
hedges, or
any gardening
job from an
hour to a
longer project.

ALL EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED

DAVID JAMES

07930 185106 or 01939 262449
djmjames55@gmail.com

G.T. HARPER AND SON

CHURCH ROAD, BASCHURCH
PROP: GARY HARPER

- ★ MOT TESTING REPAIRS
- ★ SERVICING
- ★ EXHAUSTS
- ★ TYRES
- ★ CAR SALES
- ★ DIAGNOSTICS

OPEN MON - FRI : 8.00 AM - 5.30 PM

TEL: 01939 260239

MOBILE: 07715 007808

WHO'S WHO

RECTOR	Rev Linda Cox The Rectory, Nobold, Baschurch SY4 2EB <i>linda@allsaintsbaschurch.com</i>	01939 260305
ASSOCIATE MINISTER	Rev Deborah Coatsworth <i>deborahcoatsworth@btinternet.com</i>	01691 690261

ALL SAINTS' Baschurch	Wardens	Martyn Lake	01939 290777
		Angela Price	01939 260144
	Deputy Wardens	Glyn Davies	01939 261081
		John Siviter	01939 262654
	Verger	Angela Mayes	01939 261047

HOLY TRINITY	Warden	Anne Roberts	01939 260633
Weston Lullingfields	Deputy Warden	Anita Weeks	01939 261293

ST MARY'S	Wardens	Edward Jones	01939 270243
Hordley		John Willis	01691 623537

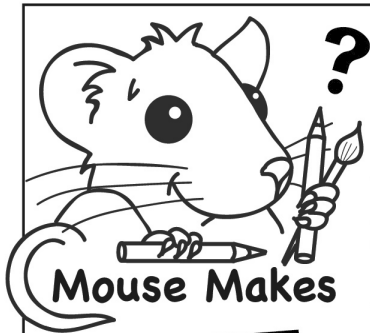
CFN MAGAZINE	Editor	Andrew Thomson <i>churchfamilynews@gmail.com</i>
	Advertising Co-ordinator	Mary Thomson <i>churchfamilynews@gmail.com</i>

FOOD BANK	Contact	Pat Lister	01691 623653
------------------	---------	------------	--------------

We're on the Web - Check out our website where you'll find up-to-date information about the three parishes and much more!

www.allsaintsbaschurch.com

The views expressed by individuals in this Magazine are not necessarily the views of the group of Churches in this Benefice. External advertising in this magazine does not imply an endorsement or promotion of the advertisement, nor its content, products or services. Errors and omissions, whilst regrettable, may occur.



WHO AM I?

The last letter of one name is the first letter of the next name.

P			L	
---	--	--	---	--

- Wrote 13 New Testament letters
- He wrote the third Gospel

--	--	--	--	--

• Mother of John (Luke 1:3)

I				
---	--	--	--	--

• Sarah's servant (Genesis 16:21)

		R		
--	--	---	--	--

• Joseph's mother (Genesis 29:35)

• His wife turned to salt (Genesis 11:31)

			L	
--	--	--	---	--

• Paul's friend (2 Corinthians 8:27)

• A brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55)

N				
---	--	--	--	--

• Ruth's mother-in-law. (Ruth 3:1)

IT'S A PUZZLE!

God sent 9 plagues on Egypt...

What were they?

Change each letter to the one after it in the alphabet to find out.

AKNNC
EQNFR
FMZSR
EKHDR
CHRDZR
OKZFTD
GZHK
KNBTRSR
CZQJMDRR

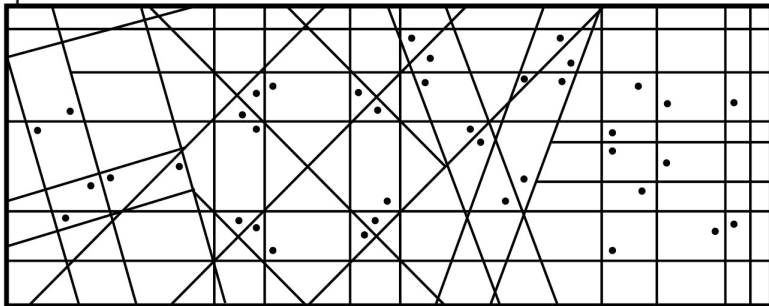
FIND THE MISSING HUSBANDS

Match the wife to their husband

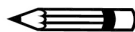
MARY	BOAZ
SARAH	JACOB
RUTH	ZECHARIAH
REBEKAH	JOSEPH
RACHEL	ABRAHAM
ELIZABETH	ISAAC

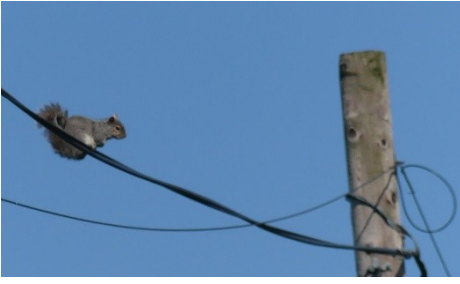
FIND THE FISH

The Disciples have been fishing and have caught TWO fish the same, can you find them?



Colour in all the shapes with a DOT to find out what Jesus want us to do





THIS IS A BIT WOBBLY.



HOW DO I GET DOWN?



FOX FINISHING A MEAL



TORTOISESHELL ON BRAMBLE



BEE GATHERING NECTAR



HARES EATING AND RELAXING

Thank you Anita for these lovely pictures.