



CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

MAY 2021

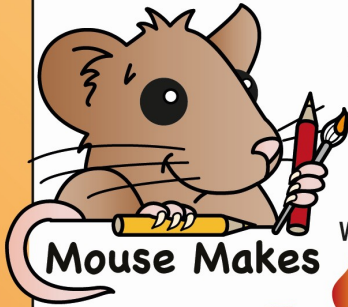


SERVING THE PARISHES OF

ALL SAINTS'
Baschurch

HOLY TRINITY
Weston Lullingfields

ST MARY'S 50p
Hordley
Per issue



Mouse Makes

Re arrange the scrambled letters to find the missing words.

 The Holy Spirit
V S E I L
with us and in us.

The Holy Spirit helps us to
W K N O
we belong to God.

The Holy Spirit
H C T S E E A
us about God.

The Holy Spirit
K P E S S A
God's word to us.

The Holy Spirit
P H L S E
us to tell others about Jesus.

The Holy Spirit helps us when we
A Y P R



On the day of PENTECOST the disciples were gathered together in one place...

What sound did they hear?

Acts 2:2

What did they see?

Acts 2:3



What filled them?

Acts 2:4

How did they speak?

Acts 2:4

What did the crowd hear?

Acts 2:6



Which countries had they come from?

Acts 2:9



What was their reaction?
Acts 2:12-13




Who explained what was happening?
What did he say?
Acts 2:14-36

How many people were baptised that day?
Acts 2:41



Change each letter to the letter before it in the alphabet and see what the Holy Spirit produces in us:


K P Z
I V N J M J U Z
T F M G D P O U S P M
G B J U I G V M O F T T
L J O E O F T T
Q B U J F O D F
Q F B D F
M P W F
H P P E O F T T

John 5:22



What is the work of the Holy Spirit? What does He do?
Fill in the missing letters.



T E A C _ E S
C O M F _ R T S

R E V E A _ S



I N _ O U
  

T R A N _ F O R M S

H E L _ S

G U _ D E S

G E N E W S

C O N V _ C T S

S A N C _ I F I E S

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Thank you to all who contribute to this magazine. Please note that I shall be away from May 21st until May 28th and so would ask for all contributions to be sent to me by the 12th.

SUBMISSIONS FOR JUNE MAGAZINE

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

12th May 2021

to: **churchfamilynews@gmail.com**

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Front cover: April 24th was The National Trust's first Blossom Watch.

This picture was taken in Ellesmere on that day.

THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As we ease out of lockdown, as we feel the sunshine on our faces and as the days lengthen, we are perhaps finding ourselves with a renewed spring in our step. There is hope that maybe we are at last seeing an end to this pandemic as numbers decline and more people have received the vaccine. There is hope that comes when we see the buds bursting into flower and hear the birds singing. There is hope that comes from knowing Jesus and, as we go through this Easter season, we hear the stories of the risen Jesus appearing to the disciples and others, and our hope in his resurrection is renewed.

As I write this month's letter, we have spent, as a nation, the last week in mourning following the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. We have perhaps discovered much about his life that was previously unknown and we give thanks for his enormous contribution, service and duty to our nation, to the Commonwealth and to the Queen. We should not forget though that Her Majesty The Queen has lost her life partner, her husband, her friend, her confidant, 'her strength and stay' as she put it. As we watched the funeral service on television our hearts went out to her, sat alone, grieving, heart broken. That image will stay in many minds for a long time to come, but it also brings home the loss and pain felt by so many in this last year and as the Queen weeps so the nation and the world weep for all who have died and for all who have been unable to say goodbye.

It is at times like these that hope is so important. For her Majesty The Queen, her faith will have given her comfort and hope. In this Season of Easter as we celebrate the risen Jesus, we celebrate his triumphant victory over death, where even the grave could not hold him. In His resurrection we have the assurance of our sins forgiven and a place prepared for us with Him in heaven when we open our hearts and lives to Him. But that new life doesn't just start when we die, it starts from the moment we accept Jesus in our lives. Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness The Prince Philip knew that, and it was in God's strength and God's name that they have

served this nation and the Commonwealth for all those years. They have put their trust in God and God has been faithful to them.

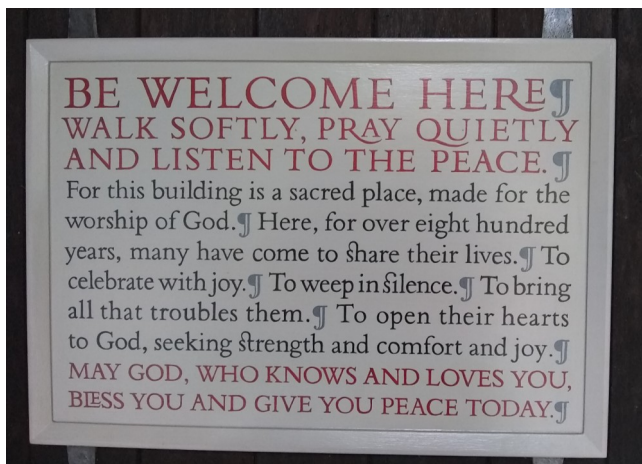
We are asked to do the same as we hear that call on our lives. To trust, to believe, and to go out and witness to the risen Jesus just as the disciples did. Jesus promised that all who witness in his name would do so in the power of the Holy Spirit. This month we celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, as flames of fire and the sound of a rushing wind. So come and join us in our churches or listen to our service on our social media pages and ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with His power and strength so that you can go and witness in Jesus' name.

When we witness in Jesus' name, when we show love, care and compassion, when we seek the lost, broken and oppressed, then we are bringing hope. It may only be a glimmer, but it is hope, and it is hope that we all need, and when we have hope in Jesus then we have the strength to face whatever is ahead of us.

So as we continue to celebrate the risen Jesus and look forward to the coming of the Holy Spirit we give thanks that in Jesus we can have that hope.

Romans 15:13

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."



Plaque seen in the church of St Nicholas, Montgomery.

Services in May

All three churches are now open and we look forward to welcoming people back when they feel safe and able. For some of you it may be the first time you are stepping through our doors, if that is so then a very warm welcome; and please do introduce yourself, we would love to get to know you.

Services will be as follows:

2nd May

9.30am Worship for All at Holy Trinity, Weston Lullingfields

11am Holy Communion at All Saints' Baschurch

9th May

9.15am Worship for All with Annual Church Meeting at St Mary's , Hordley

11am Holy Communion at All Saints' Baschurch

16th May

9.30am Holy Communion with Annual Church Meeting at Holy Trinity, Weston Lullingfields

11am Worship For All with Annual Church Meeting at All Saints' Baschurch

23rd May – Pentecost

9.15am Holy Communion at St. Mary's Hordley

11am Holy Communion at All Saints' Baschurch

30th May – Trinity Sunday

11am Holy Communion at All Saints' Baschurch

In June we are hoping to re-introduce the 8am Book of Common Prayer Communion service on the first and third Sundays of the month.

In July we will re-introduce the Evening Prayer service on the second Sunday of the month at 6pm.

The 8am and 6pm services above will be in All Saints', Baschurch

Looking Ahead

Over the next couple of months we will be putting on courses that allow us to ask the questions we perhaps have never dared to ask about the Bible, Jesus and God. If you have questions, if you want to explore further and deeper, regardless of whether or not you have been a Christian a long time, short time or not even sure if you believe at all, then get in touch and we will let you know what is coming up and when.

These sessions will not require knowledge or expect you to answer questions with deep theological answers, just simply to have an open mind and a willingness to dare to ask your questions. No questions are too silly...if you are thinking it, then the chances are that someone else is as well.

Baptism/ Confirmation

Have you been thinking about Baptism for yourself or a child?

If the answer is yes then get in touch. You are never too old to be Baptized.

If you are an adult then we run a series of sessions where we explore what it means to be baptized. These sessions are informal and without pressure, if at the end of them you are still not sure then that's fine. However, if you feel ready to make a commitment and be Baptized then we would be delighted to do it. As an adult this generally then leads on to confirmation, which would simply involve a couple of extra sessions as we talk about Holy Communion and what that means for us as Christians.

For all of these sessions and courses the mode of delivering them is likely to be mixed, depending on what is or isn't allowed as we progress out of lockdown.

For more information or for a chat ring Linda on
01939 260305 or email linda@allsaintsbaschurch.com

Sunday Bible Readings for May

2nd May – The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8: 26-end & John 15: 1-8

9th May – The Sixth Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday)

Acts 10: 44-end & John 15: 9-17

16th May – The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26 & John 17: 6-19

23rd May – Pentecost

Acts 2: 1-21 & John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15

30th May – Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6: 1-8 or Romans 8: 12-17

Gospel: John 3: 1-17

Thursday 13th May is Ascension Day

There will be a service for which details will be sent out via email and will also be put on the website and Facebook pages.

It is likely to be a service in church at All Saints' plus an online service.

Readings are: Acts 1: 1-11 & Luke 24: 44-end

Baschurch News

Homemade to You

Following the success of this venture we approached those customers who had responded at Christmas, this time with a range of Easter goodies. Again we had a wonderful response with 54 orders in total. This raised an amazing £1270 for Church funds and our grateful thanks to our loyal customers for their support.

Our future fund-raising events remain uncertain at this stage but if the schedule to "open up" goes as planned then it may be possible to hold our Fete and Raffle early in Sept.

You may be interested to know that our Homemade to You venture has been replicated by a small committee at Westbury Church in the Hereford Diocese following a conversation with a friend in that parish. They too had an excellent response from their community and raised £1100 over Easter. They send their grateful thanks to us for sharing the idea!!

Pat Davies

All Saints "100 Club" Winners

April 2021	No 100	Roger Dix
	No 108	Jenny Gough

From the Registers

Baschurch

Olivia Lilian Jones died 24th March 2021 aged 94;
funeral at All Saints' on 16th April.

Richard John Newman died 23rd March 2021 aged 88;
funeral at All Saints' on 19th April.

Synods and saints—could it be you?

The parliament and councils of the Church of England are up for election this year - Julie Jones explains:

There can be no better time of the year to begin our journey on the government's path out of Covid restrictions. After celebrating the resurrection of Jesus at Easter, the greatest possible sign of hope and purpose for us all, this month we celebrate Pentecost, where the Holy Spirit came to the disciples, God's constant presence with each believer.



As we read the story of Pentecost in the book of Acts, we quickly find those first believers organising themselves for the various tasks that were needed and issues that arose: questions of donations, preaching, evangelising, social care and decision-making. For me Pentecost is therefore a time to consider God's call on my life and to try and discern what He might be asking of me in the coming year.

This is a pivotal time in the life of the national church as we begin to gather again but also continue to reflect on the new things we have learnt recently. Lichfield Diocese has responded to the challenges facing us by launching [Shaping for Mission](#), a complete review of our work and mission, seeking God's guidance for the next phase of our life together.

Just like our civil government by parish, county and national councils, the Church of England is managed through its organisation of parochial church councils, diocesan and general synods. In the diocesan office we have embarked upon the whole process of elections, for both General Synod and Diocesan Synod. Could membership of either of these two bodies be something God might be calling you to? We need people of vision, hope and energy to work with us at this vital time.

Both Diocesan and General Synod are split into Houses of clergy and laity. Any clerk in Holy Orders who is a member of the deanery synod

can stand for election to the House of Clergy. Any lay person who is an actual communicant member of the Church of England of 16 years or upwards and whose name is entered on the roll of any parish in the deanery or who is a lay person declared by the dean to be an habitual worshipper at the cathedral church of the diocese, is qualified for election. Candidates must be nominated and seconded by a qualified elector and must indicate their willingness to serve. Please note you do not need to be a member of Deanery Synod to stand as a lay member in either election.

Our diocesan vision prayer says this:

"As we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, we pray that the two million people in our diocese encounter a church that is confident in the gospel, knows and loves its communities, and is excited to find God already at work in the world. We pray for a church that reflects the richness and variety of those communities. **We pray for a church that partners with others in seeking the common good, working for justice as a people of hope.**"

In that context please prayerfully consider whether you might stand for election this summer. Do feel free to call us on 01543 306067 or email julie.jones@lichfield.anglican.org if you have any questions.

Julie Jones is the Chief Executive Officer for Lichfield Diocese

Read more about the election process and structure of the diocese at www.lichfield.anglican.org/synod-committee-info.php



WESTON LULLINGFIELDS

It is getting harder to write these articles as there haven't been many changes for most of us. Of course, by the time you read this we may be in the next phase of unlocking – with more shops and facilities open and more contact possible between family and friends. But, in conversation with friends and family, there is caution and hesitation for some in deciding what they will be comfortable doing again. The driver of my Sainsbury order recently said that many customers have said that they may well stick with deliveries rather than going into the store again. What we all need is to see the numbers of new cases and deaths continue to go down and the number of people being vaccinated continuing to go up.

Recent bird sightings on our regular walks at Attingham Park include nuthatches, tree creepers, jays, mistle thrushes, a little egret, stonechats (male and female), marsh tit (possibly), coal tit and song thrush. Trees are changing by the week – with green leaves and horse chestnut flowers already visible. Other trees and shrubs/bushes also have leaves growing – both in the garden and in the countryside. This year's black-thorn blossom is particularly lovely. Attingham has an impressive display of Marsh Marigolds (Kingcups) in the marshy areas near the river, which were flooded earlier this year. Primroses, celandine and violets have also been a cheering sight to see. The first bluebells are also in flower. I have been told that one or two swallows have already been seen in Stanwardine.

Thanks to Linda for all the hard work to produce the material distributed for Lent and Easter and for all the services. Thanks to Steve and Deborah too for their contributions and to all those who have worked hard to keep our three churches safe and clean. Their hard work and support have kept us involved and made it possible to open our three churches for Easter Sunday.

SUMMER RAFFLE

We still cannot plan social events but, following the success of the Christmas Hamper Raffle, there will be another Hamper Raffle in the summer. Proceeds will help with a bill for repairs to the church tower. The draw will take place in church on Sunday 18 July. The prizes will be

2 Food Hampers, a Pamper Hamper, a Gardening Hamper, a Drinks Hamper and some smaller prizes. It will be an opportunity to raise some money for church funds. My prizes cupboard is now bare – so we will be most grateful to welcome contributions for the prizes – any food or gardening contributions (e.g. bulbs, plants, seeds, gardening gloves, small gardening tools) , will have to be “in date” with an expiry date beyond August 2021 or donated nearer the time. Any other contributions will be most welcome – drinks (wine or spirits), toiletries, jewellery or items for the Pamper Hamper. Nearer the time contributions of baking for the food hampers will also be most welcome. Tickets will be distributed in May/June in the same way as we did for the Christmas raffle.

Please ring me if you need any more information.

Anita Weeks

01939 261293

My Garden?

I thought I owned a garden
A lovely place to be
A bird said, “Beg your pardon,
“This land belongs to me!”

The wild-life around me
So loudly do protest!
They growl and screech till I can see
That I am just a guest!

A squirrel dropped a nut on me
Which wasn't what I'd planned
“Get lost!”, said he, “for can't you
see
“You trespass on my land?”

By Nigel Beeton

A pheasant flapped and
squawked so loud
I scarce could hear me think!
“Get off my ground, for two's a
crowd!”
He kicked up such a stink!

Hordley News

Spring has arrived at last and with the beautiful sunny days, the flowering shrubs and the easing of the lockdown, people are looking and sounding more cheerful. However, the prolonged drought with, at the time of writing, no rainfall since 28th March, is beginning to cause concern among gardeners and farmers.

St Mary's was full for the Easter Day service where the final hymn, Thine be the Glory, was sung outside. The return to services is most welcome for this scattered community.

At the PCC meeting held on zoom on 25th March, the possibility of holding a Strawberry Tea during the summer was discussed, depending on what is permitted at that time.

Plans for the Thomson Team Walk along the Cotswold Way are progressing, with almost daily training taking place. Much poring over maps has revealed the very hilly nature of this walk. As a result, for some three sections the alternative Winchcombe Way will be used, which tends to follow the contours rather than climbing to the hill tops. The start and finish will remain the same but the distance reduces from 30 miles to around 25. It is felt that this will be a more achievable challenge for 81 year old Andrew over four days, ably supported by 50 year old Lorna and, for short distances, by 81 year old Mary. We are delighted to report that donations have already reached £1020 to be divided equally between St Mary's church and the Marie Curie Nurses for this area.

The Annual Church Meeting will take place during (or after) the next service on 9th May. The booklets containing the various reports were distributed at church on 25th April and will hopefully be delivered to those not present, to enable them to be read before the meeting.

We wish to apologise to Mrs Elsie Sinker for an error in the last magazine, whereby she did not receive her expected lottery winnings. We are sorry that she was disappointed. The bonus ball in March was number 15 not 56 (Mrs Sinker's number) as announced here. Consequently the winner was not Mrs Sinker but Mervyn Olijnyk who holds number 15. In April, strangely enough, the bonus ball was number 5, held by Doreen Olijnyk.

On the perils of holding a Rose Queen celebration

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...

The Rectory, St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

On reflection, inviting your parishioners to join in our annual Rose Queen celebrations may not have been entirely wise. It was cheering to see that your people arrived on carnival floats, although it was less happy that some of them should have chosen to dress up as coronavirus bugs, full of those nasty spike proteins – that startled some of the timid residents in our community.

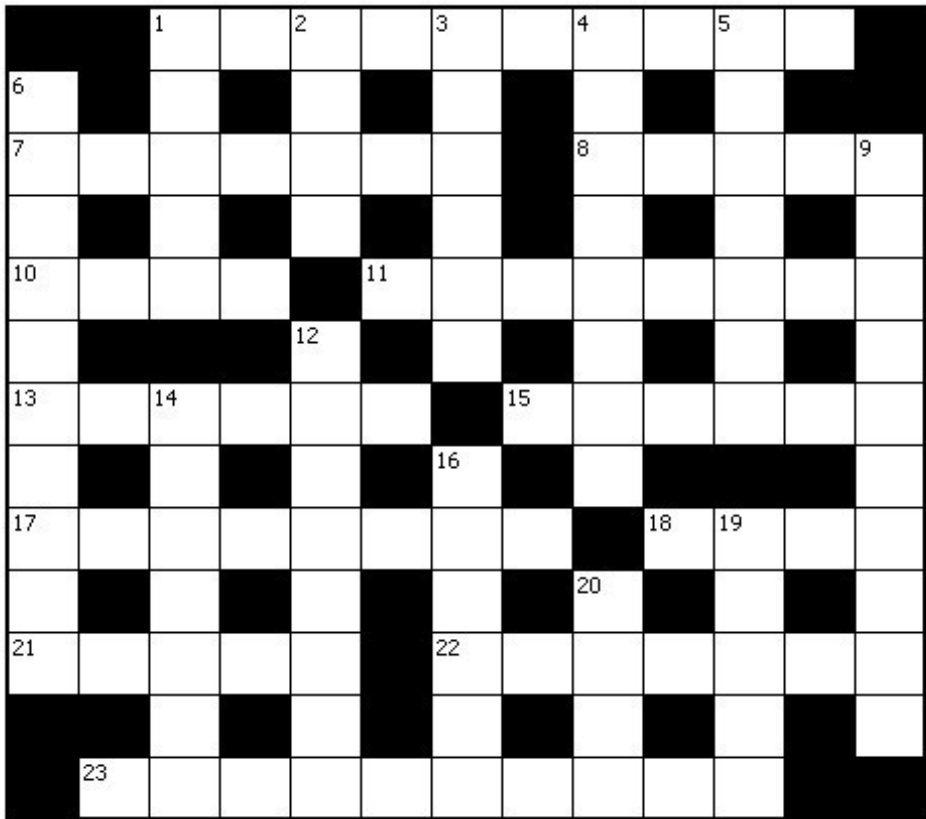
Once the procession started, your drivers did not seem to have grasped the fact that the vehicles were expected to tour the village slowly, for the benefit of spectators, instead of treating it as a competitive race. I noticed that numbers on your floats gradually diminished as they were flung off while careering round corners. Those who had a walk of several miles back home while dressed as pirates and ballerinas had my sympathy. Our tea ladies, however, were less sympathetic when one of your hay bales was spun off on a tight corner and went through our Women's Guild like a row of skittles.

The local police normally use the afternoon to do a little gentle point duty while drinking gallons of sweet tea; this year, the number of tickets issued for speeding, and not social distancing, should boost our constabulary's figures for the next 12 months.

I must concede that the group who decided to make a *papier mache* swan for one of your floats showed great imagination. It was such a pity that they did not know a 15-foot-high swan would be driven under a 12-foot bridge. The drama of its emergence, headless, was only exceeded by the following float which appeared to have a group of Brownies being savaged by a demented, bodiless, vulture.

I am sure that some of your people's offers to help this year's Princesses campaign for election for Rose Queen next year were well-meant. However, I don't think our parish really wants a full-blown social media

(Continued on page 20)



Across

- 1 Sense of right and wrong (*1 Corinthians 8:7*) (10)
- 7 Coming (*John 11:17*) (7)
- 8 'All I have is — , and all you have is mine' (*John 17:10*) (5)
- 10 Smarten (*Acts 9:34*) (4)
- 11 Hold back (*Job 9:13*) (8)
- 13 Member of the Society of Friends (6)
- 15 At ague (anag.) (6)
- 17 Citizen of the Greek capital (8)
- 18 So be it (*Galatians 6:18*) (4)

21 Twentieth-century poet and dramatist who wrote *Murder in the Cathedral*, T.S. — (5)

22 Empowers (*Philippians 3:21*) (7)

23 Imposing (*1 Samuel 9:2*) (10)

Down

1 Healed (*Luke 7:21*) (5)

2 Central space in a church (4)

3 Co-founder of Spring Harvest and General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance 1983–97, Clive — (6)

4 Moses killed one when he saw him beating a Hebrew labourer (*Exodus 2:12*) (8)

5 Bravery (*Acts 4:13*) (7)

6 It interrupted Paul and Silas singing hymns in a Philippian jail (*Acts 16:26*) (10)

9 Transgression (*Psalms 36:1*) (10)

12 Irish province in which Dublin is situated (8)

14 Same hit (anag.) (7)

16 'The Spirit of God was hovering over the — ' (*Genesis 1:2*) (6)

19 Author of the immortal stories of Winnie the Pooh, A.A. — (5)

20 Cab (4)

A lovely Hand

Last night I held a lovely hand,
It was so small and neat,
I thought my heart with joy would burst
So wild was every beat.

No other hand unto my heart
Could greater pleasure bring
Than the one so dear I held last night.
Four Aces and a King

Anonymous



Holly Blue can be thought of as a butterfly of churchyards as the larva (or caterpillar) has two food plants: holly and ivy, both of which are common in churchyards. Holly Blues have two broods per year, the first eggs hatch in May and the larvae feed mainly on flower buds and leaves of holly. They then pupate and emerge as butterflies in late summer ready to lay eggs. This second batch of eggs then hatches in August and the caterpillars feed on ivy. Look for holes where they have munched through holly and ivy flower buds! These caterpillars form chrysalises and overwinter like that; they then hatch out in April and May when the butterfly can first be seen, ready to lay those first eggs in May. The adults have different eating habits from the caterpillars, feeding on flower nectar, oozing plant and tree sap, aphid honeydew and juice from rotting fruit and carrion. They take the trace elements and minerals they need from bird and animal droppings.

Blue butterflies can be quite a difficult group to identify, but Holly Blues are much easier than other blues as they fly high around trees rather than staying close to the ground. They are a lovely pale silvery blue colour with a wingspan of about 3cm and can be seen between late March and mid-June and then again from late July through to September. The males are territorial, if you see a butterfly flying around the top of a holly or ivy-covered tree or wall, they may be driving off other males and attracting females to come and lay eggs, which they will fertilise.

A key conservation principle is that an animal has different needs at different times, all of which must be met if the population can survive and thrive. In the case of the Holly Blue, the adult needs somewhere to lay eggs, the caterpillars and then the adults both need food. A churchyard with holly and ivy growing, as well as wildflowers, insects such as aphids and plenty of other life providing both droppings and then carrion is ideal. Please look out for Holly Blues flying and also the holes made by hungry caterpillars!

All the best, Harriet Carty

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor.

The Reverend John Keble

John Keble (1792-1866) was an English clergyman, poet and hymn writer. Keble College, Oxford is named after him. He was born in Fairford, Gloucestershire in 1792 and in 1806 won a scholarship to Oxford University where he gained a Double First in mathematics and Latin. Ordained in 1816 he took curacies in Gloucestershire. His most popular work, *The Christian Year*, was a volume of poems for Sundays and festivals throughout the year. Along with John Henry Newman and Edward Pusey, he was one of the founders of the Anglo Catholic Oxford Movement. In 1835 he retired to Hursley, Hampshire where he remained as parish priest until his death in 1866. He is commemorated by the Anglican Church on July 14th. Some of his best loved hymns are *Blest are the Pure in Heart*, *The Voice that Breathed o'er Eden* (sometimes known as the marriage hymn) and *New Every Morning is the Love*. Here are a few verses:-

New every morning is the love,
Our waking and uprising prove:
Through sleep and darkness safely brought,
Restored to life and power and thought.

New mercies each returning day,
Hover around us while we pray;
New perils past, new sins forgiven,
New thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.

Only, O Lord, in thy dear love,
Fit us for perfect rest above,
And help us this and every day,
To live more nearly as we pray.

David Morgan

(continued from page 15)

campaign for next year's Rose Queen, and so we will have to decline your offer.

The crowning of the Rose Queen is always a high point to the afternoon, but could I point out that the 'gold' crown is only metal foil, and the 'diamond' sceptre is only a piece of glass? So, whoever it was in your crowd who walked off with them, please may we have them back before next year?

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

A Lady with the Shot

On either side the dangers lie
We may sicken, we may die;
We cannot drive, we cannot fly,
We must wear masks, but some ask,
"why?"
"It's just a massive plot!"
Though some may protest loud and shrilly
We have to tell them, "don't be silly,"
There's just one route from fear so chilly:
The covid vaccine shot!

Through long and anxious toilsome days
They sought for virus-killing ways,
It's hard to find the words of praise –
Their skill and knowledge just amaze!
They loosed a Gordian Knot!
For months the news had gone so badly
How nice to turn from thinking sadly
And go and meet so very gladly
A lady with the shot.

And now must all folk gladly share
The vaccine which, with equal care
Protects all people, everywhere
If its use is wise and fair.
We must share what we've got.
And then at last this virus stealthy
Will threaten no-one – poor or wealthy
No more masks to keep us healthy
This clever vaccine shot!

By Nigel Beeton

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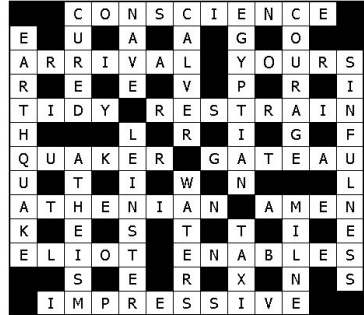
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