

**NOVEMBER 2020**



**SERVING THE PARISHES OF**

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Baschurch

**HOLY TRINITY**  
Weston Lullingfields

**ST MARY'S**  
Hordley

**50p**  
Per issue



**Cakes & bakes,  
Christmas  
puddings &  
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**Jams, pickles,  
preserves &  
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**Flavoured gins,  
pavlova cases,  
Heather's bags**



**Crafts and  
bulbs in bowls**

## *Homemade to you*

*From the ladies of All Saints' Church,  
Baschurch, a delicious selection of Christmas  
Goodies can be delivered to your door.*

*A full list of what is available will come  
through your letterbox shortly.*

*From 30<sup>th</sup> November to 14<sup>th</sup> December your  
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Limited supplies so order early!*

*Look out for the leaflet coming to you and  
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## SUBMISSIONS FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY MAGAZINE

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

**15th NOVEMBER 2020**

to: **churchfamilynews@gmail.com**

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*Front cover: The Harvest Festival for St Mary's, Hordley was held in the grain store at Edward Jones's farm. This enabled social distancing to be maintained. See page 11.*

## THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

November is the month in which there are services for Remembering and Remembrance. Our annual All Souls Service, 'Lights of Love' where we remember our loved ones who are no longer with us. Then we have our service of Remembrance where we remember those who died in our two World Wars and we give thanks for all they sacrificed for our freedom. This year we have also had services of remembrance for 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries of Victory in Europe and Victory in Japan and the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Sadly on Remembrance Sunday this year we are unable to gather as we normally would, but we will still remember.

People often find it helpful to have something to help them remember, not because they forget but often because it helps to focus our minds and our thoughts. On Remembrance Sunday many gather at War Memorials and poppies are worn. For those remembering loved ones who have died, there is often a Gravestone or Plaque, or even a special tree. One of the most poignant memorials ever built is the tomb just inside the great West Door of Westminster Abbey. It is the tomb of the Unknown Warrior, representing all those who died on a battlefield in France during the First World War and who were buried without the knowledge of who they were. Over the years it has come to symbolize all who have died in battle both then and ever since.

The idea for the tomb came from the Revd. David Railton as he stood at a graveside in Northern France. He had just conducted a burial service and saw a small wooden cross marking a grave with the words, 'An Unknown British Soldier.'

He later said: "How that grave caused me to think ... I thought and thought. What can I do to ease the pain of father, mother, brother, sister, sweetheart, wife and friend? Quietly and gradually there came out of the mist of thought this answer clear and strong. 'Let this body – this symbol of him – be carried over the sea to his native land.'"

At the end of the war, the Revd. David Railton worked to make his idea a reality; it wasn't easy, but as he persisted so the idea gained favour. During the night of 7<sup>th</sup> November 1920, four bodies were exhumed from different battlefields in France and brought to a chapel in Arras. There, one was



chosen by the touch of a hand on the coffin and from there the journey of the unknown warrior began. The body was brought to Dover on a Royal Naval ship and it landed at the quayside on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1920. People were waiting to get a glimpse in case it was their loved one. The body was then taken by train to London and spent the night at Victoria Station before being placed on a carriage driven by black horses. The coffin travelled through hushed but weeping crowds to Westminster Abbey and was brought in on the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> month. Over the days that followed more than a million people came to pay their respects and many millions more have been since.

That tomb symbolizes the sacrifice made by millions of men and women over the years in the search for peace. It is a focus for us all, even those of us who did not live through the war, let alone fight in it, and it reminds us not only of their sacrifice but that the search goes on.

As we gather each year on Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day we remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the First and Second World Wars. But we also remember those who have paid that sacrifice since. Many are surprised at the numbers of men and women who have died in war since the Second World War. A memorial to them stands as the focal point at the National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire. If you have never been then may I suggest you go, it is a sobering place, but also one of beauty and peace and one today that draws as many as the tomb of the Unknown Warrior.

The inscription on the tomb of the Unknown Warrior says this:

“They buried him among the kings because he had done good toward God and toward His house”

This year in this month of Remembering and Remembrance we remember alongside our loved ones and those who died for our freedom, those who have given their lives in this Pandemic, especially those who have worked within our health service. Each one of them did their duty, each one of them had done good for their fellow human beings.

I pray that we may do the same, because when we do, we remember and honour those who have gone before us.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them...

## Services in November

### **St Mary's Hordley**

**8<sup>th</sup> November** – Remembrance Sunday 9.15am

**22<sup>nd</sup> November** – Holy Communion

### **Holy Trinity, Weston Lullingfields**

**1st November** 9.30am - Worship for All

**15<sup>th</sup> November** 9.30am – Holy Communion

### **All Saints' Baschurch**

**1<sup>st</sup> November** - 8am – Holy Communion (BCP)

11am Holy Communion (CW)

3pm & 6pm 'Lights of Love'

**8<sup>th</sup> November** – No service in church in the morning, instead there will be a broadcast service for Remembrance which will be available to view from our website and Youtube.

### **Please do not gather at the War Memorial.**

Crosses and poppies may be placed at the war memorial before or after Remembrance Sunday. We are also encouraging people to be creative and maybe paint a stone to place along the inner wall near the war memorial or to hang a poppy from one of the trees.

6pm Holy Communion

### **15<sup>th</sup> November**

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

11am Holy Communion (CW)

### **22<sup>nd</sup> November**

11am Holy Communion

### **29<sup>th</sup> November – Advent Sunday**

11am Holy Communion

## **Bible readings for November**

### **1<sup>st</sup> November – All Saints’ Day**

Revelation 7: 9-end /1 John 3: 1-3

Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12

### **8<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday**

Remembrance Service Readings TBC

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end

Gospel: Matthew 25: 1-13

*These readings are for our evening service of Holy Communion*

### **15<sup>th</sup> November**

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

Gospel: Matthew 25: 14-30

### **22<sup>nd</sup> November – Christ the King**

Ephesians 1: 15-end

Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-end

### **29<sup>th</sup> November- Advent Sunday**

Isaiah 64: 1-9 / 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

Gospel: Mark 13: 24-end

# Revd. Steve Alston- Ordained at last!

It has been great to start working in the Benefice of Baschurch, Weston Lullingfields and Hordley and thank you so much for your friendly welcome and prayers. The current pandemic certainly makes things a bit different from normal, my ordination was delayed for three months and being an unordained 'curate' has had its challenges. Not having the 'badge' of the collar has meant that I often had to explain who I am to local people and I must admit that with no formal ordination service the beginning of my new life as your curate felt a bit messy.

In Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September my ordination as Deacon finally happened. This also was different to usual and filled with 'Covid safe' restrictions. Instead of 500 people in the cathedral there were only 30 of us and I was only allowed two guests. We were all socially distanced, masked and not allowed to sing (although the Bishop said we could hum if we wanted!). Poor Bishop Michael had to sanitise his hands over 20 times during the service, but he did a great job in leading us.

Despite all this Covid weirdness I really sensed God's presence as we worshipped. The words of the service are both beautiful and challenging and bring home my role of helping God's people in the Benefice to 'make Christ known' and proclaim the story of God's love in 'word and deed'. Most important for me was the prayer for the Holy Spirit to fill me. I certainly need as much of God's spirit as possible if I am to do the job of being your curate - so please keep praying for me!

On the morning of my ordination I read the following words about Jesus as he lived in a world that was filled with fear and disease.

*'Seeing the people, he felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest to send workers out into his harvest"'*

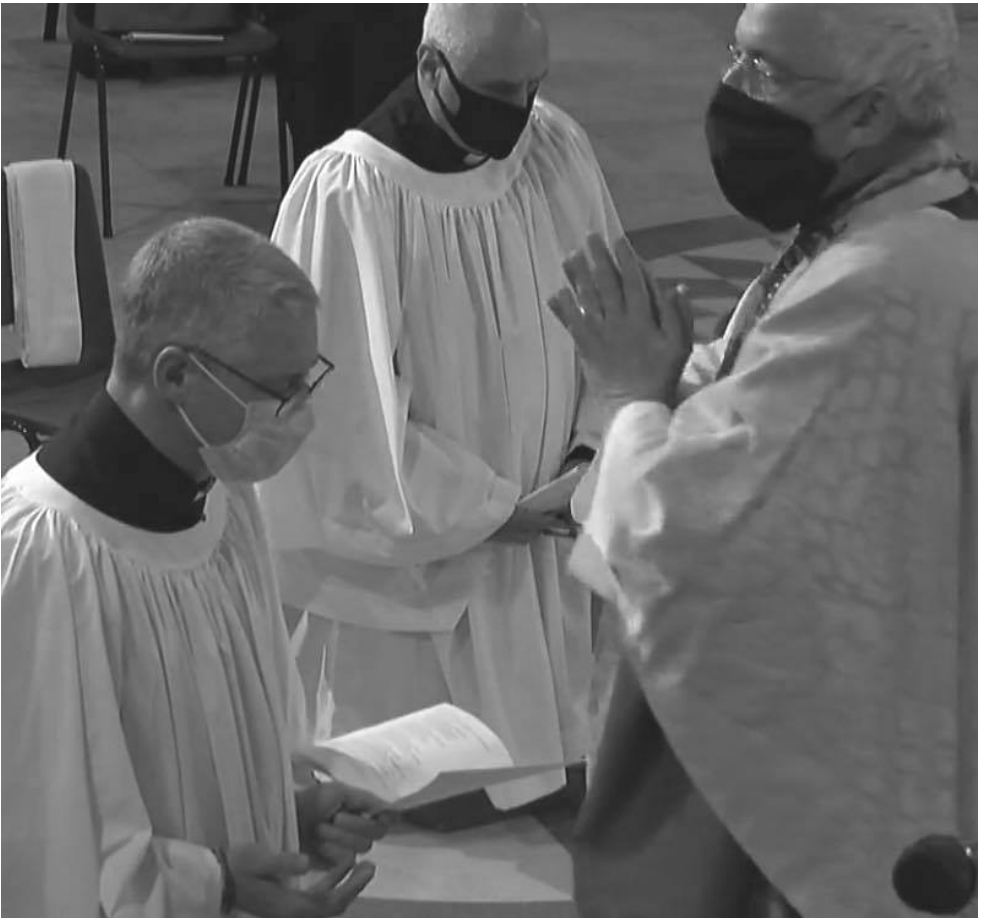
*(Mat 9.36-38)*

These words are so relevant to the pandemic situation in which we live today.



Jesus is with us and at work even when things are difficult or odd. This is his promise and I am really excited to be in the Benefice and joining in with Revd. Linda and the rest of God's people in helping spread the transformation that comes when we let Jesus into our lives and communities.

Steve Alston



# **Christmas Hamper Draw 2020**

Proceeds to Baschurch PCC for All Saints Church

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Drinks Hamper**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Food Hamper**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Food Hamper**

**Plus other hampers and individual prizes**

**To be drawn on 13<sup>th</sup> December at All Saints' Church**

**Tickets £1 each,**

**On sale around Baschurch**

For tickets please contact:

**Pat Davies: Tel: 01939 261081**

**or Mary Cox: Tel: 01939 261329**

## **FUND RAISING FOR ALL SAINTS'**

In the absence of a Christmas Tree Festival this year a group of volunteers at All Saints' have come up with a fund-raising scheme to raise much needed money to maintain our Church. We are planning to deliver the Christmas Goodies that would normally be on sale at the Festival - to your door at no cost. These are a range of home-made items donated to raise funds for the Church. In addition we will also be holding the popular Christmas Hamper raffle. More details above.

### **All Saints"100 Club" Winners**

Oct 2020 No 76 Mrs S Williams

No 128 Mrs J Morton

## Hordley News

This October we were treated to a harvest service with a difference. It was held in the grain store at Edward and Anne Jones's Red House Farm in Hordley. They, with John Willis, had gone to a great deal of trouble to prepare the barn for the occasion. The raised pallet on a fork-lift truck provided the altar, as can be seen in the photograph on the front cover. Other decorative features included 7 foot tall maize plants, pumpkins, beet and carrots; all from the farm.

The congregation, seated between the harvested wheat and quinoa, took part in a most enjoyable service that included harvest music and was conducted by Linda and Steve. They performed a memorable sketch to illustrate the parable of the rich farmer. The evening concluded with an explanation by Edward of various farming matters.

You can read on page 16 of the success of Andrew, Lorna and Mary's walk, the proceeds of which will hopefully offset the projected deficit in church funds this year, due to the inability to hold our usual social functions. A walk for 2021 is being considered, health and fitness (and virus) permitting!

The winner of the lottery draw in October was Anna Stockbridge with the winning number 2.



# The Long and Winding Road

## **Bishop Clive peaks in his Pastoral Letter for November 2020?**

A keen walker, I have ascended a fair few peaks over the years and am only too familiar with the 'false summit'; the peak that you are sure is your destination, only to find, as you approach it, that it isn't the summit at all. There's a further, usually arduous, stretch to cover before you actually reach the top.

Psychologically, rather like a mirage in the desert, the false summit can be hard to cope with. Especially if you are being battered by wind and rain at the time. But the only thing for it is to dig deep and carry on...

I imagine that many of us had imagined during those relatively restriction free days of July and August when cases of Covid were low and deaths rare, that we had passed through our toughest challenge and were on the descent from our peak of adversity. There was confident talk of life returning to 'normal' by Christmas. But now it is clear that we are still slogging uphill, the weather is closing in and we have no idea where the summit is or when we shall get there.

Psychologically, emotionally and spiritually this is tough for us all. It's only a question of degree as to how much we are struggling.

As Christians we have rich resources to draw on to sustain and strengthen us. We are part of a much bigger picture and a much longer story. The bigger picture is God's book of creation, of which we are just a chapter. Much of the natural world is thriving just as we struggle. Less economic activity is good for air and water quality and for the protection of animal habitats and the flourishing of species. Accessing a cleaner, quieter natural world as we venture outdoors to sit, walk, run or cycle is part of God's provision for us in these times.

The much longer story is revealed through our Scriptures and tradition. We draw particular inspiration from the faith journeys of individuals and nations (in the case of Israel) who had to endure those seasons when God's purpose was unclear and conditions were adverse. Faith journeys are always long and winding roads, and what the wisdom of



our tradition teaches us is that it is precisely at those times when the going is toughest that unexpected blessings occur; food for the journey, manna from heaven. In these times, spiritual attentiveness is key. A posture of openness, hands outstretched to receive whatever blessings the day may bring.

Above all, we bring a conviction that God remains alive and active in this world, sustaining individuals, families and communities through endless manifestations of love and care. And we bring the gift of hope, that in these times God is bringing about a new thing, reshaping ourselves, our church and our world, in line with his sovereign purposes.

*+Clive Wulfrun*

*Bishop of Wolverhampton*



## HOLY TRINITY

### WESTON LULLINGFIELDS

Last month I referred to the elderberry jelly we had made. John liked it but I felt it did **NOT** taste better than the smell of the cooking elderberries.

I have been puzzling over what to write this month as we are still following the same routines and not venturing far. Visits to Attingham Park are a great delight and we do see changes as we walk around the estate. There have been some amazing fungi over the past weeks, but we haven't yet identified them all. On one of our October walks we heard a rutting deer and saw the stag in question, pawing the ground and scraping up material to hang from his antlers to appear more impressive as he gathered (chased) the females all together. He was none too impressed when we stopped to watch and take photos.

There is a safety issue in Weston Lullingfields concerning the road surface, pot holes and safety for cyclists, drivers and pedestrians. The Council have done some patching (splash and dash repairs) in the past, but it soon starts to break up and creates more uneven areas of road surface. It has been of great concern to people who live in the village and several concerned individuals have written, telephoned and made noises in the right quarters – to no effect. One resident contacted the local press and a good dozen residents gathered one day to meet up with a journalist to show him what the problems are.

Weston Lullingfields has no pavements. Many drivers travelling through the village regard the 30 mph speed signs as a warning for other drivers, not themselves. The speed signs do not always flash up the speed and we actually need more. The road through Weston Lullingfields is a bus route as far as the war memorial. There are also **a lot** of heavy vehicles – milk tankers, oil tankers, delivery vehicles and farm traffic – regularly driving through as well. These are safety issues. The net result of all of this traffic for pedestrians is that it is dangerous to walk along the road most of the time. Pedestrians have to dodge the uneven edges and get out of the way of heavy traffic and cars which are dodging the potholes. The road is also a favoured route for cyclists. Several local drivers have had to replace badly damaged tyres as a direct result of pulling over to

allow another car to pass and hitting an unrepaired pothole or because the potholes at the edge can be invisible in wet or muddy conditions. In fact the journalist hit the worst edge as he pulled in to park. It has to be said that there can be a lot of mud at times when tractors are going back and forth during periods of wet weather.

So we are now waiting to see if any improvements can be made to what is a very poorly maintained road.

Anita Weeks.

## Weston Winter Wonderland

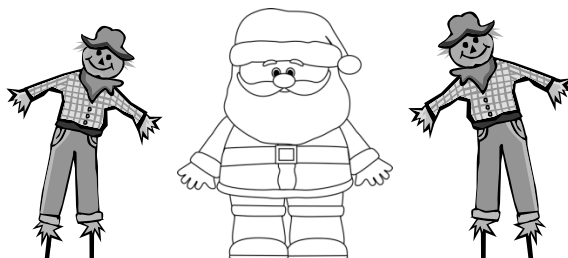
### Christmas Scarecrow Trail

Weston PCC are planning to put the Nativity group of Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus in the churchyard over the festive season.

In order to brighten up the village we are asking you to make a Christmas scarecrow to put in your gardens over the weekend of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

There will be small prizes for the best scarecrows so let Anita Weeks (261293) know by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> **December** the location and name of your entry.

PS this is open to **everyone** so even if you don't live in Weston Lullingfields do join in and spread the Christmas Cheer!



## Clarendon Way Walk

The Clarendon Way Walk, as described in the previous two issues has now been done. We were blessed with fine weather on all four of our walking days.

Day one of the walk started with a clear blue sky but a cold wind. We drove to Salisbury and then got in a bit of a muddle trying to find our way through a maze of one-way streets and residents' only parking areas. We eventually got that sorted and made our way to the Great West Door of the cathedral to start the walk. We were well equipped with maps so were able to navigate through the busy city shopping area and out into the countryside.

The blue sky and cold wind persisted all day, so we were able to enjoy a six mile walk, well wrapped up to keep warm, through woodland and open countryside.

That evening we went to bed with a warm feeling having received a notification of another donation - £100 from Tracy Chevalier, the author whose book *A Single Thread* gave us the idea for this adventure.

Day 2 and the fine weather continued, including the cold wind in exposed places. Lorna and I started walking from West Winterslow church at 10:15 and made good progress considering the rather rough terrain under foot. We arrived at Broughton after just over 6 miles to find a picnic lunch waiting for us on a churchyard bench in warm sunshine and out of the wind. After lunch Mary accompanied me for the next 2 miles of open downland while Lorna drove to Houghton. Lorna and I then walked the remaining mile and a half back to the cottage, crossing the various crystal-clear channels of the chalk stream that is River Test, making a total distance for the day of ten miles. After a quick cup of tea it was total oblivion for the next hour in a nice comfortable bed.

The weather on day 3 was mostly cloudy, but dry and with little wind. After yesterday's 10 mile effort today's 6 mile walk was rather less demanding. Mary accompanied me for the first 2½ miles, handing over



to Lorna at a place where the track came right up to the road. With Lorna came the packed lunch, which we ate sitting on a comfortable seat while admiring a stunning view.

The weather on day 4 was unpromising to start with; while not actually raining there were signs of overnight rain and heavy cloud. However, as the day progressed the clouds thinned and broke up and we enjoyed some lovely sunshine. Lorna and I walked into Winchester through woods and open downland until quite close to the city centre. We even passed sheep grazing in a field no more than half a mile from the cathedral. The final approach to the cathedral took us past some fine medieval architecture until we reached the climax to our walk, feeling tired but pleased to have achieved what we set out to do.

We did the walk for our own enjoyment and also to raise money through sponsorship for the Severn Hospice and for St Mary's church, Hordley. We set ourselves a target of £2000, but thanks to the generosity of our donors the total has reached a shade over £2500.

## Seen in Winchester Cathedral

All cathedrals have their treasures and other items of interest. Winchester has a wonderful bible, handwritten on vellum (calf skin) by a single scribe over 800 years ago. The effigy on the tomb of Bishop William Edington, bishop of Winchester from 1346 until his death in 1366 has a surprise for the modern visitor: the symbol on his collar shows that the swastika preceded the Nazis by many centuries. It has been found in archaeological sites dating back to 5000BC and is commonly seen today in India as a symbol to promote prosperity and good fortune.



Seen on the wall close to Jane Austen's tomb, and partly covered by a plaque is something to show that graffiti is nothing new.



# A Glorious Noise and all that's Jazz . . .

## **Bishop-designate Matthew improvises in his Pastoral Letter for October 2020**

I have recently been at ordination services for both deacons and priests. Usually, such services are packed to the rafters with family, friends, people from the parishes and all manner of well-wishers. This year was different. The services were shrunk to fewer than thirty people. We all kept our distance and were masked throughout. The services were still rich and meaningful, but there is no getting away from it – this is not what the candidates and their supporters had expected or wanted. No doubt episcopal ordinations will follow in much the same vein, as I look forward to my consecration as Bishop of Stafford in January!

Disappointment and uncertainty mark our times and that's hard to live with. We make plans for a week or a month's time and then the number of cases rises, new government regulations are brought in and the threat of a new lockdown hovers threateningly over all our tentative arrangements. We think of all the weddings postponed, students isolated in their halls of residence, theatres closed, holidays cancelled, jobs lost, and we wonder if it is worth making any plans at all.

We have found ourselves astonished by the rapidity of our descent into uncertainty. We are so used to thinking we are in control and have mastery of the world around us that we feel particularly helpless in the face of a virus that is oblivious to our carefully laid plans.

So how do those new deacons and priests minister in such a world? How do all God's people bear witness to the hope of the gospel in such an uncertain time? What kind of church must we be when everything is so unpredictable?

Ancient institutions, like churches, can find it hard to set light to 'the way we have always done things'. This solidity can be a good thing - we are not prone to being simply blown about by the latest fad or fashion or knocked off course by each new crisis. But it can lead to inflexibility. We may claim that 'here we have no abiding city' whilst in fact we are rather

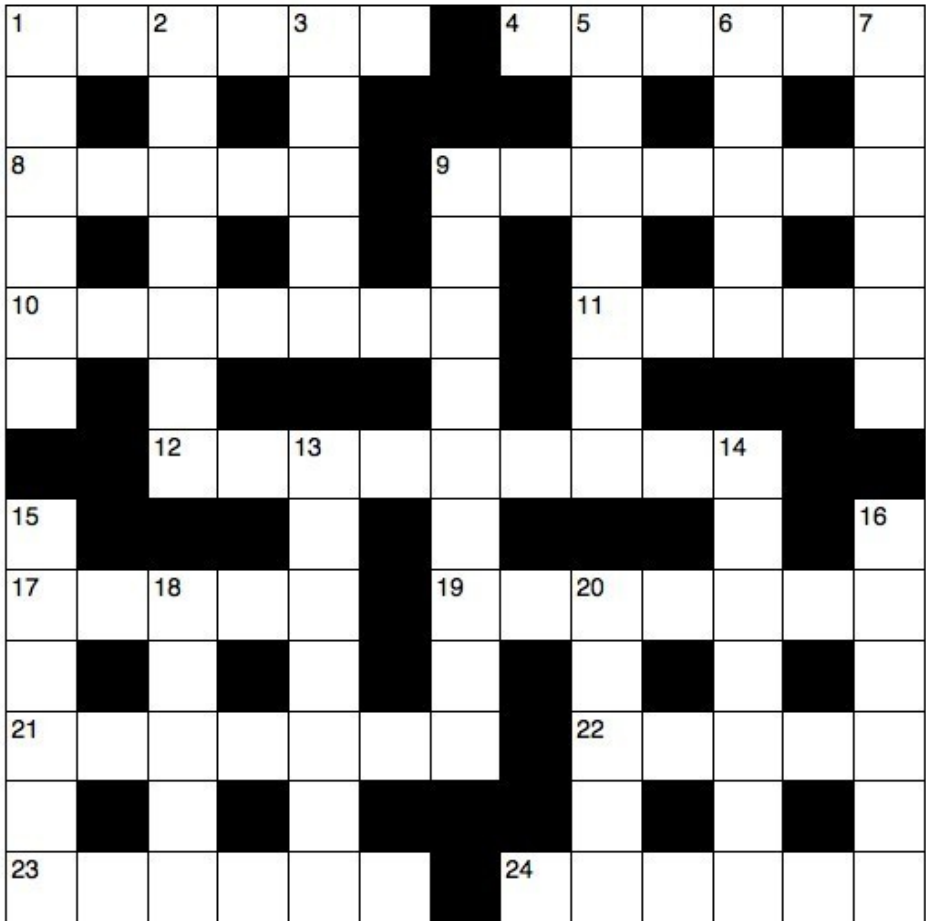
comfortable and settled with how things are. But in a time when so much feels *provisional*, we will need to learn how to *improvise*. There are recent indications that the church can do this when it puts its mind to it. When our buildings were closed, we had to improvise and we found new ways to reach out to one another and our communities – by phone, online or by email.

Improvisation is not the same as starting from scratch. As a second-rate guitarist, I know how hard it is to improvise. First-rate jazz musicians need tremendous dedication and practice to improvise well. They need to be attuned to the great jazz tradition, sense the mood and direction of the music and be responsive to their fellow musicians. If we are to make beautiful music during a time of uncertainty and turbulence, we will need to drink deeply from the great tradition of Christian teaching, learning and wisdom and then, confident in that faith, respond nimbly and confidently to a world in flux.

We serve a God who is unchanging and whose love and goodness is unending, but we inhabit a world that is being buffeted by severe storms and we are not immune from those stormy blasts. Our response is not to hunker down in the hope that how we did it fifty years ago will serve us well now. Instead, secure in the promise that underneath are the everlasting arms, we strain to hear the new song that the creative Spirit of God is singing. Then we pick up our instruments or open our lips and sing and play along. We may not be always in tune and sometimes we will miss the beat but, if we are open to the music of the Spirit, it will be a glorious noise.

*Ven Matthew Parker*  
*Archdeacon of Stoke-upon-Trent*





**Across**

- 1 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when He had given — , he broke it' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (6)
- 4 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and His — over me is love' (Song of Songs 2:4) (6)
- 8 Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5)
- 9 Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7)
- 10 Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7)
- 11 A son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5)

12 A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared (Ezekiel 45:19) (9)

17 'They make many promises, take false — and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)

19 Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)

21 Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)

22 'And feeble as — , in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)

23 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep — to his voice' (John 10:3) (6)

24 Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross (John 19:29) (6)

## **Down**

1 Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water (1 Kings 18:32) (6)

2 'I am not — of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)

3 Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)

5 Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)

6 and 16 Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)

7 A three (anag.) (6)

9 Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)

13 Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)

14 Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)

15 Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)

16 See 6 Down (6)

18 Paste (anag.) (5)

20 How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)

*(Answers on page 24)*

## Take a look under an old log



In a natural woodland, there would be a great deal of deadwood to be found, both 'standing' in the form of dead branches within trees and entire dead trees as well as lying on the ground. Whilst churchyards usually contain trees, often mature and veteran ones, they rarely have much deadwood either standing or lying on the ground. Dead trees and branches need to be removed to prevent accidents and fallen branches are usually tidied away.

Scientists have estimated that an astonishing 13% of UK wildlife is dependent on deadwood for all or part of their lifecycles. This ranges from the woodpecker excavating a nesting hole in standing deadwood to the fungi, mosses, liverworts and lichens living on a fallen log. Some species are feeding on the wood, such as beetles which may lay eggs in deadwood so their larvae can feed, or fungi drawing nutrients from it. Other species need the damp conditions rotting wood provides. Do you have hedgehogs or toads in your churchyard? They like to feed on the worms, slugs and invertebrates to be found in and around deadwood.

Whilst you may not be able to keep standing deadwood, or leave a fallen branch where it lands, you can create deadwood habitat. How about a range of bat and bird boxes within your trees to replace those lost holes in rotting wood? Can you make a deadwood pile in a shady damp corner, topping it up whenever you have wood to dispose of? A variety of sizes of wood is best, including some with a substantial diameter. Corner posts will contain the pile, allow it to grow higher, (over 50cm is good) and show that this is intentional, not just a forgotten task. Don't forget to have a look in it, turn things over and see what you can discover, you'll find a fascinating world, great fun for children to discover.

All the best

Harriet Carty,

*Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor*

## **Anthony Ashley Cooper, 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shaftsbury**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> October annually, The Church of England commemorates Anthony Ashley Cooper, the 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shaftsbury, (1801-1885). He was a staunch evangelical who devoted his life to injustices in education, public health and working conditions. Born in London in 1801, the son of the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shaftsbury, he was educated at Harrow and Oxford University, became a Member of Parliament in 1886 and President of the Pastoral Aid Society.

Throughout his life he worked tirelessly for moral and social reform especially for the improvement of the appalling conditions in asylums and the protection of children who were forced to work in factories and as chimney sweeps. He was a pioneer of the factory reform movement for shortening the working day in textile mills and his Mines Act of 1882 prohibited girls and boys under ten and women from working in coal mines. He was president of the Ragged Schools Union which enabled many destitute children to be educated free of charge. As president of the British and Foreign Bible Society, he founded many Y.M.C.As and working men's institutes. One biographer wrote of him 'No man has in fact ever done more to lessen the extent of human misery or add to the sum of human happiness'.

His statue in Westminster Abbey bears the inscription 'Endeared to his countrymen by a long life spent in the cause of the helpless and suffering. Love - Serve'. The statue was financed partly from pennies given by the poor children of London for whom he worked tirelessly to protect.

The statue of Eros in Piccadilly was also erected in memory of him. His funeral service was held in Westminster Abbey and he is buried on his family estate in Wimborne, Dorset.

David Morgan

ACROSS: 1, Thanks. 4, Banner. 8, Esher. 9, Azariah. 10, Compare.  
11, Ishma. 12, Doorposts. 17, Oaths. 19, Galatia. 21, Papyrus. 22, Frail.  
23, Listen. 24, Hyssop.

DOWN: 1, Trench. 2, Ashamed. 3, Karma. 5, Ananias. 6, Neigh. 7, Reheat.  
9, Areopagus. 13, Observe. 14, Satraps. 15, Compel. 16, Gallop. 18, Tapes.  
20, Lofty.

These jokes, and others elsewhere in this issue, have appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services somewhere:

*Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.*

*Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.*

Thanks to Charmaine Hollis for contributing these. and many more.

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