

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

November 2023



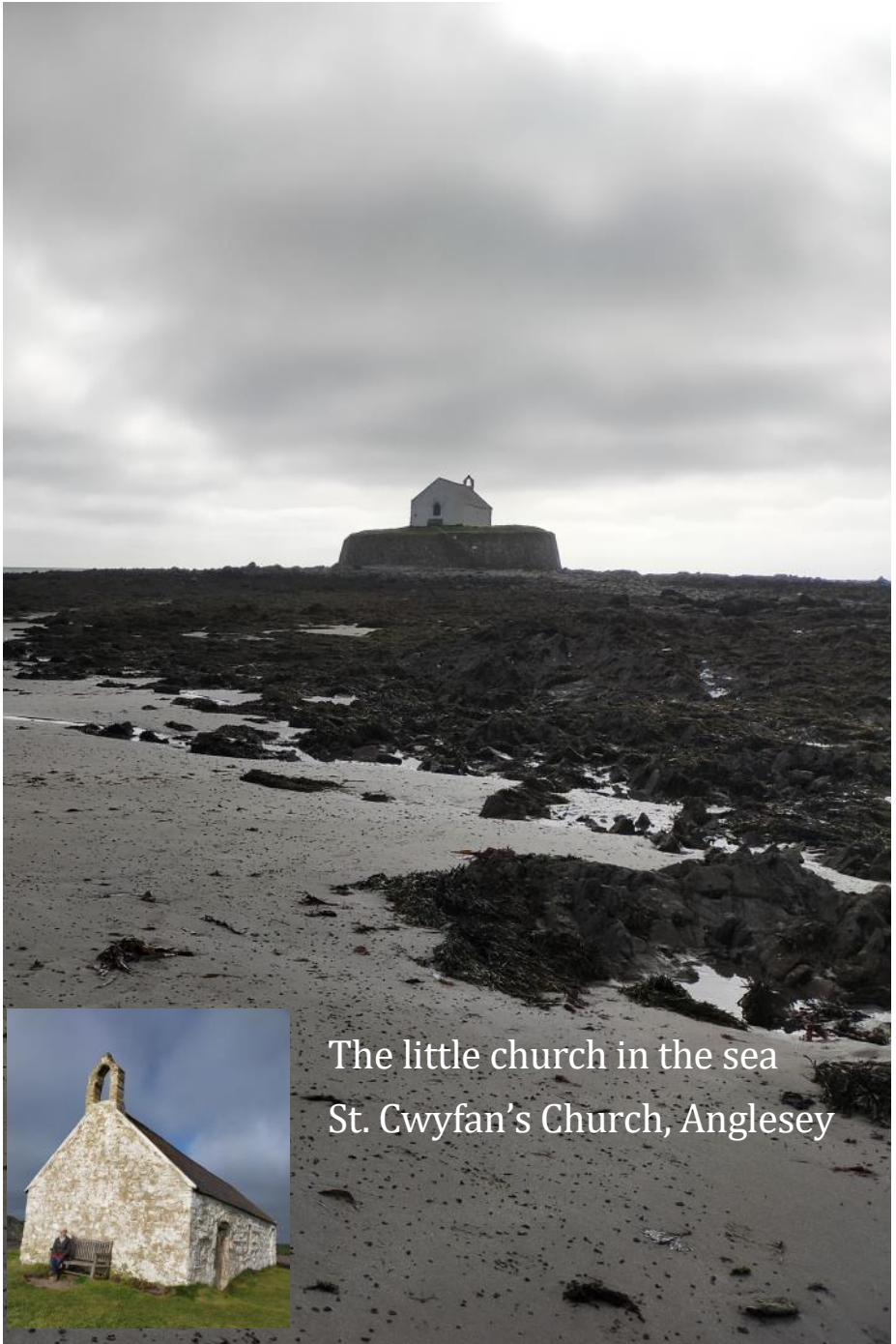
SERVING THE PARISHES OF

ALL SAINTS'
Baschurch

HOLY TRINITY
Weston Lullingfields

ST MARY'S
Hordley

50p
Per issue



The little church in the sea
St. Cwyfan's Church, Anglesey



Editorial

November is the month for remembrance, as Linda Cox reminds us in her Rector's message (*page 5*). All Saints Day, All Souls Day, Armistice Day, Remembrance Sunday are accompanied by falling leaves, and evenings closing in. The season itself seems to lead us into a reflective mood.

This month's front cover is a photograph of the sculpture in Cae Glas Park in Oswestry of one of our most loved First World War poets, Wilfred Owen, who was born in Oswestry. His poetry is made even more poignant when we remember that he was killed in action just one week before Armistice Day. I have included one of his poems, *Anthem for Doomed Youth*, on page 24, and on page 7 a prayer for the Holy Land and all its peoples in this time of embittered fighting.

Growing old gracefully is a gift we can treasure when we see it in friends and relations, and if we experience it in our own lives. It is a perennial hope which reaches back over centuries. Mary Thomson has kindly shared the prayer she found written out by her mother, A 17th Century Nun's Prayer (*page 15*), which with a sharp wit seeks the Lord's help to avoid the pitfalls of growing old that we can all fall into. I especially like the last part of the prayer: "*Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so*".

St Asaph Cathedral prides itself in being the smallest of the ancient cathedrals of England and Wales. It may be small, but it has a big heart, not least because of its association with William Morgan, the 16th Century translator of the Bible into Welsh (*see page 16*). It is difficult for us to appreciate the impact of a people being able to read the Bible in their own hearth tongue. Morgan's translation of the Bible not only opened up the Bible for Welsh speakers in his day, but laid the foundations for modern written Welsh, and the fine literature that flows from it.

So, dear readers, I hope you enjoy this month's offering.

Roger Paul, Editor

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SUBMISSIONS FOR MAGAZINE

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

15th November 2023

to the CFN email address:

churchfamilynews.bwlh@btinternet.com

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FROM THE RECTOR

Dear friends,

We are entering a season of 'Remembrance': November is a whole month of remembering. There is Remembrance Sunday of course, but also, at the beginning of the month, All Saints' Day and All Souls, when we remember the Saints and our loved ones who have died and gone before us. The month ends with the Feast Day for Christ the King, which falls on the last Sunday of the Church year. It is rather fitting that we begin the church year in Advent with hope as we look forward to the coming of the Messiah, and end the Church year on the feast of Christ the King, celebrating and remembering the true kingship of Christ our Messiah.

The Oxford and Cambridge dictionaries say of the words 'Remembrance and 'Remembering', the '*action of remembering*' or the '*the act of remembering and showing respect*'. So remembering or remembrance is something we 'do', an action, it is intentional.

How then do we do that? What sort of ways might we remember?

In church we might have a service such as 'Lights of Love' and Remembrance Sunday. In those services we spend time reflecting, thinking back about someone or something thing. We say prayers, we listen to their names being read aloud and we light candles. We have many ways in which to remember: for some people it may be by looking at old photographs, reading letters written long ago, or listening to a favourite song or piece of music; for others simply by using a cherished object or gift that was given to them. These days, some make memory boxes, filled with photos, letters, special items that relate to whom they are remembering; some choose to have the name of a loved one tattooed on their body; others have the ashes from cremated remains made into jewellery. So many ways in which to remember, and whilst some people would find certain ways unacceptable, it is what helps us as individuals that is important.

Why do we need to remember? To help the grieving process; to help us feel close to that person even though they are not here; to help us

learn from past mistakes; to give thanks. There are as many different reasons for why as there are ways of remembering.

Last month we celebrated with six people from our Benefice, Jackie and Keith from Weston Lullingfields and Pat, Pauline, Chloe and Lily from Baschurch as they were confirmed at St Mary's Ellesmere. In confirmation we make the promises made at our baptism for ourselves and publically declare that we believe and trust in Jesus Christ and all He did for us. One of the things we do in preparation is look at the Eucharist (Holy Communion) and what is happening in it. The Eucharist is central to our worship and 1 Corinthians 11 reminds us of what happened when Jesus sat down to eat with His disciples at the Last Supper before his arrest, crucifixion, death and resurrection.

23 For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' 25 In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (NRSV)

When the disciples shared the Last Supper with Jesus, they still didn't fully understand all that would happen. But Jesus did. In the breaking of bread and the sharing of bread and wine we are called by Jesus to remember him and what he did for us. In 1 Corinthians, Paul reminds us of this. He also reminds us that as we remember Jesus, we are called to pass on the message of what he did for each one of us. Our remembering of Jesus requires participation and action. When we come to receive Holy Communion we actively and intentionally come to remember Jesus and through that remembering our lives are changed. At the end of the service we are sent out to tell others, it is a continual remembrance that we live out each day.

As we remember this month may our remembering be active and intentional and may we be transformed through it.

Linda

Prayer for Palestine and Israel

Archbishop Hosam Naoum of Jerusalem has offered the following prayer which is commended for use at home and in our churches:

O God of all justice and peace,
we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of
violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.
Be with those who need you in these days of suffering;
we pray for people of all faiths - Jews, Muslims and
Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and
the establishment of peace, we also call to you to bring
justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your
kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and
honour as your children - for to all of us you are our

Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.



BOUNTIFUL BERRIES

Have you ever noticed how many holly berries there are in November but not when you want to use them for Christmas wreaths and other decorations? Autumn is the best season to enjoy berries and this year seems to be particularly rich, with hawthorn trees glowing a colourful orange. The combination of a dry, warm spring with a wet summer has led to this plethora.

Berries are a crucial food source for many birds and animals that are building up their energy reserves before winter, so between now and Christmas a great many get eaten. Rodents such as mice, voles, shrews and squirrels eat a range of berries as do less obvious animals including foxes, badgers and hedgehogs. Deer love plants from the *Rosaceae* family which includes roses and brambles and will delicately pick off berries and hips. Birds love berries and can make quite a mess! Look out for members of the thrush family including song and mistle thrush as well as blackbirds. Winter migrants arrive in the autumn so you may see both redwing and fieldfare in your churchyard feasting on yew and other berry-bearing trees such as holly, hawthorn and rowan. Brambles carrying blackberries are popular and feed a range of birds, animals and also insects. You can often find the next stage of the food web with spiders spinning webs to catch creatures attracted to the berries.

If you are planting shrubs within your churchyard how about choosing berry-bearers, particularly native species such as spindle and guelder rose. If you already have shrubs or a hedge then try and delay any pruning work until the berry feast is over. The end of winter is a good time to cut back hedges and other shrubs, this gives birds and animals food, plus shelter from the winter weather (and from predators such as cats), whilst getting things under control before birds start to build nests in the spring.



All the best, Harriet Carty

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN DIGEST SOUND MAGAZINE

The Diocesan Digest was founded in 1989 and is the Sound Magazine for Lichfield Cathedral and the Diocese. Volunteers produce a full audio magazine every month which gives news and conversation for people who are blind and partially sighted, as well as anyone else who is interested.



In the Digest's studio with volunteers Helen Beck, Jill Sutton, Nigel Oakley

It continues to appear online each month and is also sent out on memory sticks with listeners all over the country and in many parts of the world.

And there really is something for everyone.

This month as well as the latest news from the parishes around the diocese there is the headlines from the wider church, what's on at the cathedral, a Pas-

toral Letter, music plus longer interviews with people making the news and performers appearing in the region. Some members see articles in magazines or newspapers and bring them along to the recording while others read whatever the editor selects for them. In addition volunteers record longer interviews on a wide range of subjects. Recently you would have heard chats with performers at the Lichfield Festival, a local author who has just had his first novel published and from the project managers behind the very visible and major restoration work currently being undertaken on the central spire of the cathedral.

We also get into the undergrowth of churchyards to learn more about the fauna and flora courtesy of our friends at the charity Caring for God's Acre and there is always some music sent in by talented

listeners.

Digest members come from all walks of life. Some have broadcasting and sound editing experience, others have none at all but are just keen on helping to make sure as many people as possible hear about what is happening in the diocese. We meet once a month in a small studio equipped with the latest recording software.

The podcast duration is about two hours but the best thing about it is you can listen however you wish. You can hear a few minutes, switch off and then come back later and pick up where you left off.

The Digest is funded entirely by donations and any financial help is gratefully received.

Paul Marriot *is the leader of the Diocesan Digest team having escaped a career in BBC local radio.*

The latest edition is available at www.lichfield-cathedral.org/about-us/diocesan-digest

ALL SAINTS BASCHURCH

All Saints " 100 Club" Winners

Oct 2023	No 24 Roger Hall	No 48. Venise Harrison
	No 56. Patricia Budgen	No 78 Mary Cox

SOCIAL EVENTS

Christmas Tree Festival 2nd and 3rd December 2023 (see poster on page 12)

Christmas Social 9th December 2023(see poster on following page)

Yeoman Singers 12th December 2023 (see poster on the next page)

BAP's Pantomime Friday 19th January 2023 at 19.30
Saturday 20th January at 14.30 and 19.30
at the Corbet School

Shrewsbury Brass Band 27th April 2024 at All Saints Church
Church Fete 6th July 2024



All Saints Christmas Social Evening Saturday 9th December 7pm

At The Paddocks, Old Woods
(Home of Martyn and Dawn 290777)

Bring and Share supper
Games Carol Singing

In aid of Holy Trinity Church

Test your knowledge during a fun evening of wine, soft drink, cheese tasting and trivia. Delicious cheeseboards, the bar will be open and plenty of entertainment from our resident compere!

‘What’s My Wine?’
(and Cheese)


Saturday 18th November

at 7.00pm

Weston Lullingfields Village Hall

Tickets cost £15, to purchase and for more information call

Nicky Hey on 07443 939 451



★ THE YEOMAN SINGERS ★



Christmas Concert

with special guests

SPLIT NOTES

Tuesday December 12th | 7:30 PM

All Saints Church


Baschurch, SY4 2GD

Tickets £10

(including refreshments)

Children under 16 free.

Proceeds to All Saints Porch Pantry



Tickets available from choir members or on the door.
Email: yeomansingersshrewsbury@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

**SATURDAY 2ND & SUNDAY 3RD
DECEMBER 11AM - 4PM**



**FESTIVE MUSIC SHREWSBURY CONCERT BAND
& SHREWSBURY LIGHT ORCHESTRA
CRAFT STALLS**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISPLAY A TREE OR HAVE A STALL
CONTACT MARY COX 07807001739 OR 01939261329**

HORDLEY NEWS

It was very good for the three parishes to meet together for the Benefice Harvest Supper, which was well attended. However, we missed seeing the groups of old friends who used to attend our Hordley lunches. Maybe another year we will feel able to resume our own event in some form. Our share of the proceeds this year was £333.

We excelled ourselves with the Ride and Stride this year. The total raised through sponsorship was an astonishing £1,025, which has been sent to the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust. The cheque for our half share of £512.50 has been returned to us and will swell the coffers nicely.

At the time of writing we are gathering fruit and vegetables to decorate St Mary's for the Harvest Service. Donations this year are of long-life items for the Porch Pantry at Baschurch.

Christmas events include an evening entertainment in the village hall on Saturday 25th November. This will include a quiz, beetle drive, carols and possibly a sketch or two. BYO drinks; nibbles will be provided. Further details will be announced in church.

The Carol Service will take place in St Mary's on Tuesday 19th December at 7.30 pm.

The winner of the Hordley Lottery in October was Mrs Doreen Kennerley with number 26.

Finally, congratulations to **Emma Faulkner** and **Samuel Goddard** who were married in St Mary's on Friday 29th October.



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH WESTON LULLINGFIELDS

Churchyard working parties will start again in April 2024 – so there are no working parties from November to March. Jane Ing says many thanks to everyone who has helped out this year to keep the churchyard looking tidy.

The Drop-in cafes will move to the Village Hall from October to March, not in church.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Events in Aid of Holy Trinity Church, Weston Lullingfields

‘What’s My Wine?’ (and Cheese)

Saturday 18th November, 7.00pm at the Village Hall

Test your knowledge during a fun evening of wine and/or soft drink and cheese tasting. There will be delicious cheeseboards, the bar will be open and plenty of entertainment from our resident compere!

Cost £15

Festive Floral Decoration Workshop

Saturday 9th December, 10.30 am—2.30pm at the Village Hall

Refreshments on arrival, materials and light lunch included.

Cost £20

Flash back to the 80’s at our New Year’s Eve Party

8pm till 1am at the Village Hall—Fancy dress optional, disco, food and bar - cost to be decided

For more information call Nicky Hey on 07443 939 451

Anita Weeks



17TH CENTURY NUN'S PRAYER

LORD, thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will someday be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details, give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains, they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them grows sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memory of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint – some of them are so hard to live with – but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Amen.

Mary Thomson sent this prayer to Church Family News. She recently found the prayer in a drawer, handwritten by her mother many years ago. The origin of this anonymous prayer is unknown, and is often ascribed to a "17th Century Nun". But wherever it comes from, and whoever composed it, it has quite a lot of relevance for us today, while, perhaps raising a smile!

William Morgan

Translator of the Bible into Welsh



A rare first edition of William Morgan's Bible on display in St Asaph Cathedral

There is a very interesting display in St Asaph Cathedral in Flintshire about the translation of the Bible into Welsh. After many petitions to Queen Elizabeth I, an Act of Parliament was passed in 1563 to allow the translation of the Bible into Welsh. This was at a time when the Welsh language was in danger of decline, even though a majority of the population of Wales spoke only Welsh.

The first translation of the New Testament and the Book of Common Prayer was by a layman, William Salesbury, and was published in 1567. The full translation of both the Old and New Testament was published in 1588, and was principally the work of one man, William Morgan. He was the second son of John ap Morgan and Lowri who were farmers and tenants of Maurice Wynn of Gwydir Castle near Llanrwst. The family must have been well thought of as the young William was sent to Gwydir Castle to be educated alongside the landlord's children. His birth place, Tŷ Mawr Wybrnant, in the Conwy Valley, is owned by



The opening verses of Genesis in the first edition

the National Trust, and is well worth a visit. It has an original copy of Morgan's translation and a wonderful collection of Bibles from all over the world in many different languages, including a miniature Bible in Japanese. The young William was a very keen scholar, and went on to study at St John's College Cambridge.

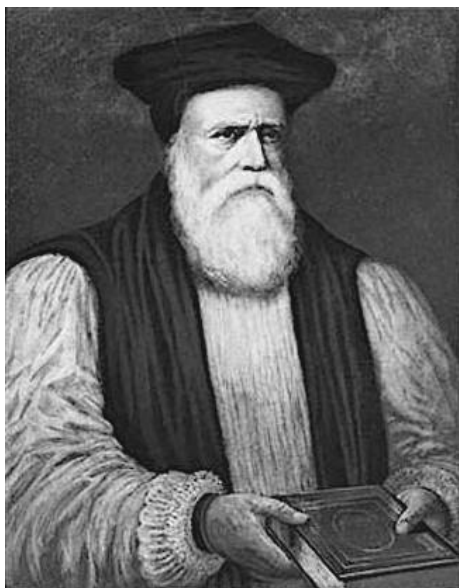
Morgan worked for 10 years on the translation, working from the original Hebrew and Greek,

as well as referring to Salesbury's New Testament and Tyndale's English Translation. His translation brought the Scriptures to his fellow countrymen and women in their heart language and touched the lives of countless thousands. No other Welsh book has been as influential for it is also a work of immense linguistic



Morgan's birthplace, Ty Mawr Wybrnant

and literary significance. Morgan produced a highly accurate translation, which, with some revision in 1620 by Richard Pery and John Davies, was the version in general use in Wales until the final years of the twentieth century. The book is regarded in Wales as the foundation stone on which modern Welsh literature has been based.



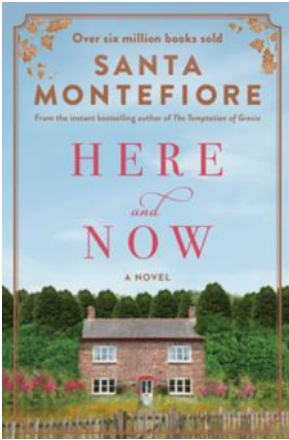
William Morgan (in Bishop's robes)

In 1595 William Morgan became bishop of Llandaff and in 1601 he moved to the diocese of St Asaph. He died in 1604.

Compiled by the Editor

BOOK REVIEWS

Here and Now by Santa Montefiore



If you are interested in understanding more about dementia, you might like to read “Here and Now” by Santa Montefiore. It is a novel describing a woman’s gradual memory deterioration until she no longer recognises those nearest and dearest to her. The feelings of her husband, mother, daughters and friends are described as they gradually recognise and come to terms with what is happening to their much-loved Marigold. Santa Montefiore treats the subject with great compassion and sensitivity. It is a poignant and heart-warming read.

Mary Thomson

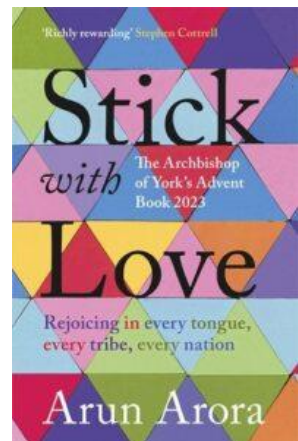
Stick with Love - Rejoicing in Every Tongue, Every Tribe, Every Nation

The Archbishop of York's Advent Book 2023

By Arun Arora, SPCK, £10.99

Martin Luther King famously declared that 'I have decided to stick with love... Hate is too great a burden to bear'. In these luminous daily readings, Arun Arora helps us consider the biblical picture of the Church as the people of God, drawn from every tribe, every tongue, and every nation.

Themes of racial justice, hospitality and welcome are explored alongside the stories of saints from across the globe. Beginning with reflections from Isaiah and Revelation, the meditations lead us on to consider the missionaries, martyrs and mystics who light our Advent way.



SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday 5th November – All Saints

8am BCP Prayer Holy Communion – All Saints’ Baschurch

9.30am Worship for All – Holy Trinity, Weston Lullingfields

11am Common Worship Holy Communion – All Saints’ Baschurch

Readings: 1 John 3:1-3 and Matthew 5:1-12

6pm ‘Lights of Love’ A Service remembering those who have died.

Saturday 11th November – Armistice Day

10.50am A Short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorials in Baschurch and Weston Lullingfields

Sunday 12th November – Remembrance Sunday

9.15am Remembrance Service – St Mary’s Hordley

10.50am Remembrance Service – All Saints’ Baschurch (see page 20)

Readings: Psalm 23 and 1 Corinthians 15:50-end

6.30pm Contemporary Service with Holy Communion –
All Saints’ Baschurch

Sunday 19th November – 2nd Sunday before Advent

8am BCP Holy Communion - All Saints’ Baschurch

9.30am CW Holy Communion - Holy Trinity, Weston Lullingfields

11am CW Holy Communion – All Saints’ Baschurch

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 and Matthew 25:14-30

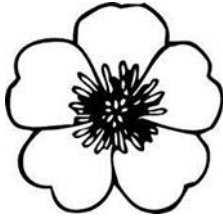
Sunday 26th November – Christ the King

9.15am Common Worship Holy Communion – St Mary's Hordley

11am Common Worship Holy Communion – All Saints' Baschurch

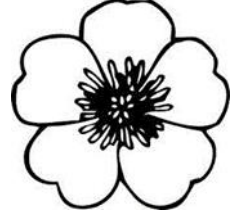
4pm Forest Church – All Saints' Baschurch

Readings: Ephesians 1:15-end and Matthew 25:31-end



REMEMBRANCE

**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER
ARMISTICE DAY**



A short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorials in Baschurch and Weston Lullingfields at 10.50am

SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

9.15AM AT ST MARY'S HORDLEY

A Service of Remembrance

10.50AM AT ALL SAINTS' BASCHURCH

A Service of Remembrance

An Act of Remembrance and the laying of Wreaths begins the Service at the War Memorial in the Churchyard before moving into the Church.

The Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Members of the Armed Forces, past and present, the Royal British Legion, Uniformed Organisations and The Fire Service, led by the Boreatton Drum Corps, will parade from the Village Hall to the Church via Church Road.

For anyone wishing to join the parade please assemble at 10.30am in the Village Hall Car Park.

There will be temporary road closures until the parade passes and around Church Road during the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial. After the service the parade will march off down Church Road as the Deputy Lord Lieutenant takes the Salute.

**NEW TESTAMENT DAILY PRAYER READINGS FOR
MORNING PRAYER IN NOVEMBER**

DATE	READING	DATE	READING
1	John 17:20-end	16	Matthew 5:38-end
2	John 18:1-11	17	Matthew 6:1-18
3	John 18:12-27	18	Matthew 6:19-end
4	John 18: 28-end	19	Revelation 4
5	Ephesians 1:11-end	20	Matthew 7:1-12
6	Matthew 1:18-end	21	Matthew 7:13-end
7	Matthew 2:1-15	22	Matthew 8:1-13
8	Matthew 2:16-end	23	Matthew 8:14-22
9	Matthew 3	24	Matthew 8:23-end
10	Matthew 4:1-11	25	Matthew 9:1-17
11	Matthew 4:12-22	26	Luke 19:29-38
12	1 Timothy 2:1-7	27	Matthew 9:18-34
13	Matthew 4:23-5:12	28	Matthew 9:35-10:15
14	Matthew 5:13-20	29	Matthew 10:16-33
15	Matthew 5:21-37	30	John 12:20-32 <i>(Andrew the Apostle)</i>

From the Registers

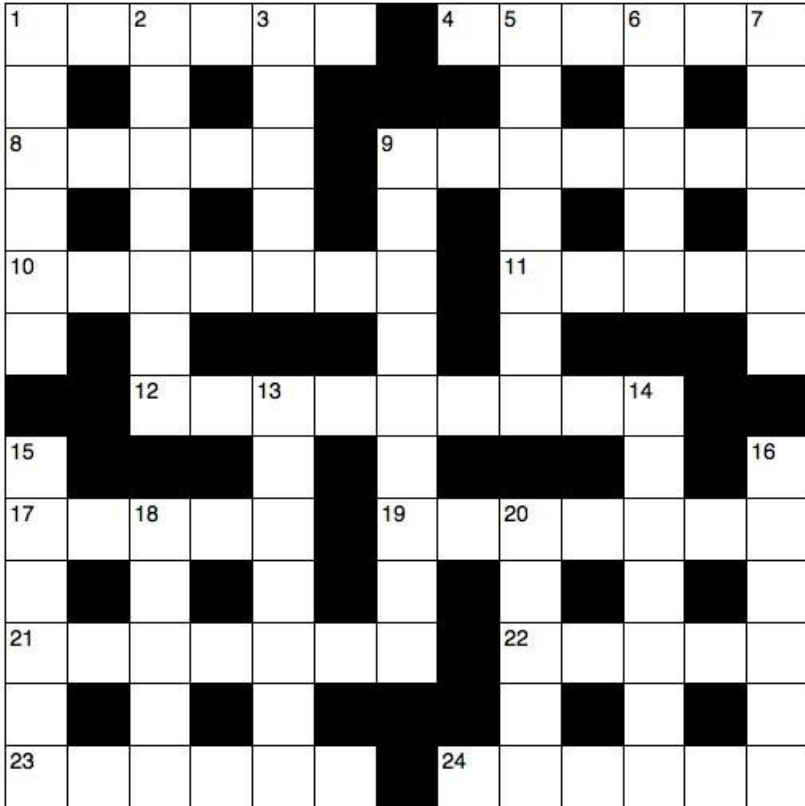
Weddings

Friday 29th September at St Mary the Virgin, Hordley

Samuel Goddard and Emma Faulkner

We wish them lots of happiness in their married life together.

CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD CLUES

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 27

Anthem for Doomed Youth

by Wilfred Owen

What passing-bells for these who die as cattle?

— Only the monstrous anger of the guns.

Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle

Can patter out their hasty orisons.

No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells;

Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs,—

The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells;

And bugles calling for them from sad shires.



What candles may be held to speed them all?

Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes

Shall shine the holy glimmers of goodbyes.

The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall;

Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds,

And each slow dusk a drawing-down of blinds.

Wilfred Owen

- was born in 1893 at Plas Wilmot, Weston Lane, Oswestry. He enlisted in the Artists' Rifles in 1915, before being given a commission in the Manchester Regiment. Wounded in 1917, diagnosed with shell-shock, he met fellow poet Siegfried Sassoon in the Craiglockhart War Hospital in Edinburgh. Most of the poetry for which he is known, was composed in a creative outburst in a single year, 1917—18, including the sonnet above, *Anthem for Doomed Youth*. He rejoined his regiment in June 1918 and returned to the front in August, awarded the Military Cross at Amiens in October, and killed in action on 4th November.

The memorial to our local war poet in Oswestry was commissioned by the Town Council in 2018, and is the work of local artist Timothy Guy Turner.

Bits and Pieces

Cathedrals in the UK

Since 2000 the Church of England (C of E) has been collecting and publishing details about its Cathedrals. The attendance figures are vivid reminders of the effects of Covid-19.

In the seven years from 2013 to 2019, the average total annual regular attendance in the C of E Cathedrals was 511,000 people. Three years later, in 2021, it was exactly half that, at 255,000.

This excludes the many special services held such as for schools, Diocesan services, graduation services or others, which totalled over two million people in 2019, though halving again in 2021.

Christmas attendance in 2019 was 670,000 and 270,000 in 2021. Most Cathedrals also offer on-line services, and these have continued since the cessation of lockdown restrictions.

Church of England Cathedrals had some 9.7 million visitors in 2019. In 2021 it was 4.6 million.

There is some apprehension about whether numbers will have returned when the 2022 figures are known.

A New Kind of Poppy

For the first time in 28 years, there is a new kind of poppy for Remembrance Sunday this year: it is plastic free.

The new poppy has been three years in the development and making. The aim was to reduce the use of single-use plastic and to “be economical, sustainable, and less impactful to the environment.”

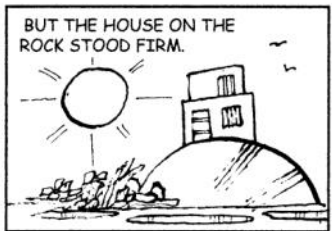
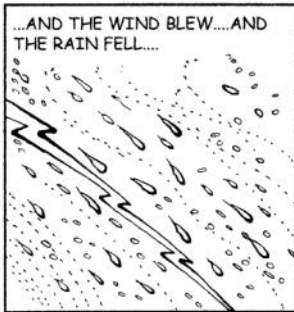
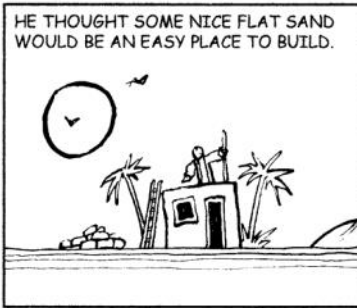
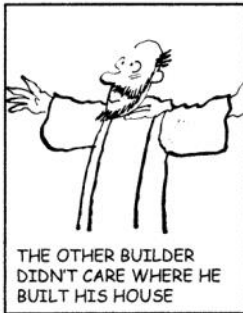
The plastic-free poppy will be available alongside remaining stocks of the current poppy, to reduce any waste of poppies already produced. Poppies containing single-use plastic can be returned to Sainsbury’s stores for recycling.

Picture Parable

The Tale of the TWO BUILDERS



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Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Thanks. 4, Banner.
8, Esher. 9, Azariah. 10, Com-
pare. 11, Ishma. 12, Doorposts.
17, Oaths. 19, Galatia. 21, Papy-
rus. 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, Com-
pel. 16, Gallop. 18, Tapes. 20,
Lofty.

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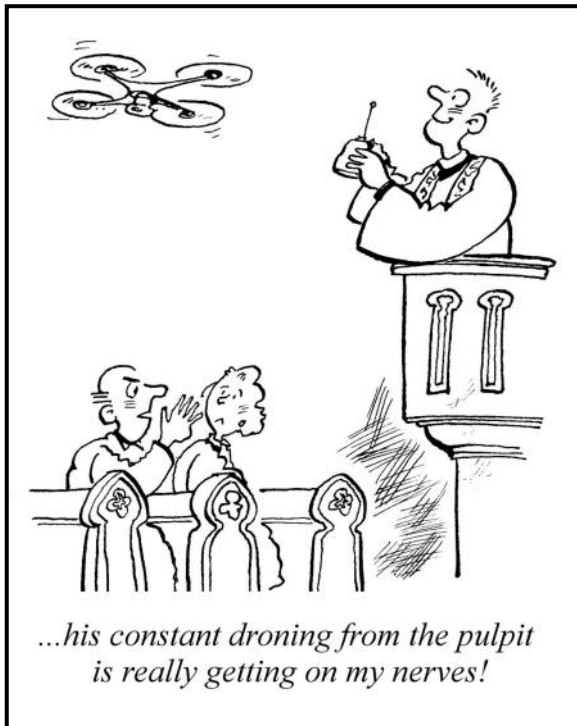
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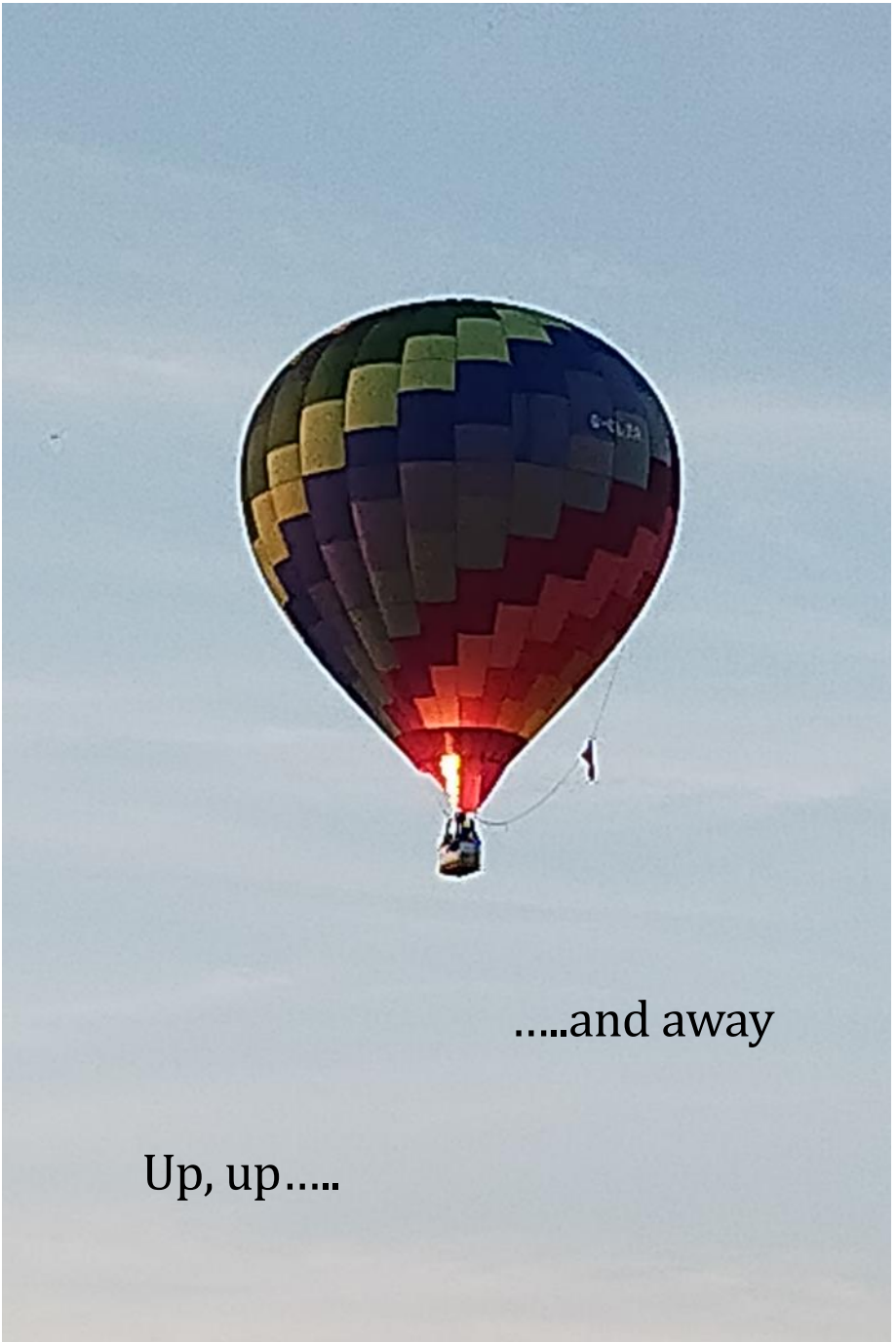
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