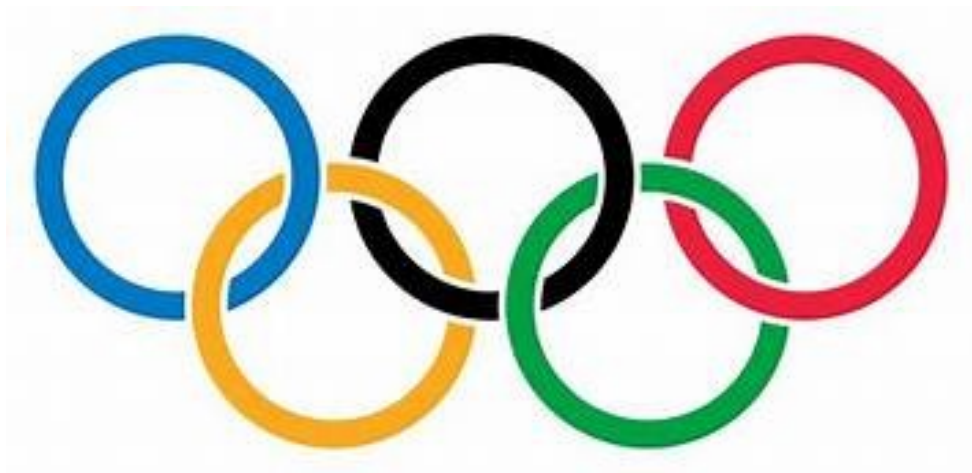




CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2021



CONGRATULATIONS

TEAM GB



SERVING THE PARISHES OF

ALL SAINTS'
Baschurch

HOLY TRINITY
Weston Lullingfields

ST MARY'S 50p
Hordley
Per issue

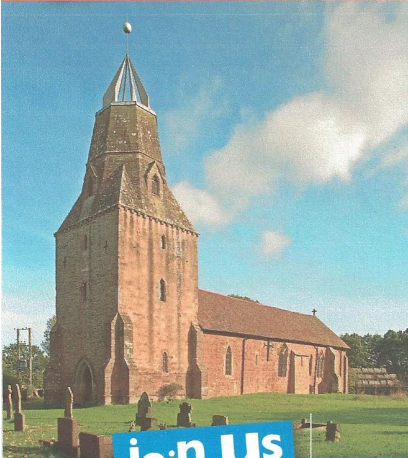
RIDE + STRIDES for Churches

**11th Sept.
2021**

**SHROPSHIRE'S
CHURCHES AND
CHAPELS OPEN DAY**

Join us for a sponsored cycle ride, walk, horse ride or even run, jog or use a mobility scooter to visit Shropshire's beautiful churches and chapels to raise funds for repairs.

In 2020 we raised £16,220 thanks to your help. The money you raise will be shared between Shropshire Historic Churches Trust and a church or chapel you nominate.



Join Us



Sponsorship forms may be obtained from Angela Mayes for Baschurch (tel: 01939 261047) and from Mary Thomson for Hordley (tel: 01691 622198). See Hordley News on page 17.

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SUBMISSIONS FOR OCTOBER MAGAZINE

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

15th September 2021

to: **churchfamilynews@gmail.com**



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

ASSOCIATE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter parts of life as we knew it pre-Covid are beginning to re-emerge. For some, it's a time for rejoicing as relationships and friendships are renewed as we are able to travel and meet up in homes; we can sing in church albeit with face masks and we can have coffee after the service and so on. However, for some, life outside the home is still scary and reunions, which many are enjoying right now, are still a long way off for others. As the church family here in this benefice, we are very much aware of the importance of keeping everyone safe, therefore there is space for those of you who need to maintain social distancing, wearing of masks is still encouraged, especially when moving around the church, and for those who are still unsure of attending church, the on-line services will still be sent out for the time being.

Yesterday(15th August) in church, we celebrated the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We read the Magnificat – Mary's extraordinary response to her cousin's greeting when they met following God's call on her life, to carry within her body God's own Son, to bring him to birth and to nurture him in the ways of God.

In the Magnificat we are given a vision of a world that reflects the justice, the compassion and the love of God, of a world that comes into being wherever people listen to Him and work with Him.

Mary's call from God was earth-shattering – she could have turned around and said 'no', I can't do this, you are asking too much from me; I could lose my husband-to-be, my family, my community or *even my life!* Thankfully, God's Spirit gave her the strength and reassurance of His presence with her which enabled her to say 'yes'. When God calls *us*, He places His hand upon *us*, and puts His Spirit within *us*; we do His work not in our own strength, but in *His*.

God calls each and every one of us to His ministry. Everything we do in our lives which is done for His glory and for the benefit of our human family is God's ministry.

As we gradually come out of the restrictions which have been necessary for our safety and well-being, over the next few weeks might be

a good time to think about God's call upon your life. We are hoping to re-open the Monday café and the Thursday midweek service and lunches; both need help to put these on. All three churches would welcome help in all sorts of ways – cleaning, flower, reading and intercession rotas are just a few things which you may like to think about.

God may be wanting you to deepen your faith – several courses will be starting over the next few months; everyone will be welcome to join in; they will be for those of you with no faith to those who have had a faith for years. For one or two of you, you may feel led to explore training in various ministries within the church such as readership or even ordained ministry. God takes us out of our comfort zone sometimes but he never lights the fuse wire then disappears, He will travel with you every step of the way.

If you feel that God is calling you, don't ignore it, find someone that you can talk to, it's always good to have someone to listen and help you to discern God's call upon your life. With Mary, let us say today a resounding 'yes', that God may work in and with and through us to bring in His Kingdom, His world, a world of compassion and justice and love.

Every Blessing,

Deborah

Childrens Society Home Box Collection

This year we have raised £1094.51 for this worthy cause.

My sincere thanks go to all those who have contributed; the funds raised will be much appreciated by the Children's Society.

Pauline Nelson



Services in September

There are two new services at Baschurch to look out for this month along with the return of our Thursday morning Holy Communion service.

Thursday Holy Communion re-starting 2nd September at 11.30am

Sunday Services

5th September

8am BCP Communion at Baschurch

9.30am Worship for All at Weston Lullingfields

11am Holy Communion at Baschurch

6.30pm Contemporary service. This is a new service which will be more informal and have modern music& videos – refreshments will be served from 6pm. See page 9.

12th September

9.15am Worship for All at Hordley

11am Holy Communion at Baschurch

6pm Evensong at Baschurch

19th September

8am BCP Communion at Baschurch

9.30am Holy Communion at Weston Lullingfields

11am Worship for All at Baschurch

26th September

9.15am Holy Communion at Hordley

11am Holy Communion at Baschurch – **Harvest Festival**

4pm Forest Church – a new outdoor service for families. See next page.

Our online service will continue each week at 4pm

Forest Church

Connecting with God through nature

A new family-style service in the churchyard at All Saints'
on the
4th Sunday of the month
at 4pm

This service will last about 30mins and will be entirely outside regardless of the weather – so come prepared!

There will be a short activity for families or individuals to do and we will end with refreshments.



Further details available from Linda

Sunday Bible Readings for September

Sunday 5th September

Isaiah 35: 4-7a

Mark 7: 24-37

Sunday 12th September

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Mark 8: 27-end

6pm – Exodus 18: 13-26

Matthew 7: 1-14

Sunday 19th September

Jeremiah 11: 18-20

Mark 9: 30-37

Sunday 26th September

Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Mark 9: 38-end

Harvest Festival Readings Still to be decided

COMMUNITY LUNCHESES

Community Lunches are due to resume at

All Saints' Church

on Thursday 2nd September at 12.30 pm

We look forward to welcoming everyone back.

All are welcome.

No charge. Donations gratefully accepted (no more than £3).

Come along and meet new friends. Good food and
friendly conversation.



The Six Thirty Service

What? A contemporary style service of worship at All Saints' Baschurch. The service will include modern songs, short videos and have an informal feel.

When? The first Sunday of the month starting on **5thSeptember 6.30 – 7.30pm**
(Tea and biscuits served at 6.00)

Who? The service aims to be simple in style and accessible to everyone. All are welcome as we take time to pause and spend time in God's loving presence.

All Saints' Café

The Café at All Saints Church will restart on Monday 6th September, 2021. The times will remain the same - 10.15 - 11.45.

ALL WELCOME

Working with the biggest corporation in the world - the Church.

September is always the start of a new school year, and this one perhaps with more hopes than the last. Alex Wolvers, the diocese's Mission in Schools Enabler certainly has.

As a member of both the diocese board of education and the mission team my role has looked very different since Covid hit. One of my main jobs over the last 19 months has been the writing of 'bubble' worship material, alongside the rest of our team. These resources have been used by church workers as part of their outreach to schools and directly by schools for use in their class bubbles and it has even been adapted as part of their home learning packs. Writing the worships has been fun and it has been a privilege to serve our schools in this way, but nothing truly beats being in school with the children.



Thankfully things are beginning to change.

I had a fantastic opportunity last week to share one of outdoor 'Blue Sky Worships' with a group of children in a local school not far from where I live. It was an amazing time as we spent a warm morning in the forest reflecting on the creation poem that can be found in Genesis 1, the very first chapter of the Bible.

The opening words of the Bible are perhaps the most famous ever written. 'In the beginning, God created...' The rest of the chapter unfolds as a picture of every part of creation being carefully made to fulfil its own purpose. There's a refrain that runs through it all, 'And God saw that it was good' that is until it comes to human beings when God announces that these are, 'very good.'

It was great fun spending time with the children exploring God's creation, imagining that this was the first time that we had ever seen it. We looked at all the shades of green there were surrounding us, we looked for the smallest living thing that we could find, and we looked at one thing that truly made us go, 'WOW!' We also looked for something that

was mentioned in the Bible verses and seeing as we had an Adam and an Eve in the class that one was easy.

The Bible teaches us that we need to become 'like little children' – spending that morning with those children gave me a real insight into what that verse actually means. The joy, the laughter, the fun, and amazement with which they approached God's world were all a real blessing to me.

My encouragement for you would be, either as individuals or as a church community, if you are not already, get involved in worship at your local school. This could be through Open the Book biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/ or by using our worship material www.ldbe.co.uk/ or even consider how your church grounds could be used as a resource in itself.

Alex Wolvers



THE CORBET SCHOOL

INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED

The Corbet School currently has a vacancy for a Community Governor.

We would be interested in hearing from anyone who would like to make a contribution by joining the Governing Body. We would particularly be pleased to hear from someone who lives locally with a background in business and interest in educational issues.

The Corbet School has an excellent reputation and is consistently one of the best performing secondary schools in Shropshire. The Governors work closely with the Head teacher and her management team to help improve school performance.

Informal enquiries can be made via the Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Jane Davies jane.davies@corbetschool.net 01939 260296

Baschurch News

A Plea for our Prayers

I was contacted recently by Sue Thomas from The Kabanda Trust with an up-date on a truly distressing situation in Uganda. Covid has wreaked terrible damage on the country with only 1% of the population having been vaccinated. There is a lockdown of all but essential services and there has been a steep increase in deaths with few hospital beds and little oxygen available. Several of the staff at The Rock of Joy School are affected and the Headteacher of the local Secondary School where their children graduate to, has died. Staff are now having to concentrate on supporting families locally from a limited Foodbank that they run.

Sue quoted one case of a pregnant mother abandoned by her husband with no food, electricity cut off and a landlord demanding rent. She needs a Caesarian but would need to pay for this. This is just one of many similar situations and Sue has asked for our prayers for The Rock of Joy and the whole of Uganda. She made no request for funds, this genuinely was a plea for our prayers but having heard of this crisis I am including the details of The Kabanda Trust should anyone wish to donate. Their website address is: thekabandatrust.org.uk or c/o Trentham Mews Medical Centre, Eastwick Crescent, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8XP

On a more positive note we have sponsored a young man at The Rock of Joy for several years and were delighted to receive a short video from him recently telling us that he has been accepted for a scholarship to a University in Japan to study engineering - when he is allowed to travel. A wonderful testament to what can be achieved through a small monthly contribution, prayer and encouragement.

Pat Davies

All Saints "100 Club" Winners

July 2021: No 54 Hazel Timmis
No 70 Susan Brown

August: No 112 Daphne Lewis
No 129 January Incles

Weston Lullingfields Tower.

Although Holy Trinity is surrounded by lovely views of the Shropshire countryside, we are quite exposed to the elements, particularly high winds. For this reason we are constantly monitoring the condition of the roof tiles and tower. We have been concerned about the woodwork on the tower which has been showing signs of decay for several years.

In July, scaffolding was erected in order that work could begin to replace the rotten woodwork.. The photographs on page 35 show the extent of the damage and the removal of the rotten wood. This then revealed quite a depth of damp nesting material which also had to be removed.

New wood now replaces the old and fine wire mesh lines the louvred areas to prevent small birds from entering the tower. Birds have been a real problem, particularly this year, during the long closure of the church.

When the tower work was complete, the scaffolding was lowered to roof level so that any damage to the roof could be identified and rectified.

Our grateful thanks go to members of the congregation and the wider community for your generous donations towards this project. Also to Rob Sadler for the photographs featured in this magazine. More photographs showing the complete restoration are displayed inside the church.

Anne Roberts



WESTON LULLINGFIELDS

First of all I have to say a very big thank you to everyone who supported the summer raffle, both by purchasing raffle tickets and by providing some fantastic raffle prizes. There were some brilliant contributions for the garden and pamper hampers. Donations for the food and drink hampers were also very good and the generous Spar voucher allowed me to purchase much more. In the end we had enough to create an extra food hamper and a second pamper hamper.

Winning ticket numbers

Food Hamper 1	0671
Food Hamper 2	0815
Gardening Hamper	0270
Pamper Hamper 1	0801
Drinks Hamper	0128
Pamper Hamper 2	0734
Food Hamper 3	0684

Many of you generously donated extra as well. The sale of raffle tickets raised £300 with a further £1060 in donations. I am sure that you will have noticed the scaffolding by the church tower. We are delighted that the work has been finished. The tower is now in much better repair and there will no longer be problems with rain leaking in. Church cleaning duty will also be less of a problem as the repairs will reduce the amount of dust and dirt blowing in – and we hope to see no more birds in church!

Many people I have spoken to recently are a bit split these days - between optimism about the success of the vaccination programme and more freedom of movement and opening up of various activities, shopping and mixing, but also worrying that there is too much freeing up (especially at some big sporting events and the easing of some travel restrictions) and wondering what the consequences might be. Most of the people I have seen are generally sticking to the precautions of masks, hand washing and not going overboard with mixing socially. But

we are all finding our own ways of coping and managing. We had a successful and safe holiday with the family in Scotland – lots of fun in the sea, walking and exploring with minimum contact with other people. The accommodation was at the end of a peninsula on the Isle of Skye with a beach at the end of the garden. The change of scene and spending time with the family was a real boost.

Not everyone likes sport or watching sport on the television but the Olympics have provided us with some amazing entertainment and a lift out of the current uncertainty. It has been great to see the success of so many of our sportsmen and women. I have watched sports I have never seen before – I have to say I understand no more about baseball, even after watching one game twice! What has impressed me is the enthusiasm, fitness and camaraderie between the competitors. Many people have started exercise and sports in the past eighteen months, some for the first time. We certainly plan to continue with our walks.

Anita Weeks

Inside the church has had a thorough clean and storage areas sorted . It feels cleaner, brighter and very welcoming. The cleaning is much easier now and the rota thankfully sorted for the rest of 2021. One pair would like to retire as they are not as young as when they started years ago. If two people could volunteer for 2022 it would be a great help.

There are now flowers for each service. The new flower rota is working well but does have two windows free for the harvest month of October and one for the Christmas season, if anyone would like to try their hand at doing an arrangement.

The churchyard is in the middle of its late summer tidy so it can go into winter with short turf ready for the spring flowers next year. There are two working parties before the winter rest. Second Saturday in the month 10.00am until midday in September and October. Anyone is welcome to help or come and see how we keep this churchyard being one of the best in the county.

Jane Ing

From the Registers

Baschurch

Baptism:

Florence Opal Richardson at All Saints' on 27th June.

Marriage:

Miles Bradshaw and Lucy Whiteley at All Saints' on Saturday 7th August.

Hordley

Marriages:

Charles Manford and Grace Hill at St Mary's on Saturday 31st July.

Craig Bowler and Julie Johnson at St Mary's on Saturday 7th August.

MORE NEWS FROM LETTERS FROM LOUISE

In February 2020 we printed a small article describing Omega Care for Life, a national charity based in Shrewsbury.

During the pandemic their pen-pal service "a letter from Louise" has grown, providing befriending to an increasing number of lonely and socially isolated people. In March this year 200 letters were exchanged. "Chatterbox" helps care-givers and lonely people by weekly telephone calls to offer companionship and conversation. In April the number of clients reached 100.

Sadly, for many of the people helped by these services the problems of loneliness and social isolation will not go away now that Covid restrictions have eased.

If you would like more information on becoming a volunteer or about receiving one of these services, please contact Omega at London House, Town Walls, Shrewsbury, SY1 1TX or 01743 245088 or search info@omega.uk.net.

HORDLEY NEWS

It is very good that services are creeping towards normality with the possibility of removing masks once seated in church, but replacing them for the singing of hymns. Refreshments can also be served again, which is so good for community spirit.

On consecutive weekends in July/August, St Mary's was the venue for two marriages when the church was bedecked in foliage and flowers for the occasions. The church was open one day in the intervening week so that visitors could enjoy our ancient building looking at its best.

The Strawberry Tea that was announced in the last issue was sadly postponed until 2022 on account of anxiety over the rising infection rate and the difficulty of providing suitable indoor facilities in the event of inclement weather.

There is some enthusiasm for the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust's Ride and Stride event on Saturday 11th September. Several people have agreed to take part either on foot or bicycle or by joining a car tour visiting six or seven churches to the west of Hordley. A hot supper for up to twelve people is being offered at Team Thomson's home in Ellesmere, provided some sponsorship has been obtained! For further details please contact Andrew or Mary on 01691 622198. The sponsorship money raised will be divided between the SHCT and St Mary's. We are always keen to support the Trust which has provided several grants to help pay for essential repairs to St Mary's in the past. We note that in 2020 All Saints', Baschurch received a grant of £1500 for repairs to plaster cornices. We also note that the SHCT Annual review of 2020 contains a very nice photograph of St Mary's.

The next PCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday 9th September at 7.30 pm in church.

The winner of the lottery draw in July was Lucy Lee with number 23 and in August it was Richard Manford with number 58.

Mary Thomson

The Shrewsbury Ark

The Shrewsbury Ark is a day-centre in the heart of Shrewsbury offering facilities and ongoing support to homeless and vulnerable people. It is run by the registered charity, The Shrewsbury Christian Centre Association.

We have recently purchased the Rock & Fountain pub, just down the road from our current, council owned premises, and now need support to raise the funds to refurbish this fantastic building into a vibrant community hub offering a warm welcome, practical help and the possibility of a brighter future to the most vulnerable members of our society.

We have been located at 10 Castle Foregate since 2008 and whilst we are hugely grateful to the council for providing these premises, the building does not have the space we need to provide vital support services such as medical clinics, counselling sessions, training and activity areas to meet the needs of our community

Trustees took the decision to purchase the Rock & Fountain in 2020; it is a historic moment for the charity, as it is the first time in our 49-year history that we have owned our own premises.

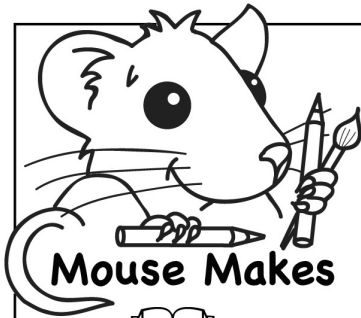
The building needs many modifications to meet building regulations and a 'top to toe' renovation is required; everything from rewiring, fire and other health and safety regulations, to installing a kitchen, showers, laundry facilities, and new flooring.

This is the biggest project the Charity has undertaken since it was established in 1972 and so we are asking the community to get behind transforming the Rock & Fountain into a new, vibrant community hub.

As a charity we rely totally on donations and grants to operate and with the town's continued support, we truly believe we can make a permanent and far-reaching impact on the town's homeless and vulnerable and help transform lives.

To find out more about the Shrewsbury Ark and get involved visit <https://www.shrewsburyark.co.uk>

(Copied from the Shrewsbury Ark website with kind permission from Emily Bell, Chair of Trustees)



Mouse Makes



The bowl of flour and the jar of oil

It had not rained for months and months, there was a drought in the land.

God sent His prophet **Elijah** to the town of Zarephath. At the town gate he saw a widow gathering firewood.

"Please bring me a drink of water and some bread." he asked her.



She answered "All I have is a handful of flour and a drop of oil in a jar, it is our last meal."

"Do not worry." Elijah said, "Make the meal and make a small loaf for me."

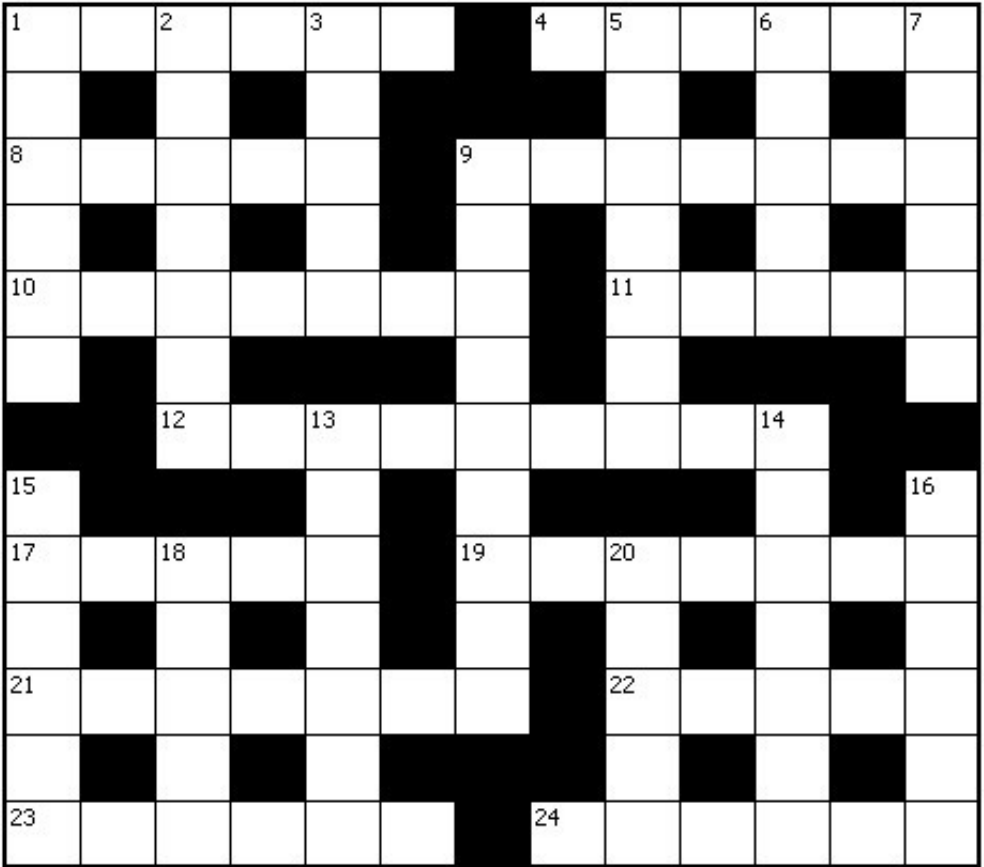
The woman did what Elijah had asked and God blessed her ...

... The bowl never ran out of flour and the jar never ran out of oil until it rained again!



Find these words from the story in the word search:

- WORD • LORD • GOD • ELIJAH • SENT • ZAREPHATH • GATE • CITY • WIDOW
- STICKS • WATER • DRINK • BREAD • FEED • HANDFUL • FLOUR • LITTLE
- OIL • SON • EAT • DIE • FULL • WENT • MAKE • BAKED • ATE • JAR • JUG • MANY
- DAYS • LIVE • NEVER • EMPTY



Clues Across

- 1 'Through [Christ] we have gained by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6)
- 4 Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6)
- 8 The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5)
- 9 Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7)
- 10 Belgium's chief port (7)
- 11 Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water' (John 3:23) (5)

- 12 Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9)
- 17 Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5)
- 19 Comes between Amos and Jonah (7)
- 21 'Your will be done' ... as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5)
- 22 Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5)
- 23 Axle, eh? (anag.) (6)
- 24 'Out of the... I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6)

Clues Down

- 1 Popular Christian author and humorist, ... Plass (6)
- 2 Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7)
- 3 Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack(2 Chronicles 32:1) (5)
- 5 Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4)
- 6 Lonny (anag.) (5)
- 7 Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6)
- 9 Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9)
- 13 Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7)
- 14 What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3)
- 15 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net (John 21:11) (6)
- 16 His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6)
- 18 There will be weeping and gnashing of ... (Matthew 8:12) (5)
- 20 Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5)



Froghoppers and Cuckoo Spit!

Have you ever wondered what makes the white, frothy clumps of bubbles that you sometimes see on plants during the summer? Known as Cuckoo spit, Frog spit or Snake spit this is not actually spittle at all, but is produced by juvenile Froghoppers or Spittlebugs. The larva feeds on plant sap and much of the liquid passes through its little body and out again, under pressure. The grub blows a little air into the sticky sap and it bubbles up to form the clump of bubbles. These bubbles provide excellent protection for the growing bug, insulating it from changes in temperature and from drying out. It is also a deterrent against predators. If you look inside the protecting bubbles you will find a single young froghopper, pale green like the plant on which it feeds.

Adult Froghoppers have a different system for avoiding predation, as their name suggests, they hop, sometimes jumping up to 70cm vertically, over 100 times their own length of between 5 and 7mm! They are often brown in colour, and thought to look a little like frogs.

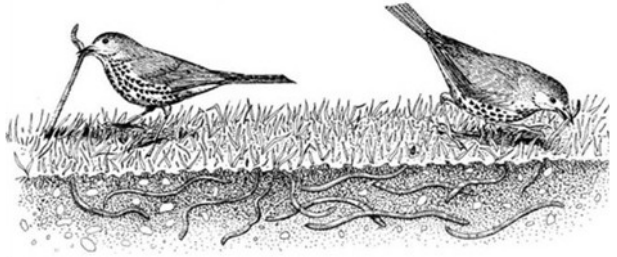
Churchyards and cemeteries can hold a wide range of insect species, in part because of the lack of insecticides used. Most burial grounds have changed little over the decades and centuries, and this has allowed a wide range of insect species to build up. It is not uncommon for entomologists to find rarities in these special places. You can help insects by having differently managed areas within your churchyard. How about some short grass for solitary bees and wasps, longer grass for bees, butterflies and froghoppers and also an area of coarse or tussocky grass and plants such as cow parsley, perhaps against a hedge or wall. This will provide overwintering places for all sorts of animals as well as insects.



All the best, Harriet Carty

[Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk)

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code Lich19



September article.

In Praise of Short Grass

It's easy to overlook the value of short-mown grass, a habitat found in almost all churchyards. Whilst long, flowery meadow areas are particularly good for wildlife, short grass is important too. Keep a look out for pied wagtails, they hunt across flat surfaces like car parks and lawns, always on the move, looking for insects to eat. The black and white colours and 'wagging' tail makes them easy to spot.

Short mown grass is also a favourite of one of our most distinctive birds, the Song Thrush. Song thrushes roost and nest in churchyard trees then use short grass areas to feed, searching for worms, other soil invertebrates as well as fruits such as berries. They also feed on snails which they then open by smashing the shell onto a stone with a flick of the head. A song thrush will use the same place repeatedly for breaking shells, and you may hear the hammer sound of the unfortunate snail, a sound which gives the name of Thrush Anvil to these stones. Song thrush are shy birds, often seen at dawn and dusk and wary of coming too far away from shelter. This makes churchyards perfect places for them, combining trees and shrubs for shelter with short mown grass for hunting. Listen for the beautiful song of the song thrush which perches high in a tree to give maximum amplification and sings short phrases, repeating a phrase 3 or 4 times then starting another one.

You can help song thrushes by keeping a mix of grass lengths including some short-mown areas. Log piles, leaf litter and compost heaps in the shade help to provide snails, ready for the anvil! A simple bird bath will provide birds with a drink and somewhere to bathe too and berry bearing trees and shrubs an extra food source. Please listen for the call of the song thrush and let us know if you hear or see one in your churchyard.

All the best, Harriet Carty

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk,

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code Lich19

FOOD BANK

You will have heard that all Food Banks have been very busy during the last months. Oswestry and Borders is no exception.

Unfortunately, Ellesmere branch has had to close due to the pandemic, so I have had to hang up my tabard for, hopefully, not too long.

The Ellesmere team was able to deliver Christmas trees, donated by a kind farmer, to needy families. This was a very rewarding job. Oswestry branch has had a complete makeover to keep everyone safe: new furniture, screens, deep cleaning, limited staff and visitors; not forgetting the hands-free loo.

Most food parcels are now delivered to clients by local businesses and volunteers. DEFRA has delivered goods direct to the warehouse. Gap year students have done a great job with packing and helping at the warehouse.

Shropshire Council has donated £650 to pay for a translator service for our Bulgarian community. Things were a bit chaotic till then.

The council has also arranged for meat vouchers from three local butchers to help all clients.

The Food Bank now has a money advice team for anyone needing help to manage their finances. Free lateral flow testing kits are also available from Oswestry and most Food Banks.

Local businesses have been very helpful all through these difficult times. Recently Tesco in Ellesmere invited us to man a table in front of the store to bring the Food Bank to the notice of local people; this raised 23 trays of goods to which Tesco added 20 percent; a big help.

I want to thank you all for the help you have given to people in crisis. I am still available to deliver any donations to Oswestry.

My telephone is 01691 623653.

Once again THANK YOU and God bless you.

Pat Lister

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12 loftiness; 17 Satan; 19 Obadiah; 21 on earth; 22 storm; 23 exhale;
24 depths.

DOWN: 1 Adrian; 2 crystal; 3 siege; 5 lay bare; 6 nylon; 7 saying; 9 Lappidoth;
13 funeral; 14 spit out; 15 ashore; 16 Thomas; 18 teeth; 20 aisle.

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

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Holy Trinity spire before, during and after restoration work.
Photographs by Robert Sadler.



Chickory flower seen on a recent walk between Welshampton and Ellesmere.