

# Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Wild Worship Cross Displayed in Church

**Serving the Community**

[www.ainsworthparish.org.uk](http://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk)

September 2023

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### **Sundays**

- 8am 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays in church for BCP Communion
- 10.30am in church for Communion / Family Service
- 6.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays in church for BCP Evening Prayer

### **Wednesdays**

- 6.30pm in church for Mid-Week Praise

The Prayer Book Society also lists some churches livestreaming BCP services: <https://www.pbs.org.uk/churches-and-services/-1>

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### **Be Inspired**

*“I said, “I am falling”; but your constant love, O LORD, held me up. Whenever I am anxious and worried, you comfort me and make me glad.”*

*Psalm 94:v18-19*

.....



## Parish Diary September 2023

### Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup>      **THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

10.30am      Holy Communion

6.30pm      BCP Evening Prayer

Weds 6<sup>th</sup>      6.30pm      MidWeek Praise

### Sun. 10<sup>th</sup>      **THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

8.00am      BCP Communion

10.30am      Church Parade

11.30am      Interment of Ashes – Edna Waring

Weds 13<sup>th</sup>      6.30pm      MidWeek Praise

### Sun 17<sup>th</sup>      **THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

10.30am      Holy Communion

Weds 20<sup>th</sup>      6.30pm      MidWeek Praise

### Sun. 24<sup>th</sup>      **THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

8.00am      Celtic Morning Prayer

10.30am      Holy Communion

12.15pm      Baptism

Weds 27<sup>th</sup>      6.30pm      MidWeek Praise

### OCT. Sun. 1<sup>st</sup>      **THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

10.30am      Holy Communion

6.30pm      BCP Evening Prayer

## Interregnum Update

It may only be a month since the last Parish Magazine 'Interregnum update', but what a busy month it has been!

Early in August, the Diocese officially 'declared the vacancy' at Christ Church Ainsworth; this declaration is the first stage of what will become the recruitment process and triggers various tasks which must be completed in line with Diocesan guidelines. Within 28 days of the vacancy being declared, the Parish must submit their Parish Profile – a detailed description of the Parish and local community, plus a role description for any potential applicants. Thanks to the hard work of our PCC members, our Parish Profile has now been completed and submitted to all relevant parties. We don't yet have any ideas on possible timescale for the recruitment process, but at least 'the ball is now rolling' – watch this space ...

Also in August, we finally received the incredible news that our faculty application for replacement of the church boiler has been approved – hoorah!! A big concern was that the Diocese are reluctant to grant a faculty when a Parish is in interregnum, so again, a massive achievement. Let's hope the contractor can give us an early date for getting this job done.

And finally, our efforts to improve our 'EcoCredentials' has paid dividends, with the fantastic news that we have achieved our EcoChurch Bronze Award – hoorah again!! Huge thanks are due to everyone who has worked so hard to achieve this award in such a short space of time.

Keep up the good work everyone – it is very much appreciated.

*Alison Hartley – Churchwarden (on behalf of the PCC)*

## Editor's Spot ...

Welcome to the September 2023 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine; our uniformed organisations may be enjoying a well-earned break over the summer months, but there is still plenty going on within our Church and local community.

Alongside our regular reports and articles this month, there's information about a Harvest Thanksgiving and Jacob's Join Supper – this is suitable for all age groups, and is intended to be a celebration of Harvest, but also a big thankyou to everyone for their continued efforts and support for our Church – please do your best to join us if you can – it's going to be a great evening!

Also, in this month's magazine you'll find information about the Christ Church Ainsworth '50/50 Lucky Lotto', which will be launching at the beginning of October, plus a number of "Save The Dates" for various upcoming events. Keep an eye on the Parish Diary / Pew Sheet to keep up to date, and make sure that you don't miss out.

If you have an article that you'd like to be included in the Parish Magazine, or if your group / organisation is holding an event that you'd like us to publicise, please get in touch via [ainsworthparishmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishmagazine@gmail.com)

Enjoy this month's magazine and do your best to support the many things that are going on within our Church and wider community in the coming month - *Alison*

## **From The Registers**

WEDDINGS  
July 15<sup>th</sup>

We offer the Church's congratulations to:  
Chantelle Marie Waring & Robert Francis  
Hodderson

FUNERALS  
July 25<sup>th</sup>  
July 27<sup>th</sup>

We commend to God's keeping:  
Venitia Flaherty  
Wyn Steel

## **Flower Rota**

10<sup>th</sup> Sept Mrs. G. White  
24<sup>th</sup> Sept Mrs. S. Varnom

## **The Christ Church Ainsworth 50/50 Lucky Lotto!**

This fabulous fundraiser will be launching on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October.

The Christ Church Ainsworth 50/50 Lucky Lotto will be drawn in Church on the last Sunday of each month, when the winner will receive 50% of that month's ticket sales!!

Tickets cost £1 each (you can enter as many times as you like!) and are available at the back of Church, or by contacting Alison on 07952-709041.

To enter simply fill in a '50/50 Lucky Lotto' ticket, then place it in the box at the back of Church; all proceeds to Church funds.

**And Remember ...  
You have to be in it to win it!!**

## Harvest Thanksgiving & 'Jacob's Join' Supper



Saturday 7th October 7pm onwards in Ainsworth Church & Community Hall. This event is intended to be not only a Harvest celebration, but also a celebration of all that has been achieved during the first 6 months of our interregnum, and a thank you to our whole Church family for being part of the life of our Church.

All age fun and games plus 'Jacob's Join' supper. Everyone welcome; we would love to share this event with as many people as possible, so we've done our best to keep costs to a minimum. Tickets are available in Church or from any PCC member; adults £4, children under 12yrs £2, family ticket (2 adults + 2 children) £10.

## Plastic Bottles Wanted!



Younger members of our congregation will be making 'bottle bottom poppies' to use within our Service of Remembrance; if you have any empty clear plastic bottles (empty water bottles or pop bottles are ideal), please place them in the box in the Church porch. Please be assured that the parts we don't use will be recycled. Thankyou!

## EcoChurch



In the few months that have passed since our Church signed up to the EcoChurch scheme, a huge amount of Eco-Activity has taken place.

The first step was to work through the five areas of the EcoChurch questionnaire; worship, land, buildings, engagement with local & global initiatives, and lifestyle, all come under the spotlight. Having identified the things that we already do well, things that we could easily improve on, and areas that need a bit more work. Our team have worked hard to implement the necessary changes and try new things.

The questionnaire has now been submitted, and we're just awaiting the official confirmation that we've achieved the EcoChurch Bronze Award – a fantastic achievement in such a short space of time!!

A huge thank you to everyone who has been a part of our EcoChurch journey thus far, and particularly to Peter Holden, for co-ordinating our efforts and pulling all the sections together. Look out for our 'Bronze Award' certificate being displayed in Church in the coming weeks.

## Eco Church Top Tip for September:

Green your home this Autumn - tackle climate change and reduce your heating bill by testing how draughty or leaky your home is. Find the gaps that let the cold air in and warm air out (think keyholes, letterboxes, gaps around the edges or bottoms of windows and doors, loft hatches, floorboards etc.) and fix these gaps using the correct materials: (there are lots of handy tutorials on how to do this online). Now is also a very good time to prepare for winter by sticking tinfoil or radiator panels between the wall and radiator, as these will help reflect heat back into your room during the colder months.

## Wild Worship!

This fab new venture has run on Wednesday evenings throughout the Summer holidays; despite the variable weather, we've been out and about in the churchyard each week, making the most of the lovely surroundings and learning about the 'The Creation Story'. So, to begin at the beginning, we spent our first session thinking about light; why we need it and how it might feel without it. Church was eerily quiet as everyone concentrated on making 'stained glass windows' (some very creative ideas!), then noise levels resumed as we moved onto making (and eating) rainbow kebabs and 'praying a rainbow'.



On the second day, God created the oceans and the heavens - and our wild worshippers got busy thinking about what the wind feels like and what it can do, then made prayer funnels, followed by 'cloud cookies'. We finished this session by blowing 'bubble prayers' which looked amazing as they drifted across the churchyard on the breeze.

On a glorious, sunny evening, day three saw us thinking about the plants and trees and fruits and seeds; creating 'eco-pictures' and enjoying fondant dipped fruit, before playing a memory prayer game.



On day four, our theme was the sun, the moon and the stars, and our wild worshippers enjoyed making 'night sky night lights', and star cookies.



Day five saw us thinking about the birds that fly through the heavens, and the creatures that live in the oceans. Sadly, the birds were resolutely silent as we tried to identify different birdsongs, but maybe they will be a bit chirpier when they discover the various feeders that were made and dotted about the Churchyard for them. Intense concentration followed as we created 'fish cakes' – definitely some future cake decorators in this group – and drew the session to a close with 'ripple prayers'.



Our final session focused on animals and people; a bug hunt followed by construction of 'rocking rabbits' was a huge hit, followed by snacking on crunchy caterpillars – a 'bush tucker challenge', Ainsworth style! Silence reigned once more as we drew to a close with 'handprint prayers'.

It's been great to see our wild worshippers working together, learning together, praying together, and producing some really creative ideas – I hope they all enjoyed the sessions as much as we did!



## ABC Parent / Carer and Toddler Group

In July, we said 'goodbye' to 8 children as they left the group to go to nursery. Several have been with us since they were very young babies, and we will miss them and their parents and grandparents very much. We wish them all well for their futures.

ABC will recommence on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, from 10.00am to 11.30am in the Church and Community Hall. We look forward to seeing former families and welcoming new ones.

For anyone who is unfamiliar with ABC, we are a welcoming, friendly 'crew' of Christ Church Ainsworth volunteers, who provide a place for children and babies up to school / nursery age, accompanied by their parents or carers, to take part in free play with a variety of toys, craft

work, structured activity songs and musical instruments. Age appropriate refreshments are included in the cost of £1.50 per one child family (additional children charged at 50pence each).

There is no need to book; just turn up on Friday mornings, **term time only**. Any questions? Just text or phone the number in the magazine on the 'Who's Who in Church Organisations' page.

There won't be an ABC on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> September as we are hosting a MacMillan Coffee Morning. There will be an area set out for children to play, if you would like to support the coffee morning.

The ABC Team.

## An Update From Porch Boxes



Thank you so much for continuing to support Porch Boxes, it is very much appreciated. Donations of any tinned or dried food are always welcome, but items which are particularly needed at the moment include:

Tins of:-

Hot Dogs	Tuna
Stew	Meat
Ravioli.	Chilli con Carne
Meatballs	Spaghetti Bolognese
Beans and Sausage	Spaghetti
Fruit	
Pasta in sauce	Instant noodles
Savoury Rice.	Tea bags(40s)
Biscuits	Bottles of squash
UHT milk – full fat or semi skimmed	

"Bags for Life" are also very gratefully received.

Thank you again from the Porch Boxes Volunteers.

## Private Prayer

Our Church is now open for private prayer on Wednesday afternoons between 2.30 and 4pm. Please feel free to call in for a few moments of calm and tranquillity.

Many thanks to our volunteer 'Church Sitters', who have made it possible for us to offer this opportunity once more.

## Parish Finances

Finance is always a tricky subject to approach; we are aware that many of our regular attenders give generously on a regular basis, and we are incredibly grateful for your continued support. We are also aware that, for many, the cost-of-living crisis means that they have to think more carefully than ever about where limited funds can be spent. The fact remains, however, that since the Covid-19 pandemic and resulting lock downs, the numbers attending Church regularly have fallen, and this coupled with increasing costs, plus some fairly large essential expenses, mean that our Parish finances are at an all-time low.

### Did You Know ...

- It costs around £1,300 per week to run and maintain our Church - that includes the cost of heating, electricity, repairs, insurance and maintenance, plus the cost of ministry within our Parish, and our Parish Share payment to the Diocese.
- That's a total of around £68,000 per year! If it wasn't for the hard work and commitment of our volunteers, and the general cost savings we manage to achieve each year, it would be far more.
- Our Church does not receive any financial support from the Government or local Authority. The only small reserves we have come from legacies or gifts; these funds have been given to maintain the church fabric or the Churchyard and cannot be used for our week by week running costs.
- Attendance at some of our Services can be in excess of 40 people, yet the total collection money received can be as little as £5. **Just to break even, we need to increase our average income by around £268 per week.**
- There are many ways in which you could help to support your Church.

**If you value your village Church and all that it has to offer, please consider whether you may be able to review your giving or involvement.**

**\*\*If you would like to consider setting up a standing order for regular giving, please contact our Treasurer – [davelholden@aol.co.uk](mailto:davelholden@aol.co.uk)**

**\*\*If you would like information about Weekly Envelopes and Gift Aid, please contact our Gift Aid Officer, Carole Butler - 07379 196608.**

**\*\*If you would like to consider volunteering or helping out in any other way, please speak to Revd Debra or Revd Elaine, or contact either Alison Hartley or Chris Haworth (Churchwardens). Thank you.**

## Online Giving

Thanks to the wonders of modern technology, we are now able to accept online donations to support the work of our church.

Online giving is done via a website called 'Give A Little'; you can access our page by clicking on the following link:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/4e852de9-3667-426f-ae72-1747784eda0c>

Or by scanning the following QR code with your mobile phone:



Once you've done that, choose the amount you wish to donate – the suggested options are £5, £10, £20 or £50, but there is also an option to click and choose your own amount. Next, simply follow the on screen instructions - fill in your personal details, (if you are a tax payer you can choose to add Gift Aid to increase your donation), then enter your card

details. When you're finished, you'll get a 'Thank You' message on screen and you can request a receipt via email for your own records – simple!

## Straplines

We are judged by our actions rather than our intentions.

The easiest way to become richer instantly, is to desire less.

The road to success is dotted with some very tempting parking places.

Life isn't about how far you climb, or how fast you progress; it's about how well you bounce back when you're down.

A bad attitude is like a flat tyre – you won't get anywhere until you change it.

Blessed are those who are too busy to worry in the day time, for they will be too tired to worry at night.

## Mission Community News – Exploring Prayer



"Exploring Prayer" is an exciting new initiative will be launching in our Mission Community on Monday 11th September from 2 - 3pm at St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe, with the same session repeated on Tuesday 12th September from 7.30 - 8.30pm at St. Andrew's, Hillock.

Whether you are 'new' to praying or an experienced 'prayer warrior', these sessions are for you! Why not join us as we journey together through the 'whys' and 'hows' of prayer, experience different types of prayer / ways of praying, and find the styles that work best for you and your lifestyle.

These sessions are provided free of charge and will be held at various different Churches throughout our Mission Community over the coming months; no need to book – just turn up! For more info contact Alison on 07952-709041 or email [ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com)

## Mission Community Prayer

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church  
In the burning fire of your love,  
We lift before you the churches of our mission community and the  
communities where we live and serve you.  
Grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of your gospel,  
Bearing with one another in love as You build us together into one  
community.  
Always abiding in You, may we be found steadfast in faith and active  
in service.  
Open our eyes to see the opportunities you have prepared for us to  
work together in mission in new ways;  
Through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen

*Please pray for all of the Churches within our Mission Community –  
Christ Church Walshaw, Christ Church Ainsworth, St. Andrew's,  
Radcliffe, St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe, St. Mary, Radcliffe, All  
Saints Stand, St. Andrew's, Hillock and St. George's, Unsworth.*



## ***Introducing the...***



### **CHRIST CHURCH AINSWORTH 50/50 LUCKY LOTTO!!**

- Only £1/ticket
- To enter simply fill in your '50/50 Lucky Lotto' ticket, then place it in the box at the back of Church.
- Lucky Lotto will be drawn in Church on the last Sunday of each month; the winner will receive 50% of that month's ticket sales!!
- Tickets available at the back of Church or by contacting Alison on 07952-709041

**All proceeds to Church funds**

***And Remember ...  
You have to be in it to win it!!***



**Friday 29<sup>th</sup>  
September**

**10:30 am to 12 noon**

**Ainsworth Church & Community Hall  
Bury Old Road, Ainsworth, BL2 5PQ**

**WORLD'S  
BIGGEST  
COFFEE  
MORNING**

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

***Please join us for cake and a drink***



# CHRIST CHURCH AINSWORTH



## **HARVEST THANKSGIVING JACOB'S JOIN SUPPER**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October, from 7pm  
Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

- Includes Beetle, Bingo & family quiz
- Followed by a 'Jacob's Join' supper; each person / group brings a sweet or savoury dish to create a 'grand buffet' (see list in church if you need some ideas!)
- Tea, coffee & squash provided, but please bring your own 'drinks'
- Please join us as we celebrate Harvest, and also give thanks for our many volunteers, and all that has been achieved in recent months.

**Tickets available in Church or from any PCC member; Adults £4, Children under 12yrs £2, Family ticket (2+2) £10.**

*For more info contact Alison on 07952-709041*



# HEALTHY BODY, HEALTHY MIND



*Ainsworth Parish Church – break time for tea and cake*



Exercise isn't just for the gym.

Doing something active is a form of exercise.

Being active with others is good for social and mental health.

There are many local opportunities to get active through volunteer work.

**Ainsworth Churchyard** is one opportunity. Every Wednesday, volunteers come together to help tidy the churchyard – clearing leaves, mowing grass, tidying the graves. There are jobs for any age or capacity. Tea, cake and a chat split the session into two halves. All are welcome.

**Every Wednesday**

**Come rain or shine!**

**9:00/9:30 – 11.45 a.m.**



## *Candlelight Prayer*



*An oasis of calm at the end of a busy week;  
why not join us for 10 minutes of quiet prayer and  
reflection, each Friday at 8pm on Zoom.*

*Simply click the following link to join in:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88510585974?pwd=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoY2ZDMUFoZz09>

*Or for more info contact Alison on 07952-709041*

*"As the shadows begin to lengthen, be guided by the  
light that shines within you."*





## *Coffee and Conversation*

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

**10.30 – 12 noon**

**Ainsworth Church and Community Hall**

*"A cup of coffee shared with others  
is happiness shared and time well spent."*





## **DO YOU LOVE TO SING?**

### **HAVE YOU EVER RECEIVED A CANCER DIAGNOSIS?**

Founded in June 2012 **Bolton Cancer Voices** is an inspirational, welcoming Choir open to anyone who has received a cancer diagnosis of any type at any time.

Membership is FREE: there is no requirement to read music and no auditions to worry about.

We have no geographical restrictions, as long as you can travel to Bolton for rehearsals.

Through cancer brings the Choir together enabling people to meet others in a similar situation, the focus is on sharing our love of singing, having fun experiences, rising to new challenges and the anticipation of forthcoming appearances. We have lots of laughs; plenty of things to look forward to and never let cancer stand in our way or stifle our dreams and aspirations.

Whether you're new to singing and keen to give it a try or a seasoned performer, we'd love to hear from you.

This is a wonderful opportunity to be part of something very special.

**Rehearsals take place on Mondays 7.30pm - 9.00pm  
at The Friends Meeting House, Silverwell Street, Bolton BL1 1PP**

**Enquiries to Karen Elliott - Chair  
01204 595562 / 07773 164235  
[www.boltoncancervoices.org.uk](http://www.boltoncancervoices.org.uk)  
E-mail: [boltoncancervoices@yahoo.com](mailto:boltoncancervoices@yahoo.com)**

** @BoltonCancervoices  @VoicesBolton**

** We are waiting to hear from YOU! **

## **Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements**

### **Coffee & Conversation**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

**10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

‘A cup of coffee shared with others is happiness tasted & time well spent’

Everyone welcome

### **Harrogate Christmas Market Coach Trip**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December; 8.30 – 6pm**

This is always a popular outing, so book early to avoid disappointment!

Adults £27, Children £15, Family ticket (2+2) £70.

Please note that the coach has disabled access and facilities.

For more info or to book tickets click the link below:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/AinsworthScoutGroup1/FundraisingFamilyCoachTripLlandudnoSaturday16thSeptember2023>

### **Harvest Thanksgiving & Bring And Share Supper**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

**7pm, Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

An evening of food, fun and friendship; everyone welcome!

Tickets available in Church or from any PCC member - adults £4, under 12s £2, family ticket (2+2) £10. For more info contact Alison on 07952-709041

### **The World's Biggest Coffee Morning**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September**

**10.30 – 12 noon; Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

All proceeds to MacMillan Cancer Support; please call in for coffee & cake - everyone welcome.

### **Summer Family Fundraising Coach Trip To Llandudno**

**Now rescheduled for Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

For more info or to book tickets click the link below:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/AinsworthScoutGroup1/FundraisingFamilyCoachTripLlandudnoSaturday16thSeptember2023>

### **Mission Community - Exploring Prayer**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2.30 – 3.30pm, St. Thomas & St. John**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30 – 8.30pm, St. Andrew's, Hillock**

Please note the same session content runs on both of the above dates.

Experience different types of prayer / ways of praying; find out what works best for you & your lifestyle. For more info visit

[ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com)

## Around The Organisations ...

### Group Scout Leader's Update

From our return in September meeting times for all sections have been changed slightly. **All sections meet on a Friday in Ainsworth Church & Community Hall:**

Beavers 6:30 – 7:45 in Top room; Contact Bill White 01204 595378

Cubs 6:30 – 8pm in New room; Contact Gwen White 01204 595378

Scouts 7:45 – 9:30 in Top room; Contact Stacey White 07742 610281

Explorers Fortnightly in New room; Contact John Turner 01204 381590

These times are definite until the end of 2023. If there are any further changes towards the end of the year, notification will be given in good time.

We are looking for new leaders in both the Beaver and Cub Sections, hence the merging of times as shown above, so if you know of anyone willing to take on any posts, please contact GSL Bill White 01204 595378

### Summer Family Fundraising Coach Trip



#### Re-Arranged to Saturday 16th September 2023



Due to the fact we had to cancel the planned trip in July we have now rearranged the trip to Llandudno for Saturday 16th September. We have checked every calendar we can find to make sure it doesn't clash with anything!

Please try and sell seats on the coach for us, this is always a great fundraiser and day out, with lots of laughs and memories to be made.

Ticket prices are:-

Adult (Aged 14 and over) £27

Child (Aged 13 and under) £17

Family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £70

To book your places on this fab day out please follow the below link:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/AinsworthScoutGroup1/FundraisingFamilyCoachTripLlandudnoSaturday16thSeptember2023>

or email me on [scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk](mailto:scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk)

Stacey

## Transformation - Now!

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death on 14<sup>th</sup> July of Wyn Steel, one of our longest serving members, who was Enrolling Member (Branch Leader) from 1995-1998. Wyn was a shining example to us all of Faith in Action and will be sorely missed. Even when she could no longer join in the fellowship of meetings, she continued to support the work of Mothers' Union (and her Prayer Partners) through prayer as a member of the Indoor Members Prayer Circle. We will uphold Pauline, Janet and their families in prayer over the weeks and months to come.

Earlier in that same week, we were sorry to hear that Venitia Flaherty had also died. Venitia was a Mothers' Union member several years ago, starting during her husband, Father Alan's incumbency. We send our deepest condolences to her family and friends and pray that they will find peace, hope and courage for the future.

Our first meeting in September will be on the 5<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm as usual in the Church Hall. This will be an 'all members meeting' which will take the same format as a committee meeting but still give the chance for everyone to put forward their points of view. We will, of course, start with worship time.

We will also be meeting a fortnight later on the 19<sup>th</sup> in the Church Hall. The details have not yet been confirmed but we will see that everyone is informed in plenty of time. It will as always be a time of fellowship and fun.

In news from Mary Sumner house there is a final reminder about the Annual Gathering in York on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. This is a one day event and the next Gathering will not be until 2026.

*'We are delighted to have over 700 members attending, but we have space for about another 100. Ticket sales will close the week before the event'.*

<https://www.mothersunion.org/annual-gathering-2023>

After 5 years of not having a Diocesan Retreat .....

**Mothers' Union Quiet Day, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at Cross Street Chapel, Manchester. M2 1NL**

**Time 10.00—2.00pm**

***"Sensing, Seeing and Feeling the Spirit." Leader Rev Kirsty Screeton***

*Price £10 per person Cash or Card on the door. Tea and coffee provided and feel free to bring your own packed lunch.*

*Contact Mrs Christine Faulkner (01204 772430)*

If anyone is able to go, please contact Christine Faulkner, as above.

Finally, we send our congratulations to MU member, Valerie Watts who has stepped down after over 50 years of Scouting in Ainsworth, and nearly 40 years as leader of the Beaver Colony. What an achievement, Valerie. We wish you a relaxing and happy retirement.

Jennifer White

## **From the Archives – September 1998**

In September 1998, the Parish Diary included news of the Parish Weekend to be held at Whalley Abbey; details of transport arrangements to follow nearer the time. The Diary also mentioned a joint Service to be held with members of Ainsworth Methodist Church, and a Baptism Service to be held at 2pm; glancing forward to next month's magazine, it seems that 2pm was the scheduled time for Baptisms to be held.

A separate note reported that Confirmation Classes for year 6 children and above, would be held each week from 4-5pm in the church and Community Hall; any adults wishing to be Confirmed should speak with the vicar to make arrangements to attend the evening classes.

News from the Parish in September 1998 included a 'Thankyou' from the Church Hall Committee to all those who had helped with the big tidy up of the Hall over the Summer months, and also a reminder from the Parish Magazine Secretary, that the annual subscription was due to be paid by those who wished to continue to receive the Parish Magazine in the coming year.

In news from the various organisations, Mothers' Union members were planning a Jumble Sale, and also had a 'save the date' for a Whist & Domino Drive; Young Families reported on an enjoyable trip to Blackpool Zoo and were asking for suggestions for their next outing; 16<sup>th</sup> Brownies had enjoyed a pottery evening, and had also featured in the Bury Times, as the group had collected enough milk bottle tops to support the purchase of a 2<sup>nd</sup> Guide Dog Puppy.

In September 1998, the 'Face To Face' interview was with Mrs. Jean Eddleston, Church Secretary, "One of the most difficult and demanding jobs in the Church".



In September 1998 there were 3 Baptisms and 2 Weddings recorded from the previous month, but no Funerals. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 246, with the Collections listed as £1208.

## The Hymn That's In My Head

Hymns and music play a large part in Christian worship; you can't beat listening to (or singing along with) a joyful, rousing hymn - whether it's in church, on the radio or listening to a CD. There are literally hundreds of fabulous hymns and worship songs out there.



### How Great Thou Art (Carl Gustaf Boberg 1859-1940)

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Refrain:* Then sings my soul, My Saviour God to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art,  
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,  
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur  
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

*Refrain*

And when I think, that God, his Son not sparing;  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

*Refrain*

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart,  
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,  
And then proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

*Refrain*

These beautiful words were written by Mr. Carl Gustaf Boberg (1859-1940), a Swedish pastor, editor and a member of the Swedish Parliament. Mr. Boberg was walking home from a prayer meeting one

evening with a small group of friends, when a thunderstorm suddenly blew up and a strong wind began to blow. The friends took shelter, then after the storm had abated, as Mr. Boberg looked out over a miraculously clear, calm bay, a church bell began to ring in the distance. As he surveyed this scene of such calm beauty, the words of 'How Great Thou Art' began to form in his heart.

'How Great Thou Art' was first published in 1891, as a poem 'O Store Gud' (O Great God). It was later translated into German and Russian, before Stuart K. Hine, an English missionary to Ukraine, translated it into English sometime during the first World War.

We are so fortunate to live in such a beautiful, unspoiled part of the world, and privileged to have the freedom to enjoy the countryside around us. Whilst this hymn is a favourite when sung in Church, there are so many 'My God, how great Thou art' moments all around us, that it often springs to mind.

## Praying Through The Seasons ... Autumn



*"Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing."*

*Psalm 65; 11-13*

Autumn is a time of beauty and bounty, but it is also a time of transition and loss. The crops are harvested, leaving the land bare and empty; the leaves on the trees begin to change colour and then to fall; the transition from summer to winter has begun.

And yet, in the midst of these changes lies the Autumn Equinox, a time of perfect balance between the darkness and the light.

So often our own lives are out of balance; work v rest, apathy v activity, duty v pleasure ... Perhaps as the light of the day and the darkness of the night become perfectly balanced, Autumn could be an opportunity for us to focus on our own sense of balance.

Heavenly Father, in a world that is always wanting more, guide me that I might find and settle into a healthy rhythm of life; help me to see rest and stillness as a necessity for wellbeing, rather than as time wasted. Help me to pause and look properly at the beauty and bounty of the season of Autumn, to appreciate the endless circle of life, and to be content - Amen

## **Hatches, Matches & Despatches - September!**

### **Born in September ...**

- 1653 – Johan Pachelbel, German Composer (Canon in D).
- 1866 – H.G. Swells, English sci-fi author.
- 1874 – Gustav Holst, English Composer.
- 1912 – Charles 'Chuck' Jones, American animator and cartoonist
- 1965 – Lennox Lewis, British / Canadian Boxer.
- 1972 – Liam Gallagher, British Singer and Song Writer

### **Married in September ...**

- 1371 – John of Gaunt, English Prince, to Constance of Castille.
- 1922 – Margaret Mitchell, Author (Gone With The Wind), to Berrien Upshaw.
- 1930 – Bing Crosby, Singer and Actor, to Dixie Lee.
- 1978 – George Harrison, British Musician, to Olivia Arias.
- 2001 – Jennifer Lopez, American Singer / Actress, to Cris Judd.
- 2018 – Gwyneth Paltrow, Actress, to Brad Falchuk.

### **Died in September ...**

- 1087 – William The Conqueror, King of England, aged 59.
- 1513 – James IV, King of Scotland, aged 40
- 1948 – Edith Roosevelt, US First Lady, aged 87.
- 1967 – Siegfried Sassoon, English Poet, aged 80.
- 1986 – Pat Phoenix, English Actress (Coronation Street), aged 62.
- 1996 – Leslie Crowther, English Comedian and TV Host, aged 63.

## **Space To Share A Prayer**

In this busy world that we inhabit,  
Grant us space to rest awhile -  
By the still waters of your peace,  
To hear the whisper of your voice,  
And feel the warmth of your breeze  
Within our souls.  
Grant us space to rest awhile. Amen.

## Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

### You Ask Why I Follow This Jesus?

You ask why I follow this Jesus?  
Why I love Him the way that I do?  
When the world's turned away from His teachings  
And the people who serve Him are few.

It's not the rewards that I'm after,  
Or gifts that I hope to receive,  
It's the Presence that calls for commitment,  
It's the Spirit I trust and believe.

The Lord doesn't shelter His faithful,  
Or spare them all suffering and pain,  
Like everyone else I have burdens,  
And walk through my share of the rain.

Yet He gives me a plan and a purpose,  
And that joy only Christians have known,  
I never know what comes tomorrow,  
But I do know I'm never alone.

It's the love always there when you need it;  
It's the words that redeem and inspire,  
It's the longing to ever be with Him  
That burns in my heart like a fire.

So you ask why I love my Lord Jesus?  
My friend, that's so easy to see;  
But the one thing that fills me with wonder is  
Why Jesus loves someone like me.

*Author Unknown*

### Just A Thought

Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement.

## Cheat's Kitchen



### Quick & Easy Bruschetta

#### You Will Need:

- ½ a red onion, finely chopped
- 1 x 400g tin of tomatoes, drained
- 1 clove of garlic, finely chopped, or 1 tsp garlic granules
- 1tsp of chopped basil
- 1 large baguette / French stick, sliced
- A little grated cheese (optional)

#### Here's What To Do:

- 1 – Place the onion, tomatoes, garlic & basil in a bowl and stir to combine, then cover and leave for approx half an hour.
- 2 – Lightly toast the slices of baguette on 1 side only.
- 3 – Spoon a generous layer of the tomato mixture onto the toasted side of each slice.
- 4 – Can be eaten cold, or if preferred, sprinkle with a little grated cheese, then place under a hot grill to brown
- 5 – Enjoy!

### Time For A Smile

During a game in a church football league the coach asked one of his young players, “Do you understand what cooperation is?” The boy nodded. “Do you understand that what matters is winning as a team?” The boy nodded. “Do you also understand that when the referee makes a decision, you don’t argue, curse or threaten to attack him?” Again, the boy nodded. “Right,” said the coach, “now go over there and explain it all to your mother.”

“Where is my Sunday paper?!” the irate customer yelled after calling the newspaper office. “Madam,” said the newspaper employee, “today is Saturday. The Sunday paper is not delivered until tomorrow.” There was quite a long pause, followed by a ray of recognition as she was heard to mutter, “Oh, dear! I have already written to the vicar complaining that no-one turned up to open the church today for the morning service.”

## The Parish Puzzler

How many different words can you make from the following letters?

S E P T E M B E R

### Autumn Quiz

1. Which poet composed 'To Autumn', which begins '*Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness*'?
2. Complete the phrase: 'Dry Your .... In October, or you'll always be sober'?
3. Which bird buries acorns in the Autumn?
4. What is the name for the long period of sleep that some mammals take over the winter months?
5. What is a baby hedgehog called?
6. What name is given to a type of tree that loses its leaves?
7. By what name is Autumn known in the US?
8. Who did Autumn Kelly marry in 2008?
9. According to Greek mythology, when did Autumn begin?
10. What was the name of the squirrel character which was created by Beatrix Potter?

(Answers on page 32)

### Church Trivia

Last month's question:

Q. Who was the incumbent at Ainsworth Parish Church in the year that Queen Victoria died?

A. John Alexander Lauria

This month's question:

Q. Who was the incumbent at Ainsworth Parish Church in the year that Queen Victoria acceded to the throne?

Answer in next month's magazine.

## Sidesmen, Lay Assistant & Prayers Rota

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sidesmen</b>	<b>Lay Assistant</b>	<b>Prayers</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Mags Gillman Dennis Gillman	Carole Butler	Jenny Johnson
10 <sup>th</sup> Sept 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Barbara Clarkson Scouts	Church Parade	Scouts
17 <sup>th</sup> Sept 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Susan Campbell Barbara Leigh	David Holden	Clergy
24 <sup>th</sup> Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Jean Ellis Christine Shaw	Peter Holden	Andrew Lowe

## Reader's Rota

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Readings</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Jenny Johnson	Exodus 3.1-15 Romans 12.9-21 <b>Matthew 16.21-28</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> Sept 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Scouts	Exodus 12.1-14 Romans 13.8-14 <b>Matthew 18.15-20</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> Sept 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Lorraine Holden	Exodus 14.19-31 Romans 14.1-12 <b>Matthew 18.21-35</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Peter Holden	Exodus 16.2-15 Philippians 1.21-30 <b>Matthew 20.1-16</b>

## Who's Who

Vicar	Vacancy <a href="mailto:vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk">vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk</a>	01204 398567
OLM	Revd Debra Johnstone	01204 399630
Churchwarden	Alison Hartley Chris Haworth	07952 709041 07855 638450
Church Treasurer	David Holden	<a href="mailto:davelholden@aol.co.uk">davelholden@aol.co.uk</a>
Secretary of the PCC	Vacancy	
Organist	Jenny Johnson	07734976978
Gift Aid & Freewill Offering Secretary	Carole Butler	07379 196608
Safeguarding Officer	Peter Holden	01204 596938
Church Hall Booking		<a href="mailto:bookings@ainsworthchurchhall.co.uk">bookings@ainsworthchurchhall.co.uk</a>
Magazine Editor	Alison Hartley	<a href="mailto:ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com">ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com</a>
Magazine Secretary		
Magazine Adverts		
Primary School Head	D Gerrard BA(Hons)PGCE	01204 527484

## Services

Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
	10.30am	Family Service, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Family & Parade Service
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer (BCP) 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday
Weds	6.15pm	Mid-Week Praise

Home Communion is available for anyone unable to attend Church due to illness or frailty.

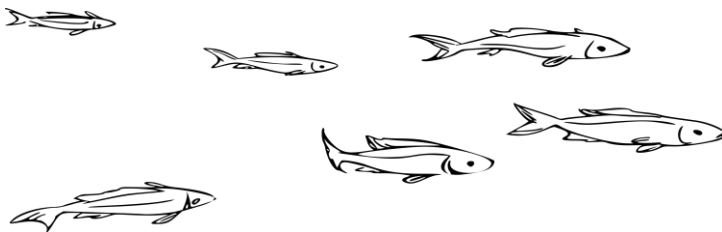
Arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Banns of Marriage, and Funerals  
Contact 01204-398567.

Answers to Autumn Quiz: 1) John Keates, 2) Barley, 3) Jay, 4) Hibernation, 5) Hoglet. 6) Deciduous, 7) Fall, 8) Peter Phillips, 9) When Persephone was abducted, 10) Squirrel Nutkin.



## Who's Who For Church Organisations

Mothers Union	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month at 7.30pm Branch Contact Jean Eddleston	0161 761 2147
Altar Flowers	Kathy Armstrong Rand	07748 020743
ABC First Steps Toddler Group	Fridays 10.00am - 11.30am Church Hall Jennifer White	07964 587694
Group Leader	Bill White group.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	01204 595378
Beaver Scouts	Friday at 6.30pm in the Church Hall Leader	
Cub Scouts	Friday at 6.30pm in the Church Hall	
Scouts' 14 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Fridays at 7.45pm in the Church Hall Leader Stacey White scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	07742 610281
Explorers	Friday 7.30 – 9.30pm; in the Church Hall Leader John Turner	01204 381590
Brownies 12 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm to 8.15pm in the Church Hall Brown Owl Polly Ryder	07437 519045
Brownies 16 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 6.15pm to 7.30pm in the Church Hall Sarah McAnulty	07955373623
Guides 12 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm in the Church Hall Captain Polly Ryder	07437 519045



# Little Fishes

A Boy Called David



## People In The Bible

The Bible is a collection of stories that help us to learn about God and God's dealings with people, right from the beginning of the world. The different parts of the Bible are called 'Books'; each Book was written for a special purpose - some books tell us the story of God's chosen people, the children of Israel, some books are filled with wisdom and advice, some books tell us about things which may be in the future; many of the Books of the Bible include stories about ordinary people who played an extraordinary part in history.

### David's Story

The people of Israel had asked God to give them a King; they wanted a powerful King, who would lead their army to great victories. God chose Saul to be the first King of Israel. To start with things seemed to be going well; Saul led the armies, and many victories were won, but soon Saul forgot that he had once been an ordinary person, doing an ordinary job; he forgot that it was God who had chosen him to be King, and that he had promised to obey God. King Saul began to ignore God, and he also ignored the warnings that God sent to him.



And so, God spoke with Samuel, one of the prophets, and told him he must seek a new King to replace King Saul. God told Samuel to go to a small town called Bethlehem, there he would find a man called Jesse who had eight sons; God told Samuel that one of these sons would be the next King of Israel.

When Samuel went to meet Jesse, he expected the oldest of the eight sons to be the one that God would choose to be the new King, but he was wrong. Samuel spoke to each son in turn, but he



knew that none of them were the one that God had chosen. He asked Jesse, "Have I met all of your sons?" Jesse replied, "My youngest son is called David, he is only a boy and is out in the fields watching the sheep."

Samuel asked Jesse to bring David to him.

As soon as Samuel saw David, he heard God say, "He is the one."



And so, Samuel anointed David with oil to show that he was the chosen one. David was only a young boy, and so he stayed in Bethlehem looking after his father's sheep, but from that day on, God was with him and guided him.

Meanwhile, things weren't going too well for King Saul. His army of Israelites were at war with the neighbouring Philistine people, but the Philistines were definitely winning, because the Philistines had a huge, great big giant in their army!

Goliath was over 9 feet tall - almost as tall as a tree - he wore a huge coat of armour and carried a

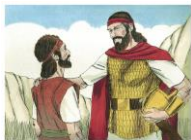


massive spear. He challenged King Saul's army saying,

"Come and fight me if you dare! If you can beat me your army are the winners, but if I beat you, the whole of the Israelite army must become our slaves."

King Saul and his army heard Goliath shouting this, and they were all afraid. No one wanted to fight Goliath. Some of David's older brothers were in King Saul's army, and when they wrote to their father, they told him about the Philistine army and their giant. Their father was worried about his sons and sent young David to check on his brothers and take them food and fresh clothing.

As David approached the camp, he could hear Goliath shouting and challenging the Israelite army. David said, "Is no one going to stand up to this man? Are you all going to just stand there and let him keep shouting his threats? If none of you will fight him, then



I will!"

A messenger was quickly sent to King Saul to tell him that David was willing to fight the giant; the

King came along expecting to see a mighty warrior,

but when he saw young David he said, "What can you do against the giant? You are only a boy after all."

David said, "When I look after my father's sheep, sometimes I have to fight with bears and wolves to protect them; I believe and trust in God to keep me safe then, and I believe and trust that God will keep me safe now."

King Saul saw that David was serious about fighting the giant, and so he gave him a suit of the finest armour and a strong spear to take with him into battle, but David preferred to wear his own clothes, and he found the spear too heavy and too long. Instead, he picked 5 small stones from a stream that ran nearby and tucked them into his pouch where he also had a sling (which is a bit like a catapult). Then he walked out onto the field to meet Goliath.



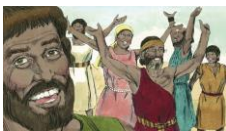
Goliath saw him coming and was amazed that the Israelites would send a small boy out to fight him, he thought he was going to beat David easily and then the whole of the Israelite army

would have to become their slaves, but David said, "You may fight with a sword, but I have God on my side, and today everyone in this land will know that there is only one true God."

Then David reached into his pouch and took out one of the stones, he tucked it into the sling, and he swung it round and round and round, and then ... he threw the stone as hard as he could. The stone



thwacked Goliath right between his eyes, and suddenly Goliath was toppling to the ground - David had done it! With God on his side, he had beaten Goliath.



The philistine army saw Goliath go crashing to the ground, and all ran away as fast as they could, but meanwhile the Israelites were celebrating and treated young David like a hero.

## **So, What Can We Learn From David's Story?**

There are lots of things that we can learn from this story: the first thing for Christians to learn, is that the story shows us how

God can protect us and is on our side when we truly believe and trust in Him, as David did.

The story of David and Goliath also shows us that if we have courage and stay true to what we believe in, we can achieve great things, even sometimes when other people might think something is impossible. Maybe the story of David confronting and beating the giant, will help you to believe in yourself the next time you have to do something that you find difficult.

The story of David and Goliath also reminds us that being the biggest and the strongest doesn't always mean that person is best. David is a small shepherd boy, who refuses to wear armour; Goliath is an enormous giant, with bronze armour and a spear. But David still manages to beat Goliath, because he is able to think clearly, carefully and differently. Never underestimate the power of good ideas!

### **Prayer Time ...**

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for being with us when we face challenges or have to do things which we find difficult. Help us to try to think clearly and carefully, and to believe in ourselves and to trust in You - Amen.

### **Here's Something Fun To Do ...**

The following things are all very large - can you think of an opposite for each that is very small?

An elephant

A whale

An oak tree

A double decker bus

A skyscraper

Find out next month what happened next in the story of David and King Saul.

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