

Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Artwork Courtesy of Beth Cropper (Age 5)

Serving the Community

www.ainsworthparish.org.uk

July 2023

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Sundays

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

Front Cover

Throughout 2023 our front cover artwork is being provided courtesy of members of our Mid-Week Praise congregation. This month's cover artist is Beth Cropper, aged 5 years.

Here are some more fabulous pictures of 'God's Wonderful World'.



Artists (from left to right): Emmy Wood, Eleanor Hession, Lily-May Sowden, Jessica Sowden, Elsie Cropper



Parish Diary July 2023



July - Sun 2nd **THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

6.30pm BCP Evensong & Holy Communion

(Please note that due to the IronMan event and associated road closures, there will be no morning service this Sunday)

Weds 5th 6.30pm Mid-Week Praise

Sun 9th **THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

8:00am BCP Communion

10:30am Holy Communion

12.15pm Baptism of Willow Speakman

Weds 12th 6.30pm Mid-Week Praise

Sat 15th 3.00pm Marriage of Chantelle Marie Waring & Robert Francis Hodderson

Sun 16th **THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

10.30am Holy Communion

Weds 19th 6.30pm Mid-Week Praise

Fri 21st 9.00am School Leavers Service

Sun 23rd **THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

8:00am BCP Communion

10:30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Confirmation Service

Weds 26th 6.30pm Wild Worship! Outdoor Family Worship

Sun 30th **THE EIGHT SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

10:30am Holy Communion

August

Weds 2nd 6.30pm Wild Worship! Outdoor Family Worship

Sat 5th 1.15pm Marriage of Jodie Simone Gillman & Michael Robert Chilton

Sun. 6th **THE NINTH SUNDAY OF TRINITY**

10:30am Holy Communion

12.30pm Baptism of Ellanor Dunn

6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer

Interregnum Update

The end of June marked the end of our first quarter year of interregnum – how time flies!

A huge thank you to everyone who has worked so hard over these past few months, to enable us to not only sustain our regular activities and Services, but to be able to do so many additional things as well.

Whilst June has definitely been a quieter month in terms of there having been no major festivals, a huge amount of work is still going on behind the scenes to ensure that ‘our boat stays afloat!’

Following on from the APCM, our Parish Finance Return must be prepared and submitted, our ‘Energy Footprint’ must be calculated and uploaded, the Diocesan Safeguarding questionnaire must be filed; now that the Vicarage has been vacated, the PCC are required to carry out regular checks on the building, liaise with the Diocesan Property Advisor, contact the utility providers; meetings must be held, minutes, actions and follow up compiled; and all that’s before we even begin to think about the planning and preparation that goes into worship and ministry within our Parish!

The saying is that “teamwork makes the dream work”, and thankfully our team continues to pull together; we are able to pool our knowledge, our experience and our individual skills to ensure that all the boxes are ticked, the i’s are dotted and the t’s are crossed – and long may that continue.

Alison Hartley – Churchwarden (on behalf of the PCC)

Editor’s Spot ...

Welcome to the July 2023 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine which is, as always, full of interesting articles, events and updates.

A number of our regular reports and articles now include photos – the wonders of modern technology are seemingly endless – which is a great addition to the magazine, not only in terms of the enjoyment of current readers, but also in terms of creating a lasting record of life in our Parish in 2023.

As we move into July and the holiday season approaches, our uniformed organisations will be taking a well-earned rest, but there’s still plenty of exciting things going on in and around our village; Ainsworth Village Day is fast approaching, ‘Wild Worship’ launches on Wednesday 26th July, to name but a few. Make sure you keep an eye

on the Parish Diary / Pew Sheet to keep up to date, or for those who are more 'tech-savvy' check out our facebook page or website – both of which are now being regularly updated.

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

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

From The Registers

BAPTISMS

May 7th

We welcome into the family of God:

Eloise Booth

FUNERALS

May 18th

We commend to God's keeping:

Amanda Freeman

Flower Rota

2nd July Mrs. J. Bowden

9th July Mrs. G. Hampson

23rd July Mrs. J. Ainsworth

Whit Gathering

In spite of an uncertain weather forecast, the day of our Whit Gathering dawned bright and sunny; if anything, a little too warm! It was fantastic to see so many members of our congregation, uniformed organisations, and wider community coming together to enjoy this occasion.

A huge thank you must go to members of the Farnworth & Walkden Brass Band, for accompanying us so ably, in spite of the heat, and also to the Friends of The Delph team, who provided much needed refreshments.



Photos courtesy of Ruth Coyle.

EcoChurch



Eco Church Top Tip for July:

Help hedgehogs in hot weather. Hedgehogs particularly need help in a heatwave, as their usual prey of slugs, snails and worms are often unavailable. Leaving out a juicy snack, such as mealworms or canned dog food, can help in sustained warm weather. If you have a garden pond, ensure there's always a way for hedgehogs (and other small mammals) to climb out if they fall in.

Churches Count On Nature:

On a glorious Saturday morning early in June, a small group of intrepid volunteers gathered in the Churchyard to undertake our very first nature count. This exercise was supported by volunteers from the Woodland Trust, and formed part of a national initiative called 'Churches Count On Nature', which aims to determine the biodiversity present in the nation's churchyards; in many urban communities, the Churchyard is the only unchanged green space remaining.

During the course of the morning 93 different species were identified in our Churchyard, although there are undoubtedly more (especially insects)! The breakdown was as follows:

- 15 trees
- 4 shrubs
- 51 flowering plants
- 7 grasses
- 1 fern
- 5 insects
- 10 birds

Among the birds were the expected robins, blackbirds and magpies, and also wrens, nuthatches, great and blue tits.

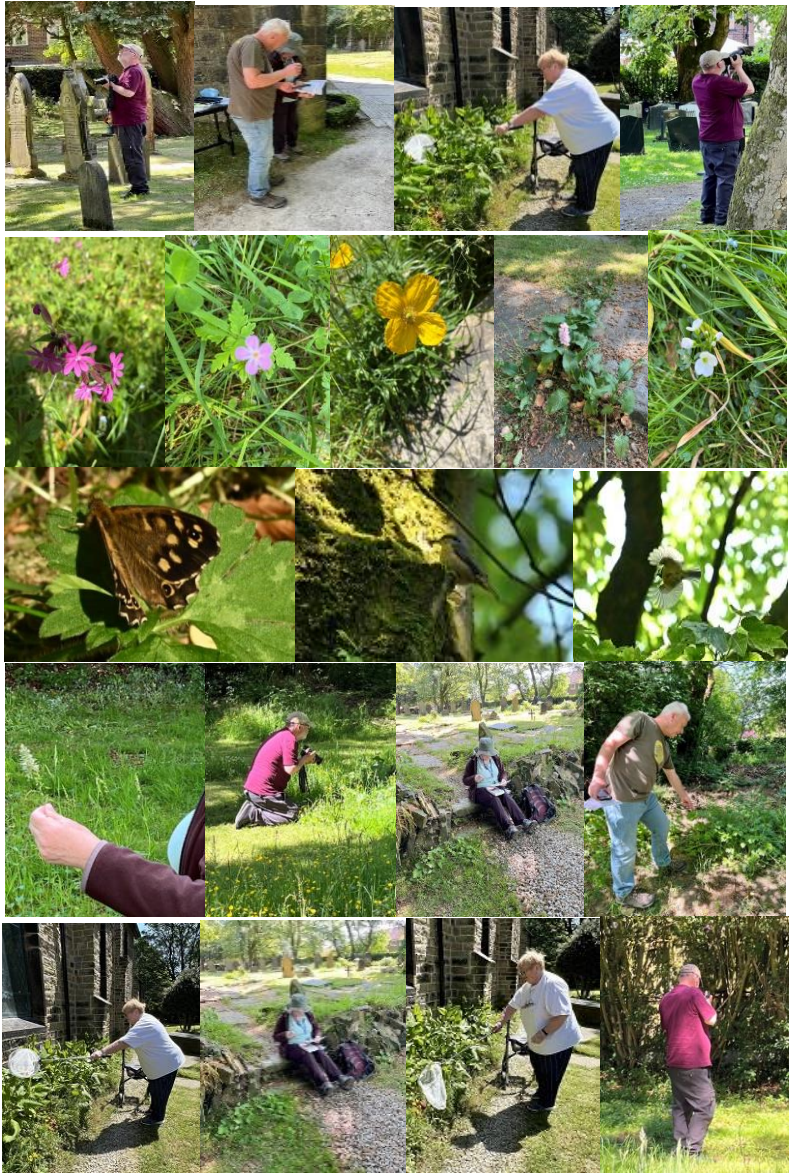
Insects included speckled wood and common blue butterflies.

Trees included oak, beech, horse chestnut and small leaved lime.

Shrubs included honeysuckle, and there were also grasses such as cocksfoot and flowering plants such as wood avens, forget me nots, bluebells and red campion to name but a few.

All identifications have been passed to 'Caring for God's Acre' and people are invited to submit any further churchyard identifications directly to them, preferably through use of the free phone app iNaturalist.

Many thanks to Peter Holden for organising this event for us, and to the volunteers from Woodland Trust for their support.



Just A Thought

Nature does not hurry, and yet everything is accomplished.

.....

Summer Of Prayer

Prayer is the way in which we communicate with God, both talking to and listening to God, and being open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout the coming months our Church, our Mission Community and our Diocese will be encouraging people to get involved with a variety of different prayer initiatives:

Christ Church Ainsworth Praying Together

Whether or not you are able to come to Church regularly, each and every one of us can play our part in the life of our Church and community by praying. Each week we'll be putting together a list of 'prayer pointers' to guide our prayers for the coming week, we'll be emailing it out, uploading it to our website and also leaving some copies in church. Please join us as we pray together. To receive a copy of the prayer sheet, please send an email to

ainsworthnewsletter2023@gmail.com

Prayer Tree

Don't forget that anyone can place a prayer on the prayer tree in Church; simply write your prayer on one of the labels provided and hang it onto the tree; prayers are generally removed after 2 months, so please write a date on your label.

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.

Candlelight Prayer

This is an oasis of calm to help you to round off a busy week. Why not join us for 10 minutes of quiet prayer and reflection each Friday at 8pm on Zoom. Simply click the link below to join in, or for more info contact Alison on 07952-709041

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88510585974?pwd=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoY2ZDMUfoZz09>

Manchester Diocese Transforming Prayer Community

This diocesan initiative seeks to connect and reconnect us with a simple vocation to pray. All you are asked to do is make a daily

commitment to say The Lord's Prayer, The Diocesan Prayer of Thanksgiving and Hope, and a prayer for your local area. To join in simply [sign up online](#).

Circle Of Prayer

There are many different ways of praying; next time you visit our Church, why not write a short prayer on 1 of the stones that you'll find in the Church porch, then add it to the line of 'Prayer Rocks' which are already snaking their way around the inside of the Church; help us to create a 'circle of prayer' that reaches all the way round our Church.

Porch Boxes – An Update On Our Local Charity

"From Little acorns do mighty oak trees grow."

Little did Revd. Carol Hayden, a curate at Christ Church Ainsworth in the early 2000s, realise when she asked her neighbours to put food tins in her porch to give out to local homeless people, that the charity she founded, would grow to become a local, very large, efficient and much needed social service covering Bury and Rochdale.



Here are some relevant and amazing facts about the charity, taken from their annual report and accounts in March 2022.

- Every Wednesday morning at the warehouse on Bradley Fold Trading Estate, 80 to 100 bags / boxes are packed and delivered by volunteers.
- People do not queue up at the warehouse to receive food; the packs are taken for vulnerable people in crisis, to the referral agencies, who then distribute them as necessary.
- In 2022 there were 84 agencies requesting help.

There are many reasons why this charity has become so firmly established and why desperate people need such practical help.

- Increased energy bills and the cost of living crisis
- Difficulties with the benefits system
- Leaving hospital with no outside assistance
- Illness and bereavement
- Rough sleeping
- Unemployment

- Addiction
- Difficult home circumstances.

The list is endless.

From the beginning of January 2022 to the end of March 2022, Porch Boxes delivered 1,117 crisis food packs and 665 Easter eggs to the social agencies to pass on to hungry, vulnerable families.

Christmas deliveries included 132 hampers for families and 168 for individual people. 103 schools, churches, supermarkets and other organisations donated food and other goods. Many individual people also gave both goods and money, some sadly leaving no name so they cannot be thanked individually. Generous financial donations help the charity to purchase other much needed goods such as toiletries, cots, prams, beds and bedding.

Parishioners from Christ Church Ainsworth have regularly sent financial aid, and the Treasurer of Porch Boxes would particularly like to thank those people.

Sadly, the demand for support from this and other similar local charities remains at an all-time high, and the work of this very important and much needed charity continues apace.

Our congregation still puts dried and tinned food in the bins situated in the Church porch. The goods are still taken to the warehouse (thanks to Jan B, this was able to continue in spite of the COVID-19 lockdown).

When you come to any of our Church Services, please remember that **... A TIN IN THE BIN ...** can make a real difference to a vulnerable adult, child or family in Bury!

Thank you - Christine Maudsley

News From The Diocese - Appointments

Following Archdeacon Jean Burgess's resignation, Revd Cannon Dr Rachel Mann has been appointed as the new Archdeacon of Bolton and Salford.

The Revd Dr. Matthew Porter was consecrated to be the sixth Bishop of Bolton, at York Minster in June 2023. Matthew succeeds the Rt Revd Mark Ashcroft, who retired as Bishop of Bolton earlier this year.

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!

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

Mission Community News – Prayer Walk 2023

Following a few days of unsettled weather, the day of the Mission Community Prayer Walk dawned bright and dry, with just enough of a breeze to keep the flies away and prevent overheating!

The plan for the day was that each congregation would hold a Celtic Morning Prayer Service in their own Church, before setting off to walk to St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe, meeting up with members of other Churches along the route.

After a really lovely morning prayer service, (followed by tea, coffee and cakes), 4 intrepid walkers set off from Ainsworth. The original plan was for Ainsworth 'walkers' to head up the main road to meet up with walkers from Christ Church Walshaw, at the Rose & Crown, however, having received a 'tip off' that there would be no-one walking the whole route from Walshaw, we decided that we would head off down Ainsworth Hall Road and Radcliffe Moor Road, to allow us to walk through the Bury New Road and Bradley Fold part of our Parish. This also meant that we walked along footpaths and tracks between the fields for the first part of our route – an absolute joy on such a glorious morning.

As well as praying for our village and local community, plus the various communities that we passed through, we were reminded at first hand of how wonderful the world around us is; sightings en route included a Moorhen Chick on the pond at Ainsworth Hall, various birds, butterflies and bees, plus a real treat as we watched a Roe Deer cross the field next to Radcliffe Moor Road and disappear into the greenery near the Masonic Hall.

Moving steadily on towards Radcliffe, we were all beginning to feel a bit warm and weary as the breeze dropped and the temperature crept up, but arrived safely at St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe in good time for the Service of Holy Communion led by Bishop Mark.

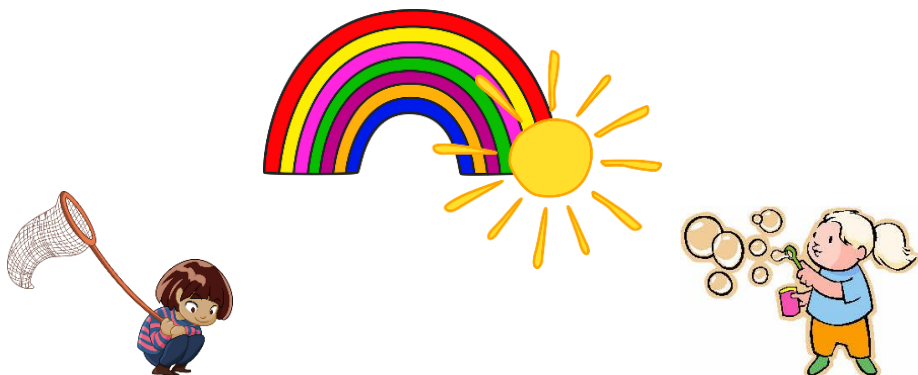
It was lovely to be able to come together and share this Service with others from our Mission Community, and so nice that, through the various joint initiatives that have been held, we are all beginning to get to know one another.

A huge thank you to all who took part in this shared venture - those who joined us for Morning Prayer, those who walked, and those who we met up with at St. Thomas & St. John. Thanks, must also go to Revd. Donna Williams, our Mission Community Leader, for organising this event and chivvying us all along to 'make it happen'.

!! WILD WORSHIP !!

Why not join us for ...
Family friendly outdoor
worship
in our lovely churchyard this
summer

Wednesdays @ 6.30pm
Starts Weds 26th July
Come along & join the fun!!





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 11th July

10.30 – 12 noon

Ainsworth Church and Community Hall

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



RECREATION FIELD
BURY OLD ROAD

AINS WORTH VILLAGE DAY


08.07.23

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU

12 - 4:30PM

**BRASS BAND • BAKE OFF • CLASSIC CARS
STALLS • TOMBOLA • RAFFLE
FORTUNE TELLER AND MORE!**

FOR MORE INFO VISIT:

 @ainsworthvillageday



Ainsworth Village Bake Off Is Back!!

☀️ Ainsworth is looking for a Star Baker ☀️

☀️ Bring your bakes along to this year's Village Day and be in
with a chance of being crowned Star Baker! ☀️

We have 2 categories and all cakes will be judged on both taste
and design!



Under 16 - Cake Bakes



Over 16 - Cake Bakes

Simply take your cakes to our cake stand at the Village Day by
1pm to complete your entry form and for judging!

Once they've been judged, the cakes will be donated to the
Village Day for sale on the day!

We can't wait to see your wonderful creations, but remember ...
It's the baking part that counts!!



Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements

Coffee & Conversation

Tuesday 11th July

10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

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

Everyone welcome

Ainsworth History Society – History Walk

Tuesday 11th July

Meet outside the White Horse Pub @ 7pm; everyone welcome.

Ainsworth Village Bake Off

Bring your home made cakes & bakes along to Ainsworth Village Day to be in with a chance of being crowned STAR BAKER!!

(See page 17 for more details)

Ainsworth Village Day

Saturday 8th July 12 – 4pm, Ainsworth Recreation Ground.

We’re planning to have a stall at Village Day this year, and also open Church for folk to come in and look around; if you could spare an hour to help out, by being in Church to welcome visitors, we’d love to hear from you!

Christ Church Ainsworth Open Afternoon

Saturday 8th July 12 – 4pm

Church will be open for tea / coffee & cake throughout Ainsworth Village Day; why not call in & have a look round this beautiful grade II listed building & enjoy the peace & tranquillity within.

!!Wild Worship!!

Wednesday Evenings 6.30pm, Christ Church Ainsworth

Throughout the school holidays we’ll be holding outdoor worship in our churchyard each Wednesday evening; why not join us for family friendly worship and outdoor fun. Please dress appropriately for the weather!!

Ainsworth Mothers’ Union

1st & 3rd Tuesday Of The Month

Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

We have a busy & varied programme of activities and Speakers throughout the year. Want to know more? Why not come along to 1 of our meetings.

Around The Organisations ...

Beavers

We welcome five new Beavers into the colony - Xander, Miles, Charlotte, Lucas and Ilaria. Well done to Kyran, Theo, Stanley, Peter, Jack and Sebastian who have now been awarded their Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

Rikki

Cubs

Environmental Issues and Naturalist are the two areas of study until we break for the Summer. Bark rubbing and tree recognition were our first tasks on a very hot Friday on the recreation ground. Thanks to Nathan's and Isaac's mums for giving up 45 minutes of their time to ensure we could complete the task.

It is getting more difficult for us to do the many things needed to ensure the cubs can reach their high awards with only 3 warranted leaders – we desperately need permanent help - anyone willing please speak with any leaders.

It is only because of the offer of parental help to come to camp and stay that we can take cubs to the District Camp. Sorry to seem so gloomy in our report, but it really is a shame that these Cubs are missing out on a wide variety of experiences.

Gwen White - Baloo

Scouts - Summer Coach Trip

We have now planned our Summer Coach Trip and we are having a day out to Llandudno on Saturday 8th July 2023. The costs for the trip are:-

- 14 and over - £27
- 13 and under - £17
- Family ticket - 2 x adult and 2 x under 13 - £70

If you would like to join us on our fun day out by the beach please follow the link below to book your seats:-

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/AinsworthScoutGroup1/FundraisingFamilyCoachTripLlandudnoSaturday8thJuly2023>

12th Radcliffe Guides And Brownies

Once again, we completed a traditional guiding activity, when we learned how to send messages using semaphore – and this meant that we had to make the flags first and then work out how to show the various letters, after which we were able to spell out our names. In an activity to find out the best way to encourage others to do their best, we had teddy races, where teddies were pulled along on a string, which was wound round a pencil – though some teddies did seem very reluctant to move! Then we all had to move quickly, as we did a variation on the traditional dodgeball game.



And to make the most of the good weather, we decorated a plant pot, then planted a sunflower seed and it will be interesting to see whose flower grows the tallest by the time we come back in September. Then, as the good weather continued, we went to George's Wood to collect twigs, sticks and branches to learn how we should make and light a fire to help us keep warm in the wild, although as we had no water to extinguish it, we were unable to actually light it - so that is an activity for a later date.

12th Radcliffe Guiding Leaders

Transformation - Now!



Firstly, our sincere thanks to Andrew for conducting our 5th Tuesday Service using Mothers' Union resources. It was very special and we enjoyed singing hymns as well.

Thank you also to Tricia Stokes our Deanery Leader who introduced herself by outlining her life journey and involvement within the Mothers' Union family. She gave us all some prayer beads which had come from the former Archbishop of York.

Frances Brough brought the mobile shop and many of us enjoyed a good spend. The occasion cards are particularly good value, all of good quality and some only 50 or 60p.

Our first meeting in July is on Tuesday, 4th at 2.30pm in the Church Hall. This meeting will be somewhat different. We have a lot of memorabilia in our cupboard (and some rubbish too!) so it's time for a clear out. We're going to spend the time sorting out our cupboard, looking at memorabilia and a throw out where necessary. If you have any old photos of our branch, do feel free to bring them along to share the memories.

Our Summer lunch will be on Tuesday 18th July at 12.30pm at the Rose and Crown. Please can I have the names of people who are going by 4th July. No deposit needed; you just pay on the day for what you order.

POPS (Partners of Prisoners) who run the Visitor Centre etc. at HMP Manchester have asked if we can help with new or good quality second-hand clothing for those who arrive for visits wearing unsuitable clothing. It makes the difference between them being able to visit their loved one or being turned away. We helped with this several years ago.

They are looking for leggings / tracksuit bottoms, t-shirts (as plain as can be), shoes and socks / pop socks.

We recommend that socks and pop socks are new.

Please bring any contributions to the meeting on the 4th of July.

As I mentioned last month, a collection box will be out at each meeting throughout the summer for the Summer of Hope Appeal.

For parents and children who need support who simply need a break, your prayers, gifts and actions this Summer of Hope can make all the difference.

Jennifer White

From the Archives – July 1998

A fabulous sketch on the inside cover of the July 1998 Parish Magazine depicted the story of the Good Samaritan, complete with a donkey waiting patiently in the background. There were also a few small line sketches attached to other articles in the July 1998 Parish Magazine; it's incredible how something so simple can contain so much detail!

'News From The Parish', began with a report from the PCC regarding the trees in the churchyard; it seems that 1 of the trees backing on to Rosebank Close, had shed a branch some months previously, which had damaged a nearby lock up. This had led to a request for the trees to be assessed, prior to applying for permission from the local authority and also the diocese, to carry out the recommended work. Finally, the permissions had been granted and the work had been carried out. Although we tend to think that 'red tape' is a modern phenomenon, clearly that's not the case!

Directly following this report, was a lengthy obituary, transcribed from the funeral of Mr. Richard Moorhouse, who had clearly played a big part in the life of our Church and the wider community.

In other news, members of the Mithers' Union had enjoyed an evening being pampered by the beauty department at Bury College; Young Families had held a coffee morning and sponsored sing; 12th Brownies had been on Pack Holiday; Beavers had taken part in the District Fun Day; and Cubs had thoroughly enjoyed their Father and Son camp.

School reported on a successful Jumble Sale, which had brought the new playground fund up to a grand total of £7926!! A family fun day had been planned for the end of term, at which the Mayor of Bury would officially open the new playground.

In July 1998, the 'Face To Face' interview was with Mrs. Anne Rule, "A lady whose bubbling personality brightens our church".

In July 1998 there were 4 Baptisms, 1 Wedding and 4 Funerals recorded from the previous month. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 302, with the Collections listed as £1227.

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.

Here I am Lord (I the Lord Of Sea and Sky) - Daniel Schutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone
Give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my words to them
Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will send the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

"Here I Am, Lord", also known by its first line, "I, the Lord of sea and sky", was written by the American composer, Dan Schutte in 1981; when *The United Methodist Hymnal* was published in 1989, it was immediately one of the most popular hymns. It also reached number 5 in the BBC Songs of Praise 'Top 100 Hymns', and features on 'The Nation's Favourite Hymns' CD – which is how it has got itself into my head!!

The words of this hymn were written when a friend asked Mr. Schutte to write a piece for an ordination Mass; his friend wanted the piece to include the images of the word of God, the light of Christ and the bread and wine - images that would eventually appear at the ends of the verses: "Who will bear my light to them?" "Who will speak my word to them?"

Whilst the stirring refrain is perhaps the first part of the hymn to capture the singer's imagination, the words to the main verses are based on Isaiah 6:8; "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'"

Each verse reflects a paradox; the powerful God, creator of "sea and sky," "snow and rain" and "wind and flame" is also the God who hears the "people cry," bears the "people's pain" and "tends the poor and lame."

This is a hymn of transformation. God transforms the darkness into light in stanza one, melts "hearts of stone" with love in stanza two and nourishes the "poor and lame" with the "finest bread"—a clear Eucharistic reference. Each stanza ends with the question, "Whom shall I send?" Whilst rhetorical questions are often found in hymns, this is not one of them - the refrain immediately offers the response, "Here I am, Lord."

Be Inspired

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Lamentation 3:v22-23

Praying Through The Seasons ... God's Wonderful World



“Thou, even thou, art Lord alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.”
Nehemiah 9 v 6

Nature is one of God's most beautiful creations. Through nature, God teaches us, He speaks to us, He comforts us, and He provides for us. For this reason, humans are called to protect all of which He has created.

The beauty of nature is God's gift to all of us. When we are tired or sad, nature's beauty can bring peace and comfort to us. When we are restless or uncertain nature's beauty can soothe and relax us. When we are tuned into the beauty of nature, it can inspire us to be creative.

Nature reveals to us God's beauty, glory, power, wisdom, presence, creativity, and, most of all, his loving care. It leads us towards an appreciation of God's glory. It can help us to nurture the fruits of the spirit. The sense of wonder that nature sparks can inspire personal dedication to God.

Creator God, we thank you for sharing with us the beauty of all that you have made; the land, the skies, the seas, the forests, the mountains and the plains. We thank you for the beauty and fragrance of plants and trees; we thank you for the wonder of all of your creatures. Grant us the wisdom to care for the earth; to care for your world; to be good guardians of all that You have created, that future generations may know the joys and wonders of your world as we do – Amen

Hatches, Matches & Despatches - July!

Born in July ...

1489 – Thomas Cranmer, English Reformer and Archbishop of Canterbury (1533-1535).

1492 – Elizabeth Tudor, English Princess.

1858 – Emmeline Pankhurst, Suffragette.

1906 – Estee Lauder, American entrepreneur.

1925 – Frank Lowson, English Cricketer.

1961 – Diana, Princess of Wales.

Married in July ...

1836 – Isambard Kingdom Brunell, English Engineer, to Mary Elizabeth Horsley.
1839 – William Gladstone, British PM, to Catherine Glynne.
1953 – Roald Dahl, Children's author, to Patricia Neal.
1955 – Desmond Tutu, Anglican Bishop, to Leah Nomolizo Shinxani.
2005 – Lennox Lewis, heavyweight boxing champion, to Violet Chang.
2018 – David Hasselhoff, Actor, to third wife, Hayley Roberts.

Died in July...

54BC – Aurelia Cotta, Mother of Roman Emperor, Julius Caesar, aged 66.
1652 – Samuel Taylor Coleridge, English romantic poet, aged 61.
1903 – Leo XIII, 256th Pope, aged 93.
1958 – Henry Warner, US Movie pioneer, aged 81.
2004 – Marlon Brando, American Actor, aged 80.
2009 – Harry Patch, the last surviving soldier to have served in the trenches in WW1, aged 111.

Space To Share A Prayer

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can;
And wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
If I surrender to His Will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with Him
Forever and ever in the next. Amen.
(Attributed to Reinhold Niebuhr, 1892-1971)

Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

I Will Sing The Wondrous Story

I will sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
How He left his home in glory
For the cross of Calvary.
I was lost, but Jesus found me,
Found the sheep that went astray,
Threw His loving arms around me,
Drew me back into His way.

I was bruised, but Jesus healed me;
Faint was I from many a fall;
Sight was gone, and fears possessed me,
But He freed me from them all.
Days of darkness still come o'er me,
Sorrow's paths I often tread,
But the Saviour still is with me;
By His hand I'm safely led.

He will keep me til the river
Rolls its waters at my feet;
Then He'll bear me safely over,
Where the loved ones I shall meet.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

Straplines

If it wasn't for the last minute, such a lot of things wouldn't get done.

Never look down on anyone unless you are helping them up.

Reality is that which, when you stop believing it, doesn't go away.

Some people come into your life as blessings. while some come as lessons.

Cheat's Kitchen



Cheat's Chocolate Whirlies

You Will Need:

- 1 pack of ready rolled puff pastry
- Chocolate spread
- 25g butter (melted)
- 25g soft brown sugar

Here's What To Do:

- 1 – Unroll the sheet of puff pastry but leave it on the baking paper.
- 2 – Spread a thin layer of chocolate spread all over the upper side of the pastry sheet.
- 3 – Use the baking paper to begin to carefully roll the pastry up; roll from the longest side towards you. The roll needs to be quite tight otherwise it will separate out as you bake it.
- 4 – Once fully rolled, use a sharp knife to cut the roll into approx 15 slices. Use the baking paper to line a baking tray, then lay the slices flat and well spaced out on the baking sheet.
- 5 – Brush the top of each slice with the melted butter, then sprinkle with a little brown sugar.
- 6 – Bake at 200C for approx 15 minutes, or until golden. Enjoy!

Time For A Smile

A large city church held a dinner evening to celebrate the success of a fund-raising campaign. They were delighted when the bishop agreed to attend. The young people in the church were asked to be waiters for the event. One boy delivered a main course to the top table with his thumb on top of the steak. The embarrassed rector said to the boy, "You shouldn't be serving the bishop holding the plate like that." The boy replied, "Sorry sir, but I assumed you wouldn't want it to fall on to the floor again."

Two boys were walking home from Sunday school after a discussion on the devil. One said to the other, "What do you think about all this Satan stuff?" The other boy replied, "Well, you know how Santa Claus turned out – it's probably just your dad."

The Parish Puzzler

Green Quiz ...

As Green is the liturgical colour for Trinity, the answers to the following clues all begin with GREEN ...

1. Independent global campaigning network which focuses on environmental issues.
2. The world's largest island, situated between the Arctic & Atlantic Oceans.
3. A system designed to help young children to learn about road safety.
4. A figure found on a pelican crossing.
5. Nickname for a military ambulance.
6. A sales promotion scheme that rewarded shoppers with stamps which could be redeemed against gifts or produce.
7. Award winning breakdown cover, nationwide.
8. Manufacturers of a wide range of fairtrade & organic chocolate bars.
9. Traditional English folksong.
10. Brand of tinned vegetables – especially sweetcorn.

(Answers on page 31)

How many green vegetables can you list?

Clue: There are at least 14!!!

Church Trivia

Last month's question:

Q. How many previous incumbents were called John?

A. 5

This month's question:

Q. How many incumbents were there between 1800 & 1900?

Answer in next month's magazine.

Sidesmen, Lay Assistant & Prayers Rota

Date	Sidesmen	Lay Assistant	Prayers
2 nd July 10.30am	No service due to IronMan event and associated road closures		
2 nd July 6.30pm 4 th Sunday after Trinity	Chris and Lillian Haworth	Alison Hartley	Alison Hartley
9 th July 5 th Sunday after Trinity	Barbara Clarkson Jan Burrow	Lorraine Holden	Andrew Lowe
16 th July 6 th Sunday after Trinity	Susan Campbell Barbara Leigh	Peter Holden	Clergy
23 rd July 7 th Sunday after Trinity	Jean Ellis Christine Shaw	Beryl Sixsmith	Jenny Johnson
30 th July 8 th Sunday after Trinity	Barbara Clarkson Jan Burrow	Chris Haworth	David Holden
6 th August 9 th Sunday after Trinity	Mags Gillman Dennis Gillman	Jan Burrow	Andrew Lowe

Reader's Rota

Date	Reader	Readings
2 nd July 6.30pm 4 th Sunday after Trinity	Alison Hartley	Genesis 22.1-14 Romans 6.12-23 Matthew 10.40-42
9 th July 5 th Sunday after Trinity	Lorraine Holden	Genesis 24.34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Romans 7.15-25a Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30
16 th July 6 th Sunday after Trinity	Peter Holden	Genesis 25.19-34 Romans 8.1-11 Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23
23 rd July 7 th Sunday after Trinity	Beryl Sixsmith	Genesis 28.10-19a Romans 8.12-25 Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43
30 th July 8 th Sunday after Trinity	David Holden	Genesis 29.15-28 Romans 8.26-39 Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

Who's Who

Vicar	Vacancy vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk	01204 398567
OLM	Revd Debra Johnstone	01204 399630
Churchwarden	Alison Hartley Chris Haworth	07952 709041 07855 638450
Church Treasurer	David Holden	davelholden@aol.co.uk
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		bookings@ainsworthchurchhall.co.uk
Magazine Editor	Alison Hartley	ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com
Magazine Secretary		
Magazine Adverts		
Primary School Head	D Gerrard BA(Hons)PGCE	01204 527484

Services

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

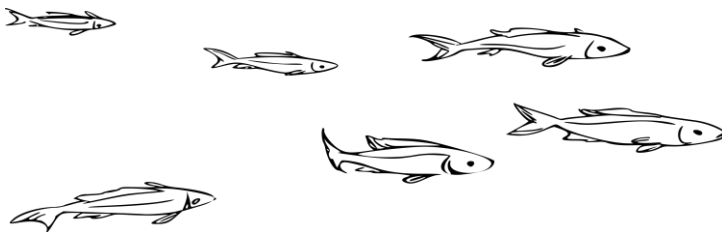
Home Communion is available for anyone unable to attend Church due to illness or frailty.

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

Answers to Green Quiz: 1) Greenpeace, 2) Greenland, 3) Green Cross Code, 4) Green Man, 5) Green Goddess. 6) Green Shield Stamps, 7) Green Flag, 8) Green & Black's, 9) Greensleeves, 10) Green Giant.

Who's Who For Church Organisations

Mothers Union	1 st & 3 rd 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 6.00pm in the Church Hall Leader Valerie Watts	01204 398634
Cub Scouts	Friday at 7.00pm in the Church Hall	
Scouts' 14 th Radcliffe	Fridays at 7.30pm in the Church Hall Leader Stacey White scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	07742 610281
Explorers	Monday 7.30 – 9.30pm; in the Church Hall Leader John Turner	01204 381590
Rainbows 16 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 4.30pm to 6.00pm in the Church Hall Rainbow Guider	
Brownies 12 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm to 8.15pm in the Church Hall Brown Owl Polly Ryder	07437 519045
Brownies 16 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 6.15pm to 7.30pm in the Church Hall Sarah McAnulty	07955373623
Guides 12 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm in the Church Hall Captain Polly Ryder	07437 519045



Little Fishes

Ruth



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.

Ruth's Story

Ruth's story began in Bethlehem, where Elimelech lived with his wife, Naomi and their 2 sons. Elimelech was a good man and worked hard to keep his family, but one year there was a great drought in Bethlehem, the crops didn't grow, and everyone in Bethlehem went hungry.



Elimelech decided to take his family and move to Moab, where the weather was more reliable, the crops grew well, and there was plenty of food for everyone to share.



For a while everything went well. Elimelech's sons grew up and got married; their wives were called Ruth and Orpah. But then things started to go wrong - first

of all, Elimelech died; Naomi was very sad, but at least she still had her 2 sons and their wives to keep her company.

Not long afterwards, disaster struck again, and Naomi's 2 sons both died also! Naomi felt as though her heart was broken, but still she had Ruth and Orpah to keep her company.

Naomi felt very sad being so far away from the rest of her family who still lived in Bethlehem, so one day she said to Ruth and Orpah, "I have decided to travel back to Bethlehem to be with my own people, and I would like you both to go back to live with your families."

The 3 women were sad to be parted after such a long time, but Orpah gathered her things together and set off to return to her family. But God had a special plan for Ruth. she had to make a difficult choice. Should she stay in her homeland of Moab, like Orpah, or should she travel with Naomi, to Bethlehem?



Naomi knew the journey would be hard and long, and she didn't expect her daughters-in-law to come with her. But Ruth simply could not let Naomi go alone. She told Naomi, "Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Ruth chose to stay with Naomi and stay with God.

And so, Naomi and Ruth, set out for the land of Bethlehem, and although they didn't know it, God, was taking care of them. God knew that their hearts were sad with the death of their husbands, and God knew that life was going to be hard for them, and so He prepared a way for them.



In Bethlehem, Ruth needed to collect food for herself and Naomi. She went to a field and joined the workers as they picked up the grain that had fallen to the ground. The owner of the field asked his workers, "Who is this woman?"



The workers explained that she had travelled with Naomi, all the way from the land of Moab. Ruth didn't know it, but the owner of the field was a relative of Naomi. The owner's name was, Boaz. Boaz, saw that Ruth was a good worker, and he saw that she cared for Naomi.

Boaz was kind to Ruth and invited her to join him and his workers for a meal. After they had eaten, Boaz gave Ruth grain to take home with her for Naomi.



Boaz told Ruth, "I will make sure you are safe. Whenever you are thirsty go and get a drink from the water jars." When Ruth heard this, she bowed down to Boaz and

asked, "Why are you being so kind to me, I'm not even from Bethlehem."

Boaz replied, "I know what you've done for Naomi, you left your family and moved to a place you've never been. May the Lord reward you for your kindness."

When Naomi saw the grain, she was astonished, and when she found out that Ruth, had been working in the field of Boaz, she prayed; "May he be blessed by the Lord."

Eventually Boaz married Ruth; he loved her and cared for her, and he welcomed Naomi into his home also. In time Boaz and Ruth had a son who they called Obed; Obed made Boaz and Ruth and Naomi very, very happy.



So, What Can We Learn From Ruth's Story?

Being a good friend isn't always easy. A good friend is loyal, which means that you keep your promises and stand by someone, even when sometimes you maybe don't feel like doing that. Sometimes our friends aren't perfect, sometimes they make mistakes, but sometimes we make mistakes too, and we wouldn't want our friends to leave us when that happens.

Ruth was a good friend to Naomi, and through her service and her words, she showed Naomi that God still loved her. She didn't tell everyone what a good friend she was, she simply did what she thought was the right thing to do, and God rewarded her for her loyalty, by bringing her and Boaz together, so that after all the sadness Ruth and Naomi had shared, they could be happy once more.

Prayer Time ...

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for giving me friends who will stand by me and help me when I need them to.

Please help me to be a good friend to others.

Please help me to remember that You are also my friend - Amen.

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