

Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Let Your Light Shine
(Photo courtesy of Jane Holden)

Serving the Community
www.ainsworthparish.org.uk

September 2024

In This Issue ...

- Front cover ... Photograph courtesy of Jane Holden
- Page 2 In This Issue
- Page 3 Parish Diary September 2024
- Page 4 Interregnum Update
- Page 5 Editor's Spot, From The Registers, Flower Rota
- Page 6 Wild Worship, Family Gardening Group
- Page 7 MacMillan Coffee Morning
Book Of Remembrance, Grave Cleaning & Maintenance
- Page 8 EcoChurch
'Be Still'- Contemplative Prayer & Reflection
- Page 9 ... Lucky Lotto, Creationtide
- Page 10 ... Raising Awareness – Zero Waste Week
- Page 11 ... Mission Community News – Wave Of Prayer
Mission Community Prayer
- Page 12 ... Mission Community Wave Of Prayer
- Page 13 ... Christ Church Ainsworth '50/50 Lucky Lotto'
- Page 14 ... Coffee And Conversation
- Page 15 ... 'The Prayer Course'
- Page 16 ... Cuppa, Cakes & Company
- Page 17 ... MacMillan Coffee Morning
- Page 18 ... Candlelight Prayer
- Page 19 ... Be Still
- Page 20 ... October Craft & Makers Market
- Page 21 ... Christmas Craft & Makers Market
- Page 22 ... Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements
- Page 23 ... Around The Organisations; Mothers' Union
- Page 25 ... ABC
- Page 26 ... From The Archives, Space To Share A Prayer
- Page 27 ... You might Like To Read ...
Top 10 Cakes, UK, Praying Through The Seasons
- Page 28 ... For All The Saints
- Page 29 ... Straplines
- Page 30 ... Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)
- Page 31 ... The Parish Puzzler
- Page 32 ... Rotas
- Page 33 ... Who's Who
- Page 34 ... Who's Who For Church Organisations, Time For A Smile
- Page 35 – 38 ... Little Fishes
- Page 39 – 46 ... Advertisements



Parish Diary September 2024



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sun 1st 10.30am View From The Pew
6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sun 8th 8.00am BCP Communion
10.30am Church Parade
Tues 10th 10.30am Coffee & Conversation (*Ainsworth Church & Community Hall*)
Weds 11th 6.30pm MidWeek Praise

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sun 15th 10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm "Be Still" – a time of contemplative prayer & quiet reflection
Weds 18th 6.30pm MidWeek Praise

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sun 22nd 8.00am BCP Communion
10.30am Holy Communion
Weds 25th 6.30pm MidWeek Praise
Fri 27th 11.00am Mission Community Wave Of Prayer

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sun 29th 10.30am Holy Communion (*followed by refreshments & Lucky Lotto draw*)
October
Weds 2nd 6.30pm MidWeek Praise

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sun 6th 10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer

Interregnum Update

“No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it.”

(H.E. Luccock)

There are many quotes about teamwork, but I particularly like this one. In its most direct interpretation, it reminds us that whilst one person may be able to whistle a beautiful tune by themselves, they can never produce a symphony on their own. To play a symphony people must come together, each bringing with them their different instruments, their different experiences, their different talents, their different God-given gifts; and they must choose to play together to create the beautiful harmonies that become a masterpiece.

The wonderful thing about this analogy is that it can be applied to almost any situation that requires teamwork – including our Churches. To create beautiful music the whole Church Community has to come together, has to bring their own unique experiences and gifts, and has to work together.

But it doesn't just stop there, when we come together and work as a team, it has a multiplier effect. The sum of the whole isn't just $1 + 1 = 2$, it's more like 1×100 in the effect that each person has when they pull together.

In the early days of Christianity there were no buildings set aside for worship and there were no Vicars, but 'The Church' thrived because those early Christians came together filled with the Holy Spirit, they pooled their talents and resources and became 'The Church'. The result was beautiful music which is still being played throughout the world over 2 million years later.

In our world today, 'The Church' isn't just a building which is set aside for weekly worship; 'The Church' isn't just about the Vicar who leads it (although obviously it would be great if we had one!!!); **We** are 'The Church', each and every one of us.

And here's another interesting analogy; an Orchestra without a Conductor can still produce good music, maybe not the best music, as that requires someone to co-ordinate and manage all the individual players and their parts; but a Conductor without an Orchestra is back to trying to whistle that Symphony on his / her own.

We're now 18 months into interregnum; our 'Orchestra' has got used to playing without a Conductor, and I for one, think they are doing a pretty good job!

Alison Hartley – Churchwarden (on behalf of the PCC)

Editor's Spot ...

Welcome to the September 2024 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine, which is as always, a mine of useful information, interesting articles and updates.

Many of our groups and organisations have been enjoying a break over the Summer, but there's still been lots of activity in and around Church; our Family Gardening Group has met each week throughout the Summer, creating an EcoGarden and also giving the Churchyard Team a hand with some of the many tasks they undertake on a weekly basis; and our 'Wild Worshippers' have been busy hunting for prayers; don't miss the reports and pictures in this month's magazine.

With the Summer holidays drawing to a close now, there's a definite feeling of Autumn in the air; the days are getting cooler, and the evenings are closing in; it seems no time at all since we were enjoying our Summer Prom Concert, and already our thoughts are turning towards planning events and Services for Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas – where does the time go!!

Enjoy the read, and as always, please feel free to share our Magazine with others if you wish to. *Alison*

From The Registers

Funerals

2nd July

4th July

We commend to God's keeping:

Jean Clifford

Joanne Hamer

Baptisms

14th July

21st July

21st July

We welcome to the family of God:

Arthur Pendlebury

Oliver Nelligan

Kaitlin Young

Flower Rota

8th September – Mrs. G. White

22nd September – Mrs. S. Varnom

Church Flower Rota



There are currently a number of spaces on the Church Flower Rota; placing flowers in church can be a lovely way to remember a loved one, or to commemorate an anniversary or special date.

If flowers are 'your thing', you are welcome to buy and place your own arrangements; alternatively Kathy Armstrong-Rand will purchase and arrange flowers on your behalf (suggested minimum donation for this is £20-00).

If you would be interested in joining the Church flower rota, please speak to one of our Churchwardens, or contact Gwen White on 01204-595378.

Wild Worship

The theme for Wild Worship this year was 'Going On A Prayer Hunt'; if you happened to be walking through our churchyard on a Wednesday evening during the Summer holidays, you may have noticed the children (and parents) busily searching for prayers! Each week our prayers have focused on a different letter; **P** involved **P**eople Prayers and eating **P**ineapple; **R** was **R**ipple Prayers and munching on **R**aspberries; **A** saw us creating Paper **P**rayeroplanes (which were very reluctant to fly!!) and eating **A**pricots. For the letter **Y**, we did **Y**oga prayers and ate **Y**ummy Haribos; **E** saw us praying for **E**veryone on our streets and enjoying **E**clairs and **E**xtrremely juicy strawberries.

At our final session we had a **R**ound up of all of our favourite types of prayers then **R**oasted marshmallows.

In readiness for the new school year, the children were asked to bring their school bag, lunch box or pencil case to Church with them for this last session; the bags, boxes and pencil cases were then blessed, and each child was given a tag to attach to their bag to remind them that God is always with them.



Family Gardening Group

A small but enthusiastic group of 'gardeners' have had a great time working in our Churchyard over the Summer holidays. As well as creating a vegetable and herb patch, and a bright and colourful pallet garden, designed to attract butterflies, bugs and bees, we've planted seeds in the hope that we'll have an



autumn crop of radishes, land cress and kale, and helped members of the Churchyard Team by sweeping the Church path, raking up fallen leaves and twigs for composting, and scraping moss of headstones.

We've also made bird feeders, bugs, sunflower terrariums and spiders!

At our final session we were joined by Revd Canon Donna Williams, Area Dean of Bury & Rossendale, who helped us rake up the many leaves left behind following the strong winds, then presented our little gardeners with 'special pencils' to remind them that God is always with them and always loves them.



MacMillan Coffee Morning

This year's MacMillan Coffee Morning will be held on Friday 27th September 10 – 11.30am in Ainsworth Church & Community Hall. Donations of cakes will be gratefully received and can be brought to the churchyard team (9:30-10:00 on Wednesday 25th September) or to the Church & Community Hall before the coffee morning begins.

Christ Church Ainsworth Book Of Remembrance

If you have lost a family member or loved one and would like their name to be recorded in our Book of Remembrance, please speak to a member of our Clergy or one of the Churchwardens, or email ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com. This option is available for those who have been a part of our local or worshipping community, or those whose funeral has been held in Church.



Please note there is a charge of £5-00 per entry for this service.

Christ Church Ainsworth - Grave Cleaning & Maintenance

If you choose to have a memorial stone on your loved one's grave, you are welcome to tend the grave and place flowers yourself, but if you are unable to do so, our Churchyard Team offer a number of options:

- Regular cleaning of headstone £30-00 / year
- Regular cleaning of headstone, flowers placed monthly & wreath placed at Christmas £210-00 / year

For more information about grave maintenance please contact Janet Hayes on 07895-033736.

EcoChurch



We've had lots of fresh air and fun with our Eco Church activities through the Summer months, but EcoChurch isn't just about the great outdoors; we can all help the environment by considering our everyday actions and lifestyles, and how they might impact on nature and the world's resources.

Top Tip for September:

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 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.

'Be Still' – A Time Of Contemplative Prayer & Reflection

In a world that's increasingly busy, we often get caught up in the hustle and bustle of everyday life; we find ourselves rushing from one thing to the next; sometimes we're working around the clock to keep all the plates spinning and make sure that everything goes to plan; but how often do we take the time to simply be still?

We'll be meeting in Church for a time of gentle contemplative prayer & reflection on the 3rd Sunday of each month @ 6.30pm. Why not join us on Sunday 15th of September, everyone welcome.

The Christ Church Ainsworth 50/50 Lucky Lotto!

The August Lucky Lotto draw took place in Church on Sunday 25th August, with the lucky winner walking away with £19-00!

This fabulous fundraiser runs each month; tickets cost £1 each and are available at the back of Church; you can enter as many times as you like!

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

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.

We're aware that not everyone carries cash with them, so to make it even easier, you can now enter the Lucky Lotto via direct payment, either monthly or annually. For more details, please email ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com

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

Creationtide

This is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life.



Many churches choose to use this time of year to hold special services and events to give thanks for God's gift of creation, and to renew their commitment to caring for our planet.

The theme for the Season of Creation 2024 is to hope and act with creation.

In Paul's letter to the Romans 8:22, the biblical image pictures the Earth as a Mother, groaning as in childbirth. We are not caring for the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather using it as a resource to be exploited.

And yet, there is hope and the expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but rather groaning, crying, and actively striving for new life amidst the struggles. Just as in childbirth, there will be a period of intense pain, but new life springs forth.

For more info about Creationtide visit www.churchofengland.org

Raising Awareness – Zero Waste Week; 2nd – 6th September 2024



What Is It? #ZeroWasteWeek is an award-winning, grassroots annual awareness campaign that takes place online and on-the-ground during the first week in September.

Every year, millions of people all around the world commit to reducing their landfill waste for a week during September - saving money, preserving resources and having fun in the process.

Who Can Take Part? Anyone can participate – whether you're an individual, business, organisation, community group, school, university or local authority.

How Can I Get Involved? It's simple to take part in Zero Waste Week:

You might find it helpful to pick a theme – popular ones in the past have been food waste, plastic packaging and repair.

Choose an action which will help you reduce your waste, then do it every day throughout Zero Waste Week (2nd – 6th September) - you'll find lots of ideas at www.zerowasteweek.co.uk

Set a goal – will you reduce your landfill waste by 10%? Banish food waste for two days? Or go all in and challenge yourselves to a completely waste free week?

Think about your why – WHY do you want to achieve your goal? This will keep you accountable to yourself and on the bandwagon when things get tough.

Tell colleagues, friends and family members what you're doing and why; if you want to, you could even share your experience with others in person or online using the hashtag #ZeroWasteWeek. It's more fun to do challenges with other people; maybe you could set up a Zero Waste challenge with other family members, neighbours, colleagues or classmates.

Whatever you decide to do – have fun, knowing that you are making a difference!

For more info visit www.zerowasteweek.co.uk

Mission Community News – Wave Of Prayer



On Friday 27th September, the Churches of the Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community will be holding a 'Wave of Prayer' from 9 – 5pm.

Each Church will be holding a time of prayer in relay, allowing us to pray continuously throughout the day.

The Wave will start at St. Andrew's, Hillock at 9am, before moving on to St. George's, Unsworth, Christ Church Ainsworth, St. Mary, Radcliffe, All Saints, Stand, St. Andrew's, Radcliffe, Christ Church Walshaw and finally St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe. Each Church will interpret their part of the Wave of Prayer in a way which is appropriate for their worshipping community.

Christ Church Ainsworth's time of prayer will be held from 11 – 12 noon in Church; everyone welcome.

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.*

**Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community
Wave Of Prayer**



On Friday 27th September 9 – 5pm

The Churches of our Mission Community will each be holding a time of prayer, allowing us to pray continuously throughout the day.

Why not join us!

Christ Church Ainsworth

Friday 27th September 11 – 12 noon

Everyone welcome

For more info contact Alison on 07952-709041



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
- You can also enter by BACS payment or standing order, for details email ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com
- All proceeds to Church funds

The next Lucky Lotto draw will take place on Sunday 29th September.

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



Coffee and Conversation

Tuesday 10th September

10.30 – 12 noon

Ainsworth Church and Community Hall

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





Thursday evenings 7.30 – 8.30pm
Christ Church Ainsworth, BL2 5RU
Starts Thursday 26th September
Everyone welcome, refreshments
available

For more info email
alisonhartleyhorse@gmail.com

Ainsworth Methodist Church Hall, Greenside

Cuppa, Cakes & Company

New
Group

Only
£2



Info: 07533 696 776 fionajbelli@hotmail.co.uk

1st Thursday of every month 2 till 3.30 (from 4/7/24)

Play games or just chat & relax— bring a friend—meet new friends

Friday 27th September

10:00 to 11:30 am



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

Organised in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC029967) and the Isle of Man (104). Also operating in Northern Ireland.



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."*





Be Still ...

In the midst of busy lives, making time to pause and reflect can seem counter intuitive, but is in fact a huge investment which can be beneficial in many ways.

For those who want it to, taking time to pause and reflect can also create space in which we can meet God in a powerful way. A space where we can offer everything that is going on in our lives to God, allowing Him to help us to carry our burdens, and giving Him space to speak, comfort and shape us.

Be Still ... Why not join us in Church for a time of gentle contemplative prayer & reflection on the 3rd Sunday of each month @ 6.30pm; everyone welcome.



EVERGREEN
EVENTS

**CRAFT
&
MAKERS MARKET**

**Ainsworth Church & Community Hall
Ainsworth, Bolton BL2 5PQ**

SUNDAY

13

**OCTOBER
11am - 3pm**

**Art & Crafts
Gifts
Furniture
Knits
Local Jewellery
Scents
& Many More
Cafe Open**

Follow us

<https://www.facebook.com/eventsevergreen>



Evergreen Events
Presents

Christmas Craft & Makers Market

- Art
- Knits
- Crafts
- Scents
- Furniture
- & More
- Gifts
- Cafe Open

Ainsworth Community Church
Hall, Ainsworth, Bolton, BL2 5PQ

8th

DECEMBER

11 - 3

Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements

Coffee & Conversation

Tuesday 10th September

10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

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

Everyone welcome

Mothers' Union September Meetings

Tuesday 3rd September 2.30pm ACCH

Tuesday 17th September 'On Tour'

All are welcome at any of our meetings.

'The Prayer Course'

Thursday Evenings 7.30 – 8.30pm, Christ Church Ainsworth

An 8 week journey through The Lord's Prayer, using videos and group discussion. Refreshments available, everyone welcome. For more info or to express your interest email alisonhartleyhorse@gmail.com

Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community Wave Of Prayer

Friday 27th September 9 – 5pm

Christ Church Ainsworth 11-12noon

The Churches of our Mission Community will be praying 'in relay' to allow us to pray continually throughout the day. Why not join us!

Candlelight Prayer

Each Friday @ 8pm on Zoom

An oasis of calm at the end of a busy week. Why not join us for 10 minutes of prayer and quiet reflection each Friday evening. Simply click on the link below to take part:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88510585974?pwd=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoYzZDMUFOz09>

!!Save The Dates!!

Sunday 13th October 11 – 3pm Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

Evergreen Events Crafts & Maker's Market

Sunday 8th December 11 – 3pm

Evergreen Events Christmas Crafts & Maker's Market

Two fabulous new events are coming to Ainsworth Church & Community Hall this Autumn; save the dates & watch this space for more info.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 27th September

10 – 11.30am Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

Around The Organisations ...

Transformation - Now!



The theme from the latest Mothers' Union Newsletter is **HOPE**. Discover the transformative power of the Mothers' Union Literacy Programme in South Sudan.

"Read our brand-new research into how the programme creates leadership opportunities to formerly illiterate women and transforms lives in the process.

For the women who have gone through the Mothers' Union Literacy Programme across Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and South Sudan, a powerful mantra has emerged: "I used to be blind, but now I can see."

This statement reflects the profound transformation these women have experienced - a journey from the shadows of illiteracy to the light of empowerment and leadership.

The paths taken by these "alumni" showcase the remarkable impact of literacy education. As one participant shared, "To become a learner is to take the first step onto the ladder leading to greater capacity, respect within the family, and esteem in the community." Indeed, the programme serves as a stepping stone, empowering women to read sacred texts, improve hygiene practices, join savings groups, and seek elected positions.

The numbers tell a powerful story.

- *A staggering 69.5% of alumni surveyed now hold community leadership roles, acting as resource persons (55%), Mothers' Union leaders (54%), and leaders of savings associations (49%).*
- *Within churches, they have become lay readers (46%), Sunday school leaders (45%), and even ordained clergy (11%).*
- *Economically, 36% lead business enterprises.*

"I now see that literacy can empower women to take on elective leadership roles and succeed," affirmed one alumna, capturing the sentiments of all 100% of participants surveyed.

Thanks to your support of Mothers' Union, together, we are transforming lives around the corner and around the world".

Ever since I joined Mothers' Union in 1980, I've been hearing about how MU is changing lives, even being fortunate to see for myself some of the work in Kenya. At first, we as members in the UK and Ireland were funding a lot of the 'overseas' work but now most zones throughout the world manage to self-fund their programmes. One of the remarks that stands out for me is that after enrolling and completing a programme, women receive respect in their own families. This makes such a difference in families where the mother/sister/daughter has often been a bystander with no input into family activities or finances. As a result of various projects, marriages have been revitalised, domestic abuse has been dramatically reduced, finances have been improved, businesses have begun, jobs have been created. Equality and hope exists.

Be Proud To Be A Cog In The Mothers' Union Engine!

Our first meeting in September is on Tuesday, 3rd September at 2.30pm in the Church Hall. This will be a time of fellowship once again on the 'Happy Hour' theme. Matthew 25 v 40 says, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me". I have just seen on social media about a young boy who stopped, got off his bike and pushed a wheelchair user up a steep hill. That prompted the idea that we could share stories of someone being kind to us or vice versa. Everyone is welcome.

For our 'away date' on the 17th September we are 'Going Visiting'. More details to members at our next two meetings.

Saturday 14th September at 2.00pm, is the date of our Deanery Summer of Hope Fundraiser. This will take place at Emmanuel Church Centre, Longsight Road, Ramsbottom. BL8 4BD.

The guest speaker is Ruth Spencer, and her topic is 'Almost Bake Off'. Ruth was a 'finalist in waiting' in the wings of the Great British Bake Off.

Come and listen to Ruth and her journey, enjoy fellowship, tea/coffee and cakes and don't forget to buy your raffle ticket! Admission is £3.00.

Finally, there is a developing Diocesan website. There is need of a volunteer to continue function and updates. Any offers of help?

Jennifer White

ABC Parent / Carer and Toddler Group



In July we said 'goodbye' to several children as they progressed to nursery, school or moved from the area. We will miss you and wish you all well in your onward journeys and hope that you enjoy your leaving gift.

The new term starts on the 6th September from 10am until 11.30am, every Friday morning in the Church and Community Hall. We look forward to seeing many of our present children and also welcome new families with children and babies under 4 years of age.

New to the area? New baby? Come and find company with us all for a time of free play, craft work (even for babies!), activity songs and age appropriate refreshments. The cost is £2 per family with one child and an extra 50p for each additional child and includes the refreshments.

The ABC Team

A decorative border of colorful hands (red, blue, yellow, green) surrounds the central text.

Christ Church Ainsworth
 **First Steps**
"The Friendly" Parent/Carer Tots Group

Play and Structured Group Activities
Fridays 10:00am to 11:30am
Ainsworth Church and Community Hall 
Corner of Church Street and Ainsworth Hall Road

Everyone welcome
 Details from Jennifer (07964 587694) or Jan (07950 960468)

From the Archives – September 1999

The forthcoming Flower Festival was the big news at Ainsworth Parish Church in September 1999 – donations of supplies for refreshments, plus volunteers to help out on the day would be greatly appreciated. Alongside the Flower Festival, a concert was to be held in Church, featuring 'New Life Singing Fellowship'; a small number of tickets still available.

In other news from the Parish, there were congratulations to John and Joan Howarth on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary, and a reminder that Confirmation Classes would be starting in the Autumn months – please speak to the Vicar for more info.

Elsewhere, the Uniformed Organisations were still enjoying their Summer break, but the Mothers' Union members were still very busy – they reported a successful Jumble Sale and announced plans for their forthcoming Whist and Domino Drive – everyone welcome.

The PTA reported a successful School Sports Day, and had held a very well supported Treasure Hunt, the funds raised were to go into a special account which could be accessed as and when needs were identified.

In September 1999, the 'Face To Face' interview was with Jacqui Jones, Brown Owl of the 12th Radcliffe Brownies; there was a hope that this might lead to other Uniformed Organisations Leaders taking part in future months. In September 1999 there were 3 Baptisms, and 4 Funerals recorded from the previous month, but no Weddings. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 233, collections were listed as £1749.

Space To Share A Prayer - Creationtide

God our Father, you created the world and sent your Son to live among us, made of the same stuff, breathing the same air, marvelling at the sunrise and sunset just as we do. God of love and life, restore us to your peace, renew us through your power and teach us to love all that you have created and to care for the earth as your gift and our home. Amen

Just A Thought

When looking backwards is filled with pain and looking forward seems ominous; try looking upwards.

You Might Like To Read ...

"The Poetry of Pilgrimage: Reflections on Celtic Pilgrimage sites in Ireland and Britain", Michael Mitton; published by BRF.

Drawing from his experience of co-leading pilgrimages in Britain and Ireland, Michael Mitton captures the essence of 23 significant pilgrimage sites for anyone from experienced pilgrims to armchair pilgrims. Each chapter outlines the story of the Celtic saint who founded the site, together with information about the location, a poem inspired by the author's experience of that place, a reflective question, a suggested Bible reading and a photo of the site.

Top 10 Cakes 2023 UK

According to www.timeout.com – the following were the UKs top 10 favourite cakes in 2023:

1. Banana bread
2. Victoria sponge
3. Chocolate cake
4. Red velvet cake
5. Sticky toffee pudding
6. Carrot cake
7. Cheesecake
8. Flapjack
9. Bakewell tart
10. Coffee and walnut cake



Praying Through The Seasons – Creationtide

"Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the East, and there he put the man he had formed." *Genesis 2; 8*

From September to October each year the Christian Community celebrates the Season of Creation by praying and acting together to protect our common home. It begins on 1st September, the World day of Prayer for Creation. As Christians, we share a common role as caretakers of God's creation.

We often take for granted the world in which we live; it's easy to get used to the green area around our home, the fabulous sunset at the end of the day; it's easy to become complacent and forget to notice and be thankful. It's easy to forget that we are the caretakers of this wonderful world that God has created.

And yet you don't have to look too far to see that God is indeed present in everything; in bright light and dull darkness, in the energy of each day and the rest that comes with night; in the heavens high above our heads, in waters that run deep around the world; in solid land and flowing seas, in vivid flowers and fruit laden-trees; in the rising and setting of the sun, and the cycles of the seasons, in the patterns of the shining stars; in oceans teeming with fish, in skies filled with birds; in this world filled with animal life, and in ourselves as human beings.

"And God looked and saw all that he had made, and indeed it was very good." Genesis 1; 31

Lord, You are the Maker of earth and sky,

You are the Maker of heaven on high.

You are the maker of oceans deep,

You are the Maker of mountains steep.

You are the Maker of such as me.

Keep me, O Lord Eternally.

Teach me to see you, Lord In all things seen and heard,

In the beauty of the heather moors in the singing of a bird. Amen

For All The Saints – September; St. Matthew The Apostle

Name: St. Matthew The Apostle

Feast Day: 21st September

Born: AD 4

Died: AD 68

Place of burial: Salerno Cathedral in southern Italy

Patron Saint Of: Accountants, Bankers, Bookkeepers, Security Guards and Stockbrokers!!

Matthew the Apostle is named in the New Testament as one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. According to Christian traditions, he was also one of the four Evangelists as author of the Gospel of Matthew. If Matthew is indeed the author, or source, of the first Gospel, then this is a small piece of autobiography.

Matthew was born in Nazareth; Mark and Luke, called him 'Levi', which suggests that he came from a family with priestly connections; how then how did he come to be working for the Romans as a collector of taxes? We may never know the answer to that question, but we do know that Matthew answered Jesus's call to follow him.

Matthew, like the rest of the disciples of Jesus, was a Jew. Whilst his Gospel is unlikely to have been written first, it is placed as the first Gospel in the New Testament, as Matthew's words link the New Testament with the Hebrew Scriptures which we know as the Old Testament. Right from the start, this Gospel wants to set the story of Jesus in the context of the history of Israel and the purposes of God in that history. Unlike the other gospel accounts, Matthew traces the family tree of Jesus back to Abraham, the Father of Israel, setting Jesus firmly in the unfolding purpose of God. Matthew is almost nudging us to realise that the events that he records didn't happen by accident; God is at work in history and was at work in the history of the people of Abraham.

Matthew preached the Gospel to the Jewish community in Judea, before going to 'other countries', although there is no clear definition of which other countries these were, almost all sources mention Ethiopia. According to Church tradition, whilst preaching in Ethiopia, Matthew converted and then consecrated to God, Ephigenia of Ethiopia, the virgin daughter of the Aethiopian King Egippus. When King Hirtacus succeeded Egippus, he asked the apostle if he could persuade Ephigenia to marry him. Matthew invited the King to Mass the following Sunday, where he rebuked him for lusting after the girl, as she was a nun and therefore was the bride of Christ. The King was enraged and ordered his bodyguard to kill Matthew as he stood at the altar, making him a martyr. Matthew's tomb is located in the crypt of Salerno Cathedral in southern Italy.

Matthew is recognised as a saint, and his feast day is held on 21st September in the Western world. Matthew's Gospel gives us a wonderful vision of the overarching purpose of God; at the start of the story, we are told that the child that is born is 'Emmanuel', meaning 'God with us', at the very end, we hear the words of that child, now the risen Son of God, promising that He will be with them 'always, even to the end of the age'.

Strap Lines

Experience is something that you don't get until just after you need it.

A complex system that doesn't work is often found to have evolved from a simpler system that worked just fine

Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.

Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

This Is My Father's World

This is my Father's world,
And to my list'ning ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world:
Oh, let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father's world,
The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heav'n be one.

(Maltbie D. Babcock - 1901)

The Parish Puzzler

How many words can you make from the following letters?

C R E A T I O N T I D E

Creation Quiz Quiz

1. In which book of the Bible would you find 'The Creation Story'?
2. In the beginning what was there?
3. What did God create on day 1?
4. What did God create on day 2?
5. What did God create on day 3?
6. What did God create on day 4?
7. What did God create on day 5?
8. A What did God create on day 6?
9. What did God do on day 7?
10. Who named the animals that God had created?

Who Dunit?

1. Who was busy working whilst Mary sat at Jesus's feet resting?
2. Who tried to seduce Joseph, leading to him being imprisoned?
3. Who bound up the injured traveller's wounds and took him to a nearby Inn?
4. Who carried Jesus's cross through Jerusalem to Golgotha?
5. Who first spoke the words of the Nunc Dimittis?

(Answers on page 33)

Sidesmen, Lay Assistant & Prayers Rota

| Date | Sidesmen | Lay Assistant | Prayers |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1 st September 14 th Sunday after Trinity | Mags Gillman | N/A | Alison Hartley |
| 8 th September 15 th Sunday after Trinity | Barbara Clarkson 16 th Brownies | N/A | 16 th Brownies |
| 15 th September 16 th Sunday after Trinity | Susan Campbell Barbara Leigh | Peter Holden | Jenny Johnson |
| 22 nd September 17 th Sunday after Trinity | Jean Ellis Christine Shaw | Jan Burow | Andrew Lowe |
| 29 th September 18 th Sunday after Trinity | Susan Campbell Barbara Leigh | Beryl Sixsmith | Clergy |

Reader's Rota

| Date | Reader | Readings |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 st September 14 th Sunday after Trinity | Alison Hartley | Song of Solomon 2.8-13 James 1.17-27 Mark 7.1-8,14,15,21-23 |
| 8 th September 15 th Sunday after Trinity | 16 th Brownies | |
| 15 th September 16 th Sunday after Trinity | Peter Holden | Proverbs 1.20-33 James 3.1-12 Mark 8.27-38 |
| 22 nd September 17 th Sunday after Trinity | Enid Horrocks | Proverbs 31.10-31 James 3.13 - 4.3,7-8a Mark 9.30-37 |
| 29 th September 18 th Sunday after Trinity | Beryl Sixsmith | Esther 7.1-6,9,10; 9.20-22 James 5.13-20 Mark 9.38-50 |

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 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 Creation Quiz: 1) Genesis, 2) Darkness, 3) Light, 4) The Heavens, 5) Land & plants, 6) Sun, moon & stars, 7) Birds & sea creatures, 8) Land animals & humans, 9) Rested, 10) Adam.

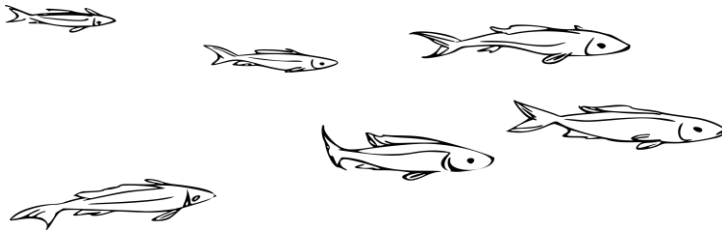
Answers to Who Dunnit: 1) Martha, 2) Potiphar's wife, 3) The Good Samaritan, 4) Simon of Cyrene, 5) Simeon.

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 | group.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk | 01204 595378 |
| Beaver Scouts | Friday at 6.30pm in the Church Hall | |
| Cub Scouts | Friday at 6.30pm in the Church Hall | |
| Scouts' 14 th 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 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 |

Time For A Smile

The visiting Bishop was just getting into his sermon at a family service when there was a power cut, and the Church was plunged into darkness. A couple of people managed to find some candles in the vestry and soon there was enough light to continue. The Bishop returned to the pulpit, shuffled his papers and said, "Now, where was I when the lights went out?" To the amusement of everyone who was near enough to hear, a little voice near the front said, "Right near the end sir."



Little Fishes

Naaman



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.

Naaman

Now that's a name that you might not have heard before! Naaman was the commander of the whole army of the country of Aram. He was very rich, and he had many servants. Naaman was so rich that even his wife had a servant. She was a little girl from the country of Israel, who had been captured from her home and brought to the country of Aram to be a slave. Naaman and his family did not believe in God, but the little girl did, even though she was far away from her home and her family.

Although Naaman was a very rich and powerful person, he had a very big problem. Naaman had a disease called leprosy. Leprosy is a disease that affects someone's skin, making it really sore; Naaman knew that if the disease affected his hands and feet his fingers and toes might fall off; he knew that if the disease spread all over his body, he would die. It was a horrible thing to have leprosy because no medicine could make it better.



No one wanted to be around someone with leprosy because they might get leprosy too, so Naaman had to stay away from everyone. He couldn't command his army, and he couldn't be with his family. No one in the whole country of Aram knew how to help Naaman - except the servant girl from Israel. She told Naaman's wife about



her God and about Elisha the prophet. Elisha was a prophet of God, and he could do miracles; maybe Naaman could go to Israel and see Elisha.

When Naaman's wife told him about Elisha, he became very excited. He decided to go to Israel and find out if the girl's words were true. Naaman and his servants travelled for many days to the land of Israel.

When he got to Elisha's house, Naaman sat outside and waited. Naaman was very important, so he expected Elisha to come outside and give him a special greeting. Naaman waited, but Elisha did not come outside. Instead, a servant came outside and told Naaman that Elisha had a message for him, "Elisha said that you should go and wash in the Jordan River seven times. If you do this, then the Lord will take away your leprosy, and you will be well."



Naaman was very angry. Didn't Elisha know that he was an important army commander? How dare Elisha tell him to go and wash in the dirty Jordan River! If he wanted to wash in a river, then he could have done that back in his own country! Naaman was so angry that he turned right round and started to head for home. But Naaman's servants begged him to reconsider - they knew that Naaman would die if the Leprosy spread - surely it was worth trying what Elisha had suggested?

And so Naaman turned back and washed in the Jordan River. Then



he washed again. He did this seven times, just as Elisha had said. After the seventh time, Naaman came up out of the water and looked at his skin, and guess what - his skin was perfectly soft and smooth; the Leprosy had been cured!

Naaman went straight back to Elisha's house, he wanted to give Elisha gold and silver and beautiful fabrics to reward him, but Elisha would not accept the gifts. He hadn't helped Naaman because he



wanted gold and silver, he had helped him because he wanted Naaman to know that God was real.

Naaman told Elisha, "I have been healed of my leprosy and I know that the God of Israel is real. From now on, I and my servants will worship the Lord." Then Naaman left and began his journey back to Aram.

But the story doesn't quite end there ...

Elisha had a servant called *Gehazi*; he thought that Elisha was a fool not to have accepted the gold and silver which Naaman offered him, and so *Gehazi* secretly followed Naaman and told him a lie. *Gehazi* told Naaman that Elisha had changed his mind and wanted the gold and silver after all. Naaman gave *Gehazi* the gifts, and then he continued on his journey.

When Elisha found out what *Gehazi* had done, he was very angry. He told *Gehazi* that as a punishment, he would now have the leprosy that Naaman had had. *Gehazi* knew that Elisha spoke the truth, and he knew that he had made a big mistake.

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

The chances are that everyone will experience difficulties at some point in their life. Naaman found that all his power and wealth couldn't buy him a cure from Leprosy; to start with he couldn't believe that Elisha seriously expected him to wash in a dirty river; but he soon discovered that being proud and arrogant wouldn't help him, but being humble and obedient could save his life.

Gehazi made a different discovery - he discovered that God sees and knows everything that we do, and that lying and cheating are a really bad idea!

Prayer Time ...

Heavenly Father, we know that you see everything and care for everyone. In times of trouble, help us to remember that you are close and will help us if we believe and trust in You - Amen.

Please do your best to support our advertisers.



Persona Care and Support in partnership with HMR Circle Bury are looking for volunteer drivers

BECOME A VOLUNTEER DRIVER TODAY

DO YOU LIKE DRIVING?

DO YOU HAVE SOME SPARE TIME?

DO YOU LIKE HELPING OTHERS?

Volunteer Requirements:

- ✓ Want to help others
- ✓ Patient, reliable & flexible
- ✓ No age limit
- ✓ Access to your own car

If you enjoy driving, meeting new people and would like to help your local community - then make a difference by supporting people to access a range of social activities or attend appointments who would find this difficult to do by themselves.

A contribution of 45p per mile is payable on the day, to reimburse for the cost of petrol and support the costs of insuring and maintaining your vehicle.



For More Information
<https://tinyurl.com/VolunteerDriveP>
or email mary@hmrcircle.org.uk

Persona
We're all about you



Ainsworth Village
Dental Practice

11 Church Street, Ainsworth

01204 382 828

info@ainsworthvillagedental.co.uk

We welcome new patients

Our services include:

- ◆ Routine examination
- ◆ Routine dentistry
- ◆ Oral Hygiene appointments
- ◆ Teeth whitening
- ◆ Dental Implants
- ◆ Invisalign
- ◆ Air flow stain removal
- ◆ Cosmetic dentistry



*Giving you the
confidence to
smile*

Did you know that people with gum disease have an increased risk of:

- ◆ Heart attacks
- ◆ Stroke
- ◆ Diabetes
- ◆ Tooth loss
- ◆ Respiratory disease

We have hygiene appointments available on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, priced from £54.00

Call now to book in for an appointment where advice and treatment will be provided

JACK HAMER & SON
(Tottington) LTD
Established 1930

**Specialist cavity wall tray installers
And Lintel replacement service**

Tel: 01204 883867

Mobile: 078663 69891

enquiries@jackhamer-son.co.uk

www.jackhamer-son.co.uk



SILLETTS

Established 1875

Spring Lane
Radcliffe
Manchester M26 2TQ
Telephone: 0161 723 2383

Herbert Street
Little Lever
Bolton BL3 1LU
Telephone: 01204 861 300

email: silletts@sillettsfuneralservice.co.uk

www.sillettsfunerals.co.uk

 @sillettsfuneralservice

Ask us about.....Funeral Plans

STATION GARAGE

01706 822364

MOT Testing - Servicing - Repairs
Diagnostics - Exhausts - Batteries



Railway Street Ramsbottom BL0 9AL

www.stationgarageramsbottom.co.uk



NORTH WEST TURF & GARDEN SUPPLIES LTD

Your local independent
supplier of paving,
landscaping, driveway &
fencing materials

*We are a Family run,
independent merchant. We
pride ourselves on our
honest, helpful & reliable
service.*

[Tel:01204-705732](tel:01204-705732)

www.turfandgarden.co.uk

Harrowby Mill, Harrowby St,
Farnworth. BL4 7BT

Warwick Bedroom Design

Custom made Furniture

- Bedroom
- Office
- Lounge

Free planning and
estimating

Tel: 0161 763 7137

Mobile: 07833 748889

www.warwickbedrooms.co.uk

AINSWORTH CHURCH & COMMUNITY HALL

**AVAILABLE FOR LONG / SHORT TERM HIRE OR
ONE-OFF BOOKINGS / PARTIES, MEETINGS ETC.
LARGE OR SMALL HALLS AVAILABLE
SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS AND CONTACT FORM**

Website: AinsworthChurchHall.co.uk

Email: Bookings@AinsworthChurchHall.co.uk



**We are a family run, local business specialising in
everything equestrian**

- *Extensive range of riding & footwear to suit all budgets
- *Large selection of riding hats & body protectors, all to the current standard & fitted by qualified staff
- *We also stock a wide range of leatherwork, rugs, Hi-Viz, supplements, treats & much, much more.

From beginners to winners – we have it covered!

Open Mon – Sat 10 – 5pm, Sun 12 – 4pm, Closed Weds

18, Bridge St, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AQ

Tel: 01706-822322; www.horse-bits.co.uk

REACH

Retreat

**Book an accessible break
in Carnforth now!**

- brand new holiday lodge
- access to all the facilities at South Lakeland Leisure Village
- sleeps 7
- fully accessible with wet rooms, profiling bed, mobile hoist & more
- pets by arrangement



Scan or follow link
for more details, to share & to book:
<http://tinyurl.com/REACHRetreatP>



Persona
We're all about you



Did you know it costs around £1,300 per
week to run & maintain our Church?

That's around £186 per day!!

You can make a donation directly into our Church bank
account: Christ Church Ainsworth PCC, Sort Code: 08-92-99
Account number: 65510959

Or by scanning our QR code



Thank you for your support!

Steve Ainsworth Windows & Doors Ltd

Friendly, family-run business

07814 963 632 | 0161 280 3195

steveainsworth@live.co.uk



Call for a FREE no-obligation quote!

Windows | Doors | Fascias & Soffits

Fully Insulated Conservatory Roofs

Misted Double-Glaze Units | Window & Door Repairs

Over 35+ years of experience

FENSA

Registered Company



Tea Shop &
Ice Cream Parlour

Arthur Lane Nurseries,
1 Arthur Lane, Ainsworth

Open Tuesday to Sunday
10:30 - 3:00pm

Last orders for hot food at 2:30pm

Serving Rijo coffee, a selection of freshly baked cakes and Frederick's ice cream.

Our food menu includes English Breakfasts, paninis, toasties & jacket potatoes, as well as sandwiches, plated salads and plenty of light bites.

Also serving seasonal specials.
Pop in to see what's new!



@thegardenshed.arthurlane

ARTHUR LANE NURSERIES

*Growers of quality
garden plants
All at down to earth
prices*

1 ARTHUR LANE,
AINSWORTH, BOLTON
Telephone: 01204 529929



Want to advertise here?

*Why not get in
touch*

ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com

