

Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Confirmation 2021

Christ Church Ainsworth

(Photo courtesy of Judith Shore)

Serving the Community

www.ainsworthparish.org.uk

August 2021

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Our church building is COVID-secure, so you can either attend worship physically or worship with us on Facebook:

Sundays

- 10.30am in church for COVID-secure Communion
- 12 Noon for live-streamed midday worship on our Facebook Page

Wednesdays

- 6.30pm in church for Mid-Week Praise, recording posted later on Facebook

To join us on Facebook, follow this link:

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

NB: If you are not on Facebook, you can still watch the service – when it says “Log in” “Create New Account” simply click “Not Now” (which is below these two options)

If you missed any of our livestreamed services, some of them can be found on our website <https://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk/online-worship.html> or our YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1kRCPBlymPoDSyhH9CZYrw>

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

Planning to attend our church building for worship?

The following COVID-19 Secure restrictions apply:

For your comfort we are operating three zones, offering different levels of security. The Zone you choose to sit in depends upon YOUR assessment of personal risk. For example, if you have few concerns and are not bothered about being pinged by the NHS Test & Trace app, then sit in Zone 1. If you are clinically vulnerable, you might prefer Zone 3.

Zone 1 (right hand side of the aisle):

- You are advised to wear a facemask, but it is your decision.
- There is no requirement to remain socially distant.

Zone 2 (left hand of the aisle – 1m+ social distance):

- Please wear a facemask
- Please sit in the designated pews, sitting in the space indicated by arrows.

Zone 3 (upstairs left & centre pews and the back Choir pews - 2m social distance)

- Please wear a facemask
- Please sit in the designated pews, sitting in the space indicated by arrows.

Singing: From 19/7/21 we shall begin singing again in church. There is no need to join in, but if you do, please wear a mask if you plan to sing loudly!

Communion:

- Clergy will continue to preside in a COVID Secure manner.
- For now, we will not be sharing the Common Cup. Instead, after gelling their hands, clergy will carefully dip your wafer in the wine before safely dropping it in your hands.
- Zone 1 – we will distribute to you from the Communion Rail. Please mask and line up as directed.
- Zones 2 & 3 – remain seated, clergy will come to you.

General:

- We will leave the doors open to enhance air circulation.
- Please gel your hands as you enter and leave the building.
- There is a collection plate on the font, but this will not be passed around.

- Although we shall now stand at various points in the service (e.g., for the Gospel), you are at liberty to remain seated throughout if you wish.
- To avoid handling service books, a PowerPoint version of the order of service is projected in church. However, if you struggle with this, there are a few printed orders of service available on request (please take them home with you afterwards).
- If you are in Zone 1, please allow those in Zones 2 and 3 to exit first as they need to maintain social distance.

Whether you attend worship in church with others, or prefer to join with us on Facebook, is entirely your decision. Our responsibility is to ensure you have the choice.

Anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell) should not join us in church due to the risk to others; they should self-isolate at home immediately and arrange a PCR test. Likewise, please stay at home if you have been pinged by Test & Trace.

A few words from the Vicar

Well, like so many others, I guessed correctly. Freedom Day (19th July) has come and gone and, although there are few legal restrictions, we are strongly encouraged to be careful, to proceed with caution.

At least we can sing once more in church, but what we sound like after months without practice is anyone's guess! It is a shame we no longer have a choir to lead us in song. I certainly miss them. Would anyone like to volunteer?

As for the post Freedom Day arrangements for churches, whatever our own personal views on the matter, clergy appreciate the importance of gradually emerging from restrictions. Apart from the possibility we may be required to engage reverse gear at a moment's notice, individual assessments of personal risk vary considerably within our congregations and the public at large.

We all know those who are gung-ho, who have ditched their masks and are ready for anything. But, in the other corner, we know those who have been double jabbed yet are nowhere near ready to mix with others. And, if we draw a line between these two extremes, we will find ourselves somewhere along it. Whether consciously or

unconsciously, all of us have assessed the risks for ourselves and responded accordingly.

If we add into this mix all those who are clinically vulnerable, those whose health has deteriorated over the last 18 months, and those who cannot afford to be pinged by NHS Test & Trace, you will, perhaps, understand my caution.

The primary purpose of the Church is to worship God, so my aim is to arrange things so that as many of you as possible can feel safe doing this, regardless of your personal risk appetite.

So, we now have three zones in church:

Zone 1 (right hand side pews) is for who are unconcerned about maintaining social distancing and, although masks are encouraged, are unconcerned if others around them do not wear one.

Zone 2 (left hand side pews) is for those who prefer to keep their distance. Some pews remain out of bounds to allow 1m plus social distancing to remain (in some cases 2m plus). All in that area will be expected to mask.

Zone 3 (upstairs and the choir pews) is for those who feel vulnerable and prefer to be 2m plus distant from others. All will wear masks in Zone 3.

The doors will remain open to facilitate air flow; all will be encouraged to gel their hands; we shall continue using PowerPoint to avoid handling books (with a few printouts available for those who find this difficult); and the ministry team will take full precautions when handling the bread and wine.

If you choose to sit in Zones 2 or 3, we will take communion to you. Those in Zone 1 will receive standing at the Communion Rail.

None of the ministry team is comfortable sharing the Common Cup so, to ensure our congregation can receive in both kinds, we shall continue dipping each wafer in the wine before dropping it in your hands.

Of course, we continue livestreaming for those who prefer to worship at home for whatever reason.

So, there we have it, Freedom Day has come and gone, but we still need to take precautions.

God Bless

Dave

Editor's Spot ...

Welcome to the August 2021 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine. Many Parishes produce a combined magazine for the months of July and August on the basis that a) the magazine team want a month off, and b) there is likely to be little to report with the various groups having finished for the summer break. Whilst a month off sounds rather tempting, I can safely say that, thanks to our dedicated group leaders, this month's magazine contains as many reports, articles and updates as ever! A huge thankyou must go to all who put pen to paper for the Parish Magazine each month – your efforts are very much appreciated.

And so 'Freedom Day' has been and gone. Many of the rules and restrictions that we have become so used to living with over the past 18 months have been relaxed and we are now being encouraged to 'take personal responsibility' for assessing and managing the risk of covid-19. It will be interesting to see what happens next, but for now let's just try to safely enjoy doing some of the things that have been on hold for so long.

Full marks to our clergy team for their sensitive and practical interpretation of the current guidelines – the various different 'zones' within church should allow all those who feel ready to return to in-church worship to do so in a way in which they feel comfortable, and for those who are as yet unable to join us, there is still the option to join us in worship from the safety and comfort of your own home via our livestreamed services.

If all goes to plan, there will hopefully be the opportunity to pick up some of the more social aspects of our church life in the coming months, watch this space for dates, but in the meantime, enjoy this month's magazine, do your best to keep safe and well, and as always, please keep your reports and articles coming in to ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com. *Alison*

From The Registers

FUNERALS	We commend to God's keeping
June 3 rd	Lillian Farnworth

Just A Thought

If it wasn't for the dark times, we wouldn't see the stars.

Confirmation 2021

Congratulations to the following candidates, who were confirmed by Rt Revd. Mark Ashcroft, Bishop of Bolton, at a service held at Christ Church Ainsworth on Sunday 18th July 2021.

Hannah Bates
Erin Hardman
Lyra Kay
Ralphie Shore
Isabella Stevens



Many thanks to Judith Shore for allowing us to use the lovely photos.

Christianity Explored

This is a seven-session course that gives you the time and space to think about the big questions of life and to explore the life of the man at the heart of the Christian faith. As we explore Mark's Gospel together, we will discover who Jesus is, why he came and what it means to follow him.

Beginning on 7th September (7.30pm on Zoom), the structure of each session is simple: a short Bible study, a video, and a discussion. Christianity Explored is suitable everyone, whether exploring Christianity or seeking a refresher course, so come along and invite a friend. Expressions of interest to Revd Dave.

Rainbows

Heartfelt thanks from all at Christ Church go out to our Rainbow leaders who, after doing a sterling job over many years, have decided to step down. This means that, unless new leaders can be found, there will no longer be a Rainbow unit in Ainsworth. It would be sad if that were to happen, so volunteers are needed urgently. If you are thinking of volunteering and want to know more, you can register your interest on the Girlguiding website:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest/>

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 24th September (providing covid restrictions allow)

from 10:30 until 12 noon in the Church and Community Hall. Please come and join us, and if you are able to bake a cake for the occasion, that would be very welcome - cakes can be brought to the church from 9:30 to 11:30 on the Wednesday morning (22ndSept); to the vicarage from 5pm to 6:30pm on the Thursday (23rdSept); or to the Church Hall from 9:00am to 10:30 on the Friday (24th Sept).

Volunteers Needed

If you have a bit of time to spare and would like to help your Church in a practical way, then please consider joining either the Churchyard Team (come to the Churchyard on Wednesdays from 9:30am) or the Pew Polishers (contact Jane Lord, 0161 764 1551) or both.

News From The Diocese – Foundations For Ministry

The Foundations for Ministry course (FFM) is due to begin again this September and applications are now open.

FFM is a stimulating course open to anyone active in church life who feels some sense of vocation or calling to Christian ministry and needs some time and space to unpack what this might mean and look like. For more information visit www.manchester.anglican.org then navigate to the FFM webpage.

Booth Centre Sleep Out 2021

Why not join the Booth Centre Sleep Out on Friday 12th November to raise vital funds and awareness to support people who are homeless in our community.

- What? - Sleep out for one night only, to support others who have to night after night
- Where? - Your Sleepout location of choice - home, garden, balcony, workplace, community setting
- Who? - You and your fellow Sleepout Challengers!

Visit the [Booth Centre website](#) for more details.

FareShare Urgently Appeals For Volunteer Drivers



The food charity FareShare is urgently appealing for volunteer drivers to provide vital support to local communities by collecting food from its warehouse and delivering it to charities. FareShare Greater Manchester takes good quality, in-date surplus food and redistributes it to over 300 local charities and community groups supporting vulnerable people – including homeless hostels, breakfast clubs and domestic violence refuges.

Volunteers are required to have a standard driving licence and will be able to deliver to a variety of local charities and community groups across the region.

Find out more about volunteering opportunities on FareShare's website.



Easyfundraising

Our cause is registered as Ainsworth Parish Church, Bolton and currently has 25 supporters registered. Our current fundraising total is £739-69. A huge thank you to everyone for raising donations via #easyfundraising!

Donations aren't just limited to physical purchases; you could raise up to £215 when you use easyfundraising to save money on your household bills - including car and home insurance, energy, phone contracts or broadband. Uswitch, GoCompare, Confused.com and many more will all donate to us for FREE!

If you haven't signed up to support us yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 5,700 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! These donations really help us, so it would be great if you could take a moment to get started!

You can find our easyfundraising page here:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ainsworthpc/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-rbd21-e1

Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements

Ainsworth Unitarian Chapel, 306th Anniversary Service

Sunday 1st August, 3pm

Ainsworth Unitarian Chapel, Knowsley Road

All are welcome.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 24th September

10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

Come and join us for the world's biggest coffee morning (Covid restrictions permitting) and help us to raise vital funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Everyone welcome.

Monthly Diocesan Prayer With Bishop Mark

The Diocese of Manchester invites you to walk with us in prayer as we champion hope during this time of transformation and uncertainty. Check out the Manchester Diocese – Join Us In Prayer Facebook page for more info.

Porch Boxes

During lockdown it is not possible to receive donations for Porch Boxes in Church. However, if you shop at any of the following, they have somewhere to receive donations: ASDA (Radcliffe; Pilsworth & Bury); MORRISONS (Whitefield & Ramsbottom); TESCO (Bury & Ramsbottom) OR we can still support Porch Boxes through a donation: A cheque made payable to "The Porch" sent to Michael Perrin, 14 Kenmore Avenue Bury BL8 2DY or Bank transfer to Account number 81643089 sort code 09-0155 account name The Porch or Online <https://porchboxes.wordpress.com/>

Daily Hope

This is a free phone initiative which offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.



The line is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 and has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

Friday 24th September



10:30 am to 12 noon

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

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

*Please join us for cake and a drink
(covid restriction permitting)*

Organised in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in
England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of
Man (1056). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

Around The Organisations ...

Beavers

Well, we have managed to get to the end of term with many outdoor meetings and a couple of cancelled meetings due to Covid, with either Beavers or Leaders having to isolate.

The Beavers have enjoyed tracking, outdoor sports and parachute games, along with some indoor activities.

We can now enjoy the Summer holiday break and then in September we may be able to boost our numbers up and have normal meetings; also we hope to have an October Sleepover at Giant's seat Campsite.

Thank you to all my leaders, young leaders and the Beavers for being so helpful with the problems of the Covid restrictions.

Happy holidays.

Rikki

Cubs

What a funny few weeks. We got all set up being back after lockdown, everyone was busy learning about map reading and compasses, when suddenly – call after call, message after message – boys isolating due to covid – some actually testing positive, not just family members and school bubbles, so another 2 weeks without Cub Scouting.

We are now back again; most completed their Navigator badge and only one or two are still having to isolate. Hopefully they can all get through their skills badge before we break again, this time for the Summer holidays.

Some mums were amazed to see their children coming out of our meeting with perfectly ironed neckerchiefs, and telling them that they can peel potatoes; if you look at the church hall you may see 2 or 3 windows looking very shiny! – another task they must do.

We are hopeful that the meeting situation may be easier by the time we return in September but watch this space!

Gwen - Baloo

12th Radcliffe Brownies

As part of the Camping skills builder's badge, the girls worked in small groups to put up tents – this was planned for last summer but then lockdown happened! To keep fit, we practiced our throwing skills with tennis balls, large balls, Frisbees and bean bags, and ran obstacle races – the Brownies were especially good at the egg and spoon part.

In May, we started a carousel of three activities, but only managed to complete two before we were told we couldn't meet indoors. We finally managed to complete the third one outdoors, so the girls have had an opportunity to complete a square representing themselves, which we will put together to form a flag; design "The Greatest Place on Earth"; and get messy with an activity involving investigating bubbles, mirrors, sand and a cornflour paste!

When the weather wasn't suitable to be outside, we had an online meeting making a spinning paper helicopter and a balloon propeller as part of an engineering badge; and the Brownies were finally able to give out their Father's Day cards! Despite all the challenges, we are still enjoying being able to meet together again.



Polly, Brown Owl

16th Radcliffe Brownies

Our Brownies have been so busy this half term. We held a surprise party for Little Owl to commemorate an impressive 20 years of

volunteering with the unit - we would be lost without her, and she is just so appreciated.

We have been working towards 4 badges this term - Reflect, Local History, Collector's and a badge to celebrate the Queen's 95th birthday.

Here is what we have done (all outside due to COVID-19 restrictions):

Reflect - we reflected on what makes us all unique, what makes us angry or sad, happy or joyful. We reflected on what was important to us about where we live - Laura, a fellow Guider helped the girls to make yarn bombs and we scattered these on the Delph with messages asking people to take dog mess home or put it in a bin and to look after the Delph. We also spent a lovely evening building bee and bug hotels.

Local History - We made a craft from our country - Egg Cups which the girls painted and had fired in a kiln. We played a game about getting public transport locally - we would have got a bus if they were not one per hour. We went with Laura on a really interesting local history walk.

Collector's badge - we shared our collections with others in the pack at a show and tell. We made containers to store our collections in - pringle tubes became bobble holders and boxes were beautifully painted to hold bows.

All this was combined with a trip to the ice-cream shop at Arthur lane and an evening making Father's Day crafts - keyrings and photo frames.

The Brownies worked really hard - many had to isolate and completed elements of badges from home. Some of our girls have now achieved their Bronze and Silver awards.

Silver awards are going to - Aoife, Lilly Mai, Amber, Lydia, Grace, Amelia.

Bronze awards are going to - Freya, Maeve, Seren and Erin.

Well done all - each award requires a girl to get a number of badges and complete unit meeting activities - lots and lots of work!

We have broken up for the summer now, but the girls will be working on their badges during the break.

Yours in Guiding

Sarah McAnulty - Snowy Owl

Rebuilding Hope and Confidence

Summer of Hope

This summer we give thanks to God for the gift of life and for our loving and compassionate families and friends.

We owe our unique role for women within the Church to our founder Mary Sumner. This year we celebrate 145 years of Mothers' Union and pay tribute to Mary Sumner on the 100th anniversary of her death (August 9th) for all she achieved in life, empowering women and mothers worldwide, and establishing the home as a place of religious education and growth.

This is part of a message from our Worldwide President, Sheran Harper, as she encourages members to support the Summer of Hope Appeal by taking part in various activities of their own choosing. Just a few ideas are Count your Blessings Calendar, socially distanced doorstep cream teas, virtual shared meals or a prayer plait that you could use as your Bible bookmark.

Now what better way of us all celebrating than getting together again - and now it's going to happen! We are booked in at The Garden Shed for Tuesday, August 3rd at 2.00pm. If you would like to go, can you please phone me or Jean Eddleston as soon as possible to "book in". They need to know numbers to have room for us all. Please bear in mind government guidelines at the time. Until August 16th, you must isolate if you have been in contact with Covid-19 but we leave mask wearing to your discretion and comfort. We also understand if you are not yet able to or happy with mixing in larger groups than we've all been used to.

If anyone would like to help the Summer of Hope Appeal, perhaps we could donate the price of a cup of tea, a round of toast or a cake to help MU work where it is most needed. I'll bring an MU box with me to collect any donations.

We'll also discuss at that meeting what you would like to do on the 17th August.

On Tuesday August 31st at 2.00pm in Church, Dave has kindly agreed to conduct an MU Service of Thanksgiving. We all have so much to be thankful for and I hope that this will be an appropriate start to our new and 'normal' programme. Hopefully, we'll be allowed to sing in church by that time!

So - it's good to be back on track but, please take care everyone and stay safe.

Jennifer White
(Hon Sec)

From the Archives – August 1996

The Parish Diary page in the August 1996 Parish Magazine was surrounded by small sketches of ice cream cones, deckchairs and donkey riders – a great build up to the holiday season.

Interestingly, as we're currently talking about Mission Communities and Church Growth, the Vicar's Letter in August 1996 talked about Mission; "*Mission is God's people caring for God's world. Because God cares, we care. Because His love has been poured into our hearts, it overflows into this world ...*" Evangelism; "*Evangelism means sharing what Jesus means to us, what He has done for us – it may not be our gift to preach or explain the intellectual dimensions of the Christian faith, but every Christian can tell his or her own story of what God has done and continues to do ...*" and Church Growth; "*a church begins to grow when it turns its attention outwards towards the world ...*" Clearly many of the issues and discussions of the current times are nothing new!

Whilst the holiday season was fast approaching, there was still a lot of activity within the various groups and uniformed organisations: Beavers appeared to be having a great time with their 'Let's Party 1996' initiative, their banner had been photographed with the Mayor at Bury Town Hall, at Manchester United Football Ground and at a County 'Let's Party' fun day; Ventures had held a successful first camp at Bowley Scout Camp in Great Harwood; Guides had finished the term off with a mums V girls rounders match and barbecue and Young Families had been on a visit to Blackpool Zoo and had a whole list of trips and activities planned for the summer months.

Christ Church Ainsworth C.E Primary School reported a successful year for all classes and had held a final assembly which Year 6 children had planned and lead. Congratulations and thanks were offered to Mrs. Bainbridge on her retirement, and congratulations also to Mr. and Mrs. Gerrard on the birth of their daughter Rachael Alice Margaret.

Plans were well underway for the forthcoming Flower Festival "In Praise Of Creation" to be held in church on the second weekend of

September; volunteers were sought to help out in church and also to serve refreshments in the Church and Community Hall. A concert by The Affetside Choir was to be held in church on the Saturday evening, with a suggestion to purchase tickets sooner rather than later as the audience would be limited to 150!!

The 'Face To Face' interview in August 1996 was with Venitia Flaherty, the wife of Father Alan who was the Vicar at the time.

In August 1996 there were 2 Baptisms, 5 Weddings and 1 Funeral recorded from the previous month. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 351 and the collections totalled £1259.

Five Steps To Wellbeing



Research has shown that there are 5 simple things you can do as part of your daily life to build resilience, boost your wellbeing and lower your risk of developing mental health problems. These five simple actions are known as the five steps to wellbeing, they are:

- Connect
- Be active
- Take notice
- Learn
- Give

The general principal of the five steps to wellbeing approach is that all of the five elements are essential to achieving and maintaining a sense of wellbeing, however, the focus / intensity of need for the different elements may vary from one person to another and also from one situation to another.

Connect:

As individuals we all have different levels of need for and dependence on those around us; some of us are private and 'self contained', others are more outgoing and sociable. Wherever you lie on this spectrum, there is strong evidence to suggest that feeling close to, and valued by, other people is a fundamental human need and important to functioning well on a daily basis. To quote John Donne, "*No man is an island*", so why not challenge yourself to try some of the following:

- Make sure that you talk to people and really listen to what they're saying, if you can't physically meet people, make a conscious decision to ring at least 1 person each day for a proper chat.
- With the rise of technology and social media, there are many channels of communication available to us all; if you're not able to physically meet up, why not keep in touch via 'Zoom' or 'Skype'; remember that learning something new is a good way to pick up extra 'wellbeing points'. Take that 1 step further and you'll find that asking a friend or family member to show you how to use these platforms gives you an opportunity to connect, learn and then stay connected, but also gives your assistant the opportunity to connect and give - a couple of wellbeing points for each of you makes this a 'win-win' situation.
- If you live with other people, try to make sure that you all eat a meal together at least once a day and use this time to talk and listen to each other; take it in turns to cook and you could be ticking extra wellbeing boxes again.
- Make an effort to get to know the people who live close to you – as well as connecting they can be a valuable source of support in lots of other ways.
- When you go out for a walk, visit the shops, use public transport etc. challenge yourself to smile at everyone you meet and to speak to at least 1 other person whilst you're out – even if you only comment on the weather, it's a start!
- If you're less mobile, why not give folk a wave as they pass your house – it's amazing how many people make the same journey on a daily basis and quickly get into the habit of looking out for each other.

- Make a regular time to visit friends / neighbours; if simply chatting feels a bit uncomfortable, perhaps you could hold a bit of a book club or movie club.
- Consider joining a group or organisation in your area, there are so many things going on in our local community and further afield – again there are extra wellbeing points to be earned if you're learning something new or being active either on the way there / back or as part of the session you attend.
- If you can't find something that 'floats your boat', why not set something up – mega wellbeing points available for those intrepid enough to give this one a try.

Once you start to think about it, you'll find loads of opportunities to 'connect', often these don't even involve leaving the comfort of your own home. Don't forget that adding a 'giving', 'being active', or 'learning' element gives your wellbeing an extra boost.

In the next few articles there will be lots more ideas and suggestions of things you could do or get involved with as part of your wellbeing balance / review. You can also find lots more at www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/mental-wellbeing or www.mind.org.uk

On Reflection

This series of reflections was written during the 1st Lockdown by Elizabeth Spiers, a member of the CYFChurches.org Benefice in West Sussex.

Reflection 4 - Job: *God works for us, but not always as we expect, by Elizabeth Spiers*

Job was, in God's words, the most righteous man on Earth in his day. Of course, according to the Bible, he didn't hear God say that. He was completely unaware of what was about to happen to him. Job had lived a very righteous life, was highly respected in his community, extremely wealthy and genuinely faithful to God. Without warning he became the victim of multiple calamities which left him financially ruined, homeless, bereaved of his 10 children and covered in painful, itchy sores. Can you imagine the impact of that? Talk about unfair!

Unfair suffering is the hardest to bear. To suffer for doing wrong we can understand, but Job suffered as few of us ever will, and for no apparent reason. His so-called friends told him, in so many words,

'you have obviously sinned; this is what you deserve'. His wife, shattered by their losses, told him to 'curse God and die'. And although Job begged God to speak, God stayed silent. Yet in all this, Job did not sin. Although he didn't understand, he didn't blame God. In *Job 1:20-22* Job responds: *The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.*

In our modern world, we like to be able to understand the 'why' of things. Job simply accepted and endured his suffering. Yes, he vented his feelings about the unfairness of it, but he also maintained his integrity. He didn't lose his faith and he kept true to himself by refusing to accept the accusations of his friends.

There are many verses in the Bible that tell us how much God wants to be our rock through hard times and that he walks through the situation with us and longs to comfort us. The apostle Paul put it this way in *Romans 8:28*: *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him who have been called according to his purpose.*

So, in a difficult situation, remember that God is working for your good. Although you may not understand, you can be sure that he is with you always and, if you allow him, he will work it out although perhaps not in the way you imagined.

Through The Seasons – Ainsworth In July

*"I see skies of blue and clouds of white,
The bright blessed days, the dark sacred nights,
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world."*



And so sang Louis Armstrong, in 1967.

This song is about the hope and faith of the world and its people; it may originally have been written to inspire those caught up in the chaos and tragedy of the war in Vietnam, but the words seem incredibly pertinent to present times - amidst the uncertainty, the restrictions and the grief that has been a part of our lives since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, nature, God's wonderful world, continues all around us.

As the year progresses and the seasons change, it's incredible to notice how the plants and trees and wildlife in and around our village vary; the bluebells and wild roses along the local lanes and footpaths



have gradually given way to Rosebay Willow Herb, Harebells and Bramble blossom.



Common Spotted Orchids can be seen near the lower lodges, and in the fields the yellow flowers of Birds Foot Trefoil, the purple flowers of Common Vetch, and the large white Dog Daisies sprawl randomly through the long grass. The

scent of a sunny is incredible – the various butterflies are attracted to it.



Clover on afternoon no wonder bees and so Thistles

are also prolific at the moment – most of us think of them as weeds, but clearly other species have a different view on that – you only have to observe a patch of Thistles for a few moments to be amazed by the number of different insects that visit; butterflies, bees, moths, beetles ... and the reason? Have you ever got close and smelled those purple flower heads? Pure honey!

The warm weather of July has brought with it a huge variety of insect life; the ‘double winger’ Brown Hawker Dragonflies can be seen



skimming over the various local ponds; Blue Damsel Flies seem to be prolific this year and also the fabulous Six-Spot Burnet Moth – easily recognised by the black and red markings and incredibly ‘fluffy’ antennae, this is one of a small number of day-flying moths, and seems to be having a ‘good season’ judging by the number round and about..



The fine weather has brought improvements to the ground conditions on many of our local paths, but regular visitors to Whitehead Lodges will have watched with interest as new gates and walkways have been installed,



along with proper surfacing on the worst areas.

Compare this to how the same area looked earlier in the year.



Whilst this work has primarily been carried out to try to define accessible areas of farmland and limit the damage caused to property and livestock by inconsiderate walkers and visitors to the area, it will undoubtedly also be of huge benefit to the many regular walkers and ramblers who use the tracks responsibly.

A number of interesting sightings have come from various people this month, including Nut Hatches, Bull Finches, Jays, Grey Heron, Oyster Catchers, Lapwing, Curlews, Barn Owl, Dunnocks, Long Tailed Tits, Swifts, Sand Martins, Bats, Grass Hoppers, Crickets, Little Red Soldier Beetle, 6-Spot Burnet Moths, Dragonflies, Toads, a Vole, Foxes, a Hedgehog, Painted Lady Butterflies and 'Tiddlers' in the top lodge.

What a wonderful world!

The next verse of Sara Coleman's poem, "The Garden Year", reads, "*August brings the sheaves of corn,
Then the harvest home is borne.*"

Watch this space for an Ainsworth in August update, and please keep e-mailing your own nature discoveries to ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com

The Countryside Code 2021

We are incredibly lucky to live in a part of the world where we have so much free access to open spaces and countryside; during the first lockdown, many people all over England discovered or in some cases 'rediscovered' the countryside and open spaces within and around their local communities. This is fantastic as fresh air, exercise and interaction with nature are all really positive from a health and wellbeing point of view, but this new interest in the outdoors also brought a number of issues for those charged with managing and maintaining the countryside – gates left open allowing livestock to stray, damage caused to fences and farmland, littering, dog attacks on farm animals, fires ...



The first 'Countryside Code' was published in 1951 – this document provided basic guidelines on the 'do's and don'ts' for country visitors. With more people enjoying the outdoors than ever before, Natural England recently revised the Countryside Code (the first major update in over a decade), providing advice for members of the public and also land owners, to help people to enjoy the countryside in a safe and respectful way.

There are 3 elements to the revised Countryside Code - Respect, Protect and Enjoy.

Here's what you need to know:

Respect

Please respect those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside. Be sure to be nice, say hello and share the space.



- Make sure you keep to the footpaths to help protect crops and wildlife.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Slow down or stop for horses, walkers and farm animals and give them plenty of room.
- Don't block gateways, driveways or paths with your vehicle.
- If you're on your bike, give way to walkers and horse-riders on bridleways.
- Keep away from machinery and farm animals.
- If you're worried about something, try to alert the farmer.
- Although you might think you are being kind, feeding animals can cause them harm. Please do not feed livestock, horses or wild animals.

Protect

We all have a responsibility to protect the countryside now and for future generations.

- Litter and leftover food not only spoil the beauty of the countryside but can be dangerous to wildlife and farm animals too. Please take your litter home.
- Fires can be as devastating to wildlife and habitats as they are to people and property. Be careful with naked flames and cigarettes, and make sure they're extinguished properly.
- Care for nature - do not cause damage or disturbance. Leave rocks, stones, plants and trees as you find them and take care not to disturb wildlife including birds that nest on the ground.
- Everyone knows how unpleasant dog mess is, but did you know it can be very harmful to farm animals? Be a responsible dog owner - bag it, **take it**, bin it.
- Keep your dog on a short lead around farm animals. The only time you should release your dog in the vicinity of livestock is if you're threatened or chased by cattle.
- Take care with BBQs and do not light fires. Only use BBQs where signs state they are allowed, and always make sure they are put out and disposed of responsibly.

Enjoy

British farmers are proud to enhance the British countryside. We can all do our bit to enjoy the countryside responsibly.

- Plan your adventure in plenty of time by referring to up-to-date maps or guidebooks, and be aware of the weather forecast.
- Make sure you give farm animals plenty of space as they can behave unpredictably.
- Be safe - let a friend or family member know where you're planning to go.
- Enjoy your visit - have fun and make memories!

“Take only photographs, leave only footprints.” Over time, the origins of this quote have become a little uncertain, but if you use it as a basis for your visits to the countryside you won't go far wrong.

For more information on the 2021 revised Countryside Code visit www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code

Space To Share A Prayer

Daily Prayer

To grow a little wiser day by day,
 To train my mind and body to obey,
 To keep my inner life both pure and strong,
 To guide my thoughts from guile, my hands from wrong,
 To shut the door on hate and bitterness,
 To open it to love and gentleness,
 To meet with cheerful heart what comes to me,
 To turn life's discords into harmony,
 To share some weary worker's heavy load,
 To point some straying comrade to the road,
 To know that what I have is not my own,
 To feel that I am never all alone,
 Thus would I pray from day to day
 As on I go upon my way.
Amen

Olde Worlde Weather Lore – August

(A precursor to the modern day 'weather app' maybe??)

If the first week in August the sun be strong,
 The winter will be cold and long.

Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

Gracious Goldfinch

Goldfinch painted by Raphael
You do your story tell
'Madonna of the Goldfinch' we
The picture thus do see
In infant hand of John [Baptist] are held
Gently, and not impelled
And too infant Jesus stroked you
A beauteous scene we view

One foot you have on John's hand graced
One on Mary's lap placed
What story do you tell of how
Red spot on your head, now
Do tell us what the legend be
You did fly from a tree
To see Christ there, He crucified
You helped Him 'ere He died

To do something to lift the strain
To ease the Saviour's pain
Unto His cross at Calvary
You did approach bold, free
To pluck a thorn from off His crown
You did descend, come down
As you with your beak a thorn pulled
Then this is here recalled

That as you did so, blood, a drop
Splashed on your head atop
Sweet bird, you did there what you could
At that cruel cross of wood
Sing on still with your melody
Of the Saviour, now free
Of death He lives for evermore
He remembers you for sure.

Stephen Rolling

Why Do We Say That Then ... ?

Have you ever wondered where some of the more diverse phrases we use in general conversation come from?

"Dead in the water..." This is derived from a nautical term based on the fact that a traditional sail ship would remain motionless when there was no wind for the sails. This term has evolved over time and is now generally used to refer to a lack of progress.

Did You Know ... August Facts

1st August– On this day in 1834, the Slavery Abolition Act 1833 came into effect, abolishing slavery throughout the British Empire.

2nd August - on this day in 1865, Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures In Wonderland", was first published.

3rd August – On this day in 1926, traffic lights were installed at London's Piccadilly Circus.

4th August – On this day in 1900, Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, British consort of king George VI and Queen Mother after his death, was born in Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

5th August – On this day in 1962, Marilyn Monroe died following a drugs overdose.

6th August – On this day in 1945, U.S. troops dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, in an attempt to bring an end to world war II in the Pacific.

7th August – On this day in 1840, an Act Of Parliament was passed which prohibited the employment of children under the age of 16 years as Chimney Sweeps.

8th August – On this day in 1963, the Great Train Robbery took place; thieves ambushed the Glasgow to Euston mail train and stole £2.3 million in used notes.

9th August – On this day in 1483, the Sistine Chapel of the Vatican was opened.

10th August – On this day in 1889, the screw cap was patented by Dan Rylands.

11th August – On this day in 1897, the popular children's author, Enid Blyton, was born.

12th August – On this day in 1908, Henry Ford's company completed the first Model T car.

13th August – On this day in 1961, construction of the Berlin Wall began in East Germany.

14th August – On this day in 1947, Pakistan gained independence from Great Britain.

15th August – On this day in 1620, the Mayflower set sail from Southampton, England, with 102 pilgrims on board.

16th August – On this day in 1977, 'King of Rock & Roll', Elvis Presley died, aged 42.

17th August – On this day in 1978, 3 American balloonists made the first crossing of the Atlantic Ocean in a hot air balloon.

18th August – On this day in 1926, the weather map was televised for the first time.

19th August – On this day in 1867, Orville Wright (1 of the famous Wright brothers) was born.

20th August – On this day in 1612, 9 'Pendle Witches' were hanged at Gallows Hill, Lancashire.

21st August – On this day in 1911, the 'Mona Lisa' was stolen from the Louvre by Vincenzo Perugia; it was recovered in 1913.

22nd August – On this day in 1642, the English Civil War began between the Royalists and the Parliament.

23rd August – On this day in 1305, Scottish nobleman, William Wallace was hung, drawn and quartered for high treason and crimes against English civilians.

24th August – On this day in 1662, The Act of Uniformity was passed, which required England to accept The Book of Common Prayer.

25th August – On this day in 1875, Captain Matthew Webb made the first observed and unassisted swim across the English Channel, in a time of 21 hours and 45 minutes.

26th August – On this day in 1682, Edmond Halley first observed the comet now named after him.

27th August – On this day in 1955, 'The Guinness Book Of World Records' was first published.

28th August – On this day in 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his 'I have a dream...' speech at Lincoln Memorial, Washington D.C.

29th August – On this day in 1885, Gottlieb Daimler received a German patent for his motorbike.

30th August – On this day in 2013, Seamus Heaney, Irish poet and Nobel Prize for Literature winner, died aged 74.

31st August – On this day in 1997, Diana, Princess of Wales, was killed in a car crash in Paris.

Strap Lines

Age doesn't always bring wisdom; sometimes age comes along on its own.

A sermon can help people in one of two ways; they can either walk from it strengthened or wake from it refreshed.

Blowing out someone else's candle won't make yours shine any brighter.

Be what you is, not what you ain't, cos when you is what you ain't, then you ain't what you is.

Beware of a clear conscience; it may be the result of a bad memory.

Entertaining people is one of the easiest things to do; all you have to do is listen.

Time For A Smile

"All are sinners," said a Vicar to his congregation. "If any of you thinks he or she is perfect, please stand up now."

To his surprise one man stood up.

"Do you really think that you are perfect?" asked the vicar.

"No," said the man, "I'm just standing in for my wife's first husband."

A school leaver had approached the Sexton asking if he may have any work for him. "If I take you on, you'll get £80 a week now and £110 in 6 months time." The Sexton told him.

"No problem," the young lad said, "I'll come back in 6 months."

A bishop, whilst in 'civvies', was invited by a mother to hear her daughter play in a concert at the cathedral. "You know where it is don't you?" She asked. "Oh yes," replied the Bishop, "I have a part time job there on a Sunday."

A young Curate, fairly new to the Parish, took his car into a local garage for servicing, and said to the mechanic, "Please keep the cost down if you can, I'm only a poor preacher."

"I know that", replied the man, "I heard you last Sunday."

The Extended Parish Puzzler

First Liners

Here's a few more first lines that are probably familiar to you, but can you remember the next line? Extra bonus points if you can remember the whole hymn!

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord ...
2. At the name of Jesus, ...
3. Love divine, all loves excelling ...
4. Fight the good fight with all thy might ...
5. And can it be that I should gain ...
6. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder ...
7. Great is Thy faithfulness O God my Father ...
8. Praise to the Lord ...
9. All creatures of our God and King ...
10. To God be the glory, great things He hath done ...
11. What a friend we have in Jesus ...
12. In Christ alone my hope is found ...
13. Abide with me ...
14. For the beauty of the earth ...
15. The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want ...

(Answers on page 32)

How Well Do You Know Our Village?

Last month's inscription can be found on 'Charlie's Bench' which you will find on Ainsworth Recreation Ground.

Any idea where the following inscription is?
Answer in next month's mag.

**QUEEN ELIZABETH II
JUBILEE 2012
AINSWORTH COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION**

Church Word Search

Can you find 10 places that are mentioned in the bible?

B	A	B	Y	L	O	N	G	Y
E	S	A	E	D	L	A	H	C
T	T	D	G	N	L	Z	C	L
H	P	G	H	I	M	A	O	T
L	Y	R	L	P	N	R	I	A
E	G	E	W	A	R	E	T	E
H	E	T	A	E	I	T	N	D
E	F	N	S	C	A	H	A	U
M	E	L	A	S	U	R	E	J

Need a bit of help? Here's the words you are looking for:

- Nazareth
- Galilee
- Judea
- Jerusalem
- Bethlehem
- Canaan
- Jericho
- Egypt
- Chaldea
- Babylon

Who's Who

Vicar	Revd Dave Thomson Christ Church Vicarage Ainsworth Hall Road. Ainsworth BL2 5RY vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk Twitter @Vicar_Dave	01204 398567
OLM	Revd Debra Johnstone	01204 399630
Churchwarden	Alison Hartley	07952 709041
Church Treasurer	Bernard Johnson	07734 083689
Secretary of the PCC	Vacancy	
Organist	Jenny Johnson	07734976978
Gift Aid & Freewill Offering Secretary	Carole Butler	07982 316388
Safeguarding Officer	Peter Holden	01204 596938
Church Hall Booking	Geoff Hampson	07910817577
Church Lottery	Judith White	07812074776
Magazine Editor	Alison Hartley	ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com
Magazine Secretary	S Varnom	0161 761 5686
Magazine Adverts	June Brooks	01204 527244
Primary School Head	D Gerrard BA(Hons)PGCE	01204 527484

Services

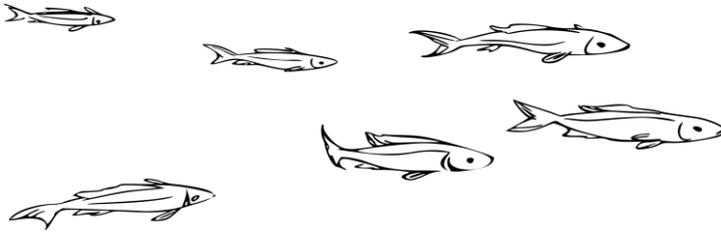
Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	10.30am	Family Service 2 nd Sunday Family & Parade Service
	12.00pm	Baptisms (Except 2 nd and last Sunday)
	6.30pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)
		2 nd Sunday Holy Communion (Book of Common Pray)
		Healing Service (see Parish Diary)
Weds	6.15pm	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 Revd Dave Thomson

(Answer to First Liners: 1) The Holy one is here; 2) Every knee shall bow; 3) Joy of heaven to earth come down; 4) With all thy might; 5) An int'rest in the saviour's blood; 6) Consider all the works Thy hand hath made; 7) There is no shadow of turning with Thee; 8) The almighty, the king of creation; 9) Lift up your voice and with us sing; 10) So loved He the world that He gave us His Son; 11) All our sins and griefs to bear!; 12) He is my light, my strength, my song; 13) Fast falls the eventide; 14) For the beauty of the skies; 15) He makes me down to lie.

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
Sunday School	Sunday at 10.25am in the Church Hall Jan Burrow Vicky Howcroft Swift	0161 761 1958 07789 432103
Altar Flowers	Kathy Armstrong Rand	07748 020743
ABC First Steps Toddler Group	Fridays 10.00am - 11.30am Church Hall Anne Flowers Or Jennifer White	01204 382214 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 Sean Butler	07843 233056
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 – 8.30pm; last Wednesday of the month 7.30pm 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 Janet Kay	01204 525739
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 7.45pm in the Church Hall Captain Emma Lee	0161 764 2243



Little Fishes

The Feeding Of The Five Thousand



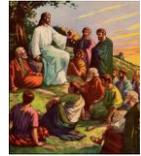
Amazing Miracles

Over the last few months in Little Fishes, we've been learning about some of the miracles that Jesus performed during his lifetime. Jesus performed lots of miracles during his lifetime; turning water into wine; healing people who were sick; calming storms and wild weather; and many other truly amazing miracles - this month we're going to learn about a miracle of food.

The Feeding Of The Five Thousand

The feeding of the five thousand is probably one of the best known stories in the Bible; you can find it in the *Gospel of Mark* chapter 6, and also the *Gospel of John* chapter 6.

Jesus had a small group of special friends who were known as disciples, these friends were followers of Jesus and helped him to spread the good news of God's love to more and more people. Jesus's disciples had been very busy teaching people about God's love, and Jesus knew that they wanted some quiet time with Him to talk about their adventures and experiences. The trouble was that Jesus and His disciples had done such a good job that wherever they went, people followed them wanting to ask questions or wanting Jesus to work more miracles.



In the end, Jesus and his disciples climbed into a boat and set off to sail across Lake Galilee to a quiet, deserted place, away from all the villages and towns, so that they could rest and talk together.

But many of the people saw them setting off in the boat and guessed where they were going, and so the people all set off hurrying along the shore. And as they hurried along, more and more people joined them from the villages and towns that they went running through, until there was a **HUGE** crowd of people.

The crowd was so excited and had hurried along so fast that they actually arrived before Jesus and his friends!



When the boat landed and Jesus saw all of the people crowding around, he wasn't angry, he looked at the crowd and thought that they seemed like a huge flock of sheep that had no shepherd to guide them and keep them safe. He felt a great sense of love for all of those people who had rushed to follow Him, so instead of



talking quietly with the disciples, Jesus began to talk to the crowd and teach them about God's love.

As Jesus continued to teach the crowd it grew late and the people were hungry. The disciples came to Jesus and said, "This is a deserted place, the people are hungry - send them away so that they may go into the country nearby to find something to eat."

But Jesus replied, "Give them something to eat".

The disciples were puzzled and asked, "Should we go and buy bread and give it to them? But in a whole year we would never earn enough money to buy bread for all of these people!"

Jesus answered, "How many loaves do the people have? Go and see".

Whilst Jesus was talking, Andrew, one of the disciples, noticed a young boy near the front of the crowd who had a small basket of food with him; Andrew said, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fishes. But what are they among so many?"



But Jesus said, "Tell everyone to sit down".

So the crowd sat down on the grass and on the ground all around; by this time there were around FIVE THOUSAND people all gathered together to hear Jesus teaching.

Jesus took the loaves from the boy, and he gave thanks to God for the bread, then He gave the bread to the disciples and asked



them to share it out; then Jesus did exactly the same with the two small fishes; He gave thanks to God and then asked the disciples to share out the fish to the crowd - and everyone in that crowd ate as much bread and fish as they wanted ... and there

was still some food left over!

Jesus asked the disciples to gather up the left over food, and between them they filled twelve baskets with the left overs from five small loaves and two little fishes - now that really is a miracle!



And the people that were gathered saw what Jesus had done and they were amazed, and even more people began to realize that Jesus was a really special person and began to listen to Him and learn about and believe in God's love.

One of the nicest things about this miracle is, that out of all the huge crowd that had gathered, it was an ordinary young boy who happened to have a packed lunch with him, that Jesus chose to be a part of the miracle. That helps us to remember that Jesus welcomes everyone - it doesn't matter who they are, or how old they are, or where they have come from - he wants each and everyone of us to learn about God's love and to become a part of His story.

Meal Time Prayers

Before Jesus shared the food out, the Bible tells us that he gave thanks to God; here's a short prayer that you could use before meals to say thank you to God:

Heavenly Father, kind and good,
Thank you for our daily food.
Thank you for your love and care.
Be with us Lord, and hear our prayer.

Amen.

Speedy Dough Balls

This recipe definitely won't feed five thousand people, but it's still a really fun and easy recipe to make!

You will need:

250g Self Raising Flour

2 Tablespoons of Olive Oil

Large pinch of Sea Salt

150ml Cold Water

Here's what to do :

1. Place the flour and salt in a large mixing bowl.
2. Make a well in the middle and mix in the cold water until it begins to form a dough.
3. Use your hands to knead the dough vigorously for 2 - 3 minutes (this bit is really lovely and gooey and sticky, but if it gets a bit too gooey and sticky, just dust your hands with a bit of extra flour to dry everything off a bit!)
4. Sprinkle some flour onto the work top then use your hands to roll the dough out into a long sausage shape.
5. Use a blunt knife to cut the sausage into nuggets about 2cm wide.
6. Use a pastry brush to coat each nugget in Olive Oil, then leave to one side for 5 minutes to allow the dough to rest.
7. **Get a grown up to help you with this part:** place the nuggets in a non-stick pan over a medium heat, for about 7 minutes, turn them occasionally until they are golden all over and cooked right through.

These are delicious with a bit of garlicky dip - Enjoy!

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