

Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



'Ribbons Of Hope'
(Photo courtesy of Ainsworth Village Day Team)

Serving the Community
www.ainsworthparish.org.uk

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Whilst there are no services in Church, join us at 11am on Sundays on our Facebook Page for prayers, readings and a reflection <https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchAinsworth/> and on Wednesdays at 6:15pm for Mid-Week Praise.

Any additional services will be advertised through the update to the weekly pewsheet and on Facebook

(To get updates via the pewsheet, email polly.ryder@hotmail.co.uk)

A few words from the Vicar

Hopefully, by the time you read this, we will have greater clarity about when we can re-enter our church building for worship. Who knows, some of us may be worshipping in church already.

Until then, there are only two things I know for certain:

1. Permission to reopen will be conditional upon our compliance with a series of guidelines. These will cover such things as cleaning, worship, social distancing, and such like. Helpfully, some are available in draft already.
2. If my experience preparing to reopen the church for private prayer is anything to go by, the closer we get to the date when we can throw our doors open, the faster the goalposts will move.

Entering lockdown was easy. Planning to reopen will take a lot of preparation. So, I must admit, I am sorely tempted to paste up a large poster outside church:

'ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK'

Then, simply fling open the doors and let everyone come in as before. Sit where you like. Sit with your friends. Sing those favourite hymns (or complain about the ones you dislike). Queue for Communion as normal. Have a good chat on the way out.

After all, those of us who are adults can decide for ourselves whether we are willing to risk catching COVID-19. Isn't all this rather nanny stateish? Right?

Well, to a degreebut! And this is an important 'but'.

Tempted though I am to simply throw open the doors (it would save me a lot of work), as Vicar, I know that just is not possible.

As your shepherd I have pastoral responsibility to care for you, the flock. Part of this responsibility must entail ensuring that anyone entering our church building for prayer and worship can do so as safely as possible, especially the more vulnerable amongst you. So, it might be a pain in the proverbial as I trudge through the Church of England guidelines and try to keep up with all the changes, but it must be done.

Really, there is no alternative.

At first, the guidelines will limit what we can do and how we can worship, and all the restrictions I mentioned last month still apply. For example, unless we can clean between services, the church must be locked and left for 72 hours. I am sure you can work out the implication of this for Sunday worship yourself, which is why I keep banging on about needing to recruit additional volunteer cleaners.

Our 'Pew Polishers' do a wonderful job, but it would be unfair to expect them to pick up an extra load of cleaning. By the way, do you know what? Men can clean too!

Busy though I am with all this preparation, I stop to remind myself that God is in control. Our job is to be faithful; to get on with the tasks he sets before us, whether it is talking to others about the love of Jesus, serving others in his love, or dealing with all those preparations associated with re-entering our church building for worship. God will do the rest.

By the way, one of his many blessings is that he has pushed us into livestreaming worship. I continue to be amazed by how many of you join Debra and I on Facebook. It is great to see new people joining us, and I always feel blessed as I read your comments and prayers afterwards. Everyone is welcome to join us on <https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchAinsworth/live/>

Every Blessing

Dave

FROM THE REGISTERS

FUNERALS	We commend to God's keeping
May 18 th	Dora Rayson

Editor's Spot ...

Welcome to the July 2020 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine; once again an e-magazine; who would have guessed back in March, that all these weeks and month's later we would still be in partial lockdown ...

However, hopefully there is light at the end of the tunnel, so to speak. The restrictions are gradually being eased and, whilst social distancing and meticulous hygiene measures are definitely (and rightly) here to stay, across the country individuals, communities and businesses are beginning to emerge and attempt to pick up the threads to create a new normal.

In recognition of this, you'll see that our advertisers have made a return to the Parish Magazine. Some businesses have been able to continue pretty much as normal throughout the lockdown period, others have adapted or diversified, but for many the lockdown has meant a complete closure and resulting loss of trade. Please, where possible, do your best to safely support our local businesses as they attempt to return to normal; many of us have relied heavily on on-line shopping in recent months, but local businesses form the heart of many small communities, and now, more than ever before, they need us to get behind them and give them our support.

Once again, our groups and organisations have been busy with their virtual meetings and zoom activities, each month I'm massively impressed at how creative and imaginative people have been.

One of the big positives to come out of lockdown has been the countrywide surge of ‘Community Spirit’ – so many people have gone the extra mile and pulled together to help each other and support the vulnerable members of their communities, but also there have been a succession of community based initiatives that have popped up across the borough and further afield; last month we had our VE Day celebrations and a village scarecrow competition; this month the Ainsworth Village Day Team have brought us ‘Ribbons of Hope’ which you may have seen adorning the lampposts and many front doors throughout the village; they’ve also started an ‘Ainsworth Adder’ on the Delph and have launched a bid to ‘Make Ainsworth Blooming Beautiful’ with an online garden competition – more details inside.

Enjoy this month’s magazine and please do your best to keep safe and well. As always, please keep your reports and articles coming in by the second Sunday in the month, to ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com.

Alison

News From The Diocese

Following an extensive period of consultation across the Diocese between November 2019 and February 2020, the Bishop of Manchester has approved the proposal to amalgamate twenty deaneries of the Diocese of Manchester into seven, and to seek to appoint a full time Area Dean to each.

The decision was communicated to the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee and members of Bishop’s Council early in May, and Bishop David has written a lengthy report setting out the basis for his decision, together with his reflections on the most substantial issues raised during the consultation – the full report can be found at manchester.anglican.org

In his report, Bishop David recognises the need for further work to be undertaken to embed the new deanery arrangements into the wider plans for the Diocese. It is anticipated that this work will be undertaken over the next 12 months, with implementation expected in June 2021.

For Christ Church Ainsworth, this will mean that, going forwards, we become part of a larger Deanery which will comprise the three existing Deaneries of Bury, Radcliffe and Prestwich, and Rossendale.

Memories of Dora Rayson

Dora Rayson, or “Dora the Explorer” as she was affectionately known to many of the ABC team due to her love of travel and foreign holidays, joined ABC when we opened in 2004. Right from the start, Dora, along with Elsie, helped in the kitchen to prepare snacks and drinks for the children and their carers. Many other helpers have come and gone over the years, but Dora’s presence has been a constant throughout.

Every Friday morning when she wasn’t visiting foreign climes, she would breeze into the Church Hall just after 9am, following her all weather walk up Cockey Moor Road, handbag slung diagonally as was her trademark. She would disappear straight away into the kitchen where she could be found patiently slicing strawberries and grapes into toddler sized pieces, still sporting her handbag, for the next half an hour or so.

Dora would join the rest of the team for a brew (always tea, no milk) before we opened the doors. Although she sat quietly, never saying more than was necessary, you knew that she was enjoying listening to the chatter and taking it all in. However, despite her quiet demeanour, conversation with Dora was never lacking as she could always be relied upon to fill you in about her last holiday destination or her future travel plans.

At snack time, Dora was Brian’s “right hand man,” efficiently dishing out the teas and coffees to what must add up to hundreds of mums, dads and grandparents over the years. Then back to the kitchen she would go, never leaving until every last cup and bowl had been dried up and put away.

We knew that Dora had been unwell and was due to go into hospital but her passing came as a shock to us all. Sadly, due to the lockdown restrictions, we were unable to attend her funeral but those of us who felt able to paid our respects from a distance. Dora’s unassuming manner, reliable presence and willingness to help out over so many years made her a valuable member of the ABC team and each and every one of us will miss her.

From all at ABC

Private Prayer & Returning To Worship - a message from Revd Dave

We are now allowed to open church for private prayer. I am hoping we can do so on Wednesday afternoons, just as we did before the lockdown. Before we can open, we need enough volunteers to form a church sitting rota. We have a few volunteers so far (thankyou) but need more. Unfortunately, until we have sufficient volunteers, we must remain closed.

Sometimes, after each session, it may be necessary for the volunteers to clean those parts of the building that have been used. This is to comply with the lockdown restrictions.

Anyone willing to volunteer should email me at vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk. (NB anyone who is self-isolating due to age or medical reasons, or who is shielding should not volunteer).

I am glad to say that, once we reopen for worship, most of our 'pew polishers' are able to begin cleaning the church again. I must say, I am grateful for their dedication. Unsung heroes who do a brilliant job.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 guidelines indicate more frequent cleaning will be required, except where a church can be left for 72 hours to allow the virus to degrade. Further clarity is awaited. However, it seems likely our ability to clean between services will determine our pattern of worship until such time as the pandemic has passed completely, allowing us to return to something like normal.

It would be unfair to expect our 'pew polishers' to take on this extra responsibility, so we need more volunteers. Again, please contact me if you wish to volunteer.

Face Masks

During lockdown Barbara Clarkson has been making face masks. They are of double thickness cotton, with a third pocket which contains a disposable filter, and a stiffener at the bridge of the nose to make a close fit. Barbara makes them from material left over from dressmaking, so there are several different colours and patterns. If you would like one, she is happy to pop it through your letterbox. They are free, but donations to Church are welcome. Please contact Barbara on theclarksonhouse@talktalk.net or 07530 413149.

Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements

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.

Gardening Competition 2020

Let's make Ainsworth blooming beautiful!

Whether you have a lawn & flower beds, a planter on your decking or a fairy garden ... this competition is for you! For more info check out the Ainsworth Village Day facebook page, or see larger advert on page 10.

Ainsworth Village Day

In view of the current restrictions on 'social gatherings', the Ainsworth Village Day team have taken the decision to cancel this year's event. Hopefully Ainsworth Village Day will be back bigger and better than ever next year.

Manchester Cathedral is now open for private prayer

The cathedral has a lovely video of welcome, showing what people can expect when they visit to pray. For more info visit manchester.anglican.org

Porch Boxes

It is not possible to receive donations for Porch Boxes in Church at present, however Porch Boxes are still very much in need of our donations. If you shop at any of the following stores they have somewhere to receive donations: ASDA (Radcliffe; Pilsworth & Bury); Morrisons (Whitefield & Ramsbottom); Tesco (Bury & Ramsbottom)

Confirmations

Whilst the Confirmation Service to planned for earlier this year had to be cancelled, it will hopefully be rearranged at a later date, therefore we are seeking expressions of interest. Please email vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk to register (NB. Children must be in Year 6 or above and attend Church regularly). Before anyone can be Confirmed, they are required to complete a course of study. We normally prepare candidates via evening meetings (adults) or a study day in church (year 6 and above). Owing to the social-distancing rules, it will not be possible to meet physically but, if there is enough interest, we can prepare adults and children (separately) via Zoom.



Gardening Gloves At The Ready our 2020 Garden Competition is officially underway!!

Let's make Ainsworth blooming beautiful!!

🌻 Whether you have a lawn & flower beds, some planters on your decking, or a fairy garden in a tuff tray ... this competition is for you.

🌻 We want this competition to be open to everyone, so there are 3 categories ...

1. Most gorgeous garden
2. Most desirable display
3. Most creative kid's display (under 16 yrs)

🌻 All entries to be photographed & sent to the Ainsworth Village Day facebook page. Please include the following info:

🌸 Name & address

🌸 Category entering

🌸 Consent (or not) for photos to be displayed on our social media page.

🌻 All shortlisted entries will be judged in person on 15th August, with prizes awarded in each section

🌻 Check out our facebook page for further info, tips & ideas

Many thanks to Arthur Lane Nurseries for providing prizes for the 'Gorgeous Garden' section

Around The Organisations ...

Scouts

Hello all, well we may be in lockdown, but the Scout Section are carrying on regardless.

We even managed to socially distance and deliver the Easter Eggs to the Cubs and Scouts (I sat outside the church hall looking like a dodgy dealer, with the kids going to the boot of my car, collecting an egg and then going away again ha ha).

The Scout Section has now expanded somewhat to include Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Rainbows and Brownies. The work we are undertaking as a Scout Section also counts towards their badges, so us Scout Leaders appear to be multi-tasking across a number of organisations.

We have had 90% of the Scouts, and the Cubs who are due to come up in September earn their writers badge over the past month, by creating their own time capsules for what they have done during lockdown. The tasks they had to complete were:-

- 1) To interview their parents and ask them what they felt about lockdown, home schooling, what new family traditions had they created, and what would they be carrying on once we are out of lockdown.
- 2) Write a letter to themselves 10 years from now - explain about lockdown, why we were there and their thoughts about the situation.
- 3) Create a collage using relevant newspaper headlines from the times to show the trends ie. Clapping for the NHS, Stay Home, Stay Safe etc.
- 4) Keep a diary for a week, writing and drawing their thoughts.

Hearing them say they are looking forward to coming back to Scouts is fantastic.

We are still running our Family Fun nights every other week, this month has seen another Scavenger Hunt and Scattogories. All good fun, and people's imaginations blow my mind.

We had a recyclable clothing night. All those taking part had to create an outfit using items that could / would be recycled, i.e., bin bags, toilet rolls, egg boxes, cardboard. Wow our fine attempts at haute couture made Louis Vuitton shake in his Gucci shoes, gave Hollister a run for its money and showed that the children have SERIOUS

'trashion' sense! Well done to all those who joined in. I have attached some photographs for you to see their creations.

Next month see's 'Ainsworth Scout Group Has Talent,' 'Ainsworth Scout Group Bake Off' and a 'Self Portrait Night', as well as more fun and games along the way.

Scarlett Fogg and George Campbell have been earning their Beaver Badges whilst working alongside the Scouts. Scarlett has earned her Cook Badge, Builder Badge and Personal Challenge Award, George has earned his Teamwork Challenge Award, Personal Challenge Award and his Builder Badge, and Henri Giblin has also earned his Builder Badge.

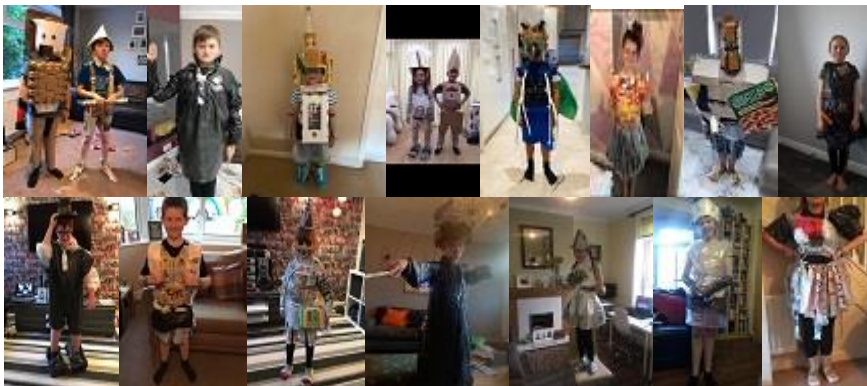
The Cubs have been e-mailed details of three badges they can undertake at home. Spencer Carline has now earned his Chef Badge from the work he has sent in, and Ethan Chesworth-Crook has completed parts of both his Artist and Chef Badge.

Those Cubs due to move to Scouts have been working away with me to complete the final tasks to ensure they receive their Chief Scout Silver awards, the highest award they can get in Cubs. They have until the end of August to complete this.

So as you can see, we have been very busy in the Scout Section and if the situation continues we are looking at carrying on virtually Scouting over the summer break as we are getting great feedback from everyone taking part (we even have Scouts from other parts of the country taking part in our events).

It is nice to see everyone (even via Zoom) on a Friday evening. We do miss those faces!!!!

Stacey (on behalf of Stacey, Mollie, George, Aled and Ben)



12th Radcliffe Brownies

After half-term, we began to hold meetings on-line using Zoom. It was wonderful to see so many of the Brownies after all this time. We were also able to welcome a new Brownie, Lily-May, to our unit.

We were pleased to present a number of badges virtually – the First Aid Skills Builders to all those taking part; the Performing interest badge to Hannah (who sent us a video of her amazing performance); the Aviation interest badge to Amelia, Isabelle and Sofia (with a variety of flying objects, including paper aeroplanes, rockets, hot air balloons and kites); the Archaeology interest badge to Erin (who dug up some interesting objects in her garden); and then an “Express Yourself” Theme award to Isabelle. Well done to all the girls for their hard work.

We have done quite a variety of activities – starting with colour coded paper hands so that those Brownies who didn’t want to speak online could still be involved. We did scratch hearts with positive messages (very appropriate in these difficult times); rainbow fish, flags and Father’s Day cards and we learned an action campfire song. There are other exciting things planned for the remainder of the term, so we look forward to many more enjoyable meetings.



Brown Owl

16th Radcliffe Brownies

We have been holding Zoom Brownie meetings, which are really fun once we (Leaders) got the hang of the technology!

We enjoyed a scavenger hunt round our houses, made good turn paper chains and are devising a family quiz. The girls have been busily working towards their ‘grow your own’ badge, with pictures of strawberries, pumpkins, courgettes etc being sent on a daily basis. We also enjoyed a Brownie festival online with Brownies from across the UK. There was slime making, crafts and a magician - all really fun and interactive.

The girls also made rainbow pictures to go in local hospitals – I'm sure these will be really well received. It is looking like it will be September before we can get back to meetings but we have SO MUCH planned for when we do.

Yours In Guiding - Sarah McNulty



Building Hope and Confidence

Are you a budding poet? We invite you to send in your lockdown poems to Manchester Diocese Mothers' Union. Please email them to info@mothersunionmanchester.org Do ask your children, grandchildren, family and friends to contribute. We would also like any suitable photos/pictures/artwork taken or created during this time to help illustrate your poetry contributions. Add your name and contact details and say if you're a member, relative or a friend. Anyone who doesn't have access to the internet, please send me your contributions and I'll forward them. The Manchester office is closed at the moment so Andrea, our secretary is working from home.

Last month, I reported on the Coronavirus Crisis threatening Mothers' Union core work. I quote from the response made on a YouTube video.

“Earlier this year Mothers' Union found ourselves in extremely challenging times due to Covid-19. With all that was going on, we also faced a funding shortfall of over £1million. Our reaction was that we launched an Urgent Appeal. Over the last couple of months, we have watched with gratitude as the funds, support and prayers have come flooding in. It is so uplifting that members and supporters rallied round to help save the movement.”

Thank you to our members who have sent in personal donations. We have also sent £50 from the branch. At the time of writing, over £600,000 has been raised. What an answer to prayer!

Mothers' Union have produced loads of online resources for use during the pandemic. There's Prayer, Bible Studies, various knitting patterns, craft work, colouring sheets, a children's emotions chart, to help very young children express their feelings, a pattern for making cloth face coverings, amongst others. We are also reminded that we must look after ourselves, our own physical and mental health. There

is practical advice as well as a self care check list. Once again, I'm happy to print any resources that members and others might like.

I close with the introduction from the lockdown prayers produced by Revd. Ian Butterworth for Manchester Mothers' Union members.

Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope.

As we pray in our individual homes – around the nation and around the world – we are united as one family.

So, let us pause and find a moment of peace, as we lift up our hearts together in prayer.

In Fellowship and Faith,

Jennifer White
(Hon. Sec.)

!! Snake Seen In Ainsworth !!

But don't panic; it was only 'Albert the Ainsworth Adder'.

A variety of 'Community Snakes' have sprung up across the borough throughout the lockdown period; locally we have 'The Totty Snake' and 'The Walshaw Worm'; so the Ainsworth Village Day Team decided Ainsworth should start it's very own snake on The Delph – Albert the Ainsworth Adder began to take shape early in June. The idea is that the snake's 'head' is placed in a communal area, then people are encouraged to paint / decorate stones which join on behind the head to form a body which grows and grows ... and grows; the Totty Snake is now quite spectacular and well worth a visit.



Unfortunately, since this article was written, after a great start it appears that Albert has slithered off to find himself a new home; maybe he'll make his way back to The Delph, or if, not maybe one of his relatives can be persuaded to take his place ...

Just A Thought ...

Don't regret the past, just learn from it.

From the Archives – July 1995

In July 1995, the Treasurer of the PCC was pleased to announce that the Tower Appeal had been successful, and the total amount required to cover the cost of the recently completed repairs (£5508) had now been raised. The Treasurer thanked all those individuals and groups who had held fundraising events throughout the previous months.

However, on the very next page came the news from the Ainsworth Church & Community Hall Committee that the building was in need of extensive (and expensive) urgent repairs, and that they would now be launching a fundraising appeal to cover the costs of the required work. Users of the hall were made aware that the building would be closed throughout the summer months as work would be ongoing both inside and out.

Elsewhere in the July 1995 magazine, the Social Committee had news of a VJ evening, with topical dancing, songs and supper; they also had plans to hold a craft stall as part of that year's Village Day.

A number of the organisations were winding down for their summer break; the Church Women's Fellowship had enjoyed a trip to Skipton Castle; Young Families had held a sponsored nursery rhyme sing; Scouts were planning a visit to Longridge Water Activity Centre, whilst the Cubs had been pond dipping and the Beavers had enjoyed a trip on the East Lancs Railway. Guides were pleased to welcome Ann Rule back as Guide Captain after an 18 month sabbatical; Jeanette Fawcett also joined the team as an Assistant Guider. The Brownies were looking forwards to their Pack Holiday, and the Rainbow Unit had held a 'Dutch Evening' which seemed to have gone very well. Rainbows also expressed their thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett for making the 'Rainbow Banner' which had been blessed by Father Alan before the Whit Walks earlier that month.

In July 1995 there were 2 Baptisms, 4 Weddings and 3 Funerals recorded from the previous month. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 467 and the collections totalled £1252.

Strap Lines

Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.

I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find any

Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

Following the news about Albert the Ainsworth Adder, it seemed appropriate to revisit the tale of the Cockey Moor Snake.

Cockey Moor Snake

Now listen to my sportive lay, while I relate what people say,
About a hunt which happened o'er about a place called Cockey Moor.
A lady she walked out one day, and had got on a boa,
As through the fields her way did steer, in the summer season of the year;
But as the day was rather warm, she hung her boa upon her arm
And thought she had it quite secure, but dropped it down on Cockey Moor.

But as the lady on her way did hie, two weavers just by chance passed by,
And seeing it stretched out on the ground, Bill cried out, "Jack, what's this
we've found?"

"By gum", said Jack, "I'll tell thee Bill, it's summat ut's wick, it waint ston
still."

Then a closer inspection they did make, when Bill cried out "It is a snake,"
And from it they did run and roar, "A snake, a snake, on Cockey Moor."

Now off they ran as quick as thought, their neighbours to a man they
brought,
And told them all what they had seen, twisting and twirling on the green;
"Twur three yards long" they both did say, "It's color'd tween black and grey
The middle were thick and th'ends were small, by gum, it's got no legs at all'
Tha's oft yurd tell of them there whales – yon's got no head, but it has two
tales;
Besoid, it's covered o'er with yure – there's no such game on Cockey Moor."

When awt folk round heard the news, some took their spades and more
their sho's,
One took a pike, another a rake, and off they set to hunt the snake;
Their terrier dogs they also took, in case that he might take the brook,
And whistled on their hounds that day, through fear the snake might get
away;
With rusty bayonets not a few, that once shone bright at some review,
The people fled from every door to kill it dead on Cockey Moor.

As they were drawing near the place, fear and surprise struck in each face,
For their the snake lay on the ground, just like a hoop it circled round,
'Twas there the bravest loudly spoke, "I say, my lads, this is no joke,
Keep back your dogs - don't go too near; I wish my grondfayther were here,
I could loike to know before it dies, whether it walks, it swims or flies,
Or if he ever seed the loikes afore, for he's the owdest mon on Cockey
Moor."

To this plan they soon agreed, and brought the old man with good speed,
Though twelve months he was lying sick, it was in a barrow they wheeled
him quick ,
Just as the old man did arrive, Jack shouts out "It is yet alive!"
So in the barrow the old man bent, and seeing it stretch'd at it's full length
"O wheel me back," old Roger said, "That is summat mon never made,
Nor Adam never kessun'd, I'm sure it's the devil that's come to Cockey
Moor."

Now when they heard it was the devil, with joy and glee they plagued
th'owd rebel,
And one unto the other said, "for once owd Nick'll sure be laid."
They all poor Satan did surround, while lengthways lying on the ground,
And said they would no pity take, through him appearing as a snake,
To do their work they did intend to out it free from end to end,
And swore they'd o'ther kill or cure, aw devils or snakes on Cockey Moor.

Their dogs ne'er once set up a yell, the reason why, no blood could smell,
Some said it was a thing quite rare, others said the devil had none to spare;
His dwelling place being very warm, he's dried up and blew here in a storm;
Or wandering through the world loose, we've catched owd Nick and cooked
his goose;
So then for Satan they dug a hole, and buried his body without any soul,
And prayed that it might rise no more to frighten folks on Cockey Moor.

But to the church they went next day, to hear the Parson preach and pray,
And when he opened out his book this really was the text he took,
"Satan was made and so was sin, but a hole was made and the devil put in,"
When Crazy Dick stood up and cries, "Stop, Parson, th'art telling lies?
For I do know where the devil is laid, I helped to bury him with my spade,
Un my pals made his hole I'm sure, and tumbled him in on Cockey Moor.

“What was his shape?” his rev’rence said, “Just like a snake th’owd lad wur made,
He was all covered o’er with hair,” – you’d laugh to see the parson stare,
“If this be true Dick, what you say, I’m sure it was my wife’s boa,
She lost it as she did walk out, somewhere between here and Tumfowt,
But if that you will bring it to me, five shillings reward I’ll give to thee,
You’ve made a mistake you fool, I’m sure, there’s no snake comes near
Cockey Moor.”

Now off Dick went and soon he brought that which the parson eager
sought,
And tied bits in a bag, alas! “Come now” says Dick, “let’s have the brass.”
The parson then stumped down his crown, while to his pals Dick turned him
round,
“Come on my lads, we’ll have a spree, and each to this his share can be.”
When his rev’rence shook the boa out, “Curse on you all,” he loud did shout,
I never was so tricked before, as by hunting snakes on Cockey Moor!”

(Composed & recited with great success by Mr. James Sykes,
Radcliffe)

Many thanks to the Ainsworth History Society members who provided the above narrative and unearthed various references to the Cockey Moor Snake ballad, including a clipping from the Lancashire Echo, May 1888 which goes into some detail about the legend. Interestingly one piece of information states that the piece was written by ‘an Irishman named Michael Gunning who lived in Radcliffe’, rather than ‘Mr. James Sykes, Radcliffe’, to whom the copy provided was accredited to ...

Space To Share A Prayer

We are not people of fear: we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety: we are people who protect our neighbours’ safety.

We are not people of greed: we are people of generosity.

We are your people God, giving and loving;

Wherever we are, whatever it costs, for as long as it takes, wherever you call us. *Amen.*

(Barbara Glasson – President of The Methodist Conference)

Parish Customs And Traditions

A tradition is defined as an inherited, established, or customary pattern of thought, action, or behaviour (such as a religious practice or a social custom). Britain is full of customs and traditions which have been around for hundreds of years. British customs and traditions are famous all over the world; but some are more unusual than others!

July – Oyster Festival & Blessing Of The Waters

The town of Whitstable has been associated with oysters for hundreds of years, and its oyster festival is a festival in the full meaning of the word: both a celebration and a series of performances. Relying very much on custom and tradition, it has a spontaneity that is constantly evolving from year to year, yet still retaining its own individual character.

The roots of the festival go back much further than many would think: in Norman times, Whitstable was an established fishing port, and it was the custom then for fishers and dredgers to celebrate with an annual ceremony of thanksgiving. The exact form this ceremony would have originally taken is unknown, but it would probably have centred around a formal blessing of the town, the sea, the fishing fleet, and indeed, the fishermen and dredgers themselves. These festivals would be declared a 'Holy Day' and after the formal church ceremony, the people of the town would spend the rest of the day partaking of feasts, games, contests and dancing. The Blessing of the Waters is still held as a part of the Landing of the Oysters event.

Being a practical, hard working people, the fishermen of Whitstable held their festival during the slack period: the close season for oysters. The feast day of St James of Compostella, who became the patron saint of oysters, falls conveniently on July 25, and this soon became the accepted date to hold the festival. Some of the games and contests associated with the festival involved various water sports and activities. By the end of the 18th century these were organised into a series of events which became known as the Whitstable Regatta, which is still continued in the town. Originally, the regatta consisted of yawl races, rowing races, swimming and walking the greasy pole. There was also the 'millers and sweeps', where the occupants of two small boats fought each other with soot and flour! The finale would consist of the blowing up of a ship, organised by the Whitstable Salvage Company.

Today's oyster festival evolved with the revival of the local industry, which had been virtually wiped out in the 1920s by a combination of disease and overfishing, and is now an event to promote both the oyster industry and the town itself. Still traditionally starting in the weekend nearest to St James' Day, the festival is now held over one weekend, with the opening parade on the Saturday. The parade, starting with the official Landing of the Catch, follows the progress of the oysters, in a horse-drawn dray, through the town, stopping to deliver the catch to various restaurants, cafes and public houses.

Simple Ways To Change The World

Following a presentation to the Deanery Synod by St Margaret's Prestwich on becoming an 'Eco Church', a list of 'simple ways to change the world' was sent out with the minutes. Here's the final instalment.

Know your dishwasher - Switching on a half-full dishwasher wastes water, energy, and money like nobody's business. Ensure that the use of your dishwasher is maximised to the full.

Take junk out of your car boot - A lighter car uses less fuel and saves more money so empty out that trunk but maybe keep the spare tyre!

Go paperless - Switching to paperless billing lowers the odds of losing bills in the mail and getting the electricity cut off right before your movie marathon. It also reduces destroying trees.

Recycle clothes - Take your preloved clothes to charity shops or sell on the various internet sites available.

The Rumour – Keep this in mind the next time you hear (or are about to repeat) a rumour ...

In ancient Greece (469 - 399 BC), Socrates was widely lauded for his wisdom. One day the great philosopher came upon an acquaintance, who ran up to him excitedly and said, "Socrates, do you know what I just heard about one of your students?" "Wait a moment," Socrates replied. "Before you tell me, I'd like you to pass a little test. It's called the Test of Three. Before you talk to me about my student let's take a moment to test what you're going to say.

The first test is Truth. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?" "No," the man replied, "actually I just

heard about it." "All right," said Socrates. "So you don't really know if it's true or not. Now let's try the second test, the test of goodness. Is what you are about to tell me about my student something good?"

"No, on the contrary," was the reply. "So", Socrates continued, "you want to tell me something bad about him even though you're not certain it's true?" The man shrugged, a little embarrassed. Socrates continued, "You may still pass though because there is a third test - the filter of usefulness. Is what you want to tell me about my student going to be useful to me?" The man hesitated and said, "No, not really..."

"Well," concluded Socrates, "if what you want to tell me is neither True nor Good, nor even Useful, why tell it to me at all?" The man was defeated and ashamed and said no more. This is the reason Socrates was a great philosopher and held in such high esteem.

Time For A Smile

The church treasurer came down early one morning and complained to his wife that he had hardly slept a wink. His wife asked, "Why on earth didn't you count sheep?"

He replied, "I did, and that's what got me into trouble - I made a mistake in the first hour, and it took me until early morning to correct it."

Following a short illness, a vicar lost his hearing, but he continued to preach the following Sunday morning. At lunch he told his family it was a very strange experience because he couldn't hear himself preach. One of his mischievous children promptly responded with, "You don't know how lucky you were!"

Heads bowed in prayer, the congregation listened in complete silence to the Vicar as he said, 'Now let us pray in the words that Jesus taught us.' A little girl's voice could clearly be heard throughout the hushed congregation as she said, "Daddy, I didn't know Jesus had a tortoise."

The Extended Parish Puzzler

Books Of The Bible ...

Can you think of a book of the Bible beginning with each of the following letters?

P A N D E M I C

How many crosses?

As you would expect, there are a number of crosses and images of crosses to be found within our church; each month we'll be including a photo and asking, 'Where can this cross be found?'

Last month's photo was of the cross on the banner displayed to the right in church. An easy one this month - any idea where this cross can be found? (Answer in next month's magazine).



Biblical Partners

If M and J = Mary and Joseph; can you work out the other Biblical partnerships?

1. D and G
2. A and E
3. S and D
4. J and E
5. C and A

(Answers on page 25)

Bible Quiz

1. What is the last word in the Old Testament?
2. By which previous name was Paul of Tarsus known as?
3. Whose wife was turned into a pillar of salt when she looked back?
4. In the bible, who is said to have lived on a diet of locusts and wild honey?
5. How many years did Noah live for after the flood?
6. There are only three angels named in the bible, Michael and Lucifer are two, name the other?
7. The book of Esther is unique because it does not mention which word?
8. The Bible was written in three languages - Hebrew, Koine Greek and which other language?
9. Who made the first translation of the Bible into English in 1382?
10. Name the longest book of the Bible with 150 chapters?
11. In what city was Jesus born?
12. Who took the place of Judas in the twelve disciples?
13. Who was the older brother of Moses?
14. What kind of wood was Noah's ark built from?
15. Who, following Moses' death, became the leader of the children of Israel?
16. Melchizedek was king of which city?
17. Who wrote the 23rd Psalms?
18. In which book of the bible is the parting of the Red Sea?
19. What did King Solomon ask God to give him?
20. What are the first three words in the book of Genesis?

(Answers on page 26)

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 Elaine Larkin 1 Greenside. Ainsworth. BL2 5SE elaine.larkin.el@gmail.com Revd Debra Johnstone	01204 388762 01204 399630
Churchwarden	Lillian Haworth	0161 761 6187
Reader Emeritus	Venitia Flaherty	
Church Treasurer	Geoff Whittle	07976 443165
Secretary of the PCC	Vacancy	
Organist	Jenny Johnson	07734976978
Gift Aid & Freewill Offering Secretary	Carole Butler	07982 316388
Parish Child Protection	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	

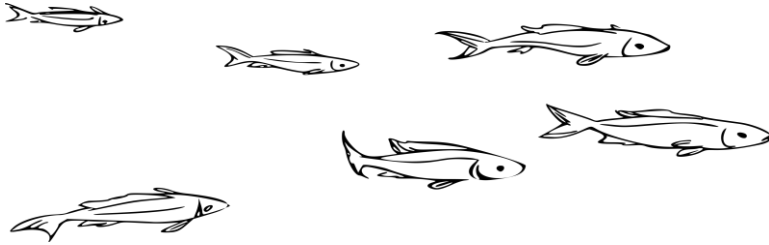
Home Communion is available for anyone unable to attend Church due to illness or frailty
Arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Banns of Marriage and Funerals Contact Revd Dave Thomson

(Answer to Biblical Pairs on page 23: 1) David & Goliath; 2) Adam & Eve; 3) Samson & Delilah; 4) Jacob & Esau; 5) Cain & Abel

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	Wednesdays 7.30pm in the Church Hall John Turner	01204 381590
Rainbows 12 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 5.45pm to 7.00pm in the Church Hall Rainbow Guider	
Rainbows 16 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 4.30pm to 6.00pm in the Church Hall Janet Kay	Rainbow Guider 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

Answers to Bible quiz on page 24: 1) Curse; 2) Saul; 3) Lot's; 4) John the Baptist; 5) 350 years; 6) Gabriel; 7) The word 'God'; 8) Aramaic; 9) John Wycliffe; 10) Psalms; 11) Bethlehem; 12) Matthias; 13) Aaron; 14) Gopher Wood; 15) Joshua; 16) Salem; 17) David; 18) Exodus; 19) Wisdom; 20) In the beginning.



Little Fishes



Thanks to Harry Howcroft-Swift (age 9) for our cover picture this month

Trinity & Trinity Sunday

Sunday 7th June 2020

Last month Little Fishes was all about Pentecost and we learned that for 10 days after Ascension Day, Jesus's friends remained in Jerusalem praying and waiting, and how on the 10th day (the Day Of Pentecost) as they knelt together praying they received his promised gift of the Holy Spirit and began to teach the crowds in Jerusalem the good news that Jesus had ascended to heaven and that God had now sent the Holy Spirit to be with them and guide them.

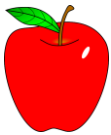
But what comes next?

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost, this year it fell on Sunday 7th June. Trinity Sunday is a day we set aside every year to celebrate our wonderful 3 in 1 God.



It's very difficult to explain the Trinity, because nobody totally understands it; in fact, it's a bit of a mystery!

Trinity means 1 thing being made up of 3 things, like a triangle is made up of 3 sides and 3 corners. But how can God, be the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit all at the same time?



Well, we don't need to understand everything about God to be able to love Him and to serve Him, but here's a good way to try to understand the Trinity a bit; think about the last time you ate an apple ...

An apple has three parts: the seeds, the flesh (or 'fruity part'), and the skin. If you cut an apple in half, you can see that each of these three parts are different and has a different purpose. The skin of the apple is like God the Father, because He protects us; the flesh of the apple is like God the Son, because Jesus took on human form; and the seeds of the apple are like God the Holy Spirit, because the



Holy Spirit helps us to grow. Each of the parts of an apple is different, but they are all still apple.

3 Little Words

Lots of words begin with the letters TRI, but not all of them mean 3. Can you find all of the TRI words?

T	R	I	A	N	G	L	E	E	T
R	R	T	R	I	A	N	G	R	R
I	O	I	R	T	A	B	I	L	I
V	T	R	B	I	B	P	U	K	U
E	I	P	V	A	K	E	T	C	M
T	R	I	A	L	L	T	P	I	P
V	E	R	L	L	I	R	T	R	H
T	T	E	T	U	B	I	R	T	T
I	E	T	R	I	F	L	E	G	E
K	E	T	T	E	K	N	I	R	T

TRIAL

TRIBAL

TRICK

TRILL

TRINKET

TRIUMPH

TRIANGLE

TRIBUTE

TRIFLE

TRIO

TRIP

TRIVET

Trinity Craft Idea

Trinity Shamrocks (like the 1 on our front cover)

You will need:

- A piece of thick green paper or thin green card
- Pens, crayons or coloured pencils
- Scissors
- Glue
- A lolly stick



Here's what to do:

* Ask a grown up to help you print out and cut round the heart shaped template, or copy the template onto a piece of thick green paper then cut it out; do this twice more so that you end up with 3 green heart shapes.

* On 1 of the hearts draw a cross



* On 1 of the hearts draw a red love heart

* On 1 of the hearts draw some flames



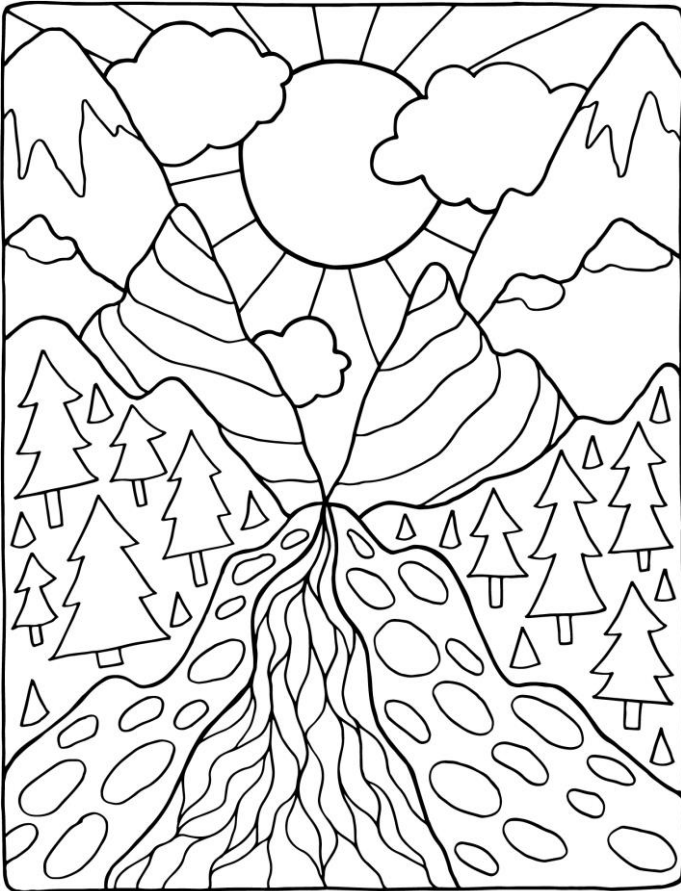
* Put some glue on the pointy end of each heart then stick each heart onto the lolly stick so that they all overlap a little bit

* Lay your Trinity Shamrock flat until the glue has dried, then push the lolly stick into some sand or soil to make it stand up.

Next month - God's Creation.

If you enjoy colouring in, why not colour the picture below. Whilst church is closed you could get a grown up to e-mail it to ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com Each month we'll choose 1 picture to go on our front page; closing date Sun 12th July.

God made the world and everything in it!



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