

Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



‘Lock Down’
(Photos courtesy of Danny Sowden)
Serving the Community
www.ainsworthparish.org.uk

May 2020

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In This Issue ...

- Front cover ... Photo courtesy of Danny Sowden
- Page 2 Contents
- Page 3 Parish Diary
- Page 4 A Few Words From The Vicar ...
- Page 6 Editor's Spot
- Page 7 Appeal From The Treasurer
- Page 8 Rotas For Sidesmen And Readers
Just A Thought
Magazine Subscription Slip
- Page 9 Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements
- Page 10 ... Around The Organisations – Beavers, Scouts
- Page 11 ... Acknowledgement
- Page 13 ... Family Race Night
Family Coach Trip
12th Radcliffe Brownies
- Page 14 ... 16th Radcliffe Brownies
12th Radcliffe Guides
Mothers' Union
- Page 17 ... Ainsworth History Society
- Page 18 ... Ainsworth Social Club
Lockdown; An A – Z Survival Guide
- Page 22 ... From The Archives
- Page 23 ... Simple Ways To Change The World
- Page 24 ... Space To Share A Prayer
Parish Customs And Traditions
- Page 25 ... Strap Lines
Time For A Smile
- Page 26 ... The Extended Parish Puzzler
- Page 28 ... Who's Who
- Page 29 ... Who's Who For Church Organisations
- Pages 30 - 33 ... Little Fishes

Parish Diary May 2020

(Provisional Diary – Subject to Covid-19 restrictions)

N.B. Whilst there are no services in Church, why not join us at 11am on Sundays on our Facebook Page for a ‘Service of the Word’, with prayers, readings and a reflection

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

From time to time, other services (e.g. Mid-Week Praise) will be livestreamed. Please check Facebook for details.

If you miss any of our livestreamed services, recordings can be found on our website

<https://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk/online-worship.html>

or our Youtube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1kRCPBlymPoDSyhH9CZYrw>

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

If the COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed and we can worship in Church during May, our services will be as follows:

~~Fri. 1st May — 7-30pm — “First Friday” at the Vicarage cancelled~~

Sun. 3rd THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8-00am	Holy Communion
10-30am	Family Communion
6-30pm	Evening Prayer

Wed. 6th 6-15pm Mid-Week Praise

Sun. 10th THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8-00am	Holy Communion
10-30am	Family Communion
6-30pm	Holy Communion

Magazine matter to be handed in before 11-30am today

Wed. 13th 6-15pm Mid-Week Praise

~~Sat 16th — 12 noon — Spring Fair in ACCH postponed~~

Sun. 17th THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8-00am	Holy Communion
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10-30am Family Communion
6-30pm Evening Prayer

Wed. 20th 6-15pm Mid-Week Praise

Thu. 21st **ASCENSION DAY**
7-30pm Holy Communion

Sun. 24th **THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
8-00am Holy Communion
10-30am Family Communion
Followed by refreshments in church and Annual Church meeting
6-30pm Evening Prayer
Magazines in church ready for collection by distributors

Wed. 27th 6-15pm Mid-Week Praise

Sun. 31st **DAY OF PENTECOST (WHIT SUNDAY)**
8-00am Holy Communion
10-30am Family Communion (with Thanksgiving)
6-30pm Evening Prayer

A few words from the Vicar

Older readers will remember Harold MacMillan who, many years ago, was our Prime Minister (I was in primary school then). Asked by a journalist about what is most likely to blow governments off course, he responded "Events, dear boy, events."

I now know what he meant. Last month, I finished my article by inviting you to come along to First Friday or sign up for our new Alpha course. Well, all that has been overtaken by events; the COVID-19 pandemic to be precise.

With the lockdown, First Friday cannot meet and the timing for Alpha has been shot to pieces. I am exploring the possibility of running Alpha (or an alternative) online but, this was meant to be our Confirmation course for adults, and the Confirmation service (18th June) is likely to be postponed until much later this year.

The lockdown means the way that parish clergy minister has changed rapidly, and our workload has increased significantly too. Attendance at funerals is strictly limited, and pastoral care is by telephone or Skype. As Area Dean, all my meetings now occur online using a

wonderful videoconferencing app called Zoom. (Oh, how I wish I had bought shares in that company a few months ago!)

One day, we shall return to our church building for worship. Until then, we worship God at home, and there is plenty available online to help you.

Many clergy have begun to livestream services. This has been a steep learning curve for many of us but, thanks to my iPhone and a tripod, I am able to transmit Sunday worship (11am on <https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchAinsworth/>) direct to you from the vicarage dining room. From home, Debra is also transmitting worship aimed at the Mid-Week Praise congregation.

Our neighbours at Christ Church Walshaw and St Andrew's Radcliffe are livestreaming too. And all this is supplemented by services broadcast by Bishop David and Archbishop Justin.

I suspect that, as we begin the return to normality, some things will become the new normal in Church life. For example, the benefits of videoconferencing as a viable alternative to travelling to meetings will be more recognised. Likewise, I am sure more churches will livestream their services for the benefit of the housebound. A friend's Church (Kirk I should say) in Kilmarnock has been doing just that for a few years now.

Our annual meeting (scheduled for 19th April) has been postponed. Until when, I don't know. Unfortunately, this means elections to appoint new Churchwardens, our Deanery Synod representatives and new PCC members are postponed too.

Lillian had already indicated to me privately that she did not wish to stand as Churchwarden again. We were both hoping her successor could be appointed at the annual meeting, but that was not to be. Therefore, understandably, and with my full support, Lillian has decided to resign before then, officially her last day in office being 25th May.

Lillian has been a brilliant Churchwarden, a source of great support and advice. I'm sad that she is hanging up her keys, but glad to have closely worked with her over the past few years. I am sure you will all share my sentiments. By the way, Lillian is not giving up everything; for example, she plans to continue her important work at Mid-Week Praise. So, for Lillian, this is a change of direction rather than retirement from ministry!

Finally, being a parish Church, we do not have a comprehensive list of everyone's contact details. So, feel free to phone me if you are lonely or worried and need a chat.

Every Blessing

Dave

Editor's Spot ...

Welcome to the May 2020 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine; a magazine 'with a difference' as befits the strange and somewhat surreal situation in which we currently find ourselves.

Whilst I'm aware that a small number of readers in far flung areas of the globe access our magazine electronically on a regular basis, to my knowledge, this is the first time that the magazine has gone out electronically in its entirety – the wonders of modern technology that make these things possible never cease to amaze me!!

One of the positives of putting the magazine out in 'e-format' is that potentially we'll connect with members of our congregation and community who don't usually access it; maybe going forwards they'll choose to take out a regular subscription, maybe consider placing an advertisement in future issues.

However there are down sides also; we don't have a comprehensive list of e-mail addresses for all regular magazine recipients and not everyone is able or chooses to access social media, so there will definitely be some of our regular readers who 'miss out'. If you're aware of anyone in this situation, please do your best to help them to access the magazine on line, maybe if anyone is really struggling, between us we could to print off a few copies.

A huge thankyou to all those who have put finger to keyboard in order to ensure that we have an interesting and informative magazine in spite of current restrictions; I'm terribly impressed by the amount of on-line and 'virtual' activity that has sprung up around our groups and organisations – good on you all!! Look out for an 'Extended Parish Puzzler' to keep you occupied as the lockdown continues, and also some inspirational ideas in our 'Lockdown; An A – Z Survival Guide'. Please do your best to keep safe and well, and as always, please keep your reports and articles coming in by the second Sunday in the month, to ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com.

Alison

Appeal From The Treasurer

People have described the Treasurer as a “bean counter” – well, there are very few beans to count at the moment! The absence of church services leaves a hole in all of our lives but also, unfortunately, in our finances. No envelopes or collections in church and the cancellation of the Spring Fair means that our income has reduced dramatically; in fact, the income upon which we can rely is now less than our regular expenses.

I am very much aware that some members of the congregation may be facing financial hardship and uncertainty. I know that the Vicar has asked regular givers to set their donations aside for a later date and I am sure that those who are able will do so. However, I would like to echo the appeals by the Bishop and the Vicar, for those parishioners who are able, to consider giving by another method.

Firstly, if anyone would like to make a donation now rather than set aside their Weekly Offering envelopes until church services resume, please contact me.

Even better, would you consider setting up a monthly standing order for your regular giving to the church rather than using weekly envelopes? Standing orders are a tried and trusted method of making regular donations to charities and more than 20 members of the congregation regularly make their donations in this way.

I know that some people may still have concerns about this method of payment, but let me assure you that a standing order is not the same as a direct debit. You will be instructing your bank to make a regular payment to the church, and;

YOU decide the amount,

YOU choose the day of the month it's paid, and

YOU can amend or cancel the standing order as and when you see fit.

The church does not have access to your bank account. YOU are in control!

You can set up a standing order or make a direct donation to church through your online banking; please contact me on geoffreywhittle@btinternet.com or 01204 385452 and I will provide the church bank details. If you prefer, I can supply you with a standing order form to post to your bank (or you can download one from the

church website). It would be a great help if you could use your surname and envelope number as a reference.

Thank you to those of you who have already switched to standing order. None of us imagined it would be such a great help in very difficult times. There is of course an up-side to this; no more hunting around for envelopes, pens and cash!

Keep well and stay safe.

Geoff Whittle
PCC Treasurer

Rotas For Sidesmen And Readers May 2020 - Coronavirus

At the time of writing and in accordance with the C of E directive, church remains closed. Consequently, there are no rotas for May. Whenever services do resume, anyone who is on the rota, but still self-isolating, will not be expected to come for duty. Hope everyone is staying safe and well.

Lillian Haworth

Just A Thought ...

We like what is familiar, but we learn from what's new.

If you don't usually receive our Parish Magazine, did you know that you can order it and have it delivered each month?

Please arrange for me to have Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine delivered:

Name

Address

..... Post Code

Please cut out & return this form to:

Mrs. S. Varnom, 86, Haig Rd, Bury, BL8 2LF together with a cheque for £6 per year (plus postage if you live outside the Parish) made payable to Christ Church Ainsworth Magazine.

Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements

Save The Date!!

Family Race Night

Saturday 27th June

(Ainsworth Church & Community Hall)

At the time of going to press, we're hoping that this event will be able to go ahead. Tickets are £6 for over 14's and £4.50 for 13 yrs and under, this includes supper.

All monies raised are going towards our International Trip in 2022. For more info email scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk

Family Coach Trip

Saturday 18th July

Hopefully this trip will still be able to go ahead.

Seats are £22 - aged 14 and over; £15 - aged 13 and under.

£60 - family ticket, 2 adults and 2 children

All monies raised are going towards our International Trip in 2022, when we are heading off to Europe, Scandinavia and the Arctic Circle.

If you want more information please email me on

scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk

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.

Christ Church Ainsworth Spring Fair

Due to the impact of the Coronavirus, the Spring Fair, which was to take place on 16th May 2020, has been postponed. A decision about the future of this year's fair will be made at a later date.

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)

Around The Organisations ...

Beavers

Due to the coronavirus pandemic the Scout Association have closed down all Scouting meetings and activities until the situation improves and life returns to a semblance of normality. The Beavers did receive their Easter Eggs, and I look forward to seeing you all back on a Friday night when we can get on with our badge work and enjoy our games.

Rikki

Scouts

What a strange time we are in at the moment, no face to face Scouting, social distancing and self-isolation. Very strange, but the sooner we all do as we are asked the sooner it will all be over.

What have the Scouts been up to? Well last month I told you we would be doing the 'Manchester Monopoly Run'. We spent the Sunday wandering and tramming around Manchester, visiting Old Trafford (boo hiss), Etihad Stadium (boo hiss), Old Trafford Cricket Ground, Crown Courts, Magistrates Courts, Museums, Theatres, Media City and the Arndale to name but a few with tasks to do at each of these locations. We did the event in three teams, Team Snap, Team Crackle and Team Pop. My team, Team Pop, had me walking over 20,000 steps that day (still not recovered properly). It was a brilliant day and a great way to finish before going into isolation the following week.

The first (unplanned) Friday without Scouts was very strange. So much so, that myself and the other Scout leaders decided we needed to do some sort of internet Scouting ...

Utilising 'Zoom', we held a family indoor treasure hunt. 34 families partook in the event. Not all the families were members of our Group, we had Scouts from as far away as Salisbury joining in (they are related to one of ours though).

It involved them completing 4 rounds of 5 'missions'. The missions included both the young people and the parents and ranged from putting their uniforms on back to front, to writing their names with items found in the kitchen (no sharp knives allowed). We had them singing The National Anthem in the strangest places, Max Chamberlain took to the shower with his scourer to complete this

task. We had them playing a tune on a musical instrument of any kind for 20 seconds, Jordan played "air piano" for his and just hummed along, whereas Rueben played his piano and trombone!!!

It was a fantastic night, and everyone seems to have thoroughly enjoyed it. I did get a comment from 1 mum saying she had spent all week Spring cleaning the house and that it now looked as though someone had broken in and trashed the place!

The photographs and videos are fabulous (and in some cases embarrassing - said some parents).

As I write this, I have just finished writing a Family Quiz, again something that we are going to run over Zoom using Kahoot. We already have 30 families registered for this too. Will give you more information next time.

Other plans are carrying on regardless and hopefully we will be back meeting as normal soon.

I have to say, this new found "community ethic" needs to be continued when all this is over; it's nice to be nice, and to have got to know neighbours that you don't normally connect with.

Stacey

(On behalf of the leaders)

Acknowledgement

From a proud daughter and Scout Leader

It is with great pride and honour that I can announce that both my mum and dad (Bill and Gwen (Baloo)) have been awarded their Silver Wolf awards as part of this year's St George's Day Awards, for their exceptional services to Scouting.

The Silver Wolf is the highest award available to an adult in Scouting. They had to be nominated and then the citations written about them go before a panel who decide who will get the awards. There is no guarantee of anyone getting it.

Here are a few of the highlights from the citations written for their nominations:

Bill

Bill became a leader when he turned 18 (59 years ago). He has been involved in nearly all sections of the movement since this time,

including Rover Scouts, Scouts, Venture Scouts and Cubs, and has held a variety of roles over that period.

Bill feels a great pride in holding the role of District President, and this shows when he is talking Leaders from across the district about their adventures and ideas for their Groups and the District.

On average Bill has spent around 20 hours a month on Scouting matters. This equates to 14,160 hours (590 x 24hr days) since he started as a leader at 18.

Despite his age and some health issues, Bill remains as keen on Scouting now as he was as an 8 year old boy, and his willingness to embrace and share with others the joy of Scouting, is great to behold.

Gwen

Gwen became a leader when she was asked by the local vicar to help him start the group currently running in Ainsworth. She has held her role as Cub Scout Leader since this time. She has, however, also held other roles during that period, including ADC and DC for a time.

On average Gwen has spent around 25 hours a month on Scouting matters. This equates to 16,800 hours (700 x 24hr days) since she started as a leader.

For almost 50 years of her service this was alongside her working full time as a teacher and looking after her family. Her family would not exist without Scouting as that is how she met her husband Bill. Their enthusiasm and love of Scouting is being passed down through the generations to both their Daughter and Granddaughter who are proud to carry on this family tradition.

Looking at numbers, on average the Cub Section at Ainsworth has around 24 children in it. Therefore, throughout her time as Cub Leader Gwen has worked with and helped in excess of 1,000 young people to start out in their Scouting lives.

I'm sure with you just reading the highlights above, you will agree with me when I say they both truly deserve every bit of recognition they get.

I did put the announcement onto Facebook when we found out they had achieved the awards, and the comments made by both present and past parents of children who have been through the group were very humbling. Thank you - One very, very, very proud daughter.

Family Race Night - Saturday 27th June

At present this event is still ongoing, as we are hoping we will all be out and about again before that.

Tickets are £6 for over 14's and £4.50 for 13 yrs and under, this includes supper. You could buy a horse for £3, or sponsor one of our races for £20.

For more information please email me on scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk

Family Coach Trip - Saturday 18th July

Again, this event is still being planned as we are hoping we will all be out and about again before that.

Seats are £22 - aged 14 and over; £15 - aged 13 and under
£60 - family ticket, 2 adults and 2 children.

For more information please email me on scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk

All monies raised from both the coach trip and the race night will be going towards our International Trip in 2022, when we are heading off to Europe, Scandinavia and the Arctic Circle.

12th Radcliffe Brownies

This half term, the Brownies have been looking at how to deal with emergencies (possibly a timely activity given the situation at the time of writing). They have developed their First Aid Skills to achieve their Skills Builder badge. To do this, they learned how to make an emergency telephone call, how to check if someone is responsive, is breathing and how to administer CPR if necessary. They were also able to put someone in the recovery position and we are very grateful to Mark, who delivered the training and managed to make it entertaining, exciting, enjoyable and educational.

Unfortunately, in the middle of March, the Coronavirus abruptly curtailed our activities and many of those we had planned had to be abandoned - or postponed until after Easter.

Earlier, at the March Church Parade, Hannah carried our flag and Beatrice and Izzy escorted

Brown Owl

16th Radcliffe Brownies

We are all of course missing Brownies, but the spirit of Brownies remains.

Activity bags were delivered to the girls and via facebook we have asked them all to complete their 'Zero Waste' badge this week. We are aiming for a badge every week or two.

Our last Brownie meeting saw us raise £65 for 3 charities chosen by the girls as part of their influencer badge. They chose Mencap, Children in Need and Barnados. The girls chose how to raise this money too ... Zena sewed bags and made pompoms. The girls baked cookies and brownies to sell. They also made bookmarks. We used the evening to show off our anti bullying posters and wash your hand signs too.

We will be back and have so much planned.

Yours In Guiding

Sarah McAnulty

12th Radcliffe Guides

We spent so much time getting Guides back up and running ... and now we are paused, but with 12 Guides on our register, we will be back soon. We had so much fun working on our Confectioner and Vlogging badges. We made brownies with a chef - Ross from Holden Tea rooms. We invented new items for the village and we also made some Smores and chocolate bark.

The girls will be asked to produce some vlogs over the next couple of months - a time they will never forget. We cannot wait until we are back and have loads planned.

Yours In Guiding – Sarah McAnulty



Building Hope and Confidence

I was struggling to start this month's item for the magazine. What do I write? Where do I begin? At the time everyone was sending messages to each other, some funny, some serious but each one was meant to send love and support as we were all facing uncertain times. On Good Friday I opened a message from Chris Sharp, our Mothers'

Union Diocesan President. It was a simple video, no comment was needed, of Elvis Presley singing 'One Pair of Hands'. Four lines stood out to me.

"One pair of hands said I love you,
And those hands were nailed to a tree,
Those hands are so strong, so when life goes wrong
Put your faith into one pair of hands"

It might be somewhat simplistic, but to me it spoke of faith, trust, sacrifice and salvation.

I expect that many of us will still be self-isolating and I'm sure that you will realise that there will be no Mothers' Union branch activities until further notice. However, as members, that mustn't stop us helping each other when we can.

The nation's two most senior clerics are urging the public to say the Lord's Prayer when they wash their hands, as part of the national call for prayer to beat coronavirus. Can I make the suggestion that we also pray for each other by name, or a project when we wash our hands? We should be able to get through quite a lot of people in prayer every day!

Perhaps we could drop a card to our Prayer Partner (anonymously, of course) to let them know that we are thinking of them. Several people have phoned or emailed me to check that we are ok. We are exceedingly grateful. I was overjoyed to receive a Birthday Card from my Prayer Partner. Thank you, whoever you are. It is so good to know that you are being upheld in prayer. It is important that we do keep in contact with each other, especially for those who live alone. Also, if you're feeling a bit low or lonely yourself, just pick up the phone and speak to another member.

This edition of the magazine will be published electronically. I hope that between us, we will manage to print out enough copies of at least part, if not the whole of the magazine and post it out to our members who are not online.

I leave you with extracts of a message from our Worldwide President, Sheran Harper:

"I greet you with the love and courage of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour because He is our strength, our hope and our solid rock.

So much has been happening recently as COVID-19 is declared a pandemic and governments are advising that we take the necessary

precautions to avoid the spread of the virus. There is so much we have to come to terms with in such a short time.

One of our faithful members, Dianne, went to deliver groceries to her mum who is self-isolating after recent travel. She was in tears as she dropped the groceries at the doorstep and watched her mum through the window with no chance of a hug.

There are so many similar stories and in times like these I encourage you to take heart and do not fear because the Lord, your God is by your side - an ever present help in times of trouble.

In the book of Joshua Chapter 1 verse 9 we read,

I hereby command you: be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. Amen.

As members you are bold and brave, full of courage and compassion, and so very loving. You have been busy in acts of love but now many of you are being called to be quiet and to self-isolate in an effort to prevent the spread of the virus. You will discover there is still so much we can do as members because as a movement we are ideally placed to support and act in this time, but only within the health advice given by your respective governments.

Now here are a few practical ideas to start with:

- 1. Pray and intercede for everyone including the health care professionals, the sick, the isolated, the bereaved and all those directly involved in finding a cure for this coronavirus.*
- 2. Pray and spend time listening to God, strengthening your relationship with him, reading his word and sharing it with others.*
- 3. Families Worldwide is an excellent resource to guide your prayers for members across the globe and the stories in Families First can open a good conversation. I can assure you that using these two resources will give the feeling of love and togetherness”.*

She goes on to talk about reaching out to our families and each other by whatever means possible, bearing in mind our own government’s restrictions; for example, saying ‘Good morning’ to your neighbours at your front doors at the same time every day. Telephone, WhatsApp and Skype are possibilities.

Now that’s given me an idea.....Mmm!

“As I close, I leave you with the encouraging words from 2 Corinthians Chapter 12 reading verse 9 and 10. Such reassuring words.

But He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Brothers and sisters let us pray together

*Lord Jesus Christ,
you said to your disciples,
I am with you always, even to the end of time
Be with me today Lord, as I offer myself to you.
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,
And keep me in your tender loving care always. Amen.”*

Jennifer White
(Hon. Sec.)

Ainsworth History Society www.ainsworthhistorysociety.org

With a change of day and venue, we now meet on the **First Monday** of each month from 8:00pm at the **Unitarian School Room** on Knowsley Road. The next meeting is Monday 4th May (subject to Coronavirus restrictions). All welcome.

March Meeting:

Following on from February’s overview on farming around Ainsworth, Nigel gave a more detailed talk on the farm at Dearden Fold, on the North West side of the village. There are still original timbers in the trusses of the building and the datestone of 1691, whilst not on the original building, indicates that some part of the farm must be one of, if not the, oldest building in the village.



This was followed by a presentation about the Holcombe Races, known locally as the Cockey Moor Races (or the Millworkers Derby). The start of the races was in the fields between Barrack Fold Farm and Bentley Hall Farm. The horses ran almost to Walshaw, behind Bentley Hall and then across the fields to Bury Meadows Farm at Harwood. There were several brushwood jumps and the water jump

was over a stream off Arthur Lane. On the day of the races, there was a continual flow of traffic into the village from every direction and an endless procession of people walking along Knowsley Road to Barrack Fold and onto the racecourse. About 30,000 people attended the event and there were always a good number of bookmakers

To finish, we saw a short clip from British Movietone of the Holcombe Hunt Point-to-Point in the 1930's

AINSWORTH SOCIAL CLUB

We are trying to keep in touch with members via email, texts and through our WhatsApp group during this difficult lockdown period.

As our club motto is 'Challenge Yourself' we are setting an 'at home' challenge each week and these have so far included - contacting people, de-cluttering and making or growing something you have never made or grown before.

The main challenge, of course, is to keep well and keep motivated!

Lockdown; An A- Z Survival Guide

When the Government announced a national 'lockdown' was part of the strategy they were using in the fight to manage the UK Corona Virus pandemic, many people were shocked by the strict measures which were swiftly implemented and the resulting changes and restrictions to 'life as we knew it'. Little did we realise how creative so many people were going to become, how quickly people and businesses would adapt to the situation they were faced with; or how much fabulous community spirit would emerge.

Here's a quick A-Z of some of the many things that people within our own community have been doing – maybe you'll be inspired!

A is for ... *Art* – whether you're a complete beginner or a more experienced artist, and whatever your preferred medium, it seems that there's an online tutorial telling you everything you need to know to get started.

Art Galleries - Many local and national galleries have made 'virtual tours' available and are live streaming exhibitions.

B is for ... *Bible Study* - The Bible Reading Fellowship can help to support you with thoughtful reading of the Bible and offer four series

of notes in a range of formats to suit all readers. Further details are available on their website www.brf.org.uk

Board Games – Definitely a good time to rediscover a few old favourites; Monopoly, Scrabble, Cluedo ...

Baking – If the national shortage of flour is anything to go by, we're well on the way to becoming a nation of perfect bakers. Sadly, all that baking, coupled with limited exercise and no 'Slimming World' doesn't bode well for our waistlines!

C is for ... *Craft* – there are so many creative people and loads of ideas out there, but if you're struggling many of the big craft suppliers are offering online tutorials and workshops.

Crosswords – A big favourite and again now readily available online.

Cleaning – Many of us set off with great enthusiasm to Spring Clean our homes; many of us also then realised that with no charity shops open and disrupted refuse collections, we were going to have to get creative with our unwanted items! Many local charities are still desperately in need of supplies so it's worth checking websites to see what arrangements they have in place for receiving donated items.

D is for ... *DIY* – the perfect time to deal with that list of jobs, however A&E departments across the country have reported an increase in attendance due to DIY related injuries.

Dry Stone Walling – admittedly this isn't an option for everyone, but a splendid example, complete with date stone, has sprung up within our own community during the lock down.

E is for ... *Exercise* – when this is limited to once a day it becomes very important to think about what you will do, where and with whom!

F is for ... *Family Tree* – a great time to really get to grips with researching and reconnecting.

G is for ... *Gardening* – if any part of the retail sector is able to benefit from us having to spend more time at home in the lovely weather, it must surely be the garden products sector. A 'Most Improved Garden' competition would be just the ticket.

H is for ... *Home Schooling* – a new concept to so many families across the UK, embraced with varying degrees of enthusiasm and success by parents and children alike. Again, so many people are being massively creative in their schooling; it seems a whole new online industry has sprung up providing parents with resources and enabling children to continue to learn, interact and have fun.

I is for ... *I.T skills* – now more than ever we are relying on technology; to communicate, to keep up to date, to access resources and supplies. Now is a great time to brush off / improve your I.T skills.

J is for ... *Jigsaws* – it's truly amazing how much time you can spend trying to fit 'just 1 more piece' ...

K is for ... *Keeping in touch* – Never has it seemed more important to keep in touch with friends, family, neighbours etc. Chatting from a safe social distance; phoning; texting; writing; e-mailing; skypeing - never has it been easier to keep in touch.

L is for ... *Learning* – a new skill, a new hobby, how to use that dratted technology; whatever it is – go for it, you might just surprise yourself!

Live Streaming – from our own Clergy livestreaming services; to organisations and venues livestreaming everything from concerts to ballets to musicals; it seems that live steaming is here to stay.

M is for ... *Magazine articles* – each month so many people put pen to paper to contribute articles for our magazine – as always this is massively appreciated. If you've learnt a new skill or found a great way of getting through this challenging time, why not put pen to paper and share it in next month's magazine; e-mail ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com

Meditation – a great way to relax and reconnect; there are lots of articles and U-Tube videos out there to help you to develop your skills.

N is for ... *Nothing* – there's actually nothing wrong with spending some time each day simply doing nothing – it gives us time to wind down, recharge our batteries and reconnect.

O is for ... *Open University Courses* – The O.U. have reported a massive increase in the number of people signing up for online learning; so much so that they've had to recruit extra learning support and marking staff!

P is for ... *Palm Crosses* – as our usual Palm Sunday and Easter activities were cancelled Churches across the country encouraged people to display a cross in their window throughout Holy Week. A short walk around the village showed that many people were on the case.

Photography – so many photo opportunities as we're taking our daily exercise – please be considerate though; the little bridge may be

picturesque, but the rest of us would rather not be queuing to cross whilst you're busy taking selfies!!

Pilates – whatever level you're at there are lots of DVDs and online classes available to help you keep in shape.

Q is for ... *Queueing* – we're all getting very good at this particular activity; definitely best done on a warm, dry day.

Quizzes – The humble Pub Quiz has been reborn via 'Zoom'; apparently there are waiting lists to join in some of the best Zoom quizzes (waiting list could well be another name for an 'online queue'!)

R is for ... *Rainbows* – the 'Chase The Rainbow' initiative quickly took off with a variety of offerings springing up – rainbows in windows, chalked on pavements; made of handprints; flowers; balloons – you name it.

Reading – whether you're a 'proper book' person or a Kindle person, there's never been a better time (or excuse) to 'just finish that chapter!'

S is for ... *Solitaire* – either the traditional version or the online version.

Skype – a great way to keep in touch with loved ones, but also being used by many businesses as part of their 'work from home' strategy.

T is for ... *Talking* – as the advert says – 'it's good to talk'

Texting – but sometimes it's quicker and easier to text!

Thinking – without doubt there are many individuals, businesses, groups and institutions who will have done a great deal of thinking about where they're at now, where they want to be going forwards, and what they need to do to get there.

U is for ... *U-Tube* – like it or loathe it, it's here to stay and can be a great resource for learning, listening and sharing information.

V is for ... *Volunteering* – within our own communities and on a national scale – the number of people who have stepped up to volunteer their time, skills etc is incredibly humbling.

W is for ... *Walking* – I have never seen so many people walking – walking dogs, walking with children, walking to do essential errands; this has got to be better and healthier for us all (if you are physically well / able enough to do it) and also for the environment.

X is for ... *X-Box* – No I'm still not entirely sure what this is, but it seems to occupy a large amount of time for some folk.

Y is for ... *Yoga* – Again, whatever level you're at and whatever type of Yoga you enjoy, there's a huge selection of DVDs, Online resources and even 'virtual classes' that you can join in with.

Z is for ... '*Zoom*' – had anyone even heard of 'Zoom' before we all had to stay at home??

Zumba in the street – at least one member of our community has been inspired to lead short Zumba sessions in her street on a daily basis – a great way to keep active, keep in touch and generate a bit of community spirit during these challenging times.

Whatever you've been doing to get through the lock down period, do your best to keep in touch, keep well and keep safe.

From the Archives – May 1995

Alongside all of the usual services held at Ainsworth Parish Church, the Parish Diary for May 1995 listed a number of additional services; an Ascension Day service for the Day School, an Ascension Day Communion Service, and a joint Songs Of Praise with Ainsworth Methodist Church. Also listed was the Arch Deacon's Visitation which was to be held at St. Mary, Prestwich.

The May 1995 magazine also contained a number of 'Thankyou's': to all who had helped out with 'Operation Spring Clean' (this appears to have been a grand cleaning session to prepare the church for Easter); to Max Varnom for making the polished wood discs for use in the recently launched Parish Lottery (I wonder if the same discs are still in use??); to everyone who had purchased homemade marmalade / chutney as part of the Church Tower fundraising appeal.

Elsewhere, Ainsworth Community Association reported that around 50 people had attended their AGM; amongst other items on the agenda, had been a presentation by D. C. Kennedy Homes, explaining their proposal for building 29 new homes on the former Timber Yard on Church Street. It seems a lot of discussion had taken place, but the overall consensus from those present, was that some kind of commercial development which may create new jobs, would be preferable to housing.

The various uniformed organisations reported on their Easter crafts and activities; Sunday School thanked all who had contributed to their 'New Hymn Book Appeal', and were looking for a volunteer pianist to accompany the children singing; and children at Ainsworth School had

been busy with a number of fundraising activities; they'd supported the Blue Peter 'Well Water Appeal', joined in with 'Red Nose Day' for Comic Relief, held a colouring competition to raise funds for the 'Church Tower Appeal', and were about to hold their annual Spring Fair and fashion show – busy times indeed!

In May 1995 there were 3 Baptisms, and 3 funerals, but no weddings recorded from the previous month. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 388 and the collections totalled £1222.

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. Each month we'll be offering you a few suggestions off that list.

Grow your own - Growing your own veg isn't just a good way to save money, it's also a great way to cut down your carbon footprint and be eco-friendly. If you don't have any outside space, windowsill boxes are a great way to brighten up your view, filter the air coming into your home and offer plenty of space for herbs and small vegetable patches.

Plant some trees - Ecological sustainability is very important when it comes to eco-friendly living. Without a stable ecosystem, things start to fall apart. Making sure that we're planting more native trees to replace those that have been felled to make room for developments is something that more people and businesses need to do to protect the environment and improve air quality.

Choose your personal care products wisely - When it comes to personal hygiene there are several things you need to be careful to avoid for a truly eco-friendly lifestyle. The most damaging of these are microbeads, which are small bits of solid plastic which aren't biodegradable and make their way into watercourses and ultimately end up damaging the environment by entering the food chain. Make sure that your body wash, toothpaste, face scrub and other products don't contain these beads. In addition to this, avoiding chemicals and where possible opt for natural cleaning products.

Buy energy-efficient appliances – Always look at the efficiency rating when buying new appliances.

Space To Share A Prayer

Loving God,

If we are ill, strengthen us.

If we are tired, fortify our spirits.

If we are anxious, help us to consider the lilies of the field and the birds of the air.

Help us not to stockpile treasures from supermarkets in the barns of our larders.

Don't let fear cause us to overlook the needs of others more vulnerable than ourselves.

Fix our eyes on your story and our hearts on your grace.

Help us always to hold fast to the good,

See the good in others,

And remember there is just one world, one hope,

One everlasting love, with baskets of bread for everyone.

In Jesus we make our prayer,

The one who suffered, died and was raised to new life,

In whom we trust these days and all days,

Amen.

(Revd 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!

May – Beating The Bounds

The annual tradition of 'Beating the Bounds' or 'perambulations' has been observed for many centuries in parishes across Britain; before the introduction of maps (let alone Google Earth!!) it was a way of reaffirming the parish boundaries.

It is believed that this tradition originated in Vienne, France, around AD470 on the instruction of Bishop Mamertus. There were a number of religious reasons for the ceremony, but parishioners at the time

believed the practise would affirm their devotion to God, who would thus bless their congregation and avert disaster from their parish.

In Britain, this tradition is celebrated during the week in which Ascension Day falls, in some larger parishes the activities would take place over a period of several days. The Parish Priest, Church Wardens and other officiates of the church would process around the boundaries of the parish. Younger members of the congregation would be armed with birch or willow branches which they would beat upon specific landmarks along the route; some records even describe young choristers having their heads bumped against the landmarks!! Other terms used for this tradition are 'Rogation Week', 'The Common Walk' and 'Gangdays'.

Strap Lines

You know that your kids have started to grow up when they stop asking where they came from and become reluctant to tell you where they are going.

The fact that we are all different is the one thing that we all have in common.

You can't change the past, but you can ruin the present by worrying about the future.

Time For A Smile

A little girl and her parents were attending a wedding in their local church, when the little girl asked,

"Mummy, why is the Bride wearing a white dress?"

"Because white is the colour of happiness, and this is the happiest day of the Bride's life", replied her mother.

The little girl thought for a moment then asked,

"So why is the Groom wearing black then?"

A woman parishioner approached the priest at the end of the Sunday morning service and said, " I do hope you weren't offended when my husband walked out, it wasn't any reflection on your sermon, Father, he's been walking in his sleep for years".

The Extended Parish Puzzler

How Mow Many Words ...

Can you make from 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 Credence Table to the right of the Altar. You'll have to work this month's photo out from memory - any idea where this cross can be found? (Answer in next month's magazine).



Bible Quiz – Places

1. Where was Jesus born?
2. To which land was he taken, that his life might be saved from King Herod?
3. Where did Jesus live as a boy?
4. In what place was he found when twelve years old?
5. In which river was he baptized?
6. Where was he tempted by Satan?
7. Where did he perform his first miracle?
8. In what land did Jesus preach during the first year of his teaching?
9. Where did Jesus talk with a woman by a well?
10. On what sea did he still the storm?
11. At which pool in Jerusalem did he heal a man who could not walk?

12. Where were Jesus and his disciples praying when Jesus was betrayed by Judas?
13. To what other pool at Jerusalem did he send a blind man to wash?
14. At which place in Galilee did he raise to life a widow's son? At Nain.
15. Where did he feed five thousand people? Bethsaida.
16. At what place did he raise Lazarus to life? At Bethany.
17. At what place did Jesus die on the cross? At Calvary.
18. From which mountain did Jesus ascend to heaven? From the Mount of Olives.
19. Where was Jesus looking when he spotted Zaccheus?
Sycamore tree
20. Into which city did Jesus enter mounted on a donkey?
Jerusalem

Books Of The Bible Word Search

There are 15 Books Of The Bible hidden within the grid; they can read in any direction but always in a straight line. Need a bit of help? The hidden books are listed on page 29.

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

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	

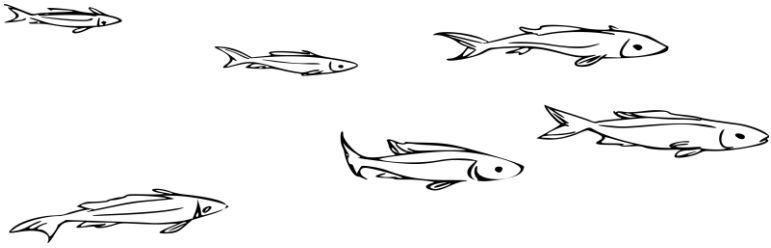
Home Communion is available for anyone unable to attend Church due to illness or frailty
Arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Banns of Marriage and Funerals Contact Revd Dave Thomson

(Answer to Bible Places Quiz on page 26-27: 1) Bethlehem; 2) Egypt; 3) Nazareth; 4) The Temple; 5) The Jordan; 6) The Wilderness; 7) Cana; 8) Judea; 9) Samaria; 10) Sea Of Galilee; 11) Pool Of Bethesda; 12) Garden Of Gethsemane; 13) Pool Of Siloam; 14).Nain; 15) Bethsaida; 16) Bethany; 17) Calvary; 18) Mount Of Olives; 19) Sycamore Tree; 20) Jerusalem

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 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

(Books Of The Bible Word search: Deuteronomy; Exodus; Genesis; Hebrews; Isaiah; John; Joshua; Kings; Leviticus; Luke; Mark; Numbers; Proverbs; Psalms; Romans)



Little Fishes



Thanks to Lily-May Sowden for our cover picture this month

Ascension Day

Thursday 21st May 2020

Last month Little Fishes was all about Easter and we learned how, on Good Friday Jesus died on the cross, but that on the third day, Easter Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead, just as he had said he would, so that the whole of mankind would be forgiven for their sins.

But what happened next?

Jesus's friends were filled with joy that he had come back to them, but Jesus knew that he wouldn't be able to stay with them forever.



Jesus, as a person, could only be with some people, in some places, at some times, but by going to be with his Father in heaven, he would send the Holy Spirit so that God could be with anyone, anywhere, at any time.



During the 40 days after Easter Sunday, Jesus appeared to many different people and did many good deeds.

Jesus also spent a lot of time with his friends, teaching them and praying with them. He told them, "Soon, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit and receive the power of God. You must tell my story to the people in Jerusalem and to people all over the Earth; tell the people to believe in me even if they can't see me."



On the 40th day after Easter Sunday, Jesus and his friends went to The Mount of Olives to talk and pray. Whilst they were there a bright light shone from the sky and a large cloud came down. The cloud wrapped itself around Jesus and he was taken up to the heavens. This is what we call the Ascension.



Jesus's friends remembered what he had told them and returned to Jerusalem to wait for his promised gift of the Holy Spirit.

Ascension Day Craft Idea

You will need:

- Scissors
- 1 paper cup
- A piece of string about 30cm long
- Blue paint or blue felt tip
- Cotton wool
- Glue

Here's what to do:

- * Ask a grown up to help you to cut out the picture of Jesus on page 1, or draw your own picture of Jesus to cut out.
- * Use the scissors or a hole punch to make a hole in the top of the picture.
- * Use the scissors to make a hole in the bottom of the paper cup.
- * Use the blue paint or felt tip to colour the paper cup blue like the sky.
- * Turn the paper cup upside down.
- * Use the glue to stick cotton wool all around the bottom part of the cup (the edge you would usually drink from) like clouds.
- * Thread 1 end of the string through the hole in the top of the Jesus picture and knot it.
- * Thread the other end of the string up through the paper cup and out of the hole, then tie a knot big enough to hold.
- * Pull the knot to lift Jesus up through the cotton wool clouds and into the sky.

Ascension Quiz

There are lots of things that go up; can you work out what these are?

- 1) You might go up these to get to your bedroom
 - 2) You might get on this to go upstairs in a shop
 - 3) You might get in this to get to the very top floor
 - 4) You might climb 1 of these to reach something up high
- (Answers: 1. Stairs, 2. Escalator, 3. A lift, 4. Ladders)

Next month Pentecost.

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 10th May.

The Day Of Pentecost



Name: _____

Age: _____