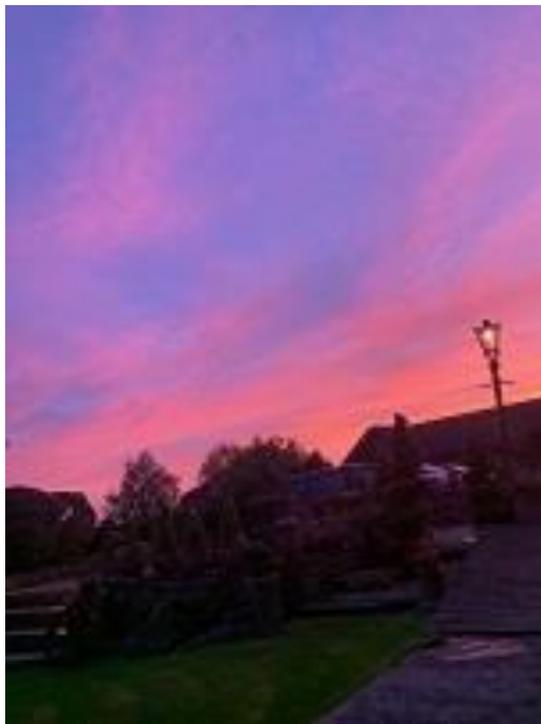


# Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Red Sky At Night ...  
(Photo courtesy of Dave Walters)

**Serving the Community**  
[www.ainsworthparish.org.uk](http://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk)

October 2021

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

### **Sundays**

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

### **Wednesdays**

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

To join us on Facebook, follow this link:

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

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

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

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

## **Planning to attend our church building for worship?**

### **The following COVID-19 Secure restrictions apply:**

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

#### **Zone 1 (right hand side of the aisle and first 4 rows at the front on the left):**

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

#### **Zone 2 (Remaining pews on left hand of the aisle – 1m+ social distance):**

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

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

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

**Singing:** We now sing in church (hymns and The Gloria). There is no need to join in, but if you you are welcome to wear a facemask if you choose to.

#### **Communion:**

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

#### **General:**

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

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

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

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

### **A few words from the Vicar' ....**

Step by step, Church life is edging closer to normality.

More are attending worship in church (singing those favourite hymns helps), we have reintroduced after service refreshments on the last Sunday of each month, and we now celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion at Mid-Week Praise.

Things are really buzzing!

As for Christenings, I am run off my feet with them! We do not have many slots left for this year and, already, I have some bookings for 2022. So, pass the word around to any parents out there who wish to get their youngster Christened, don't put off contacting me to arrange things.

By the way, sometimes I am asked to explain the difference between a Baptism and Christening. Well, there isn't one! Christening is the traditional English name used for the Baptism of babies and young children. I was Baptised as an adult and I do, of course, Baptise adults and older children. The only difference being that older children and adults make the declarations and promises themselves, so do not need godparents.

Parade services begin again this month (10<sup>th</sup>) and, as we are now in October, we shall be celebrating Harvest. The service is likely to be busy so, for those who wish to, it may be difficult to maintain social distancing. For this reason, on the same day, we will hold a BCP Communion service, either at 8am or 6.30pm. It is not feasible to do both, so I am currently taking soundings to determine which time would better suit those likely to attend. Once I know which time is favoured, I will publish details in our weekly newsletter. I hope this will set the pattern for future Parade Sundays.

The consultation will also help me to assess the feasibility of reintroducing a weekly BCP service.

As in previous years, your Harvest gifts will go to Porch Boxes, so please be generous. If you are unable attend, it is possible to send a financial donation by sending a cheque made payable to "The Porch" to Michael Perrin, 14 Kenmore Avenue Bury BL8 2DY, by Bank transfer to Account number 81643089 sort code 09-01-55 account name 'The Porch', or Online via <https://porchboxes.wordpress.com/> .

I must admit, I am looking forward to Harvest. It is always organised chaos, at least when I lead the service! Yes, I know it's all tins and packets these days, but these are easier for Porch Boxes to store them until they are needed.

I enjoy singing those old Harvest hymns and it is good to see the youngsters eagerly bringing their Harvest gifts to the front of church. Apart from anything else, it teaches them to be generous towards others. After all, God in his generosity provides for our needs so, in turn, we ought to be generous towards others with what he has given us.

Maybe that was more obvious in past centuries when most people worked on the land, but even in Victorian times, most Ainsworth folk earned a living working in other ways, quarrying, coal mining, in the mills etc. These days, very few of us earn a living from farming and tend to travel away from the village to work. But, even if we work in a call centre or in financial services (as I once did), and receive a monthly salary, the core message of Harvest is the same as always.

All we have comes from God, so let us in turn be generous.

God Bless

*Dave*

## **Editor's Spot ...**

Welcome to the October 2021 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine.

It's hard to believe that we are well through another year; harder still to comprehend that it is around 18 months since the first full lockdown brought so many things to a standstill. The ripples from the events of these last 18 months continue to affect many people in so many different ways, but it is great to see our local communities continuing to pull together and beginning to enjoy some normality once more. Amongst other things, Baptisms and Weddings are now 'back on the menu', along with coffee mornings, parade services and singing hymns in church – HOORAY!!

A number of our uniformed organisations have only just returned to meetings after the summer break, so reports on their activities are a bit 'thin on the ground' this month, but I'm sure there will be much to report in next month's magazine when everyone is back in full swing.

This month brings us the final instalment of the 'Five Steps To Wellbeing' articles which appear to have hit the right spot for many readers – if anyone has any suggestions for similar topics, or better still if anyone wants to contribute an article(s) which others may find interesting or beneficial, please do get in touch.

In next month's magazine we'll be premiering a new series entitled 'Hidden Gems', looking at some of the fabulous places that folk have visited in recent months; it would be lovely to be able to include information and ideas from our readers, so – if you've visited somewhere recently that's really made you think 'Wow!' – why not consider putting pen to paper (or finger to keyboard) and sharing it with others; first up is Leighton Hall near Carnforth.

Enjoy this month's magazine and as always do your best to keep safe and well, and keep your articles, ideas and feedback coming to [ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com)

*Alison*

## **Just A Thought**

Life is like riding a bicycle; to keep your balance you have to keep moving.

## **From The Registers**

HOLY BAPTISM      We welcome into the family of God  
August 1<sup>st</sup>            Isla Rule  
                          8<sup>th</sup>                    Lucas & Fredrick Farnworth  
                          22<sup>nd</sup>                  Emilia Cosgrove

WEDDINGS            We offer the church's congratulations to:  
August 7<sup>th</sup>             Matthew Carl McLaren & Nicole Achuzia  
                                 Shepherd  
August 15<sup>th</sup>            Edward Damian Timlin & Amy Elizabeth  
                                 Harrison

## **Coffee And Conversation**

The next Ainsworth Community Coffee and Conversation will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of October. Coffee and Conversation is held in Ainsworth Church and Community Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 10.30 – 12 noon; “A cup of coffee shared with others is happiness tasted and time well spent” – why not come along and join us.

## **Treasurer**

We are once again looking for a voluntary Treasurer to manage parish finances, ensure our financial records are up to date, produce financial statements, and undertake allied tasks. This role is essential to the mission of our Church. You do not need formal accountancy qualifications to do this, just a degree of financial literacy. Please contact Revd Dave to discuss.

## **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

Thank you to everyone who supported the coffee morning and evening – the morning/pre-morning events raised £456.42 (of which £297 was gift-aided, which will give MacMillan another £74). You can also donate using the link <https://thyg.uk/BUU004777663>

## **Private Prayer**

As we return to normal, we are hoping to open our Church once again on Wednesday afternoons for private prayer. To do this, we need volunteers to form a church sitting rota. Please email Revd Dave if interested.

## Church Notice Boards

Both of our Church Noticeboards are in a poor state of repair, so we are seeking a volunteer(s) with the necessary practical skills to repair (or replace) and repaint one or both them. Signwriting skills are not required as we have a solution for that part of the project. Contact Revd Dave if interested. (N.B., unfortunately, CofE red tape means that if replacement rather than repair proves necessary, we will need to seek permission from the Diocese.)

## News From The Diocese – Great Sacred Music At St Ann’s

St Ann's Church, Manchester - Every Saturday at 3.00pm, HeartEdge Manchester presents Great Sacred Music, led by the HeartEdge Manchester Clergy and the newly appointed Choral Scholars. Join us as we explore a new theme each week through readings, reflections and songs from great classical music of our religious heritage. For more info visit [heartedgemanchester.org/great-sacred-music/](http://heartedgemanchester.org/great-sacred-music/)



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for us every time you **shop online**

Find out more

Currys PCWorld ebay Booking.com  
Argos Apple Uswitch Groupon  
M&S JUST EAT sky ASOS

## Easyfundraising

Our cause is registered as Ainsworth Parish Church, Bolton and currently has 24 supporters registered. Many thanks to everyone who has used the easyfundraising platform to raise donations throughout September; our monthly total was £14.48, bringing our current fundraising total to £762-88. A huge thank you to everyone for raising donations via #easyfundraising!

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

You can find our easyfundraising page here:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ainsworthpc/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=rm-rbd21-e1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ainsworthpc/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-rbd21-e1)

## **Bible Sunday – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

The word 'Bible' is derived from the Greek word 'Biblios', meaning a collection of books; the books of the Bible were all written at different times, by different people and in different places, but the common denominator is that all those who wrote these books were inspired and moved by God – in effect, the Bible is the written Word of God.

For centuries, the Bible has been having a profound impact on people, and in many cases quite literally changing lives. The Bible has been translated into over 690 different languages and sells over 100 million copies every year.

Bible Sunday is a day on which churches celebrate the continuing impact that the bible has on individuals and communities all over the world.

The Bible Society have some great resources for Bible Sunday; to find out more visit [biblesociety.org.uk](http://biblesociety.org.uk)

The Bible Reading Fellowship also has a very user friendly website and offers a number of different publications to guide and direct daily Bible study. Visit [brf.org.uk](http://brf.org.uk) to see the books and Bible reading notes available - they also offer attractive Christmas cards - or contact Jane Lord on 0161 764 1551.

### **Strap Lines**

Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous. (Albert Einstein)

Don't fall into the trap of judging people by their relatives.

Every path will have a few puddles.

God gives every bird its food, but he doesn't throw it into its nest.

If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging and start praying!

### **Time for A Smile**

A young man was taken on as a temporary caretaker at a large city church. When he reported for his first day at work, the vicar greeted him with a warm handshake and a smile. He gave him a broom and said, "I'm afraid the place is in a bit of a mess, so for your first job you will have to sweep the whole place and make it tidy." The young man looked shocked and said, rather indignantly, "Have you forgotten I'm a university graduate?" The vicar replied, "Oh, sorry, I'd forgotten that; here give me the broom and I'll show you how it's done."



# *Coffee and Conversation*

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.30 – 12 noon**

**Ainsworth Church and Community Hall**

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



## **Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements**

### **Ainsworth History Society Meeting**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October**

**8.00pm, Duke William, Well Street**

Everyone welcome.

### **Coffee & Conversation**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

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

Everyone welcome

### **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

Many thanks to all who supported this event; £456-42 was raised for Cancer Relief MacMillan.

### **Monthly Diocesan Prayer With Bishop Mark**

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

### **Porch Boxes**

We are now able to receive donations for Porch Boxes in Church again; we will also be supporting Porch Boxes again this Harvest.

It's also still an option to support Porch Boxes through a donation: A cheque made payable to "The Porch" sent to Michael Perrin, 14 Kenmore Avenue Bury BL8 2DY or Bank transfer to Account number 81643089 sort code 09-0155 account name The Porch or Online

<https://porchboxes.wordpress.com/>

## Around The Organisations ...

### Beavers

It was very nice to welcome twelve new, smiling and very excited Beavers to our Colony in September. We now have a full Colony of twenty four Beavers again after all the problems caused by the pandemic and the lockdowns.

We say goodbye to Zachary as he is now eight and has gone up to Cubs. We wish him well on his next section of Scouting.

We are hoping to have another Fun Day up at Giant's Seat Camp Site in October and hope that the weather stays fine for that day.

Rikki

### 12<sup>th</sup> Radcliffe Brownies

We're back inside (hurrah!) and so we've been able to play games and do a woodland craft picture.

We started the term by enrolling Harriet and by sharing a birthday cake for Connie, who turned 18 during the holiday. Having served us well as a young leader for the last few years, we are thrilled to now have her as an adult leader with the unit.

With lots of exciting things planned, including our eagerly awaited "Magic and Mayhem" activity weekend, we are really looking forward to this term's activities.



Polly, Brown Owl



### Rebuilding Hope and Confidence

The ☀️ Summer of Hope ☀️ appeal has now finished. We had a collection at our meeting at the Garden Shed and other members have added to it, meaning that we have been able to forward £51.15.

Thank you to everyone who helped to achieve this.

Our CEO has also been active raising money for the appeal, accompanied by her husband, Steve. Between August 28<sup>th</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup> they walked 113km from Sarria to Santiago de

Compostela. This forms the final part of the Camino de Santiago, which is a traditional Christian pilgrimage. Their target was £10 for each kilometer covered. To date they have raised £1735!

The aim of the appeal is to empower women to lift themselves and their families out of poverty and strengthen their own communities. Along the way, they shared stories of how the money would be used. I quote one example - *“Jane is 43, a single mother of one child. She lives in the diocese of Mpwapwa in central Tanzania, a mountainous district served by dirt roads.*

*After attending primary education and two years of Bible School, Jane joined her local Mothers’ Union Savings and Credit group. Through this, she was able to take out a small loan to put her dream into action by starting her own food business.*

*Now, in spite of the pandemic hitting her income, Jane is looking forward to a Summer of Hope, thanks to the continuing support of her local Mothers’ Union.*

*Members around her have provided a perfect refuge for Jane and the other women in her community, giving them a safe space to share their difficulties, advice and to grow together in mutual support. Jane says that thanks to her involvement in Mothers’ Union she’s learned how to: “help development outside the church as well as in the church”.*

*“One of the biggest problems affecting women and children is gender-based violence,” she says. With the group’s support, Jane feels empowered to take action, lead, and pray for an end to this abuse.*

*Jane’s dedication embodies the spirit of Mary Sumner’s vision and keeps it thriving today”.*

Thank you also to members who contributed towards the collection of new children’s underwear for refugees arriving from Afghanistan. This collection has also now finished.

At our first meeting in September, following discussion it was decided that we would commence our afternoon meetings a month earlier than usual and continue throughout autumn and winter. We will be meeting in the Church Hall on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome. We value this time of faith, fellowship and fun. If there is anything that you would especially like to see in the programme, please tell a member of the committee.

Jennifer White (Hon Sec)

## **Ainsworth History Society**

Ainsworth History Society will be starting meeting again on the first Monday of each month. The first meeting will be on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 8pm and this initial meeting will be under the gazebo at the Duke William on Well Street. Everyone is welcome.

### **From the Archives – October 1996**

The sketch on the inside cover of the October 1996 Parish Magazine depicted a woman collecting windfall apples, against a backdrop of hills and cottages – these sketches, provided by Mr. R. Moss, capture the scenes and seasons so beautifully – what a talented artist he must have been.

The Parish Diary for October 1996 included details of the Harvest Services; early Communion at 8am, Family and Parade Service with presentation of Harvest gifts at 10.30am and special Harvest Evensong at 6.30pm. Other interesting additions to the regular services were a Songs of Praise service and a Confirmation Class to be held in church after school on Monday afternoons – anyone requiring more information about these sessions was encouraged to contact the Vicar.

Following a summer of intense activity, the Church Hall Committee were pleased to announce that they had a new Caretaker – Mr. John Leonard - and to report that the replastering of the main hall was now complete; according to the article, the work men had removed an incredible 12 tons of old plaster! Not surprisingly, the new plaster was expected to take a number of months to dry completely, therefore it was anticipated that it would not be possible to repaint the room until the Easter break.

The various groups and organisations had returned from their summer breaks and had much to report – 16<sup>th</sup> Brownies seemed to have had a great time on their 'French' themed Pack Holiday and couldn't wait to get started planning their next 'get away', meanwhile the Cubs had enjoyed taking part in their District Camp which had a 'pirates' theme. Cubs were also busy getting into the party mood with '80 days of celebration' in the run up to celebrating 80 years of Cub Scouting on 16/12/1996 – is it physically possible to party for 80 days? I'm sure the lads gave it their best effort!

Elsewhere, Ainsworth Sunday School and Ainsworth Scholars Play Group both reported that they had space available for new starters,

meanwhile, at the day school, Nursery was once again fully subscribed; Nursery had been grateful to receive many donations of toys and equipment for indoor use but were also requesting donations of toys for outdoor use. The main school reported that the children from years 2 – 6 all had smart new desks – whatever happened to the wooden desks with a lift up lid and inkwell built in??

The 'Holiday Church' featured in the October 1996 Parish Magazine was St. Andrew's, Bedford, with an interesting write up provided by Doris Foster whose daughter was Deputy Church Warden there at that time.

In October 1996, the 'Face To Face' interview was with Hilda Lord, former Sunday School Superintendent

In October 1996 there were 3 Baptisms and 2 Weddings, but no Funerals recorded from the previous month. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 381 and the collections totalled £1165.

## Five Steps To Wellbeing



Over the past few months, we've been exploring the five simple actions known as the five steps to wellbeing:

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

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

So now you've got the idea, why not set yourself some weekly wellbeing challenges; they don't have to be huge or impressive; often really small things can give you the biggest wellbeing boost!

	<b>CONNECT</b>	<b>BE ACTIVE</b>	<b>TAKE NOTICE</b>	<b>LEARN</b>	<b>GIVE</b>
<b>MON</b>	Arrange a 'meet up' with a friend	Go for a walk around your area	Try yoga or meditation	Learn a new word then try to use it	Smile at folk when you're out & about
<b>TUES</b>	Really listen to what others are saying	Walk up the stairs rather than use the lift	Close your eyes & listen what can you hear?	Have a go at a new craft or activity – just try!	Offer to help a friend or neighbour
<b>WEDS</b>	Consider joining a local community club or group	Do some regular exercises; armchair exercise is fine	Look out of your window & try to spot something new	Pick an animal or country & find out 5 things about it	Share something that you've made or grown
<b>THURS</b>	Ring a friend or relative for a chat	Try a spot of gardening – indoor pots are fine	Listen to a piece of music – how does it make you feel?	Challenge yourself to listen to a different type of music	Be kind to yourself – give yourself some 'me' time
<b>FRI</b>	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here
<b>SAT</b>	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here
<b>SUN</b>	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here	Include your own ideas here

You can also find lots more at [www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/mental-wellbeing](http://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/mental-wellbeing) or [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

## On Reflection

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

**Reflection 5 - Ruth:** *God encourages us through his word, by Elizabeth Spiers*

A couple and their two young boys emigrated from Israel to Moab to avoid a famine. There, the husband died but the two boys grew up and married Moabite women. Then both sons died, leaving the three women grieving, unprotected and unprovided for.

The eldest widow, Naomi, on hearing that the famine was over, decided to return to Israel and told her two daughters-in-law to return to their fathers' homes. But only one went back. The other, Ruth, chose to go with Naomi back to Israel. On arrival in Bethlehem, Naomi refused to be called by her name and told everyone to call her 'Mara', meaning bitter, as she blamed God wholeheartedly for her losses. She said that God had afflicted her and testified against her by letting her husband and sons die.

Was Naomi right to blame God? Probably not, but I'm glad that she was able to say how she felt. So often we say what we think we should say, or what other people want to hear, instead of the truth.

And yet God knows exactly what we're thinking and feeling.

Ruth lived with and cared for Naomi. As she had promised Naomi back in Moab, she accepted the Israeli people as her own people and the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as her own God. Although she stood out as a foreigner, she also stood out as a person of integrity. She found work in the fields where she met a man called Boaz. Egged on by Naomi, a romance followed. Marriage was on the cards, but it was complicated because another man stood in their way.

According to ancient Israeli customs, the closest male relative to the deceased person had the obligation to buy back any land that had belonged to him and marry the widow, rescuing her from serious difficulty. And Boaz wasn't the closest relative.

Instead of taking matters into his own hands, Boaz sought out this other relative and offered him the opportunity to buy the land and marry Ruth. He must have waited with bated breath for the reply. However, this man didn't want to marry Ruth so chose not to go ahead. Thus, the way was clear for Ruth and Boaz and there would be no regrets or guilt over it.

This is such an important principle for life. If we gain something by being underhand, can we really enjoy it? Don't the feelings of guilt and

shame spoil the very thing we gained?

Naomi had come full circle. Perhaps she was now able to release her bitterness towards God and realise that He had been with her the whole time. She had a home, a wonderful daughter-in-law and, after the marriage, a grandson.

I think God approved of the way Ruth and Boaz conducted themselves. They called their son Obed. He had a son called Jesse who was the father of King David.

## Through The Seasons – Ainsworth In September

*“What is this life if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.  
No time to stand beneath the boughs  
And stare as long as sheep or cows.  
No time to see, when woods we pass,  
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.  
No time to see, in broad daylight,  
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.  
No time to turn at Beauty's glance,  
And watch her feet, how they can dance.  
No time to wait till her mouth can  
Enrich that smile her eyes began.  
A poor life this if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.”*

So many wonderful hymns and poems have been written about the season of Autumn, and yet it is these words, written by Welsh poet, William Henry Davies (1871 – 1940), that have repeatedly come to mind throughout the month of September, which has been so full of nature's beauty. The opening two lines of this poem, entitled 'Leisure', are perhaps the best known of Davies' works, and warn us that "the hectic pace of modern life has a detrimental effect on the human spirit." Hear, hear!!

Going off the calendar we may only just be truly into Autumn, but the reality is that it has looked, smelled, and felt like Autumn for a number of weeks already – and what a fabulous Autumn we've been having; heavy dewfall has greeted us most mornings, followed by seemingly endless glorious warm, sunshiny days. The evenings are definitely

closing in now, but when the sunsets are this stunning – what’s not to like!



*(Sunset photos courtesy of Dave Walters)*

Another month on, and yet again the countryside around our village has changed, moving on from the bright, vibrant greens of Spring and early Summer to darker greens and browns as the seasons progress. The first leaves are beginning to fall, and much of the colour now comes from leaves and berries rather than blossom.



Following a regular route past the Weaver’s Cottages on Knowsley Road and on around Whitehead Lodges, the displays of Hawthorn berries, Rose Hips and Brambles have now been joined by the deep purple Elderberries, shiny red Honeysuckle berries and, in places, the bright scarlet of early Holly berries. With all of this fruit



about it’s little wonder that there appears to have been a surge in the wasp population, many of them seemingly ‘drunk’ on fruit juice and extremely angry!

The seasons may be changing, but not all of the wild flowers have gone to seed, interestingly there are numerous Cyclamen thriving in the undergrowth alongside the footpath leading towards ‘Paddock Leach’ and also a few on the path alongside George’s Wood – I wonder if these seeded naturally originally, or maybe stemmed from someone’s discarded garden waste ...



Harebells can still be spotted in some of the more sheltered spots around the lodges, and a few clumps of Heather have returned to the area near the bottom lodge since it’s been fenced off, preventing the cows from feasting on it.



With the drier weather throughout September, the water level in all three lodges has fallen, and once again there is a wide expanse of dry mud and pebbles, also large quantities of rather smelly pond weed. The frantic activity of the nesting season is now long gone, and the water birds seem much more settled; Canada Geese, Swans, Coots

and Mallards congregate on the water's edge or swim serenely, making the most of the warm weather and surfeit of food.



Crossing the wooden bridge and walking on up the hill towards Cuckoo Woods, the Horse Chestnut trees, Oak trees and Beech trees are weighed down with nuts and the squirrels are hugely active, darting from branch to branch and, at times arguing noisily. Tree Creepers seem to be prolific in this area at the moment, and also Pied Wagtails. A number of dead trees show clear signs of the attentions of Woodpeckers, but beware if you go to take a closer look – a number of these holes have been commandeered by angry wasps!!

Once again, a number of interesting sightings have come from various people this month, including

Jays, Pied Wagtails, Song Thrush, Starling flocks, Jackdaws, Barn Owl, Dunnocks, Long Tailed Tits, Reed Warbler, Kingfisher, Bullfinches, Chaffinches, Green Finches, Bats, Squirrels, Spiders (lots and lots!), Earwigs, Woodlouse, Daddy Long Legs', Toads, Devil's Coachman Beetles and Snails.

The next verse of Sara Coleman's poem, "The Garden Year", reads, "Fresh October brings the pheasant, Then to gather nuts is pleasant."

Watch this space for an Ainsworth in October update, and please keep e-mailing your own nature discoveries to [ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com)

## **Space To Share A Prayer**

We give you thanks, most gracious God,  
for the beauty of earth and sky and sea;  
for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers;  
for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers.

We praise you for these good gifts,  
and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity.  
Grant that we may continue to grow  
in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation,  
to the honour and glory of your Name, now and for ever. Amen.

*(Book of Common Prayer)*

## Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

### When I Must Go

When I must go, dear God, please let it be  
A golden autumn day; when red leaves fall,  
When purple grapes in shining clusters hang  
And bittersweet glows bright against the wall,

When o'er the barren fields and russet meads  
Their last farewells the crickets cry.  
Let me make my silent journey  
When the homing birds fly south across the sky.

When I must go, dear God, please let me go  
As silently as autumn rain,  
As still as lacy shadows 'neath the willow trees,  
As calm as is the moon above the plain.

So let me go—and may there be no grief  
When life is done, and I must say goodbye.  
I'll take my leave with flowers and falling leaf  
And lie in peaceful sleep beneath the sky.

*Anon*

### Olde Worlde Weather Lore – October

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

If ducks do slide at Hallowtide, at Christmas they will swim;  
If ducks do swim at Hallowtide, at Christmas they will slide.

### Why Do We Say That Then ... ?

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

**"Let the cat out of the bag..."** Centuries ago piglets were sold in bags; folktale tells it that unscrupulous vendors would try to substitute a cat in the bag instead since these were more plentiful. If the buyer opened the bag before the purchase the vendors' secret would then be known.

## Did You Know ... October Facts

1st October – On this day in 1974, American fast food chain, McDonald's, opened it's first British outlet in London.

2<sup>nd</sup> October - On this day in 1925, the first of London's red buses went into service, following the repeal of restrictions which had previously prevented such vehicles from being used in the capital city.

3<sup>rd</sup> October – On this day in 1906, the SOS signal was established as an International Distress Signal.

4<sup>th</sup> October – St. Francis' Day - On this day in 1226, St Francis of Assisi died.

5th October – On this day in 1952, tea rationing ended in Britain.

6th October – On this day in 1536, William Tyndale was put to death under the orders of Henry VIII. William Tyndale was the first person to translate and print the Bible in English (New Testament); his translation of the Old Testament remained unfinished on his death but formed the basis of the 'King James' version of the Bible.

7<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1806, Carbon Paper was patented in London by inventor Ralph Wedgwood.

8th October – On this day in 1965, the Post Office Tower in London was officially opened by then Prime Minister, Harold Wilson.

9th October – On this day in 1855, American Inventor, Isaac Singer, patented his sewing machine motor.

10<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1881, The Savoy Theatre opened in London, it was the first public building in the world to be lit entirely by electricity.

11<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1982, the Mary Rose, King Henry VIII's favourite battleship, was raised from the seabed where it had laid for 471 years after sinking in battle.

12th October – On this day in 1823, Charles Macintosh began to sell his unique raincoats (macs).

13<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1884, Greenwich, in London, was established as the Universal Time Meridian of Longitude, from which all world time zones are based.

14th October – On this day in 1066, The Battle of Hastings took place; one of the most important battles fought on British soil, heralding the start of the Norman Conquest.

15<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1520, King Henry VIII ordered bowling lanes to be installed at Whitehall.

16th October – On this day in 1847, Charlotte Bronte's book, 'Jane Eyre' was first published.

17th October– On this day in 1860, the first British Men's Open Golf Championship was held at Prestwick Golf Club.

18<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1922, the British Broadcasting Company (BBC) was founded.

19<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1901, Edward Elgar's 'Pomp & Circumstance March' premiered in Liverpool.

20<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1632, Sir Christopher Wren was born; Sir Christopher Wren was the architect who designed St. Paul's Cathedral in London; he was also responsible for the rebuilding of 51 other churches in the city of London following the Great Fire of London in 1666.

21st October – Trafalgar Day - On this day in 1805, the battle of Trafalgar was fought off Cape Trafalgar.

22nd October – On this day in 1878, the first rugby match under floodlights took place in Salford.

23rd October – On this day in 1642, the first battle of the English Civil War took place between Royalists and Parliamentarians, near Edge Hill, South Warwickshire.

24<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 2003, the supersonic jet, Concorde, took its final flight, ending 3 decades of supersonic travel.

25<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1854, the Charge Of The Light Brigade took place during the Battle of Balaclava.

26th October – On this day in 1951, Sir Winston Churchill won the general election to become Prime Minister of Great Britain for the second time.

27th October – On this day in 1728, the British explorer, navigator and cartographer, James Cook, was born near Middlesbrough in Yorkshire.

28th October – On this day in 1726, Gulliver's Travels', by Jonathon Swift, was first published by Benjamin Motte, in London.

29<sup>th</sup> October – On this day in 1618, Sir Walter Raleigh, British poet, courtier and adventurer, died aged 64 years.

30th October – On this day in 1888, John J. Loud patented the ball point pen.

31<sup>st</sup> October – On this day in 1815, Cornishman, Sir Humphrey Davy, patented his miner's safety lamp.

## **The Extended Parish Puzzler**

### **Bible Quiz**

1. What did God make on the fourth day?
2. By which previous name was Paul of Tarsus known?
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. Who was found in a basket in the bulrushes?
6. Which Gospel begins with the words, "The beginning of the good news about Jesus ..."?
7. The book of Esther is unique because it does not mention which word?
8. What was the profession of Zacchaeus?
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. Which is the last book of the Old Testament?
15. Who, following Moses' death, became the leader of the children of Israel?

(Answers on page 27)

### **How Well Do You Know Our Village?**

Last month's inscription can be found on the dry-stone wall on the lane leading to Brownhill Farm; the meaning? 2020 – the year in which the wall was built.

An easy one this month - any idea where the following inscription is?  
Answer in next month's mag.

**GIRLS**

## Harvest Word Search

Can you find 12 vegetables in this grid?

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

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

- Bean
- Cabbage
- Carrot
- Celery
- Courgette
- Leek
- Onion
- Parsnip
- Pea
- Potato
- Spinach
- Turnip

## Who's Who

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

### Services

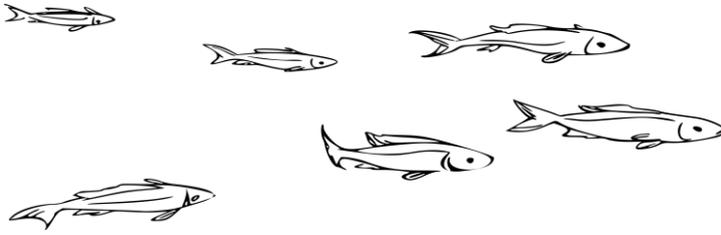
Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	10.30am	Family Service 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Family & Parade Service
	12.00pm	Baptisms (Except 2 <sup>nd</sup> and last Sunday)
	6.30pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Holy Communion (Book of Common Pray)
		Healing Service (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 Quiz: 1) The sun, the moon & the stars; 2) Saul; 3) Lot's; 4) John The Baptist; 5) Moses; 6) Mark's Gospel; 7) The word 'God'; 8) Tax Collector; 9) John Wycliffe; 10) Psalms; 11) Bethlehem; 12) Matthias; 13) Aaron; 14) Malachi; 15) Joshua.

## Who's Who For Church Organisations

Mothers Union	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 Jennifer White	07964 587694
Group Leader	Bill White group.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	01204 595378
Beaver Scouts	Friday at 6.00pm in the Church Hall Leader Valerie Watts	01204 398634
Cub Scouts	Friday at 7.00pm in the Church Hall Sean Butler	07843 233056
Scouts 14 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Fridays at 7.30pm in the Church Hall Leader Stacey White scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	07742 610281
Explorers	Monday 7 – 8.30pm; last Wednesday of the month 7.30pm in the Church Hall Leader John Turner	01204 381590
Rainbows 16 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 4.30pm to 6.00pm in the Church Hall Rainbow Guider	
Brownies 12 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm to 8.15pm in the Church Hall Brown Owl Polly Ryder	07437 519045
Brownies 16 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 6.15pm to 7.30pm in the Church Hall Sarah McAnulty	07955373623
Guides 12 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.45pm in the Church Hall Captain Emma Lee	0161 764 2243



# Little Fishes

## Parables



# Jesus The Teacher

During his lifetime, Jesus taught lots and lots of people about God's love, and one of His favourite ways of teaching them was to tell them a 'parable'. A parable is a special type of story that Jesus would tell so that people could learn something from it; sometimes the parables that Jesus told were almost like a riddle, but Jesus did this on purpose - He wanted people to work out what the story meant for themselves, so that they would really properly understand, and that way they would become Christians, not just because Jesus said that they should, but because they truly believed in the love of God.

## The Prodigal Son

The first parable we're going to look at is called the parable of the prodigal son (sometimes you might hear it called the parable of the 'lost' son); you can find this parable in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 15, verses 11 - 32. This parable is about two brothers, and it's also about their father who keeps loving his children even when they treat him very badly.



Once upon a time there was a man who had two sons; the eldest son worked hard and helped his father to run their farm - caring for the animals and working out in the fields in all weathers; the younger son didn't help out at all



- he preferred meeting up with his friends and going to parties!



One day, the youngest son said to his father, "Father, give me my share of the family property." So, his father divided everything that he had up and shared it equally between his 2 sons.



The youngest son took his share of the money and decided to go off travelling with his friends. To start with, they all had a great time, going to parties, buying



food and wine and generally enjoying themselves, in fact they all enjoyed themselves so much that before too long, the youngest son had spent all of his money. Gradually all of his so called 'friends' left him, until he found himself in a foreign country all on his own, and if that wasn't bad enough, there was a huge drought there, so all the crops failed, nobody had any food to spare, and everyone was feeling hungry!



The youngest son managed to get some work helping to look after a farmer's pigs - he was so hungry that he even wanted to eat the scraps and slops that were put in the buckets for the pigs, but no one offered him any food.



Finally, the youngest son began to realise that he had brought these problems on himself - he began to think about how he had wasted his time and all of his money; he thought about his father and his older brother, and he reckoned that even the poorest servant on his father's farm probably had more food and was more comfortable than he was. In a flash, the youngest son knew that what he had done and the way he had behaved was wrong; he said to himself; I will get up and go back to my father. I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven. And I have sinned against you. I don't deserve to be called your son, so instead please give me a job on the farm and treat me like one of your hired servants." And so, he got up and went to his father.

While the son was still a long way off his father saw him, and even though his son had behaved so badly, his father was filled with love for his son and ran to him. He threw his arms around him and hugged him.



The son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I don't deserve to be called your son, but instead please give me a job on the farm and I will work for you like one of your servants."

But his father called to his servants and said, "Quick! Bring the best clothes and put them on him, put a ring on his finger and

sandals on his feet. Bring food and wine and let us all celebrate,



for this son was lost to me and now he is found."

So, a great feast was laid out, and the father and his son and all the servants began to celebrate.

The man's eldest son had been hard at work in the fields all day, and as he made his way back home, he heard music and singing, and he called to one of his father's servants and asked him what was going on.

"Your brother has come home," he replied, "We are all celebrating because your brother is back safe and sound; come and join us!"

But the eldest son was very angry when he heard this, and he refused to go and join the celebrations. After a while his father came out and tried to persuade him to join in, but the eldest son refused.

He said, "I have worked hard for you all these years; I do everything that you ask me to, and I never waste time or money or take days off, but you have never once held a party for me. My brother has gone off with his friends; he's been lazy and stupid and wasted all your money, and yet when he comes home you are celebrating and throwing a party for him!"



He said, "I have worked hard for you all

these years; I do everything that you ask me to,

and I never waste time or money or take days off,

but you have never once held a party for me. My

brother has gone off with his friends; he's been lazy and stupid

and wasted all your money, and yet when he comes home you are

celebrating and throwing a party for him!"

"My son," the father said, "you are always with me. Everything I have is yours, but we had to celebrate and be glad. This brother of yours was lost but now he is found again."

### **So, What Does This Parable Teach Us?**

In this parable, the father in the story is just like God - he never stops loving and caring about his sons, even when they make mistakes or are ungrateful and thoughtless. God doesn't give up on us when we do things that are wrong, He never stops loving us, and when we do make mistakes or get things wrong, He will always forgive us if we've truly changed and are sorry for what we've done.

The youngest son in this parable knows the right way to live and behave, but he turns his back on his home and his family and goes

off doing his own thing. The important thing here is that the youngest son eventually realises that he has messed up and is sorry and asks his father to forgive him. Just like God, his father is ready to forgive him and welcome him back.

The older son in this parable shows how most of us would behave if this happened to us. Most of us would be pretty fed up if our younger brother or sister ran away for a long time and did a whole lot of bad things and then came home and everyone shouted 'HOORAY!' and held a big party for them! But Jesus teaches us that part of being a good person and a good Christian is being able to forgive people. The father who had been wronged, was forgiving, but the eldest son, was unforgiving.

In this parable Jesus tries to help us to understand what God is like; He also tries to help us to understand that behaving properly, doing as we're asked and being 'good' is a really great start, but if we want God to be kind to us and forgive us when we mess up, we also have to be kind and be ready to forgive other people when they have messed up.

*Heavenly Father, please help me to try to do my best each day, help me to be thoughtful and kind, help me to look out for other people and to help them when I can. We all mess up and make mistakes sometimes, but you forgive us; help me not to get cross or angry if things don't go my way, but to try to understand and to forgive other people, just as you forgive me. Amen*

### **Brain Teaser ...**

Forgive begins with the letters F O R, can you work out these other F O R ... words? (Answers on the next page)

- 1) What comes after 39? F O R - -
- 2) The opposite of backwards? F O R - - - - -
- 3) A large wood or lots and lots of trees? F O R - - -
- 4) You might use this to eat, or to dig in the garden! F O R -
- 5) The opposite of remember? F O R - - -

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