

Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Seen From The Side
Christ Church Ainsworth
(Photo courtesy of Mike Watson)

Serving the Community
www.ainsworthparish.org.uk

September 2021

Price 50p

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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 your ‘Key Limiting Factor’

There are a lot of annoyed vicars around, and I’m one of them. Why? Because the *Church Times* has quoted someone from the Church of England’s hierarchy who described clergy (with our ‘costly’ theological training, vicarages, and stipends) as ‘key limiting factors’ to Church growth. If it wasn’t for us clergy holding you back or the need to maintain our network of parish churches (another key limiting factor), lay leaders would emerge to grow the Church and all would be well.

Coming at a time when clergy have been working hard over the last 18 months to keep the show on the road in very trying circumstances, the offending article certainly touched a raw nerve. Talk about lighting the blue touch paper!

Where the author sees ‘key limiting factors’, I see a key resource held back by red tape and endless diocesan and central initiatives. We need more, not less, theologically educated clergy and enough money to fund their stipends!

Looking on the bright side though, at least the offending article has united parish clergy from all traditions. As ‘key limiting factors’ we have found that we share something in common!

As for our network of parish churches. Yes, I know these are expensive to maintain and managing them does take up a lot of time, but these are places where it is possible to feel close to God, places that (in many cases) have been our holy spaces for centuries. Worshipping in someone's front room just doesn't cut it for me!

Far worse than describing clergy and our church buildings as 'key limiting factors', there was also an implication that many worshippers are passengers. If anything, that annoyed me more than the 'key limiting factor' jibe.

Yes, in common with many other parishes, we struggle to find volunteers to fill official roles – we have been carrying vacancies for Parish Secretary, Churchwarden and Building Officer for ages and, yes, I would like another choir. But, please, let us count our blessings; many of you already roll your sleeves up and get stuck in. After all, the grass in the churchyard doesn't cut itself, the Church isn't self-cleaning, and the collection doesn't bank itself, to name but a few of the many things you do.

What about those who choose not to or who simply don't have the time? I know I bang on a lot about how all of us ought to engage in mission and evangelism, how all of us have a role to play in furthering God's mission - it's my job! Well, let me make this crystal clear; there will always be room in any worshipping community worth its salt for those who simply wish to attend Church for worship and to draw close to God, whether week in week out or for a short while.

Why? Because the primary function of the Church is worshipping God. We exist to serve the spiritual needs of all who wish to join us, expecting nothing in return.

Also, from conversations over the years, I know that many try their best to live out their Christian faith at work, in family life, and in volunteering within the community. As for those who have worked hard as leaders over the years and have now hung up their spurs? Why shouldn't they! And those members of our Church no longer able to join us, well they pray and support the mission of the Church that way.

So, as I look around me, I don't see any passengers. Rather, I see you, the people of God, doing your best to be followers of Jesus in your daily lives, trying to be God's love in the world in a myriad of different ways. Keep it up!

God Bless - *Dave*

Editor's Spot ...

Welcome to the September 2021 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine which is, as always, jam packed full of interesting articles, reports and information.

It's great to see a few 'events' starting to tentatively creep back onto the pages of our Parish Magazine; Coffee & Conversation, the MacMillan Coffee Morning and even a Quiz Night, although I suspect the "Covid restrictions permitted" clause will be with us for many months to come. Full marks to all those who are working away behind the scenes to make these things a reality and to try to bring some normality back to our lives. Not everyone will feel ready to get back out onto the social scene just yet, but if you do feel able to, please do your best to support these events.

And so, the summer holidays are drawing to a close, and despite the glorious weather of the past few days, there is a definite feeling of Autumn in the air. The seasons follow each other as they always have and always will; so too the seasons of our church – before long our thoughts will turn to Harvest and Remembrance and thence towards Advent and Christmas. Whilst the 2020 lockdown nudged many of us into trying new ways of doing things, let us hope that this year, those who wish to, have the option to mark these occasions in faith and fellowship as a community once more.

A number of readers have commented on how much they have missed singing hymns in church over the lockdown period – thankfully that is one of the many things that is now 'back on the menu'; look out for another instalment of hymns brain teasers in this month's Parish Puzzler. It's always good to hear which articles people do and don't enjoy; if you have any ideas or suggestions for future articles, or if you feel inspired to write an article yourself, please get in touch via ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com

Enjoy this month's magazine and as always do your best to keep safe and well.

Alison

Just A Thought

To hear is to forget; to see is to remember; to do is to understand.

.....

From The Registers

CONFIRMATION July 18 th	Making a commitment to follow Jesus Hannah Bates, Erin Hardman, Lyra Kay, Ralphie Shore, and Isabella Stevens
HOLY BAPTISM July 25 th	We welcome into the family of God Freddy Pendlebury
WEDDINGS July 17 th	We offer the church's congratulations to: Simon Wilson and Bryony Grimshaw
FUNERALS July 6 th	We commend to God's keeping Beth Ainsworth

Christianity Explored

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

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

Coffee And Conversation

Ainsworth Community Coffee and Conversation will be starting back on Tuesday 14th of September. Coffee and Conversation is held in Ainsworth Church and Community Hall on the 2nd 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.

Rainbows

We're still looking for volunteers to run our Rainbow unit. If you think this might be 'for you', or you want to know more, visit <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest/>

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 24th September (providing covid restrictions allow)

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

News From The Diocese – Living In Love And Faith

Living In Love And Faith is the Church of England's national conversation about human identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. It is about learning and listening to one another and to God. For more information visit www.manchester.anglican.org then navigate to the LLF webpage.



#HelpFromHome - Raise **FREE** funds 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 August; our monthly total was £8.42, bringing our current fundraising total to £748-11. 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



Coffee and Conversation

Tuesday 14th September

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 History Walk

Monday 6th September 6.30pm

Meet outside The White Horse Pub on Church Street. Please wear appropriate footwear & clothing.

Coffee & Conversation

Tuesday 14th September

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

Friday 24th September

10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

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

Everyone welcome.

Save The Date!!

Quiz Night & Hot Pot Supper

Saturday 2nd October

5 for 5.30pm, Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

£5 / person, up to 6 people in a team.

For more info or to book your tickets contact Jan on 07950-960468

Monthly Diocesan Prayer With Bishop Mark

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

Porch Boxes

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

The Porch or Online <https://porchboxes.wordpress.com/>

Friday 24th September



10:30 am to 12 noon

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

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

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

Organised in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC132990) and the Isle of Man (406). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

AINSWORTH CHURCH & COMMUNITY HALL

QUIZ NIGHT ?

SATURDAY 2ND OCTOBER

DOORS OPEN AT 5:00PM QUIZ STARTS AT 5:30PM

£5 PER PERSON

UP TO 6 PEOPLE IN A TEAM

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

HOT POT SUPPER INCLUDED!

TO BOOK PHONE/TEXT JAN BURROW

07950 960468

Around The Organisations ...

12th Radcliffe Brownies

Completing the final activities last month meant that the girls were able to put together the squares they had made to form a flag. and also that a number of Brownies have earned badges. Amelia, Beatrice, Eloise, Elsie, Emelia, Erin, Hannah, Isabelle, Isla, Izzy, Lily-May, Polly, Poppy, Poppy, Rose, Scarlett and Sofia completed the “Camp” skills builder; Elsie, Erin, Hannah and Jessica completed the “Reflect” Skills Builder; and Elsie, Erin, Harriet, Isabelle and Sofia completed the “Make change” Skills Builder. This in turn has meant that we have been able to award Theme badges; with Amelia, Eloise, Erin, Isabelle, Izzy, Lily-May, Scarlett and Sofia gaining their “Have Adventures” Theme Award and Erin her “Take Action” Theme Award. Scarlett has also completed her Charities Interest badge and Lily-May her Aviation badge. We were pleased to be able to award Erin her Brownie Bronze award and Isabelle her Brownie Silver Award – Well Done to all the girls (and what a lot of sewing!)



In our last outdoor meeting of the term, we played some games - one was racing to dress a snowman (not the right weather I know, but it was one that we could do socially distanced with plenty of gelling hands). Then for our final meeting before we broke up for the summer, we enjoyed ice creams at the Garden Shed and planted 2 flowers. We were also really pleased that we were able to enrol Lucy

during the meeting – the first time we have been able to do this in person for over eighteen months!

Polly, Brown Owl



Rebuilding Hope and Confidence

Summer of Hope

How good it is to be back and meeting up again. At the beginning of August, we enjoyed drinks and cake at the Garden Shed, not only to celebrate a return but also to celebrate the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Enid and David Horrocks on the 9th August. Our love and congratulations to you both. What an achievement! Thank you also for your generosity in providing our refreshments and allowing us to share in your celebrations.

On September 7th, we are back in the Church Hall at 7.30pm when we will have worship followed by a faith supper and a news catch-up time. This is so much 'onwards to a new normal'. If you can, please bring three lengths of ribbon (different colours if possible) so that we can make prayer plaits as part of our Summer of Hope activities. I'm no craft expert, but they need to be long enough to be used as a bookmark when plaited.

The 21st will see us again in the Church Hall when, following our usual opening worship, we will be discussing some aspects of the theme of the year.

This year is the end of a Triennium. There will be a Service of Thanksgiving in Manchester Cathedral on 18th September at 2.30pm when we will give thanks for the work of Mothers' Union throughout the Diocese. We are asked to take our prayer plaits with us as well as any items you may wish for the Central Manchester Foodbank. Bishop David will preside and preach. It would be good to see our branch well represented.

And now, a special invitation from our Central Chaplain.....

“Revd. Emma Ham-Riche extends this warm invitation to members and friends of Mothers' Union to attend the Virtual Annual Gathering on 25th September 2021.

The programme will include an address from our Worldwide President, Sheran Harper and our CEO, Bev Jullien, as well as a

financial update and a range of inspiring and informative contributions from members across Britain & Ireland and beyond.

The event is in two sessions, with the morning session, including an act of worship led by Bishop Emma, the Mothers' Union Central Chaplain, premiering from 11.00 am until 12.30 pm and the afternoon session premiering from 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm.”

This is a good opportunity for anyone who has never attended an Annual Gathering (formerly The General Meeting) to have a taster session on the Mothers' Union YouTube Chanel.

Jennifer White
(Hon Sec)



Ainsworth History Society

We will be having another history walk on Monday 6th September, meeting at 6:30pm outside the White Horse Pub on Church Street. All are welcome, though as we are limited to 30, places in the first group will have to be on a first-come-first-served basis (with a second group being formed if needed). Please wear appropriate footwear/clothing as we will be going across fields and over stiles.

From the Archives – September 1996

The sketch on the inside cover of the September 1996 Parish Magazine depicted a traditional Harvest Sunday scene, with fruit and vegetables, flowers and sheaves of corn all displayed artistically around a font. Whilst harvest was still a month away, it received much comment within the pages of the magazine; in 'The vicar's Letter', Father Alan wrote of the need for Christ Church Ainsworth to look beyond the immediate community and engage in supporting a number of wider initiatives – with this in mind, alongside the traditional Harvest gifts and distribution of gifts within the Parish, plus support for local support projects, it was planned that people should be encouraged to support the Christian Aid “Water” appeal and also to support an initiative called “Farm Africa”, which set out to educate and train people within Africa's poorest communities, to enable them to increase the productivity of their land and livestock in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way. Parishioners were encouraged to place any donations for these causes in a small envelope and place it on a small tree situated within church.

The PCC had seemingly discussed this suggestion at length and included further information in their report.

Plans were well underway for the forthcoming Flower Festival “In Praise Of Creation” to be held in church on the second weekend of September; volunteers were sought to help out in church and also to provide and serve refreshments in the Church and Community Hall. A concert by The Affetside Choir was to be held in church on the Saturday evening, and finally a special Songs of Praise Service on the Sunday evening would draw the weekend to a close.

Most of the groups and uniformed organisations were enjoying a well earned break, however 16th Brownies reported on their Division Fun Day and had just returned from a very busy Pack Holiday ‘report to follow next month’. Young Families had held a Teddy Bears Picnic, which unfortunately ended in a downpour, but, undeterred, had followed it up with an enjoyable (and dry!) trip to Southport.

Sunday School reported that Tony Leigh had stood down as Superintendent after 10 years in the role – they thanked both Tony and Barbara for all of their hard work and support over the years and issued a plea for anyone who may be interested in helping out at Sunday School to get in touch.

A new column entitled ‘Holiday Churches’ appeared in the September 1996 Parish Magazine – the first instalment was provided by Phillip Hinchliffe, with the spotlight on The Parish Church of St. George, Orleton.

The ‘Face To Face’ interview in September 1996 was with William (Bill) White, Group Scout Leader – many readers will be aware that Bill still holds that title – what an incredible and commendable achievement!

In September 1996 there were no Baptisms or Weddings, but 3 Funerals recorded from the previous month. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 198 and the collections totalled £1129.

Five Steps To Wellbeing



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

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

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

Give

Often people worry that 'giving' is going to require some kind of financial contribution, but there are many different types of giving. Giving can be about helping, encouraging, or supporting others; it doesn't have to be a grand gesture or a huge commitment; it could be as simple as doing something nice or thanking someone. The following well known passage is a great starting point when it comes to giving:

A Smile

A smile costs nothing but gives much. It enriches those who receive it, without making poorer those who give; it takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it, and none is so poor but that he can be made rich by it. A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business, and is the countersign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it is nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something which is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a smile; give them one of yours, as none needs a smile so much as someone who has none left to give. Anon

If you're feeling inspired by those words, why not challenge yourself to try some of the following ideas around 'giving':

- Make a point of smiling at people when you're out and about, whether you're out for a walk, running errands or doing the weekly shop, smiling makes both you and the recipient feel better.
- Make a point of thanking people – this applies to all aspects of our lives; everyone likes to feel appreciated; we're generally pretty good at showing our appreciation for the larger or more unusual things, but it's just as important to notice and thank someone for all the little 'behind the scenes' things they do which often go unnoticed.
- Next time you're out and about hold a door open for someone – how do they react? Hopefully with a smile and a 'thankyou'! How good does that make you feel? AND it didn't cost you anything!
- If you're a maker or a baker, why not share some of your produce with your neighbours – don't forget that connecting with others gains you extra wellbeing points.
- If you're physically active, you may be able to assist someone in your local community who is less able – maybe they have outdoor jobs that they are struggling to do; perhaps even collecting their newspaper or putting their bin out would be a huge help to them.

- If you're less physically active you can still support others by listening to them, touching base with them regularly and including them in things.

Individuals who are interested in helping others are more likely to rate themselves as happy. Research has shown that performing an act of kindness once a week over a 6 week period is associated with an increase in wellbeing. Carrying out acts of kindness no matter how large or small can increase happiness, life satisfaction and general sense of wellbeing.

Once you start to think about it, you'll find loads of opportunities to 'give', and don't forget that if your giving can include an opportunity to 'be active', 'connect', 'notice' or 'learn', your wellbeing automatically receives an extra boost.

Don't miss next month's 'Wellbeing Calendar' which contains lots more ideas and suggestions for things you could do or get involved with as part of your wellbeing balance / review. You can also find lots more at www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/mental-wellbeing or www.mind.org.uk

On Reflection

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

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

Zechariah was a prophet living in Jerusalem almost 70 years after the nation of Israel had been enslaved in Babylon. He was among the first of his people returning to their desolate homeland. The Jewish people who had survived were returning in small numbers. Their temple lay in ruins and things looked bleak. They didn't have much of anything and were especially short of hope. It is into this situation that Zechariah speaks. God gave him a series of messages to help motivate and encourage the people to both rebuild the temple and look for the fulfilment of God's promises.

Zechariah points to the coming of Jesus. The Messiah will come, says Zechariah, as Saviour, Judge, and ultimately, as the righteous King ruling His people from Jerusalem. He will punish the people for their sins, yes, but afterwards He will come to them – *if they are obedient*. Zechariah's book brims over with the hope (meaning the certainty) that God would remember His promises to His people, even after all

the time they spent in captivity. Things may look hopeless now, Zechariah said (in a nutshell) but God is faithful and He will bring things right in the end.

Although they had been scattered, God had not forgotten his promises and was still willing to help them if they were willing to obey Him.

Deuteronomy 7 says *‘Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations’*.

Through His word, God continually encourages, and He is utterly faithful. The God who never changes always keeps His promises. No matter what we do or how unfaithful we may be, He is true. We can trust the One who sees all but still loves us unconditionally. Just as He encouraged the people of Israel through Zechariah’s messages, so God encourages us today through His Word. Have you read it lately?

Through The Seasons – Ainsworth In August

*“Have you heard the raindrops drumming on the roof tops?
Have you heard the raindrops dripping on the ground?
Have you heard the raindrops splashing in the streams
And running to the rivers all around?”*

The first verse of this popular hymn, by Christian Stover, probably shouldn’t be what springs to mind in the month of August, but time and again throughout the month, we have indeed heard, and seen, the raindrops drumming on the roof tops! Whilst it’s tempting to grumble about the wet weather, the chorus of this hymn goes on to remind us, *“There’s water, water of life; Jesus gives us the water of life”*; in a world where many people are affected by drought and famine it’s good to keep in mind how lucky we are to have the gift of water and to recall that it’s the unreliable British weather that ensures we have such a ‘green and pleasant land’.

It may still only be August, but as the warm days of July drew to a close, it seemed that the seasons did a bit of a fast forward – moving directly from high Summer to Autumn – “do not pass ‘GO’, do not collect £200!!” Seemingly over night the evenings drew in a little, the morning dew became heavier and there was a definite smell of Autumn in the air.

Subtle changes are creeping in throughout the village and surrounding countryside; whilst the Red Campion, Rosebay Willow Herb and Hare Bells are still very much in bloom, the Orchids, Field Vetch and Birds Foot Trefoil have gone to seed; so too many of the purple thistles. Wild roses have been replaced by bright red rose hips, and the Hawthorn berries are fully ripe in the more sheltered spots – there is a saying that a good crop of berries



foretells a hard winter ahead; judging by the vast range and quantities of berries now brightening our trees and hedgerows we could be in for a rough ride! Rowan berries, Elderberries, Holly berries and



Blackberries are all out there in abundance.

A short walk through George's Wood and along the footpath that leads from Knowsley road to Arthur Lane, revealed that the recent weather conditions have been great for fungi – a number of different varieties of toadstools appear to be thriving in the warm, moist conditions – 1



particular specimen measuring almost



10" in diameter must surely be a toad dining table rather than a mere stool! A number of smaller varieties can be seen sprouting from tree stumps and logs, and once again there are Field Mushrooms springing up on the land around the Lodges and off Bradley Fold Road.

The warm, wet weather appears to have unsettled some of our Summer birds – the Canada Geese are already moving away from Whitehead Lodges and there are definitely fewer Swifts and Swallows performing their aeronautical acrobatics now, however the Oyster Catcher population appears to be thriving and the Cormorants are beginning to return.

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

Jays, Grey Herons, Oyster Catchers, Lapwing, Sparrow Hawk, Jackdaw, Dunnocks, Long Tailed Tits, Bullfinches, Chaffinches, Green Finches, Cormorants, Bats, Common Newt, Spiders (lots and lots!), Earwigs, Woodlouse, Frogs, Toads and Snails.

Why Do We Say That Then ... ?

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

“Heard it through the grapevine...” This has nothing to do with real grapes’ it’s actually derived from the fact that originally telegraph wiring resembled grapevines. When receiving a telegram, people received the message via this ‘electronic grapevine’.

Did You Know ... September Facts

1st September– On this day in 1985, the wreckage of RMS Titanic was discovered by a joint American-French expedition team lead by Dr. Robert Ballard.

2nd September - on this day in 1666, the great Fire of London began in a small bakehouse in Pudding Lane. The fire blazed for 4 days and destroyed almost two thirds of the original city of London – 13,200 homes, 430 streets and 89 churches.

3rd September – On this day in 1939, World War II was declared.

4th September – On this day in 1912, the first collision occurred in the London Underground, injuring 22 people.

5th September – On this day in 1997, Mother Teresa died at the age of 87.

6th September – On this day in 1899, Carnation processed it’s first can of evaporated milk.

7th September – On this day in 1838, Grace Darling and her father risked their lives to rescue shipwrecked mariners in a storm off the Farne Islands, off the coast of Northumberland.

8th September – On this day in 1831, William IV was crowned King of Great Britain

9th September – On this day in 1911, the first European post was delivered by air (Hendon to Windsor, England).

10th September – On this day in 1894, London taxi driver, George Smith, became the first to be fined for drunk driving.

11th September – On this day in 1895, the FA Cup was stolen in Birmingham.

12th September – On this day in 1878, Cleopatra’s Needle, an Egyptian obelisk, was erected on the Thames Embankment in London.

13th September – On this day in 122, the construction of Hadrian's Wall began in Northern England.

14th September – On this day in 1860, the Niagara Falls were illuminated for the first time, to celebrate the visit by The Prince of Wales.

15th September – On this day in 2011, Lancashire won the Cricket County Championships for the first time in 77 years.

16th September – On this day in 1620, the 'Mayflower' set sail from Plymouth, England headed for Plymouth, Massachusetts. On board were 102 men, women and children plus a small crew; these people became known as the Pilgrim Fathers.

17th September – On this day in 1900, the Commonwealth of Australia was proclaimed.

18th September – On this day in 1809, the Royal Opera House in London was opened.

19th September – On this day in 1893, New Zealand became the first country to grant all women the right to vote.

20th September – On this day in 1859, George Simpson patented his 'electric range'.

21st September – On this day in 1915, Cecil Chubb bought Stonehenge at a property auction for £6,600. 3 years later he formally gifted it to the nation.

22nd September – On this day in 1735, Robert Walpole became the first senior member of parliament (first Lord of The Treasury) to live in number 10 Downing Street.

23rd September – On this day in 1939, Sigmund Freud, the father of psychology, died aged 83.

24th September – On this day in 1657, the first autopsy and coroner's jury verdict was recorded in Maryland.

25th September – On this day in 1237, the Treaty of York was signed by King Henry II of England and King Alexander II of Scotland, establishing a boundary between the 2 countries which remains largely unchanged today.

26th September – On this day in 1580, Frances Drake completed his circumnavigation of the world, sailing into Plymouth aboard The Golden Hind.

27th September – On this day in 1825, the Stockton and Darlington Railway, the world's first passenger rail service, was opened.

28th September – On this day in 1894, the first ‘Penny Bazaar’ opened in Britain, more than 14 million people now shop at what is now known as Marks & Spencer.

29th September – On this day in 1829, the first units of the London Metropolitan Police appeared on the streets of the capital.

30th September – On this day in 1840, the construction of Nelson’s Column began in London’s Trafalgar Square. It was completed in 1843.

Strap Lines

It is far more impressive if people discover your good qualities without your help.

A pessimist complains about the wind; an optimist expects it to change; a realist adjusts the sails.

Ability is what we are capable of doing; motivation determines what we do; attitude determines how well we do it.

Time For A Smile

A young vicar was given a lovely toy by one of his parishioners; on arriving home he gathered his three children together. He told them about the gift, and he said he had to decide who deserved it most. “Who is the most obedient one here?” he asked; “who never answers mummy back and who does everything she says without arguing?” After a few moments of silence and shared glances, the eldest child spoke up; “You play with it Daddy”.

An elderly couple were having dinner with the local vicar and his wife; the men had stepped outside for a breath of fresh air.

“Vicar, I can strongly recommend the restaurant that we went to last night”, said the elderly gent.

“Oh really, what’s it called?” the Vicar replied.

After a moment’s thought the reply came, “What’s the name of the prickly flower that you give to someone you love?”

“A rose?” suggested the Vicar.

Popping his head back through the door the old gent called “Rose, what was the name of that restaurant we went to last night?”

The Extended Parish Puzzler

Last Liners

The hymn theme has proved very popular, but by way of a change, this month we're giving you the last line of the first verse – but how does the hymn begin? Extra bonus points if you can remember the whole hymn!

1. ... Forward into battle, see his banners go!
2. ... Praise from them springing fresh from the world.
3. ... Nor wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my guide.
4. ... Yet possessing every blessing, if our God our Father be.
5. ... Be still for the presence of the Lord the Holy one is here.
6. ... In purer lives Thy service find, in deeper reverence praise.
7. ... The Lord God made them all.
8. ... But for strength that we may ever live our lives courageously.
9. ... Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.
10. ... In pastures green He leadeth me the quiet waters by.
11. ... Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
12. ... Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.
13. ... Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.
14. ... Within my heart appear and kindle it, Thy Holy flame bestowing.
15. ... The love that never falters, the love that pays the price, the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

(Answers on page 29)

How Well Do You Know Our Village?

Last month's inscription can be found on a plaque built into the wall fronting the Delph.

Any idea where the following inscription is? Bonus point if you know what it means ...

Answer in next month's mag.

MMXX

Church Word Search

Can you find 10 people that you might meet in church?

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

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

- Archdeacon
- Bishop
- Curate
- Priest
- Reader
- Rector
- Sexton
- Verger
- Vicar
- Warden

Who's Who

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

Services

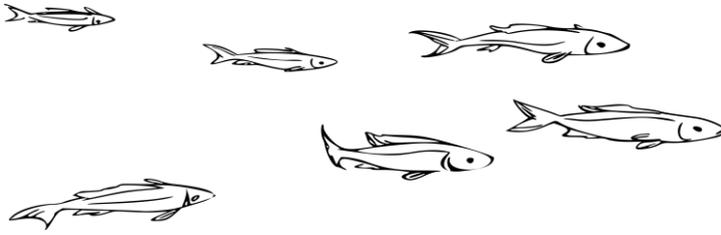
Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	10.30am	Family Service 2 nd Sunday Family & Parade Service
	12.00pm	Baptisms (Except 2 nd and last Sunday)
	6.30pm	Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)
		2 nd Sunday Holy Communion (Book of Common Pray)
		Healing Service (see Parish Diary)
Weds	6.15pm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

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

(Answer to Last Liners: 1) Onward Christian soldiers; 2) Morning has broken; 3) o Jesus I have promised; 4) Lead us heavenly Father lead us; 5) Be still for the presence of the Lord; 6) Dear Lord and Father of mankind; 7) All things bright and beautiful; 8) Father hear the prayer we offer; 9) Abide with me; 10) The Lord is my shepherd; 11) Thine be the glory!; 12) Praise my soul the king of heaven; 13) For the beauty of the earth; 14) Come down, o love divine; 15) I vow to thee my country.

Who's Who For Church Organisations

Mothers Union	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday of the Month at 7.30pm Branch Contact Jean Eddleston	0161 761 2147
Sunday School	Sunday at 10.25am in the Church Hall Jan Burrow Vicky Howcroft Swift	0161 761 1958 07789 432103
Altar Flowers	Kathy Armstrong Rand	07748 020743
ABC First Steps Toddler Group	Fridays 10.00am - 11.30am Church Hall Anne Flowers Or Jennifer White	01204 382214 07964 587694
Group Leader	Bill White group.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	01204 595378
Beaver Scouts	Friday at 6.00pm in the Church Hall Leader Valerie Watts	01204 398634
Cub Scouts	Friday at 7.00pm in the Church Hall Sean Butler	07843 233056
Scouts 14 th Radcliffe	Fridays at 7.30pm in the Church Hall Leader Stacey White scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	07742 610281
Explorers	Monday 7 – 8.30pm; last Wednesday of the month 7.30pm in the Church Hall Leader John Turner	01204 381590
Rainbows 16 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 4.30pm to 6.00pm in the Church Hall Rainbow Guider	
Brownies 12 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm to 8.15pm in the Church Hall Brown Owl Polly Ryder	07437 519045
Brownies 16 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 6.15pm to 7.30pm in the Church Hall Sarah McAnulty	07955373623
Guides 12 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.45pm in the Church Hall Captain Emma Lee	0161 764 2243



Little Fishes

Jesus The Teacher

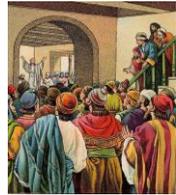


Jesus The Teacher

Over the last few months in Little Fishes, we've been learning about some of the miracles that Jesus performed during his lifetime, but Jesus didn't just go around performing miracles, He spent lots of time teaching people about the love of God and trying to help them to understand that God loves everyone, no matter who they are, how old they are, where they come from or what they have done. Jesus wanted the people to know that if they believed in God and became Christians, then God would forgive the things that they had done wrong and the mistakes they had made and would love them too.

As well as teaching the people around him, Jesus also spent a lot of time teaching his disciples; Jesus knew that one day his disciples would have to carry on spreading the good news of God's love without His help, so it was important that they learned how to do this.

Sometimes Jesus performed miracles to help people to learn about God's love and sometimes He told stories known as 'parables' to help people to understand. But there was one thing that the disciples were particularly curious about, and that was praying.



The disciples were with Jesus most of the time, so they often saw and heard him praying, but they still weren't too sure how they were supposed to do it.

In the end, the disciples decided that the best thing was just to ask Jesus about praying.

Jesus began by giving the disciples a bit of advice:

- 1) Keep your prayers simple - God doesn't mind whether your prayers are long or short; He doesn't need you to use fancy words when you pray, in fact He likes it best when you just use your own words; and don't worry if you can't seem to find the right words - somehow God always knows what you mean.

- 2) Don't be showing off! God doesn't want us to be making a big show of saying our prayers to try to get attention; He'd much rather that we pray quietly and talk to Him in our own words, telling Him our needs, thanking Him, praising Him and telling Him what we are sorry for.

Then, to try to help the disciples with their praying, Jesus taught them a prayer. This is the prayer that Jesus taught to His disciples;

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those that trespass against us,

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

If you've been to Church or Sunday School, you've probably heard this prayer, maybe you even know it already and could join in. This prayer is called The Lord's Prayer and Christians all over the world still say these words today - it's probably THE most popular prayer ever for Christians!

Even though Jesus had taught the disciples this prayer, they were still a bit muddled about what some of it meant, maybe you are too, but it's quite straight forwards really - phew!

Our Father who art in Heaven, simply means that we are praying to God who we know is in heaven; we know that none of us are ever completely alone, because God is like a Father to us all and we are all His special children.

Hallowed be thy name. This sounds a bit tricky, but it's just another way of saying that God's name is holy - it reminds us that we should be respectful when we talk to and pray to God.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

The Bible tells us that heaven is a pretty amazing place; everyone in heaven is happy, no one gets angry, no one is hungry, no one is sad. In this part of the prayer, we are praying that people all over the world will live in peace and love with each other, just as it is in heaven. It reminds us of the way that God wants us to live together in His world.

Give us this day our daily bread - in this part of the prayer we are asking God to provide us with the things that we really need, things like food, water and shelter.

Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us. This part of the prayer sounds very confusing, but it's simply about saying sorry for the mistakes that we've made and the things that we have done wrong and asking God to forgive us; BUT it's also about us forgiving other people when they have done something wrong; sometimes it's really difficult to forgive someone if they have hurt us or upset us, but God can help us with this. If we forgive others for things they have done wrong, God will forgive us for things that we have done wrong.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Sometimes it's really tempting to do something you know you're not supposed to do! This part of the prayer asks God to help us to know the right thing to do and to help us to recognise the bad things that are in the world and keep us away from them.

For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever, Amen. This last part of the prayer reminds us that heaven is God's kingdom. Heaven will last FOR EVER and it will always be there for us. It also reminds us that God is incredibly special - He is the greatest and the strongest and the kindest, and he will always be there with us and for us.

Anyone can learn The Lord's Prayer, but now you know a bit more about it, next time you say it try to think about what it really means - try to think of all the things that you have to be thankful for; try to remember to say sorry to God for the things that you've done wrong and ask God to forgive you.

Remember, prayer is our special way of talking to God and He really wants to hear from each and every one of us.

Here's a good craft idea that you might like to try.

Prayer Paper Chains.



You will need:

- 3 different colours of paper, cut into long, thin strips.
- A pen or pencil, you could use different colours if you wanted to.
- Sellotape

Here's what you need to do:

- 1) Take 1 strip of coloured paper and write on it something that you are thankful for.
- 2) Curl the strip of paper around to form a ring, then use a piece of Sellotape to stick it and keep it as a ring.
- 3) Take a different coloured strip of paper and write on it something that you are sorry for.
- 4) Thread this strip through the first ring, then curl it round to make another ring, then use the Sellotape to stick it. You should now have 2 rings that are linked together.
- 5) Take a strip of the last colour of paper and write on it something that you are worried about and need God's help with.
- 6) Thread this strip through the second ring, then curl it round to make another ring, then use the Sellotape to stick it. You should now have 3 rings that are linked together.
- 7) Keep going writing down your prayers and adding to your prayer chain each day - how long can you make that chain?

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