

# Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Harvest  
(Photo courtesy of Janet Hayes)

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

October 2020

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Our church building is now COVID-secure, so you can choose either to attend worship physically, or continue to worship with us on Facebook.

**Join us at 10.30.am on Sunday in church for a shortened service of Holy Communion, or 6.30pm on Wednesday in church for Mid-Week Praise (posted later on facebook).**

Please be aware that there will be no communion at Mid-Week Praise, the communion on Sundays will be bread only and there will be no singing.

To ensure that our church remains COVID-19 Secure, we will be using PowerPoint and not handing out service books. If you prefer, you are welcome to print and bring along your own order of service, taking it with you at the end. For the Sunday service follow the link and download:

<https://1drv.ms/b/s!Aurx6pWvMgOaiNRVqS5vumpPHqT6cw?e=YJZcpp>

**To worship on line, join us at 12 noon on Sunday** on our Facebook Page for midday worship

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

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

## **Planning to attend our church building for worship? The following COVID-19 Secure restrictions apply:**

- Unless you are legally exempt, you must wear a facemask
- Our seating capacity is normally limited to 28 downstairs but can be increased slightly when members of the same household/bubble attend together. There is also limited capacity (15) upstairs.
- Services are basic and short.
- Everyone must gel their hands as they enter the building.
- There is a collection plate on the font, but this will not be passed around.
- Worshippers are expected to remain 2m socially distant from each other, unless from the same household / bubble. This means sitting down promptly (where the paper is on the pew) and no gathering in the aisle or immediately outside the main door for a chat.
- When worshippers enter, they must sit in the next available pew, filling from the front and from the wall, taking care not to touch any part of the pew as you move along. There must be no heading for that favourite pew!
- Everyone (except the presiding priest) will remain seated throughout each service. Unfortunately, this means any children attending must also remain seated throughout the service.
- There is no singing.
- A PowerPoint version of the order of service is projected in church. A version is available to download (Sunday only), but is not available to collect on the way in.
- Worshippers are expected to complete a registration form each week. This is for Track and Trace and the forms will be destroyed after three weeks. A GDPR compliant privacy notice is posted inside church.
- We leave from the rear pew first.
- The toilet is for emergencies only, and anyone using it is expected to spray disinfectant on all surfaces they have touched.

The Church of England advises that certain groups of people may be at increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19, including people who are aged 70 or older, regardless of medical conditions. Whether you wish to accept the increased risk attached to attending worship

with others, or prefer to continue joining with us on Facebook, is entirely your decision.

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 at 10.30am due to the risk that they pose to others; they should self-isolate at home immediately with other members of their household.

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

Well, Mid-Week Praise is now back on Wednesday evenings, but at the new time of 6.30pm. Unfortunately, it is not the same as it was pre-lockdown, but, despite everyone being required to mask up and remain seated throughout, there is sound Biblical teaching and we have fun as we worship God together.

The numbers attending M-WP are good, but we can accommodate more whilst still maintaining social distancing. Our limit downstairs is 30, assuming everyone is 2m apart, but when worshippers sit in family groups, that number can be increased slightly. Also, once downstairs is full, we can open the balcony to accommodate anyone unable to find a pew.

This reminds me of going to the flicks when I was younger (much younger). Not that we charge, but Saturday Morning Pictures was 6d in the stalls and 9d in the circle – pre-decimal, so I'm really showing my age!

Anyway, Harvest is fast approaching but, with the COVID-19 restrictions constantly changing, it is difficult to plan with any certainty. The possibility of holding our usual Harvest Festival Parade Service does seem doubtful though.

Given the huge degree of uncertainty, my advice is to check our Facebook Page and weekly newsletter for updates. In the meantime, I am expecting that our 'in person' and livestreamed worship on what would have been our Harvest Festival (11th October) will both be Harvest themed, with Mid-Week Praise (6.30pm on Wednesday 14th) being our main child-centred Harvest service. Obviously, all this is subject to whatever Government restrictions are in force at that time.

Once again, we shall be supporting Porch Boxes this year and Harvest gifts can be brought to church on the Sunday during the 10.30am service, or the Wednesday during Mid-Week Praise. If you prefer, you do not need to join us for worship, but simply leave your

gifts in the porch. Alternatively, church will be open for an hour from 2pm on the Sunday. Also, Chris Maudsley (0161 764 2189), our Porch Boxes link, has kindly offered to receive your gifts at her home by appointment. Should you wish to support Porch Boxes financially, our weekly newsletter has the details.

Last month I mentioned my frustration that, currently, at Communion the wine is consumed by the presiding priest only, and how the House of Bishops prohibition on using individual cups is subject to a legal challenge. I have been reading some fascinating articles about whether this restriction is appropriate or not. (Well, I find them fascinating!)

For me, the reason all should consume both the wine and bread is that Jesus commands it (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). The only reason for not doing so currently is to obstruct the spread of COVID-19. I find it interesting that, at the Last Supper, there is a possibility Jesus poured the wine into individual cups, in line with the Passover practice of the time. Who knows? Neither you nor I were there!

One of the daftest things I have read was an objection to using individual cups because, it is claimed, their introduction in 19th Century USA was motivated by racism! How to seriously insult our Methodist and URC friends without really trying, I thought!

Finally, as you may be aware, there is strong opposition locally to a proposed development on the land next to the Vicarage. Unfortunately, the Diocese is proposing to lift the restrictive covenants from the land, which will allow the development to proceed. I would like to take this opportunity to make it crystal clear that both the PCC and I are strongly opposed, and I have sent a detailed, strongly worded objection to the Diocese.

Hmm, I must be getting rebellious in my old age!

God Bless

*Dave*

## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

FUNERALS

August 4<sup>th</sup>

August 24<sup>th</sup>

We commend to God's keeping

Stan Parker

Ann Makin

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

Welcome to the October 2020 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine, which is once again packed with reports, articles and snippets of information.

As always, our groups and organisations have been working hard, all be it that their activities and meetings are by necessity still being held via Zoom.

Whilst a number of our regular services in church are not back yet, those that are, have a steady attendance and the live streamed services continue to attract many followers. This year's Harvest Services will be slightly different to usual so make sure that you read the relevant articles and also keep checking the weekly online updates for more information.

A big thank you to all those who send in their reports & articles for the magazine on a regular basis, but if anyone has any suggestions for articles to include in future magazines, please do get in touch.

Enjoy this month's magazine, and please do your best to keep safe and well. As always, please keep your reports and articles coming in by the second Sunday in the month, to [ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com).

*Alison*

## **Parish Magazine Update**

Whilst many of the restrictions imposed by the Corona Virus lockdown are beginning to ease, there are a number of issues which are likely to prevent us from a return to our usual paper format magazine for the foreseeable future. The Church of England guidelines throughout recent months have been that paper copies may be produced but should not be hand delivered. Distributing copies of our magazine by post isn't an option as the cost of postage per copy would exceed the price charged for the magazine! As our church building is still only being accessed by a small number of people, there would be very limited opportunity for individuals to pick up their own paper copy from church; even if this were not the case, the current guidelines for providing a Covid-secure environment do not allow things to be handed out / picked up from church.

With this in mind. the magazine will continue to be produced as a PDF document and distributed via the various mailing lists, facebook page and church website at present.

As the 2020 subscription year was, in effect, put on hold from May 2020; at such stages as we are able to resume production and distribution of paper copies our aim is to complete the subscription year to ensure 'a fair deal' for both subscribers and advertisers.

## **Acknowledgement**

I would like to thank all my friends at Mothers' Union and Church in general for the cards and messages following my long awaited hip replacement. It was a very different experience with no visitors, but all the messages made it pass very quickly.

Thank you again.- Enid Horrocks.

## **Bernard Sharples**

Marjorie would like to thank the members of Ainsworth Parish Church who came down to Euxton Close on the day of Bernard's funeral and for the generous donations to the Church in memory of Bernard. The amount given to the Treasurer from Silletts was £970 from family, friends, and Bury Chess Club. Bernard would have been delighted. Thank you all. Marjorie

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 27th at 12.45 pm on Zoom (immediately following livestreamed Sunday Worship). Delayed from March, the meeting provides an opportunity to discuss church life, but includes some formal business - receiving the annual report and financial statements and electing churchwardens, deanery synod representatives and PCC members. Zoom link, nomination forms and a copy of the annual report are available from Revd Dave ( [vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk](mailto:vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk) ).

## **Harvest Sunday (11th October)**

Government restrictions mean that our usual Harvest Parade service will not be possible this year. Instead, our 'in person' and livestreamed worship on that day will be Harvest themed, with Mid-Week Praise (6.30pm on Wednesday 14th October) being our main child-centred Harvest service. Obviously, all this is subject to whatever Government restrictions are in force at that time.



Once again, we shall be supporting Porch Boxes this year and Harvest gifts can be brought to church on the Sunday during the 10.30am service, or the Wednesday during Mid-Week Praise. If you prefer, you do not need to join us for worship, but simply leave your gifts in the porch. Alternatively, church will be open for an hour from 2pm on the Sunday. Also, Chris Maudsley (0161 764 2189), our Porch Boxes link, has kindly offered to receive your gifts at her home by appointment.

## **Porch Boxes**

The local charity, Porch Boxes, has been operating for more than fifteen years, and year by year the demand for the crisis packs which it provides has greatly increased. As well as food and toiletry crisis packs, the charity also distributes cots, prams, bedding, nappies, high chairs, safety gates, baby milk and food. At the appropriate time of the year Christmas toys, hampers and Easter Eggs are also provided. All of these goods are given voluntarily.

Due to the Corona Virus situation our Harvest celebrations will be slightly different this year (see previous article), however, as always we will be supporting Porch Boxes through our Harvest Services; Harvest gifts can be brought to church on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October during the 10.30am service, or on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October during Mid-Week Praise. Alternatively church will be open for an hour from 2pm on the Sunday,

Also, don't forget that if you shop at any of the following stores, they have somewhere to receive goods donated for Porch Boxes: ASDA (Radcliffe; Pilsworth & Bury); MORRISONS (Whitefield & Ramsbottom); TESCO (Bury & Ramsbottom); alternatively if you prefer to support Porch Boxes by making a financial donation, cheques should be made payable to "The Porch" and 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/>

## **Christmas Fair**

Due to the unpredictable nature of the current situation, we have reluctantly taken the decision to cancel the Christmas Fair in November. We hope to be able to hold the Spring Fair on Saturday May 15th 2021 as usual.

## PCC News

The September PCC meeting was once again held via 'Zoom', ensuring that all members were able to participate from the comfort and safety of their own homes; a few technical hitches lead to some 'late arrivals', but eventually all members were present, if not actually visible!

Inevitably much discussion ensued regarding the everchanging Covid-19 situation and the impact this is having on our regular worship activities. Although for many a return to worship in church is still a long way off, thanks to the hard work of our clergy team and imaginative use of social media etc, on the whole there are a lot of positives: the mid-morning Sunday Service continues to be well received, and the slightly later live streamed Sunday Service remains a very popular alternative for those who aren't yet ready or able to return to church. Mid-Week Praise is now 'up and running' once more in church at the slightly later time of 6.30pm on a Wednesday. As the live streamed Mid-Week Praise Services have been so popular and well received, it is intended that this service should continue to be live streamed following the 'in church service' on a Wednesday evening. Due to the continued need for social distancing and limited numbers, things like Parade Services, Harvest and potentially Remembrance Sunday are all a little more difficult. The information and guidelines issued by the Government and Church of England are constantly being updated as the situation evolves, so please look out for updates on the weekly pew sheet and via the Christ Church Ainsworth website and facebook page.

Discussion regarding church finances always forms a part of the PCC agenda; this month a big 'thank you' must go to Geoff Whittle, our Treasurer, for his positive approach to the current situation – even though our face to face activities have been significantly reduced, there are still regular outgoings associated with the upkeep of our church and ministry within our Parish. Inevitably church finances have taken a hit, indeed many individual's finances have also taken a hit, but as Geoff pointed out, so many people have gone above and beyond to ensure that their weekly offering continues, despite many still not being able to physically attend church. Many people have set up direct payments, others are dropping their envelopes off at the Vicarage on a regular basis, meaning that we are still able to meet our financial obligations. The PCC are grateful to all of our Parishioners for this continued support.

Finally, don't forget that our Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held via 'Zoom' on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 12.45pm; this is your opportunity to keep up to date with Parish matters and, if you want to, to have your say. Check out the Parish website for details of how to join the meeting, or e-mail [vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk](mailto:vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk) to request a joining link.

Alison Hartley

## **2020 Manchester Sleepout - Organise your own!**

For the past few years, Manchester Cathedral has supported the Booth Centre by holding a Sleepout to raise funds for this charity that supports the homeless.

For obvious reasons it won't be possible for this event to be held at the Cathedral this year, so instead, why not support the Booth Centre on Friday 6 November and organise your own Manchester Sleepout.

This is a fundraising challenge that doesn't replicate what it's like to be homeless, but does allow you to understand the challenges people face when they don't have their own home.

For more information, or to register to take part visit:

<https://www.boothcentre.org.uk/manchester-sleepout.html>

## **Parish Magazine Articles**

As we appear to be moving through 2020 at an alarming speed, we're drawing near to the time of year when I generally review the content of the Parish Magazine and begin to plan for the following year's articles. I'm always hugely grateful to those who contribute reports and articles, but if anyone has any new ideas, suggestions, or requests for future articles (either one offs or a regular column) please get in touch with your ideas by email: [ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com)

Thanks - Alison

## **Just A Thought ...**

Plant smiles, grow laughter, harvest love.

## Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements

### Christ Church Ainsworth APCM

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 12.45pm via 'Zoom'

Please do your best to attend this 'virtual' meeting. For more info or to request a 'link' to join the meeting please email:

[vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk](mailto:vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk)

### Confirmation Service

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 7pm

We have a number of candidates already registered, but still have space for more, whether Year 7s (or above) or adults. Adults interested in being Confirmed should email Revd Dave, [vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk](mailto:vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk) as should the parents of any youngsters who are interested.

### Christ Church Ainsworth Churchyard Team

This dynamic group of people meet most Wednesday mornings in the Churchyard to carry out a variety of tasks – new members are always welcome.

### Daily Hope

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



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

### #GMRemembers

This initiative is a free-to-use online book of remembrance which will form a permanent tribute to those in the region who lost their lives during the Covid-19 pandemic. People and communities of all faiths and of none, can add a memorial for someone they loved or cared for who has died during the COVID-19 pandemic, and was born, lived or linked to Greater Manchester. To take part visit

<https://www.facebook.com/ManchesterCathedral/live>

## Around The Organisations ...

### Beavers

Due to the virus we are not allowed by the Scout Association to meet face to face so, with the help of the leaders, we have gone on line with the Beavers on a Friday evening.

It is nice to see the Beavers again, even if it is on a computer screen. Some of the Beavers have been sending me pictures of themselves doing their Personal Challenge activities and pictures of them riding their bikes for their Cyclists badge.

This year nine Beavers have gained their Bronze Award.

Rikki

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

Although we still can't meet face-to-face, it is nice to see the Brownies again in our online meetings. The girls have been very active during the break – literally, as they all got their “Get Active” badge because of their activities over the holiday - but also with the number of interest badges they completed. Izzy, Erin and Lily-May earned their Grow Your Own badge; Lily-May and Emily their Baking badge; Scarlett and Amelia their Mindfulness badge; Scarlett her Aviation Badge; Beatrice and Scarlett both learned a new skill; and Beatrice, Emily and Jessica were awarded their First Aid skills builder – so awarding all these badges took quite a time during our first meeting!

And all this meant that we were also able to award a number of theme badges, with Hannah, Scarlett and Sofia earning their Skills for my Future award and Izzy, Erin, Scarlett and Amelia, their Be Well award.

Despite not meeting physically, Chloe, Jessica, Serena and Lily-May were able to make their promise during our Zoom meeting and we are very pleased to have them as full members of our unit.

We have done a few activities since the start of term – making (quite nice smelling) slime, producing a rocket and we had a very messy time making a paper-mache model of a volcano.

We are still experimenting with the whiteboard on Zoom, but seem to be making some progress



with it as many of the girls can now share their drawings with the rest of the unit.

At the time of writing, we are busy planning for our virtual camp at the end of September – not as exciting as the fearless fun camp we were meant to be attending at Waddow that weekend, but still something to look forward to!

Brown Owl



## **Building Hope and Confidence**

Prisoners' Sunday - this year on 11th October - is the national day of prayer and action for prisoners and their dependants. As I mentioned last month, Mothers' Union is at work with both prisoners and their families, no more so than Mothers' Union in Manchester. Christine Sharp, our Diocesan President is the lead name for Prisons on the Community of Interest list at MSH. She is very proactive in her work and is expanding our involvement. For many years we've had a presence at HM Prison, Manchester in the visitors centre but now we are involved at Forest Bank Prison as well. We are, even throughout lockdown, providing New Beginning back packs for prisoners which contain basic items to help them start afresh on release. We have provided reading glasses since March as opticians haven't been visiting and we have had a lovely poem written in thanks from one resident.

Earlier in the year we sent in clothing for the men to help start a second-hand shop, giving them work to do with washing, ironing and manning the shop. They have also recently had Cross in My Pockets and we will soon be part of the ticker tape for 31 days on Way Out TV, which is a TV channel that is broadcast in cells, focusing on education and positive messages of inspiration to encourage the residents.

We now have contact with the Greater Manchester Chaplaincy. Many of those who use their facilities and attend the Bible discussions are ex-prisoners, often newly released. The Chaplaincy have had Cross in My Pockets and MU cards and we are offering support when needed.

HMP Manchester is now a Category B prison with more long-term residents, so the need for backpacks is not the same there.

Obviously, all Family Links meetings are postponed at the moment, but we continue to work with Out There who support the families of

prisoners. We have helped with resources for Family Days and holiday activities as well as providing games and outdoor play items at their centre in Trafford. We follow each other very closely on Twitter and they have used MU Christmas cards for the families.

We have now made contact with the Chaplain at Buckley Hall prison in Rochdale and Romey Simpson has made, as a pilot, specific Cross in My Pocket for the men there. This is a positive move and we 'watch this space' as other channels are explored.

May we continue in prayer for the work of MU and for prisoners and their families, especially during Prison Week.

Lockdown has brought difficulties for many, not least Mary Sumner House and our own office in Manchester and Board of Trustees. To date, £815,000 has been received at MSH following the 1 million pound appeal made in April. Thank you to all who have contributed. The appeal is ongoing.

Manchester Spring Council had to be cancelled but Autumn Council will be online on October 17<sup>th</sup>. If anyone would like to 'attend' (I don't yet know the time), please contact Jean or me so that we can give you the correct joining codes once they are issued.

The Annual Meeting scheduled for Belfast has obviously been postponed but there will also be an online celebration and update event on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October from 10am - 12 noon. It will cover some of what is normally shared during the Annual Gathering/General Meeting, looking back at the prior year and also set the plan for the next 12 months. Filled with stories of impact as well as worship, it will be a chance to come together in fellowship. More details, including an agenda and joining instructions will follow later, but for now please save the date and time in your diaries. We hope as many of us as possible will be able to join. We will email out joining instructions when we get them.

You may remember that we were asked for lockdown poetry earlier in the year. These poems are now being published weekly over 5 Wednesdays. Do visit the Mothers' Union Manchester new YouTube Channel as the poems and pictures are very special. Why not subscribe if you have internet access? The poems will also be reproduced as a booklet at a later date.

Jennifer White  
(Hon. Sec.)

## From the Archives – October 1995

The inside front cover of the October 1995 Parish Magazine sported a lovely sketch of a lady collecting windfall apples – very Autumnal!

As might be expected, the Parish Diary from that month featured a number of Harvest related services, including a Songs Of Praise service to be held at 6.30pm and followed in the Church & Community Hall by a Harvest Supper; a note further on advised that the Vicar would be in church between 10am and 12 noon on Harvest Saturday to receive Harvest gifts, and that if anyone wished to volunteer to help with distributing gifts they should meet at church around 2pm on the Monday.

Further on was a notice about Confirmation Classes – any interested parties were encouraged to get in touch with the Vicar ASAP; and also an article written by Father Alan and entitled ‘Getting Married In Church – The Legal Position’. A brief note reminded folk of the date of the forthcoming November Sale Of Work, and explained that bags would be given out at the Harvest services; a list of stalls was provided and people were encouraged to place any appropriate donated goods in the bags and return them to church in readiness for the sale.

As always, there were a wide variety of events and activities to report on from the various groups and organisations; the W.I ladies had enjoyed selling books and plants at the recent Village Day; Mothers’ Union members had held a successful coffee morning and enjoyed a meal out at ‘The Red Bridge’; whilst Church Women’s Fellowship members had been given a guided tour of the church by the then Churchwarden, Mr. Philip Hinchliffe, and were planning to hold an afternoon tea. The Guides seem to have had a splendid time on their ‘Gypsy’ themed camp held at Height Nook; 16<sup>th</sup> Brownies had enjoyed a ‘Bear’ themed Pack Holiday at Fylde District scout HQ. Lytham St. Anne’s; and Stacey White reported on the amazing experience of attending the 18<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree in Holland.

In October 1995 there were 2 Baptisms and 2 Weddings recorded from the previous month, but no funerals. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 367 and the collections totalled £1304.



## Be Sure Your Sins Will Find You Out ...

Once upon a time a small business owner owed a large sum of money to a loan-shark. The loan-shark was a very old, unattractive looking man who just so happened to have taken a fancy to the business owner's daughter.

The loan-shark decided to offer the businessman a deal that would completely wipe out the debt he owed him, however, the catch was that he would only wipe out the debt if he could marry the businessman's daughter. Needless to say, this proposal was met with a look of disgust.

The loan-shark thought for a moment then said that he would place two pebbles into a bag, one white and one black. The daughter would then have to reach into the bag and pick out a pebble. If she picked the black pebble, the debt would be wiped out, but the loan-shark would then marry her. If she picked out the white pebble, the debt would be wiped out, but the daughter wouldn't have to marry the loan-shark.

Standing on a pebble-strewn path in the businessman's garden, the loan-shark bent over and picked up two pebbles. Whilst he was picking them up, the daughter noticed that he'd picked up two black pebbles and placed them both into the bag.

He then asked the daughter to reach into the bag and pick one.

The daughter had three choices as to what she could have done:

1. Refuse to pick a pebble from the bag.
2. Take both pebbles out of the bag and expose the loan-shark for cheating.
3. Pick a pebble from the bag knowing that it was going to be black and sacrifice herself for her father's freedom.

The daughter reached into the bag, she drew out a pebble and before looking at it 'accidentally' dropped it onto the path amongst the other pebbles. She said to the loan-shark;

'Oh, how clumsy of me, but never mind, if you look into the bag for the one that is left, you will be able to tell which pebble I picked.'

The pebble left in the bag was obviously black, and seeing as the loan-shark didn't want to be exposed, he had to play along as if the pebble the daughter dropped was white, and clear her father's debt.

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

(The Poem below appeared in the Parish Magazine in June 1995)

### I'm Fine ...

There's nothing whatever the matter with me;  
I'm just as healthy as I can be.  
I have arthritis in both my knees,  
And when I talk there's a definite wheeze;  
My pulse is weak and my blood is thin –  
But I'm awfully well for the shape that I'm in.

I think that my liver is out of whack;  
I've a terrible pain in my lower back;  
My hearing is poor and my eyes are dim –  
Almost everything seems to be out of trim.  
The way I stagger is really a crime,  
I've almost fallen many a time –  
But, all things considered, I'm feeling just fine.

Arch supports I require to wear on both feet  
Or I wouldn't be able to walk down the street;  
My fingers are knobbly and stiff in the joints,  
My nails are impossible to keep in points;  
My complexion's not great, due to dry, weathered skin –  
But I'm awfully well for the shape that I'm in.

Now the moral is this, as the tale we unfold,  
That for you and for me who are growing now old,  
It is better to say 'I feel fine', with a grin,  
Than to tell everyone of the shape that we're in!

*Mai Sherman*

### Strap Lines

A clever person is someone who can lay a foundation with the bricks other people have thrown.

A great pleasure in life is to do a good turn in secret and have it discovered by accident.

Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.

## Thoughts From The Allotment For Harvest Sunday

Plant 4 rows of peas: Preparedness  
Promptness  
Perseverance  
Prayer

Then 3 rows of squash: Squash gossip  
Squash criticism  
Squash indifference

Add 5 rows of lettuce: Let us be faithful  
Let us be unselfish  
Let us be loyal  
Let us be truthful  
Let us Love 1 another

No garden is complete without a few turnips: Turn up to meetings  
Turn up on time  
Turn up with a smile  
Turn up new ideas  
Turn up with enthusiasm and determination

## Space To Share A Prayer

God make me be brave –  
Let me strengthen after pain  
As a tree strengthens after the rain;  
Shining and lovely again.  
As the blown grass lifts, let me rise  
From sorrow with quiet eyes,  
Knowing Thy way is wise.

God make me brave -  
Life brings such blinding things!  
Help me to keep my sight,  
Help me to see a light –  
That out of dark comes light.

*Amen*

*(Anon)*

## **Parish Customs And Traditions**

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

### **October - The Lost Traveller's Bell**

In a small Parish in Hampshire in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, on the 7<sup>th</sup> October, a Mr. William Davis was riding home when a heavy fog surrounded him, causing him to become disorientated and lose his way. As he floundered in the darkness, he suddenly heard the bells from his church start to ring; he turned and followed the sound and arrived safely home.

Later on, he worked out that he must have been only a short distance away from the chalk pits, where the ground had been dug deeply. Had he gone any further it is probable that he would have been killed. Mr. Davis felt that he had experienced 'divine intervention' and to demonstrate his gratitude he provided money, and on his death left further funds in his will, to pay the bellringers to ring the church bells between 6.30 and 7pm on the 7<sup>th</sup> October every year, to help to guide travellers to safety should they become lost.

### **Time For A Smile**

Q. What did the Vicar say when he spotted Greenfly on his roses?

A. 'Let us spray!'

A teenager asked his father if they could discuss his use of the car. His father said "You get good A level grades, study your Bible and get your hair cut, then we'll talk." The boy agreed.

Some time later, the father said "I'm pleased with your grades and I note you've been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed with your long hair."

The boy said, "OK, but I've noticed in my studies that Samson, John the Baptist, Moses and probably Jesus all had long hair."

His father replied, "And did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"

## The Extended Parish Puzzler

### Add A Fruit Or A Vegetable

Place an item of fruit or veg in the gap to create a new word:

1. D - - - - (fruit) – fleck with sunlight.
2. INUN - - - - (fruit) - overwhelm
3. AP - - - R (veg) – become visible
4. S - - - - (fruit) – a weapon
5. S - - - - (veg) - disdain
6. S - - - - (fruit) – gooey or sticky substance
7. - - - - MER (fruit) – someone to deal with a burst
8. EF - - - Y (fruit) – an idol
9. CARIB - - - - (veg) – holiday resort
10. IM - - - - (fruit) – charge with treason

(Answers on page 22)

### How many crosses?

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

Last month's photo was of the Mothers' Union Banner that's displayed at the back of church near to the font. Any idea where these crosses can be found? (Answer in next month's magazine).



## Harvest Quiz

The answers to these cryptic clues are all types of fruit or veg..

1. Vegetable with a warm garment
2. Salad ingredient from the Arctic?
3. Long serving English monarch enjoys fruit
4. Salad item found on a Greek island?
5. Piece of fruit to be enjoyed at a meeting?
6. British Monarch enjoying a vegetable
7. Leafy vegetable enjoyed by lovers?
8. Leafy vegetable found in a grand hotel
9. Vegetable found in the capital of Belgium?
10. Vegetable found in 1 of the holiest cities in the world

(Answers on page 23)

(Answers to Add A Fruit Or Vegetable: 1) Dapple; 2) Inundate; 3) Appear; 4) Spear; 5) Scorn; 6) Slime; 7) Plummer; 8) Effigy; 9) Carribean; 10) Impeach.

## 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 Elaine Larkin 1 Greenside. Ainsworth. BL2 5SE <a href="mailto:elaine.larkin.el@gmail.com">elaine.larkin.el@gmail.com</a> Revd Debra Johnstone	01204 388762 01204 399630
Churchwarden	Vacancy	
Church Treasurer	Geoff Whittle	07976 443165
Secretary of the PCC	Vacancy	
Organist	Jenny Johnson	07734976978
Gift Aid & Freewill Offering Secretary	Carole Butler	07982 316388
Parish Child Protection	Peter Holden	01204 596938
Church Hall Booking	Geoff Hampson	07910817577
Church Lottery	Judith White	07812074776
Magazine Editor	Alison Hartley	<a href="mailto:ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com">ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com</a>
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	

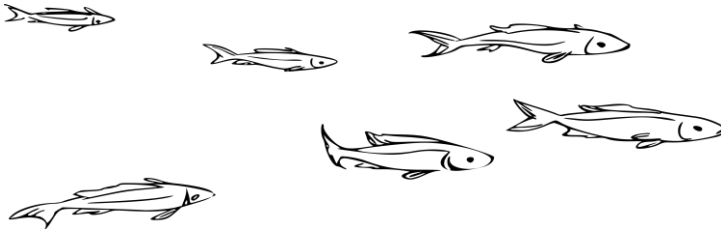
Home Communion is available for anyone unable to attend Church due to illness or frailty  
Arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Banns of Marriage and Funerals Contact Revd Dave Thomson

(Answer to Cryptic Quiz on page 24: 1) Jersey Potato; 2) Iceberg Letuce; 3) Victoria Plum 4) Conference Pear 5) 6) King Edward Potato; 7) Sweetheart Cabbage; 8) Savoy Cabbage; 9) Brussels Sprouts; 10) Jerusalem Artihoke

## 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 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 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Fridays at 7.30pm in the Church Hall Leader Stacey White scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	07742 610281
Explorers	Wednesdays 7.30pm in the Church Hall John Turner	01204 381590
Rainbows 12 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 5.45pm to 7.00pm in the Church Hall Rainbow Guider	
Rainbows 16 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 4.30pm to 6.00pm in the Church Hall Janet Kay	01204 525739
Brownies 12 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm to 8.15pm in the Church Hall Brown Owl Polly The church's one foundation; 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

We Plough The Fields And Scatter The  
Good Seed On The Land



Thanks to Jessica Sowden (age 4) for our cover picture  
this month.

# We Plough The Fields And Scatter The Good Seed On The Land

In October we celebrate harvest - in by gone times, the harvest festival was a celebration that the crops had been brought in safely so that the people and animals would have food throughout the winter months. Harvest festival is also a time when Christians give thanks for all the good things that God has given them. Here's another parable to help us to think about Harvest.

## The Parable Of The Sower



A parable is a type of story that Jesus would tell so that people could learn something from it; this story is about a farmer sowing seeds to grow crops.

One bright Spring day, a farmer went out into his fields with a huge bag of barley seeds, he planned to spend the morning sowing the seeds in the rich, damp soil. The farmer hoped that by the end of the summer his seeds would have grown strong and tall, giving him a good crop of barley.



As the farmer walked along throwing the seeds, some landed on the path at the side of the field, and straight away the birds flew down and gobbled them up.

As the farmer carried on walking and sowing the seeds, some seeds fell among some stones at the edge of the field; the seeds started to grow, but because there wasn't much soil there they didn't grow strong roots, so when the sun came out the seeds quickly shrivelled up and wilted.



As the farmer walked along spreading the seeds some fell among some weeds. There was plenty of soil there for the seeds to grow strong roots, but even though they tried their best, the weeds and brambles were so thick and grew so quickly that the seeds couldn't get enough sunlight and were soon choked by the weeds.

The farmer had spent a lot of time raking his fields and loosening the soil ready for sowing his seeds, and as he continued to walk along spreading seeds from his sack, many of those seeds landed on the rich, dark soil and quickly began to grow good strong roots; and as the sun shone and the rain fell and watered them, the seeds that had fallen on the good soil grew into a tall, strong crop of barley.



Jesus' stories often have more than one meaning - this story is about a farmer sowing seeds to grow crops, but sometimes Jesus appeared to people as a Gardener who sowed a different type of seed; Jesus sowed seeds of love.

Jesus told his friends to imagine that each one of them was like the farmer's field. He told them to imagine that the words that He said were like the seeds. When we go to Church or Sunday



School or School Assembly and we don't really bother to listen to the message of Jesus, those 'seeds' are wasted - like the seeds that fell on the path and were eaten by the birds.

If we listen and are really interested at the time, but then go away and forget all about what we heard, those 'seeds' start to grow but then wilt - like the seeds that fell among the stones.



If we listen and are really interested, but we get distracted by other things that are going on around us, those 'seeds' try their best to grow, but like the seeds that fell among the weeds, they just can't get through all the other things.



If we listen and are really interested, so interested that we ask questions and want to find out more, those 'seeds' make really good roots and grow tall and strong - these are like the seeds that fell onto the good, rich earth.



## Harvest prayer

For each new morning with its light,  
For rest and shelter through the night,  
For health and food,  
For love and friends,  
For everything Thy goodness sends;  
We thank you, Father God - Amen

## Harvest Word Search

There are 10 fruits or vegetables hidden in the grid below; the words can go from top to bottom, bottom to top, left to right, right to left, or even diagonally, but they will always be in a straight line - can you find them all? If you need some help, there's a list at the bottom of the page.

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

Apple

Bean

Orange

Pear

Carrot

Grape

Plum

Corn

Pea

Onion

## Next month - Remembrance Sunday.

If you enjoy colouring in, why not colour the picture below. Whilst church is closed you could get a grown up to e-mail it to [ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com) Each month we'll choose 1 picture to go on our front page; closing date Sun 11<sup>th</sup> October.

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Age: \_\_\_\_\_

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