

Parish Magazine for
Wem, Lee Brockhurst and Weston-under-Redcastle

July 2022



Jesus said:
'Do this in remembrance of me'

St Peter & St Paul's, Wem
St Peter's, Lee Brockhurst
St Luke's, Weston-under-Redcastle



The Rectory
Ellesmere Road, Wem SY4 5TU

During the Vacancy please contact us via
www.wemcofe.co.uk

Find us on 

@Wemparishchurch

Retired Clergy:

The Revd Mike Cotterell, Preb Rob Haarhoff,
Canon Dr William Price

Readers Emeriti:

Celia Camplin, Cathy Dibben

ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S CHURCH, WEM

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Churchwardens: | Chris Mellings | 809521 |
| | Cathy Dibben | 236178 |
| | David Murray | 236134 |
| PCC Lay Chair: | Sybil Farmer | 232568 |
| PCC Treasurer: | Caroline Sinclair | 232626 |
| Bells: | To be confirmed | |
| Sacristans: | June Powell | 234412 |
| | & Kath Ridgway | 290162 |
| Church Flowers: | Sybil Farmer | 232568 |
| Church Hall Bookings: | Via website/Facebook | |
| Baby and Toddler Group: | Alison Hope | 07526 757492 |

Further details are available on our website:
www.wemcofe.co.uk

Find us on 

@Wemparishchurch

From the Registers of St Peter and St Paul's Wem

Holy Baptism

21 May Storm Michel

At Rest

6 May Norman Evanson
10 May Veronica Thomas (Thanksgiving Service)
25 May Moyra Brook (Interment of Ashes)

Book of Remembrance for July

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 st | Roy Stubbs | 18 th | John Henry Brown |
| 3 rd | Margaret Anne Peel | 22 nd | Alfred Draper |
| 3 rd | Doris Irene Bennett | 22 nd | Stanley Joseph Healey |
| 4 th | Hilda Dorothy Harper | 23 rd | Mabel Greenaway |
| 4 th | William Walter Jaggard | 24 th | Christopher John Morgan |
| 5 th | Thomas Evanson | 24 th | Kathleen Sinclair |
| 5 th | Claude William Daffern | 25 th | Myrtle Elizabeth Brien |
| 5 th | Arthur Frederick Taylor | 25 th | Evelyn Alice Smith |
| 6 th | Peter Gordon Parma Brain | 25 th | Jonathan Patrick Smith |
| 6 th | Robert Cross | 25 th | Florence May Tommy |
| 8 th | Barbara Jean Hall | 26 th | Nancy Brien |
| 9 th | Charles A Brewer | 26 th | Dennis Percy Spencer |
| 9 th | Marie Brain | 27 th | Lilian Elsie Pountney |
| 11 th | Lizzie Jane Price | 27 th | Kathleen Maud Jones |
| 14 th | Don Kenward | 28 th | Brian Cliffe |
| 14 th | Gerald Henry Llowarch | 28 th | Philip Collis Smith |
| 14 th | John Robert Haarhoff | 29 th | Ruth Heslop |
| 16 th | Clive Grocott | 30 th | Ralph 'Rafe' Dean |
| 17 th | Lilian Martha Boyden | | |



St Peter and St Paul's Wem **Rotas for 9.45 am Services**

Readers

| | | |
|---------|--------|------------------|
| 3 July | NT | Ruth Empson |
| | Gospel | William Price |
| 10 July | NT | Helen Hornsby |
| | Gospel | John Berry |
| 17 July | NT | Kim Archer |
| | Gospel | Kath Ridgway |
| 24 July | NT | Tim Heavisides |
| | Gospel | Katharine Murray |
| 31 July | NT | Thelma Pugh |
| | Gospel | William Price |

Intercessors

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| 3 July | June Powell |
| 10 July | Keith Edwards |
| 17 July | Katharine Murray |
| 24 July | Olive Kenward |
| 31 July | June Powell |

Ministrants

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| 3 July | Alison Price |
| 10 July | Simon Bloor |
| 17 July | Ruth Empson |
| 31 July | Alison Price |

Coffee Maker

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| 3 July | Katharine Murray |
| 10 July | Thelma Chilcott |
| 17 July | Sybil Farmer |
| 24 July | Neil Price |
| 31 July | Karl Gough |

ST PETER'S, LEE BROCKHURST

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Church Warden: | Val Lusby | 235610 |
| Church Warden and Treasurer: | Roger Ashton | 232425 |
| PCC Secretary: | Phoebe Ashton | 232425 |
| PCC Lay Chairman: | Tim Wilton-Morgan | 07802 735769 |
| Church Warden Emeritus: | Robert Marsh | 200641 |

ST LUKE'S, WESTON-UNDER-REDCASTLE

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Church Warden: | Frank Hosie-Kingham | 01939 200618 |
| Church Warden: | Helen O'Neill | 01939 200663 |
| Church Warden (Deputy): | Sylvia Griffiths | 01630 685204 |
| Treasurer: | Colin Holloway | 01939 200682 |
| Church Warden Emeritus | Arthur Fox | 01630 685180 |

From the Registers of St Luke's Weston-Under-Redcastle

Holy Matrimony

28 May Kate Griffiths and Shaun Young

SUNDAYS IN JULY ACROSS THE BENEFICE

| DATE | | WEM | WESTON | LEE |
|---------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 July | Thomas Apostle | 8.00 am 9.45 am | 9.30 am | With Wem or Weston |
| 10 July | Trinity 4 | 8.00 am 9.45 am | 9.30 am | 11.15 am |
| 17 July | Trinity 5 | 8.00 am 9.45 am | 9.30 am | 11.15 am |
| 24 July | Trinity 6 | 8.00 am 9.45 am | 11.00 am | 11.15 am |
| 31 July | Trinity 7 | 8.00 am 9.45 am | Joint Benefice Service at Wem | |

Please remember that you are welcome to join services at any of our three churches in the Benefice. We are grateful to our retired clergy and laity for all their work during the Vacancy – sometimes changes may need to be made to the details above.

Any queries about searches in the Whitchurch Road Cemetery
or elsewhere

Please contact Mr Tom Edwards of 1 Eckford Park,
Wem, SY4 5HL or on 01939 233932

Whitchurch Road Cemetery Chapel Panel Conservation Project Update

Since the end of last year Pieta Greaves of Drakon Heritage and Conservation has been working on the intricately woven panels from cemetery chapel. The conservation is being carried out at the Potteries Museum and Art Gallery in Stoke and we have been delighted with progress to date. Three of the panels have been completely cleaned and stabilised, damaged areas have been realigned and the panels have been mounted onto a non-stretchy support material. They are looking truly wonderful and we have been amazed to see the incredibly vibrant colour and beautiful patterns, especially on the reverse.

The four panels that were recently taken from the north wall of the chapel are now being worked on. There is more work to do yet but it is now possible to see wonderful bright red, gold and black hues on the front of the panels, which were originally grey. Once again we have seen how vibrant and magnificent the back of the panels are, possibly resembling their original colour.

The Conservator has not found any evidence to show that the panels had been used as wall coverings prior to their installation in the chapel. They may have been woven floor coverings that could perhaps have been made to sell to the 'Victorian' market. The patterns have been identified as possibly coming from Sarawak, Borneo. However, these are only theories and we may never really know their history. We are hoping to be able to identify the fibres which may help us to further locate their origin.

We are hoping that the seven completed panels will be re-installed by the 16/17 July (Vehicles of Interest weekend). At which stage Pieta will remove the remaining panels and take them to her studio in Stoke. The conservation work is scheduled to be fully complete by September, when we are planning an open event at the chapel. Please look out for future notices!

One of the three panels taken from near the chapel altar, shown on the reverse



One of the four greyish panels from the north wall showing the contrast between the front and reverse



Weston Celebrations

Following a very successful Weston Village Platinum Jubilee Party on the Friday afternoon, a special Jubilee Service was organised by the Church Wardens and Treasurer on the Sunday morning. Seven members of The Church gave their recollection of events which occurred in each decade with their chosen piece of music that stood out for that particular decade during the Queen's reign.

Afterwards we were all treated to Prosecco, canapés and delightful cup cakes. About 70 attended the service on a very wet morning.

The June Coffee morning in the Church yard took place in very windy conditions but £195 was raised for Church funds.

Daphne



Plant Sales

Saturday 7th May saw my first Plant Sale in Wem and the first one at all since 2018. It was lovely to see so many of my friends and former neighbours from Lee Brockhurst still supporting St Peter's.

We made a grand total of £206.

We followed that up on 21st May at the Millennium Green making a further £157. Our treasurer is well pleased.

Valerie Lusby

Hear the Word of the Lord: Matthew's Gospel

The summer holidays are coming! If you're heading away, you might be thinking what books to enjoy on the sunny beach - or kill the time until the rainclouds pass. But there's one blockbuster you can save for the autumn - and even have read aloud to you!

That's because later this year, a new church year begins. From Advent, throughout 2023, most of our gospel readings will come from Matthew's Gospel. It's the book of the Wise Men; the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount; the 'Great Commission' (28.16-20), the Sheep and the Goats - so many unique passages! Matthew's Gospel emphasises Christian character, recording Jesus' command to his followers to 'love your enemies'; that warns them against anger (5.21) and even challenges them to 'be perfect'!

But while we usually break our bible reading into small chunks, early churches were likely to have heard it read at much more length. And of course, Matthew *was* recording one whole story, as well as capturing dozens of individual events and chunks of Jesus' teaching.

It's for this reason that the diocese is organising a reading of the whole gospel on Wednesday 21st September 2022: St Matthew's Day.

It's a way of encountering the gospel in a new and fresh way. You will hear passages you never hear read in church! And, you will get a feel for the whole story, its ebb and flow, and the themes that make it distinct from Mark, Luke and John. As you hear it you will realise that the action is interspersed with five phases of teaching, which develop as the story builds up.

The day includes prayer, praise, worship and communion, but the gospel reading will be at the heart of it. You are free to move around, write, draw, drink coffee - anything that helps with hearing or concentration!

This will make a good 'retreat' day. It takes place in the light and modern Telford Minster building in the heart of Telford - an excellent opportunity to see our newest church building in action!

A light lunch and refreshments are provided. Booking is essential and you can find information about the event and how to book at

lichfield.anglican.org/getting-ready-for-matthew.php or by searching for the 'Getting Ready for Matthew – Diocese of Lichfield', where you will also find details about two study days on Matthew's Gospel which take place in November and January.

Simon Foster is the diocese's Mission team leader. In his spare time, he's a curate at St Chad's church in Lichfield.



Mary Oliver's The Summer Day

Who made the world?

Who made the swan, and the black bear? Who made the grasshopper? This grasshopper, I mean - the one who has flung herself out of the grass, the one who is eating sugar out of my hand, who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down - who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.

Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.

Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

I don't know exactly what a prayer is.

I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down into the grass, how to kneel in the grass, how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields which is what I have been doing all day.

Tell me, what else should I have done?

Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon? Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

Ruth Empson has shared this beautiful summer poem with us.

Lee Brockhurst WI

What a happy time Lee Brockhurst WI has been having ... as usual! We are delighted that our membership continues to increase and warmly welcome Pat, Heather, Paula and Rosamund into the fold. They are already enjoying our various clubs, including our 'Summer Strollers' walking group, which in May met at Harmer Hill to follow one of the Gough Walks through beautiful woodland with rhododendrons in full bloom. Our other clubs, the Brockhurst Bookworms and the What's The Point' craft club, both had enjoyable meetings in June with plenty of input from members, and the crafters designed a full calendar of activities from September following their summer break.

After several postponements over the last two years, the Flower and Produce Show was a roaring success. The standard was high with over seventy entries across the classes. The atmosphere was buzzing as President Jules Garside welcomed eighteen visitors to the evening meeting and presented cups to the section winners, who were; Craft – Ann Hall, Horticulture – Wendy Hutchison, Cookery – Sue Wilton-Morgan, with the joint overall show winners being Ann and Sue. (It was a blue-ribbon night for Sue as she also won the competition cup for the highest points in the members' monthly competitions over the last two years.) Speaker Paul Barwick had travelled from London to present his fascinating talk about WWII spy Nancy Wake 'The White Mouse' on whose head there was a Gestapo bounty in excess of a million pounds in today's money. This was followed by copious WI refreshments.

The next event is the summer stroll around Weston-under-Redcastle on Tuesday 21st June, meeting at Lee Brockhurst village hall, which is a little more challenging than previous ones but promises to be just as enjoyable.

The long-anticipated summer outing to Llangollen on 24th June, visiting Plas Newydd, the Horseshoe Falls via a horse-drawn boat and the Llangollen Motor Museum, has been well supported with 33

members and friends signed up to attend. A very jolly day is in prospect ... especially once the Prosecco starts flowing on the boat!

In July, our Bookworms will meet on Monday 18th and our strollers on Tuesday 26th. The main meeting on 19th is a fun Treasure Hunt around the village, with the emphasis on 'fun'. The members' competition will be a 'a glass bottle or jar'.

We are always happy to welcome visitors to our WI. For more information about WI, or any of our events, please contact our secretary, Julie Woolfenden, who will be delighted to help; jjwoolfenden@gmail.com 01939 200237.

Whitchurch Road Cemetery Lychgate

We are delighted that the Cemetery Lychgate has now been repaired and is standing proud once again.



Lychgate supported by Props

The work was costly (£8,176.78)
Grants have been awarded by:
Shropshire Historic Churches Trust £5,000
Barber Trust £400

and we thank the Friends of Whitchurch Rd Cemetery who raised a further £1,500

Despite the fundraising that amounts to £6,900, there was still a shortfall of £1,176.78. It is hoped that further funds will be raised in the near future to cover this.



Repaired

WESTON VILLAGE SHOW 2022

Just a gentle reminder that our Village Show will take place on Sunday 7th August at The Citadel show grounds after an absence of 3 years due to Covid. We hope to see you all at this family fun day out.

Daphne Evans.

Holy Days in the July Church Calendar

- 1st John & Henry Venn, Evangelical Divines, 1813 & 1873
- 3rd **Thomas the Apostle**
- 6th Thomas More, Scholar & John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, Reformation Martyrs, 1535
- 11th Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, Father of Western Monasticism, c550
- 14th John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet, 1866
- 15th Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, c862
- 15th Bonaventure, Friar, Bishop, Teacher, 1274
- 16th Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury, 1099
- 18th Elizabeth Ferard, first deaconess of the Church of England, 1883
- 19th Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa & his sister Macrina, Teachers of the Faith, 394 & 379
- 20th Margaret of Antioch, Martyr, 4th century
- 20th Bartolome de las Casas, Apostle to the Indies, 1566
- 22nd **Mary Magdalene**
- 23rd Bridget of Sweden, Abbess of Vadstena, 1373
- 25th **James the Apostle**
- 26th Anne & Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 27th Brooke Foss Westcott, Bishop of Durham, Teacher, 1901
- 29th Mary, Martha & Lazarus, Companions of our Lord
- 30th William Wilberforce, Social Reformer, 1833
- 31st Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556

Olaf, king & patron saint of Norway

Olaf was a brigand and pirate who roamed the Baltic and Normandy around 1015 AD, maiming and killing, stealing and destroying, feared by all.

Then on one particular raid off Normandy, Olaf met his match: he boarded a ship with Christians on it and was converted to Christianity. The shock of this sent him inland, off the ships, to England, where he joined forces with Ethelred II for a time. But soon his entrepreneurial spirit was asserting itself, and an ambition was born: to return to Norway and convert the country to Christianity.

Olaf was never a man to do things meekly: he sailed for Norway and, helped by his own military ability and the flight of his rivals, seized power and became King. Once king, Olaf gave his subjects peace and security. He remade old laws, and insisted on their just execution, ignoring all bribes or threats.

Above all, Olaf began to convert the country. He was helped by a number of Viking converts and English monks who were missionaries to Norway. But the old paganism was strong in many places, and soon there was a rebellion. Olaf was exiled in 1029 and died the following year in a battle to regain his throne.

He was buried, but his story did not end there. For Christianity had established a foothold that would grow and grow. And it was soon reported that springs of healing water flowed from Olaf's grave, and miracles happened. So Grimkell, the English bishop of Trondheim, built a chapel on the site of his grave and declared him a saint. Olaf's cult grew in popularity until by 1070 his feast day was celebrated throughout Scandinavia. He was popular in England too, with about 40 ancient churches dedicated to him, possibly due to benefactors of Viking origin.

The next issue is scheduled to be prepared on **Thursday 21 July** and will be available in an electronic version. If you are not currently on our email list and wish to be please contact the address below.

Items for the magazine can be left in the drawer
at the back of the church in Wem (by 9 am Thursday)
or sent to: [**pamedgmond@hotmail.com**](mailto:pamedgmond@hotmail.com)

Flowers of the Meadow part II

July is an excellent month to take a further look at your churchyard grassland. The turf of a churchyard can tell its own story about how your locality looked when the land was consecrated, and the diligence and hard work of generations of churchyard volunteers since then. Churchyards have been open spaces, used by the whole community, often for centuries. As well as places for burial and remembrance they may also have been used for markets, archery practice and celebrations ranging from outdoor services to ale festivals! Flowery grassland, with long and short vegetation at different times of year has been maintained throughout. At the time of churchyard consecration, flowery meadow was widespread, and this plot of land would not have been extraordinary. Since then we have lost a shocking 97% of this lovely habitat and our churchyards hold precious remnants.

It's quite easy to find out if your churchyard, or parts of it, contain this special meadow habitat, you simply need to count the numbers of different plants within a patch. July is great for this as so many plants and grasses are blooming or in seed making them relatively easy to distinguish and identify.

A general rule is that the more species within a patch the 'better' the meadow habitat. Caring for God's Acre has a survey system, our Botanical Companion, which takes you through a survey to see if you are looking at a fragment of the remaining 3% of flowery meadow. You can download it from our website or purchase a hard copy from our website shop. Have a look at:

<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/resources/the-burial-ground-botanical-companion/>. The idea is to mark out a square patch of 2m by 2m and count how many different flowering plants, grasses and rushes you see within it. If you can identify them that is great but if not, then no matter, if they look different, they probably are!

Knowing how rich in species the grassland is, can help with management decisions. If you score over 16, then this could be a good place for a meadow area, its already full of flowers. If you score less than 10 then you might need to work a little harder to have a colourful meadow, perhaps introducing seed or plug plants from elsewhere.

Please have a go and let us know how you get on.

All the best, Harriet Carty

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cpga.org.uk,
www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**



The story behind the hymn 'Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken'

The year was 1800, and Vienna was under bombardment by Napoleon's troops. The great Austrian composer, Haydn, then old and frail, asked to be carried to his piano. There he made his own defiance of Napoleon, by solemnly playing through his composition 'Emperor's Hymn'. Haydn had composed it for the Austrian Emperor, Franz II's birthday on 12 February 1797. Haydn never touched his piano again, and died a few days later, aged 77.

That is where the tune for this well-loved hymn came from. It quickly became the tune of the Austrian national anthem. It was later even adopted by the Germans, as the tune for August Heinrich Hoffman von Fallersleben's (1798 – 1874) anthem Deutschlandslid, which began with the famous words: 'Deutschland uber alles' (Germany before everything). In the ensuing political upheavals, the tune survived in the German national anthem, but was abandoned by the Austrians in 1946.

In the meantime, the tune had also reached England, as early as 1805. It was then that the words of a hymn by John Newton were first paired up with it. This meant that when the Austrian Emperor Franz visited his grandmother Queen Victoria, at Windsor Castle, he most likely would have sung his own national anthem tune to English words written by a converted slave trader turned country vicar!

John Newton's inspiration for this hymn comes from Psalm 87: 'Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God' (vs3) and also a text from Isaiah 33:20-21: 'Look on Zion... there the Lord in majesty will be for us a place of broad rivers and streams...'

John Newton's hymn celebrates the joy of knowing that the Church is the new Jerusalem (Zion) where God abides. He rejoices that God protects His people and promises to supply their needs. He leads them into the Promised Land, just as long ago He led the Israelites through the wilderness to their Promised Land.

St Camillus de Lellis, patron of the sick

Sometimes those who suffer are best at helping others in a similar situation. Discharged from the Venetian army with an incurable leg wound, St Camillus (1550 – 1614) founded a religious order called the Ministers of the Sick (the Camellians). Both in their Holy Ghost Hospital in Rome, and by travelling to plague-stricken parts of the world, the Camellians dedicated their lives to caring for the sick. Camillus is the patron of the sick and of nurses.

**Strawberry Tea
Saturday 23rd July 2022
2.00-4.00 pm
Brockhurst Farm**



All proceeds to St. Peter's Church

**£6.00 per person
(children under 12 £3.00)**

Raffle, produce stall

Tickets available from:

**Phoebe & Roger Ashton
01939 232425**

**Valerie Lusby
01939 235610**

N.B. Entry by ticket only

