



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



PARISH NEWSLETTER—Autumn 2024

An occasional newsletter from Holy Cross Parish, Shrewsbury

Issue 13— Sept 2024

CONTENTS:

*A Message from Revd Richard Hayes—**Church, Charity & Charities;**

*From the Lectionary: Sunday readings Sept to Dec 2024;

*Prayer pages;

*Update on the Holy Cross Parish— from our Churchwardens;

*Diary pages — What's happening in the Parish & What's on this autumn?

*Forget-me-not Tea,

*Charities that you support;

*Mothers' Union—its mission and impact worldwide;

*Your Summertime reading;

*Toddle-In, Care for the Family and Housegroups;

*A TV take on the Lord's Prayer & Margaret Junior School;

*To make you smile—we hope!?

*Puzzle page— Sudokus & Wordsearch;

*And finally;

*Contact details for the parish
—see back page

A message from Revd Richard Hayes, a retired priest in this parish

"You're a brick!"

Jack is ten years old. He's a bright lad and thoughtful with it. Last month the family went on a day trip into the Welsh hills. It was a lovely, sunny late summer day. Dad drove – and Nan came too. Jack sat on the back seat with their next door neighbour Ben. Ben's been widowed lately, and they wanted to give him a good day out. He often helps the family in the garden when Dad's job takes him away from home.

They had a great day until, suddenly, Dad said, "There's something wrong with the engine. I'll have to pull into this lay-by". As he did so, the engine sputtered, and died. Try as he might, Dad could not get it running again. Mum said, "What shall we do? Nan must have her supper by 7.00". Nan's diabetic and has to eat at regular times.

That was when Ben spoke up. "Don't worry. I'll walk back to the village we passed through a few minutes ago. It had a garage. I'll ask them to come and help." He pulled on his coat and set off. Jack watched him go. A couple of minutes later the heavens opened and the rain pelted down. Through the rear window Jack saw Ben striding on until he was out of sight.

Continued over



You're a Brick /Continued

Half an hour later he came back in a car driven by an engineer from the garage. Up went the bonnet, and ten minutes later they were ready take to the road again. Ben and Dad thanked the engineer and Ben handed over some cash. Dad said, "I'll pay". "No", said Ben. "I'll pay. You've given me a lovely day out". "Ben, you're a brick", said Dad. Jack heard what Dad said and he liked it. He took it to heart – a brick!

God moves in mysterious ways. A couple of weeks later, at the start of the autumn term, Jack's school went to the parish church for an annual service. Jack had been before but hadn't taken much notice. This time it was to be a life-changing experience. The first remarkable thing was that the man who welcomed everyone as they went into the church was Ben, giving out the orders of service. "Hallo, Jack", he said, smiling, "Good to see you".

The vicar was new, a young man. He welcomed everyone

"Great to see you all", he said. "Now I'm going to surprise you! You all live nearby. Today you have come to your parish church. We call it 'the church', church with a small 'c'. It's a building where we can meet to learn about God, to pray to God, to think our thoughts in peace and quiet and pour out our troubles. But it's you and me who are the Church with a capital C, God's beloved

people. Now here's the surprising thing: Even if this building didn't exist, you and I would still be here being God's Church – God's beloved people, trying to live lovely lives in the world wherever we are. We aren't always lovely, but we try to be – at least some of the time!"

Jack was switched on, listening. He also started looking round the building they were sitting in. The vicar went on "Just look round the walls of this church. You can see the stones and bricks that the walls are built with. If one of those bricks were missing; the church would be a bit weaker. If too many were missing; it would collapse.

The world we live in needs lots of lovely people loving their neighbours. It would not be a happy place to live if we were all selfish, not caring about anyone else. Just as this church building needs its bricks to keep it standing, so the Church needs lots of people like you and me trying to love our neighbours.

We are all different, and we all bring our special gifts to be loving and helpful in the world where we are."

Jack was lost in his own thoughts – church building, needing bricks – Church with a big C meaning us, God's beloved people, us doing our thing as well as we can – being 'bricks' in our right place to be. That's how I want to be, thought Jack. He didn't tell anyone what he was thinking. It was too important. He wanted to protect it.

Continued over

Many readers know and appreciate the ministry of Revd Richard Hayes, who has written our foreword above. From his message you will gather that our theme is **CHURCH, CHARITY (as in love) AND CHARITIES**.

We asked our readers what charities they support and why? We received such positive and prompt replies—impressing on us all what a wide range of concerns and charitable giving we have between us.

You will read of well-known charities, local and

further afield, as well as some very specific and lesser-known organisations. We have put some of your contributions on designated pages.

But also scattered about within, you will find some other charities mentioned. Hopefully, doing so will help us all digest and ponder how so many people show love and concern for people, places and environments.

If your charity is included here, thank you so much for sharing with us.

[Editor]

You're a Brick /Continued

But, as these thoughts and feelings filled him, Jack did just hear the vicar saying "Now I'm going to stop talking, but here's one more thing for you, Mums and Dads, to think about – a final thought for today – 'We love because God first loved us' just as we are (1 John 4:19). We need to be loved. If we believe that we are loved we might not be tempted to say . 'I can do without church – I don't need that stuff'.

Perhaps the state of our country now, with scenes of violence and brutality on our streets, is enough to warn us of what can happen without the love of God inviting us to be 'bricks' in his Church, growing in love as our lives develop. Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you' (John 15:12). On a more hopeful note, we have also seen many wonderful acts of kindness being shown by neighbours to people caught up in the riots. Thanks be to God."

Jack shows us the all-important thing – (1) he saw neighbourly love and goodness at work in Ben, (2) he *felt* that it was good and (3) he *wanted* to be like that. He was beginning to *want* to know God's love.

Then he discovered that Ben was a practising Christian who 'goes to church'. Jack's on a journey of discovery. What next for Jack? Or for any of us trying to find what really matters in life?

Here are two bible passages you might find helpful – read them slowly, and pause whenever a word or phrase catches your attention. What was special about it for you?

- * 1 Corinthians:13 - Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians Chapter 13
- * John:15 :1-17 - The Gospel (Good News of Jesus Christ) according to St John Chapter 15, verses 1-17

Richard



Q: What do you get when two dinosaurs crash their cars?



A: Tyrannosaurus wrecks!



From the Lectionary: Sunday readings September to December (Year C and using the related readings)



Sunday / date	1 st reading	2 nd reading	Psalm	Gospel
1 September	Deuteronomy 4.1-2,6-9	James 1.17-end	Ps15	Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23
8 September**	Isaiah 35.4-7a	James 2.1-17	Ps146	Mark 7.24-end
15 September	Isaiah 50.4-9a	James 3.1-12	Ps 116.1-8	Mark 8.27-end
22 September	Jeremiah 11.18-20	James 3.13-4.3,7-8a	Ps 54	Mark 9.30-37
29 September	Genesis 28.10-17	Revelation 12.7-12	Ps 103.19-end	John 1.47-end
6 October	Genesis 2.18-24	Hebrews 1.1-4,2.5-12	Ps 8	Mark 10.2-16
13 October	Amos 5.6-7,10-15	Hebrews 4.12-end	Ps 90.12-end	Mark 10.17-31
20 October	Isaiah 53.4-end	Hebrews 5.1-10	Ps 91.9-end	Mark 10.35-45
27 October	Jeremiah 31.7-9	Hebrews 7.23-end	Ps 126	Mark 10.46-end
3 November All Saints' Day	Wisdom 3.1-9 or Isaiah 25.6-9	Revelation 21.1-6a	Ps 24.1-6	John 11.32-44
10 November Remembrance Sunday	Jonah 3.1-5,10	Hebrews 9.24-end	Ps 62.5-end	Mark 1.14-20
17 November	Daniel 12.1-3	Hebrews 10.11-25	Ps 6	Mark 13.1-8
24 November Christ the King	Daniel 7.9-14	Revelation 1.4b-8	Ps 93	John 18.33-37
1 December Advent 1	Jeremiah 33.14-16	1 Thessalonians 3.9-13	Psalm 25.1-9	John 3.1-17
8 December Advent 2	Malachi 3.1-4	Philippians 1.3-11	<i>Canticle: Benedictus</i> Or Ps 75	Luke 3.1-6
15 December Advent 3	Zephaniah 3.14-20	Philippians 4.4-7	<i>Canticle: Isaiah 12.2-6</i>	Luke 3.7-18
22 December Advent 4	Micah 5.2-5a	Hebrews 10.5-10	<i>Canticle: Magnificat or</i> Psalm 80.1-8	Luke 1.39-45 [46-55]
Tuesday 24 December Christmas Eve	2 Samuel 7.1-5,8-11,16	Acts 13.16-26	Psalm 89.2,19-27	Luke 1.67-79
Christmas Eve 11.30pm	Isaiah 62.6-12	Titus 3.4-7	Psalm 97	Luke 2.[1-7]8-20
Wednesday 25 December Christmas Day	Isaiah 52.7-10	Hebrews 1.1-12	Psalm 98	John 1.1-14
29 December Christmas 1	1 Samuel 2.18-20,26	Colossians 3.12-17	Psalm 148*	Luke 2.15-21

**Anniversary of the Accession of King Charles III in 2022

PRAYER PAGES

As we enjoy the season's change from autumn into winter, may these prayers uplift you and support you, come what may.



Creator God,

The world you have made is wonderful.
We are sorry for our exploitation of the earth.

We are fearful of the consequences of what we have done.

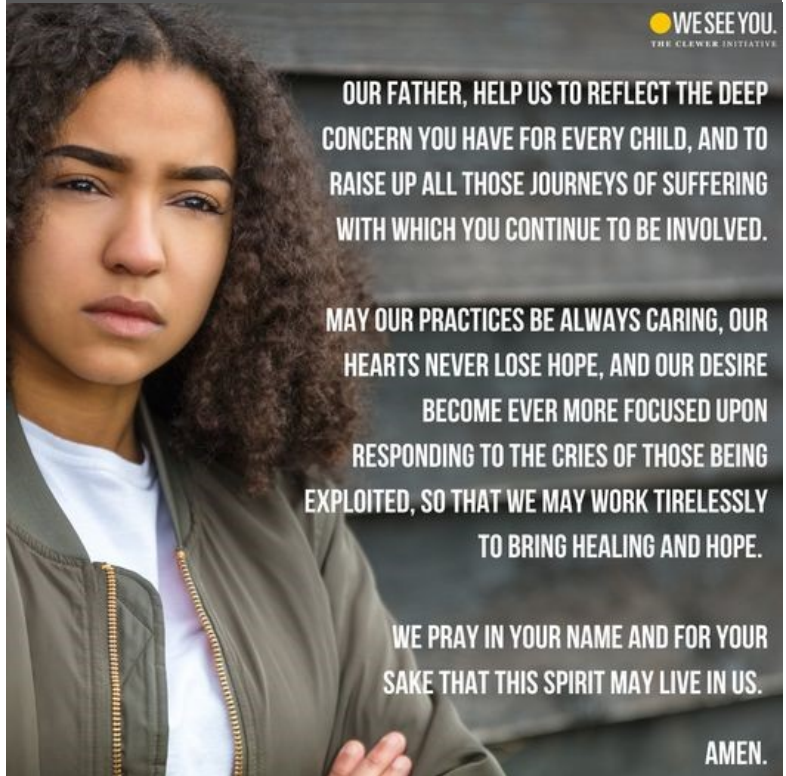
Lord have mercy on our planet.

Give us the courage to speak, the strength to make sacrifices and the will to change.

In your love for what you have made, heal and restore the land. Amen.



The Clewer Initiative—raising awareness of modern slavery—domestic servitude and county-lines



WE SEE YOU.
THE CLEWER INITIATIVE

OUR FATHER, HELP US TO REFLECT THE DEEP CONCERN YOU HAVE FOR EVERY CHILD, AND TO RAISE UP ALL THOSE JOURNEYS OF SUFFERING WITH WHICH YOU CONTINUE TO BE INVOLVED.

MAY OUR PRACTICES BE ALWAYS CARING, OUR HEARTS NEVER LOSE HOPE, AND OUR DESIRE BECOME EVER MORE FOCUSED UPON RESPONDING TO THE CRIES OF THOSE BEING EXPLOITED, SO THAT WE MAY WORK TIRELESSLY TO BRING HEALING AND HOPE.

WE PRAY IN YOUR NAME AND FOR YOUR SAKE THAT THIS SPIRIT MAY LIVE IN US.

AMEN.

Lord God,

Your Son left the riches of Heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A prayer of comfort for us all each day (Used at Forget-me-not Tea)

In moments of confusion,
God keep us safe.

In moments of clarity, God grant us joy.

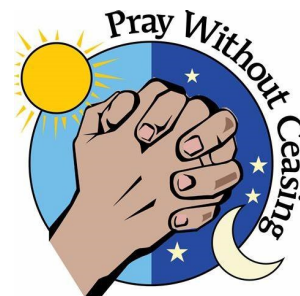
In moments of frustration,
God give us peace.

In moments of sorrow,
God bring us comfort.

May God who sees into the secret places of our mind,
beyond anything which limits us,
To the person that is us,
Has always been and will always be us,
Encircle us in his arms,
Until that day when all is made new in his eternal home. Amen.

PRAYER PAGES

As we enjoy the season's change from autumn into winter, may these prayers uplift you and support you, come what may.



Into your hands, O Lord, we place our families, our neighbours, our brothers and sisters in Christ, and all whom we have met today

Enfold them in your will.

Into your hands, O Lord,
We place all who are victims of prejudice, oppression or neglect; the frail, the unwanted

May everyone be cherished from conception to the grave.

Into your hands, O Lord,
We place all who are restless, sick, or prey to the powers of evil

Keep guard over them.

Amen.

[Thanks to Jules and "Prayer Rhythms for Busy People" by Ray Simpson]

Risen Christ,
Bring renewal to the land and to the Church, to ordained ministries and to religious communities. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus, Raise up new callings and communities that meet the need of our times.

Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the world, by your cross you have overcome all darkness that oppresses.

Come and shine on us here in Shrewsbury, in this parish, that we may grow and live together in your love which makes us one with all humanity.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen

With thanks to **Fresh from the Word 2024**

"Father God, help me hear you speak in every part of your word; even from the most obscurest verse to my favourite passage. Amen"

[see Nahum & Obadiah!]

"Lord, help me to bring good news and proclaim peace to the people around me, especially those who are oppressed or marginalised. Amen"

"Lord, may I be alert to evil and injustice. Give me the courage to confront what is wrong and to do something about it. Amen"

Father God, Lord and Saviour,

I really have no idea how much time I have left before The Lord calls me home. But, until that time comes, I'll keep being thankful for all his blessings in my life - Amen

[Thanks to June]

Prayer Group

**meets weekly, Thursday,
7-8pm in St Peter's Church**

All welcome!

If you'd like prayer for someone in particular, do ask the person(s) first, then contact clergy, details at the back of this newsletter.



A Holy Cross Parish Update— Shrewsbury Abbey & St Peter's, Monkmoor Road

In spite of our parish of Holy Cross now being into its third year without an incumbent, we continue to worship together in both churches, led by a wonderful group of clergy, mainly retired yet with permission to officiate. We are so grateful to Revds Steph Fahie, Pat Aldred, Stan Swift, Nick Heron, Philip Edge, Richard Hayes, George Hodgkinson and Chris Walker. Their ministry to us is inspiring!

The separation process of the Abbey and St Peter's Church into two separate parishes continues at a frustratingly slow pace! The consultation process by the Church Commissioners is complete. However, because there was an objection to the proposal to separate, already agreed in principle by the Bishop of Lichfield, The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave, the diocese is now in contact with the objector or objectors to see if matters can be resolved. If not, then there will be a further formal process involving the bishop and the Church Commissioners, when expressions of support, as well as those against, will be considered and a decision reached. It is worth remembering that St Peter's was established in 1939 as a mission church for the then new Monkmoor estate, with independence always in mind when the time was deemed right.

What also remains to be resolved is an agreement on a financial settlement. With some ancient trusts and other more recent

trusts in the mix, you might imagine this part of the separation presents challenges for all concerned. This separation is likened by some, as similar to a divorce settlement. It's tough for those parties who are involved in negotiations. Please pray for us in our Churchwarden roles, as we seek a fair and amicable way forward. We await legal advice on these trusts from a member of Lichfield Diocese legal team. We hope this will enable us to reach a conclusion.

In the meantime, we continue to work effectively as a parish. Our administrators work conscientiously to deal with parish life matters – worship materials, finance, arranging baptisms, weddings and funerals and events held in the Abbey Church and the Parish Hall. We remain thankful to our paid staff and unpaid officers and volunteers at both churches, who give of their time, skills and energy, and contribute to the ministry of the parish. We continue to focus on our main aim: that is to show God's love to His world and His people!

Bernice Firmin and Brian Newman
Churchwardens



Some regular dates for your Diary



Daily:

- ♦ **Morning prayer** (Monday to Saturday) 8.30am in Shrewsbury Abbey choir stalls;
- ♦ **Midday prayer** (Monday to Saturday) 12.00 noon (5-10 minutes), Shrewsbury Abbey from the Lectern

Weekly:

- Sunday: **Holy Communion**, 10.00am at St Peter's, Monkmoor Road
Sung Eucharist, 11am at Shrewsbury Abbey
Evensong, 3pm at Shrewsbury Abbey
- Tuesday: **Coffee & Chat**, 10.00am—11.45am, in the Parish Hall, behind St Peter's, Monkmoor Road
- Wednesday: **Midweek Communion**, 12 noon, Shrewsbury Abbey
Homegroup, 7-8.30pm—please ask for the address
- Thursday: **Coffee & Chat**, 10.00am—11.45am, in St Peter's Church Monkmoor
Prayer Group, 7.00pm—8.00pm, St Peter's Church Monkmoor
- Friday: **Homegroup**, 10.30-12 noon—please ask for the address

Monthly:

- Wednesday: **Forget-Me-Not Tea**, 3.00pm-5.00pm, first Wednesday of each month, in the Parish Hall, behind St Peter's Church, Monkmoor Road.

SATURDAYS AT NOON—MUSICAL EVENTS AT SHREWSBURY ABBEY—*FREE!*

With a retiring collection in aid of the Abbey organ Fund.

Saturday 7 September: Ian Tracey (Liverpool Cathedral);

Ian is one of the UK's leading and most popular organists;

Saturday 21 September: Phoenix Singers (a Shrewsbury based Choir);

Saturday 5 October: Richard Tanner (Rugby School);

Saturday 5 November: John Wright (Cheltenham).

UP AND COMING EVENTS AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, MONKMOOR ROAD

Hats Galore! Fashion show Friday, 11 October, tickets £5,

a light supper at 6.30pm. *Fundraiser for Friends of St Peter's Church;*

Messy Church – Wednesday, 30 October 10am-12.30pm for families with young children – in St Peter's church and hall. No Charge! finishes with light lunch.

THE ABBEY FLOWER FESTIVAL 18-20 OCTOBER

Open to all. Free with donations welcome!

A demonstration by David Ryland, National Demonstrator is part of the weekend; Tickets £10pp.

To buy tickets and/or to volunteer to support the event, please contact Sue Pearson or Marjorie Blackadder—thank you!

Contact details from the Parish Office.



Abbey Christmas Fayre on

Saturday 14 December,

10.30am-2.30pm

Craft Stalls and refreshments

FREE Entry

(fundraiser for the Shrewsbury Abbey Church)



St Peter's Christmas Fayre

Saturday, 30 November,

10.30am-12.30pm

Craft Stalls and refreshments

FREE Entry

(fundraiser for St Peter's Church)

The Friends of the Margaret Junior School:

One way of supporting the education of rural children was started when we were in Uganda, thanks to the generosity of Margaret West. The school has now grown into a fully functioning 300+ Primary School.

Sponsoring children through school is always welcome.

Roger Ford

[We were thrilled and engaged by Roger and Wendy when, in early July, they shared with Forget-me-not Tea some history of their time in Uganda (2002-2004), Margaret West's visits to them and of their most recent visit this April.]

Wonderful! Thank you both! Editor]

Margaret Junior School Autumn fundraiser events

SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER, 7pm: a concert of all the talents. At Shrewsbury Abbey, a variety of local musicians of all flavours will be performing from 7pm onwards. Bar and light refreshments will be available. Tickets £10 from Shrewsbury Abbey. Doors open 6:30pm

SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER, 7pm: Our "ever popular" **General Knowledge Quiz** (but with new improved questions) at St Peter's Hall, Monkmoor Road, Shrewsbury, starting at 7pm. Teams of up to 6 people and the entry is £5 per person. Pay on the night but numbers are restricted so let me have entry details beforehand. (The **GKQ** was over-subscribed and some folk were disappointed (even more than those who came!))

Regular events in the Parish



Becoming
**Dementia
Friendly
Church**

As I write, this day is a very special day as the world's attention focuses on the opening ceremony of the **2024 Olympic Games** taking place in Paris.

Perhaps it will bring back happy memories of a visit to the London Olympics of 2012 or even older memories of games held prior to that.

How about some of these names associated with great Olympians? We might recall Lynn Davies, Bob Beamon, Lynford Christie, Mary Rand, Mary Peters, Sebastian Coe, Steve Ovett, Steve Cramm, Brendan Foster, Robbie Brightwell, Ann Packer, David Wilkie, Duncan Goodhew, Daley Thompson and Lillian Board

I could go on, but, as I look forward to this evening's opening ceremony, what names will stay in our memories in years to come? Sometimes memories fade, but feelings remain.

The Olympic motto is *Faster, Higher, Stronger*, to which recently has been added a very important word, **TOGETHER**. What a brilliant addition, and a word that we manifest so well at **Forget Me Not Tea**, where we welcome everyone, carers and especially people struggling with their memory.

We meet, we worship, we pray and then we eat tea, but all of this would be diminished were we not **TOGETHER**, sharing and caring, and, most importantly, enjoying one another's companionship.

Forget Me Not Tea takes place at St Peter's Church Hall on the first Wednesday of every month at 1500 hours. It is a beautiful high tea, intended for all who come to experience contemporary worship, companionship, a little respite from everyday life and a good cup of tea!

Somewhere to spark up those memories of long ago! Why not come and join us.

For further details ring our Dementia Champion,

Bernice on 07817 529750.

COFFEE AND CHAT

Weekdays, 10-11.45am

***Tuesdays in the St Peter's Hall and**

***Thursdays in St Peter's Church**

Hope to see you there!

No charge and all welcome.

There's a rota for serving;
new helpers welcome,
speak to Steph Fahie



On our theme of **CHURCH, CHARITY AND CHARITIES**, we asked you what charities you support and why? Very positive and prompt replies were received—impressing on us all what a wide range of charitable giving and interests we have between us. If your charity is included here, thank you so much for sharing with us.

Marie Curie is “a Charity close to my heart”

George Hodgkinson tells us;

A United Kingdom-wide Charity which helps patients and their loved ones with practical information and support on all aspects of terminal illness, dying and bereavement, as well as undertaking innovative and pioneering work in research.

Their specialist, inclusive, holistic care and provision includes Hospice Care, Care at Home, Companionship, Bereavement Support, Trusted Information and Advice and an On-call Telephone Line.

In the last year, over 44,000 people received expert support from Marie Curie nurses and healthcare assistants. Marie Curie is especially close to my heart, as I had the privilege of being a Chaplain at their Hospice in Solihull for 8 years, which gave me a deep insight into specialist End of Life Care and the opportunity to work alongside some exceptional, gifted and dedicated people.

Annie supports

PBC Foundation—support for life

Helping those with this health condition.

www.pbcfoundation.org.uk

Edinburgh based and not well known.

Jenny's household regularly supports two animal charities and the local hospice.

Megan supports the **Mission Aviation Fellowship**.



Jean B-B supports **THE SOIL ASSOCIATION**—because everything begins and ends with the soil: our food, our health, our life.

Helen D supports **TEARFUND** because they work with local Christian partners and do not impose western practices, which may not be appropriate in their environment.

David appreciates the work of **MSF Medicin Sans Frontieres**—a remarkable organisation giving emergency healthcare to people in poor and war-torn parts of the world. Staff are healthcare professionals, giving freely of their expertise. They are brave people, some lose their lives in helping others. It is an organisation that continually needs money for its core work and, of course, in these troubled times of war in Ukraine and the Middle East, MSF is desperate for funds.

FEED THE BIRDS—Deanna supports this befriending charity. A six year highly successful project offered by Shropshire Wildlife Trust, a unique nature-based befriending service. We offer support to vulnerable, lonely, isolated and often ill clients across Shropshire. We provide a bird feeder and bird food and our trained volunteers visit their client at home once a week. More information and donations from:

info@feedthebirds.org.uk

On our theme of **CHURCH, CHARITY AND CHARITIES**, we asked you what charities you support and why? Very positive and prompt replies were received—impressing on us all what a wide range of charitable giving and interests we have between us. If your charity is included here, thank you so much for sharing with us.

Sue O supports the **Episcopal Diocese of Morobo** South Sudan led by Bishop Data Asmosa. It is a very poor area financially but so full of faith and hope. There is always a need for financial support and a little goes a long way in South Sudan. Any funds are sent to the Diocese of Morobo account in Uganda, as funds cannot be sent directly—too much corruption. Bishop Data Asmosa writes “We continue to pray for God’s provisions and blessings.”

The Children’s Society: As our children were both adopted via a Diocesan Family Charity, if we can support other children in need, that speaks to us.

Wendy & Roger

Sally is a keen supporter of **African Vision Malawi**
www.africanvision.org.uk



Shropshire Supports Refugees: We were accepted and welcomed by many when we chose to go and work in Uganda. It seems important to welcome and support those who have had to flee their own countries.

Roger & Wendy

Michael supports **Centre Point** – support for those fleeing their homes, homeless but not from choice. Started by a Priest in Soho, Prince William is now patron.

OM. Operation Mobilization. Get on board! OM operates two bookfairs onboard their ships, visiting mostly non-Christian countries to fulfil the Great Commission and give education, help and hope to the world. If you're looking for opportunities that have purpose and meaning and allow you to live out your faith in practical and powerful ways, then you've landed in the right place to begin your search. If you're a Jesus follower and want to obey Matthew 28:19-20 NIV [19] “*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*”

Jono



Fairtrade:

We saw the benefits of Fairtrade when in Uganda at a co-operative farmers' tea factory.

Fairtrade paid them a fair price for their premium tea, which meant guaranteed income, an additional sum to be spent in the community (then on flushing toilets and TVs) and no need to transport tea many hundreds of miles for auction, which may or may not be sold.

We were a bit concerned though that the vat of tea had TRIADcraft on it instead of TRAIIDcraft - who were they selling it to?!!

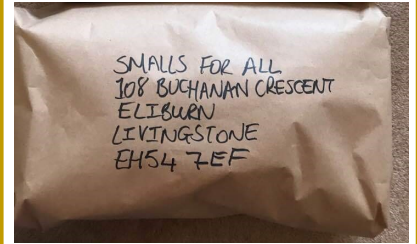
Use **Fairtrade!**

Wendy & Roger Ford



SMALLS FOR ALL: New or barely used bras and women's pants sent to girls and women in Africa; where, if you have 'western' underwear, you are viewed as wealthy and less likely to be sexually assaulted.

Katherine



Early morning Caldon Canal:
thanks to Joe Porter



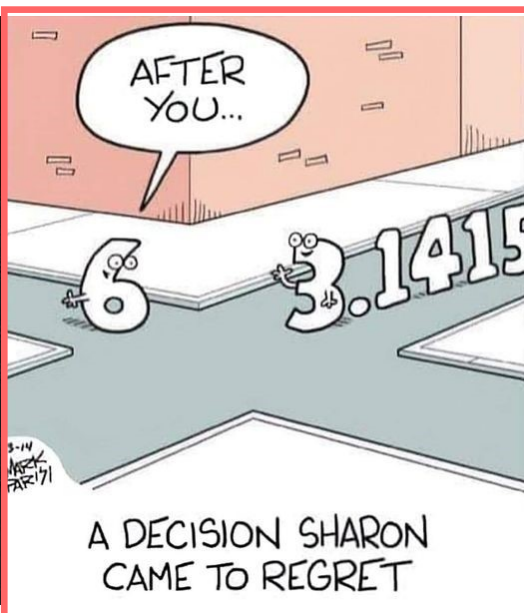
Christian Aid: A means of supporting others in countries not as fortunate as ourselves. Christian Aid works in countries throughout the world, helping to alleviate poverty for people of all faiths.

Wendy & Roger Ford



And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment just as you have heard it from the beginning—you must walk in it.

2 John 1:6



On our theme of **CHURCH, CHARITY AND CHARITIES**, we asked you what charities they support and why? Very positive and prompt replies were received—impressing on us all what a wide range of charitable giving and interests we have between us. If your charity is included here, thank you so much for sharing with us.

Toilet Twinning – You can do it too!

In our parish, all our toilets are ‘twinned’ – and that helps save lives, providing personal safety and better sanitation in countries in Africa, South America and Asia. See website:

<https://toilettwinning.org/>

Every day, over 700 children under 5 die from diarrhoea linked to unsafe water, sanitation and poor hygiene.

Twin your toilet and fund a project in a community that helps families to build their own basic toilet, access clean water and learn about hygiene – a vital combination that saves lives.

Katherine supports **Mothers’ Union**, an international campaigning organisation working at grass-roots in communities across UK, Ireland (both NI and Eire) and 83 countries across the world. MU strives to show Christian love and care for families in all their diversity.

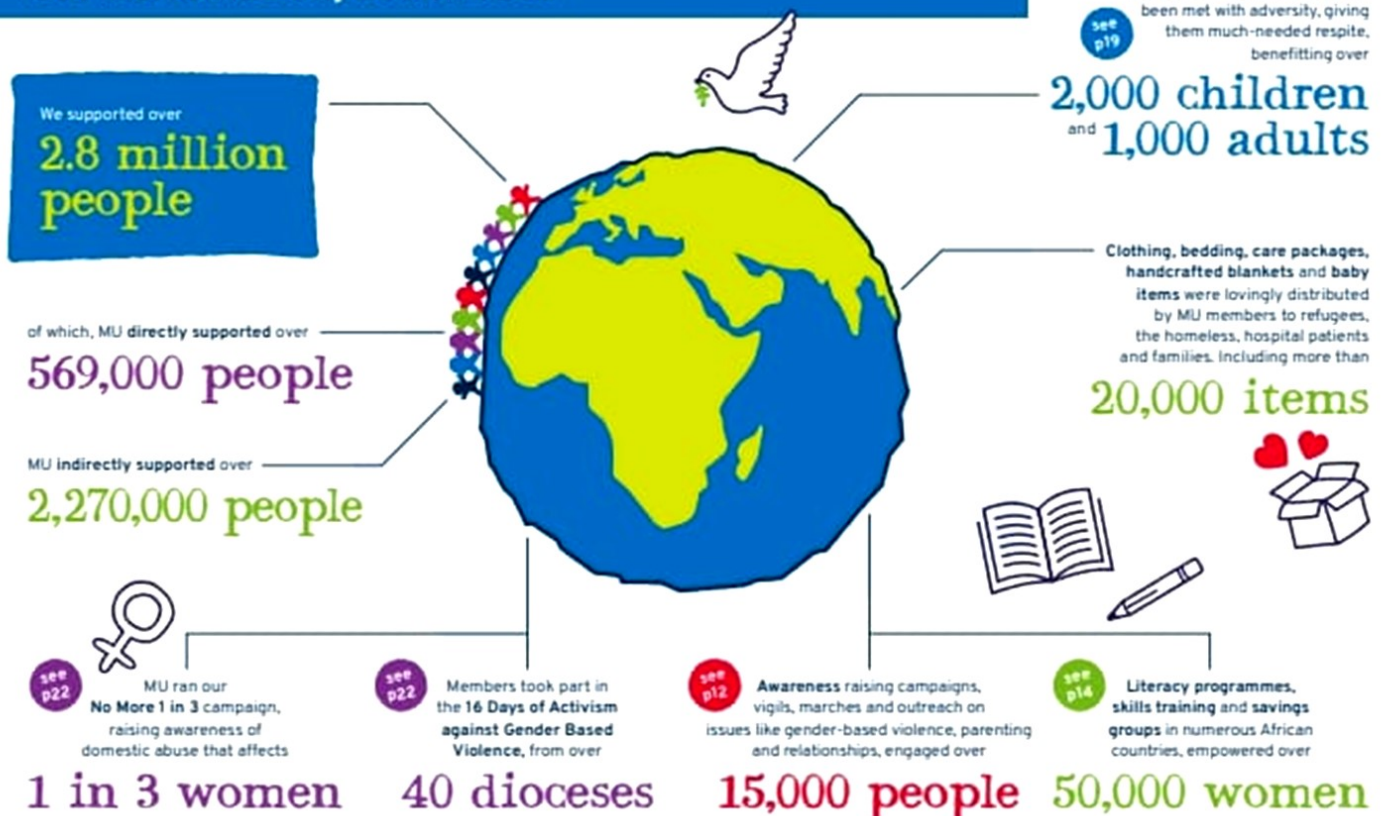
A specific current campaign is **RISE UP! against domestic violence**.

During the 2024 Euros football tournament, domestic abuse helplines in UK experienced a 68% rise in calls. We might, as a nation, love football but **violence at home** in response to disappointment is **unacceptable**.

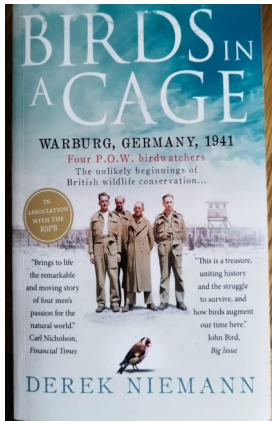
More information: www.mothersunion.org.

Mothers' UNION

Our worldwide impact in 2023



Your reading during the summer months: thanks for sharing!



Julie recommends "**Birds in a cage**". It is the inspiring story of 4 [P.O.Ws](#) who are also birdwatchers. Their ornithological passion helped them in their confinement and inspired others.



"A Single Thread" by Tracy Chevalier

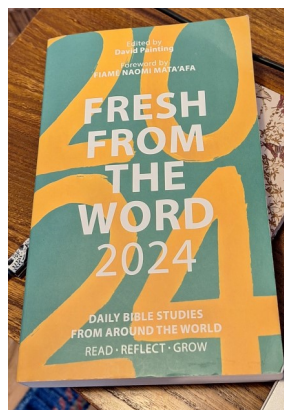
A fictional story, based on fact, about the part one woman played in 1930s in embroidering the kneelers and cushions of Winchester Cathedral, which are still in use today.

Wendy

Having initially found an old edition in **Illuminate** shop on Wyle Cop, I now use "**Fresh from the Word**" for my daily readings.

I find each day has something to ponder and pray about. The edition for 2020 did not quite hit the spot—but who could have anticipated Covid as that year's selection was being compiled?

This year, there is plenty that seems to me **bang-on** to reflect upon, bible readings that seem to mirror the difficulties that our country and world face just now. A few of the suggested short prayers are included—see prayer pages.



Katherine

We are like books. Most people only see our cover, the minority read only the introductions, many people believe the critics. Few will know our content. Emile Zola

Robin tells us that he's *"been re-reading more of the **Redwall** books, now (he has) a large collection."*

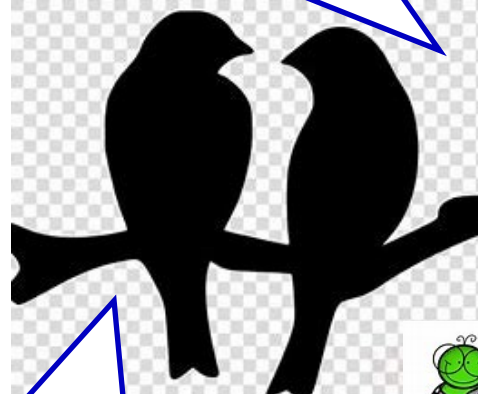
However, as well as reading, Robin also shares that he's *"been writing some opening scenes and ideas for a Dick Whittington panto!"*



[Redwall series by Brian Jacques talking animal fantasy adventures for the upper primary age group. But remain appealing to adults too! Editor]



Q: Why did the blackbird go into the library?



A: It was looking for book-worms!



Family life

DIARY DATE *Messy Church* – Wednesday, 30 October
10am-12.15pm, at St Peter's church and in the
Church hall. Family fun! Not to be missed!



Baptisms take place at St Peter's and Shrewsbury Abbey church.

Do ask for information if you'd like your child baptised. Contact either: Revd Steph Fahie or Revd Pat Aldred—details on the back of this newsletter.



Our emotions are meant to be felt.
Even the hard ones
It's okay to feel what you need to feel

Being a parent can be tough!

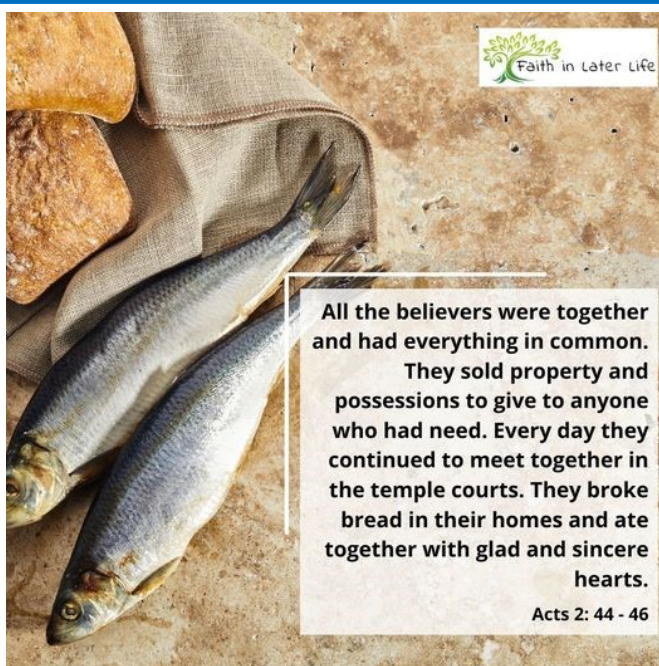
Care for Family, a Christian charity offers support, information on all kinds of relationships, marriage, parenting and bereavement.



<https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/>

Facilitation training is available to anyone who wants to support parents in this important role. Katherine re-trained a few years ago to lead groups and still hopes to facilitate again, offering a virtual group that will meet by Zoom.

Should you want to know more, do contact Katherine May via the Parish Office.



Housegroups!

Two groups meet on weekdays in private homes; a Friday morning group and a resuming Wednesday evening group. Discussion is about the previous Sunday readings, their meaning and relevance in this era. The groups are informal and attendees don't need to know lots of 'bible stuff'. There is much laughter and fun within each session. **New members always welcome!** Do ask via the Office if you are interested.

[Editor]

Pondering the television A joke, but

The TV is my shepherd, my spiritual
growth shall want!
It maketh me to sit down
and do nothing for His name's sake –
because it requieth all my attention.
It keepeth me from doing my duty as a
Christian,
because it presenteth to me so many
things I must see
It restoreth my knowledge of all things of
the world and easily keepeth me from the
study of God's word
It leadeth me from the paths of attending
my church
and doing anything for the kingdom of
God.



It's sound and its pictures, they comfort
me

It offers me not the time to do the work of
God.

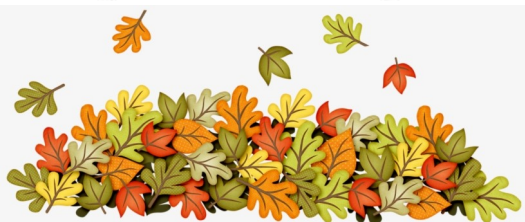
American violence and commercials shall
follow me all the days of my life;
And I'll take **life second-hand**
from my box in my own house for ever!

[with thanks to Daphne]

And pondering too other technology!?



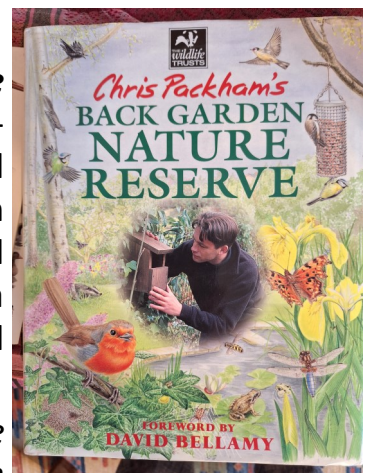
*"Now that I've invented it, I have this odd
compulsion to hold it in my hand wherever I go
and glance at it incessantly."*



More of your reading during the summer months: thanks for sharing!

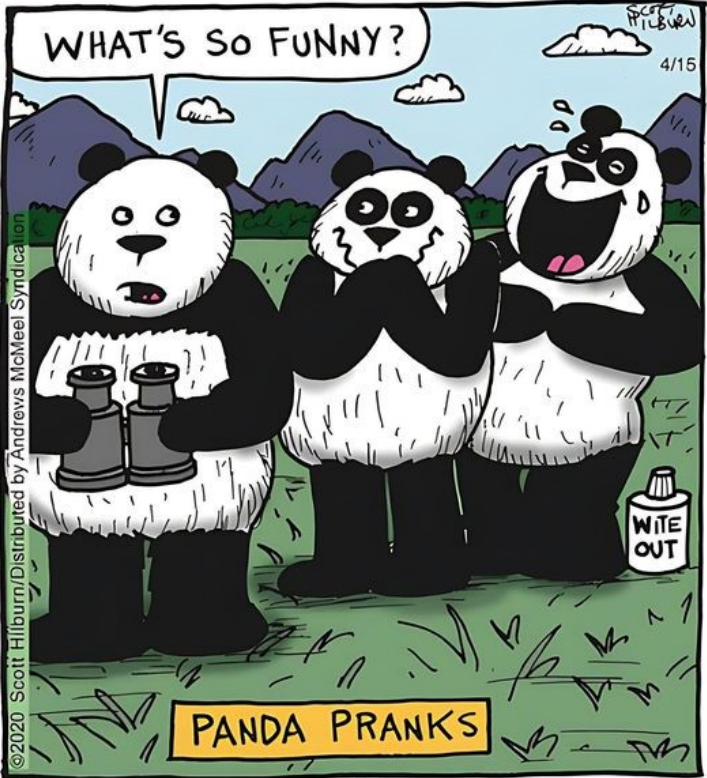
"Back Garden Nature Reserve" by Chris Packham, is a recent read which David found both interesting and useful having recently started a wildlife pond in a raised bed.

[It's an old book—notice a very young Chris on the front cover! Ed.]

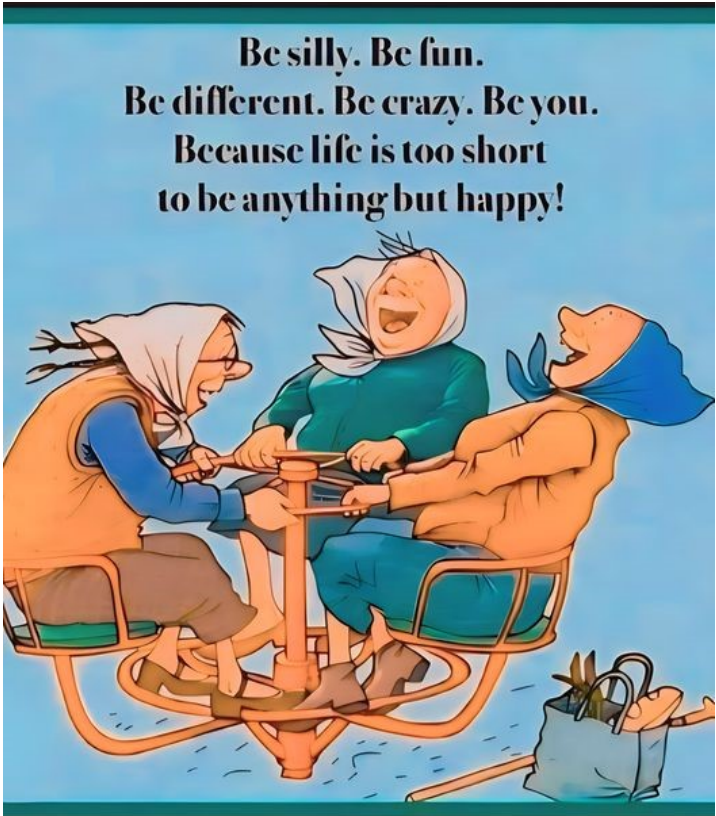


He says too that he's enjoyed **"The Trials of Life"** by Sir David Attenborough; in which Sir David describes species and their mode of living coupled with brilliant photography which brings the whole subject to life.

To make you smile, we hope



Whatever the General Election results, we might agree Ed Davey had the best time campaigning!



Q: How do you make an octopus laugh?

A: With ten-tickles!



Puzzles Page.....Puzzles Page

Sudokus for you

Medium

5	3				4	9		
7					9			
9				6		2	3	7
		9	3	1			6	
	2		4			1		
		4		7				2
4	7	5	2		3	6		
		3				4		
		6	9	4	7		2	5

Harder

6		5		3		4		
					2			3
				5				6
8			1	6	5			
		6		2			8	
					9	7	6	
							3	
			5	1				
4	5		2					8

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

WORDSEARCH

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

AUSTRIA BELGIUM BULGARIA CZECHREPUBLIC DENMARK
 ENGLAND FRANCE GERMANY GREECE IRELAND ITALY
 LUXEMBURG NETHERLANDS NORWAY POLAND SCOTLAND
 SERBIA SPAIN SWEDEN WALES

"I phoned the Ramblers' Association today. I knew I had the right number, as their receptionist just went on and on and on and on!"



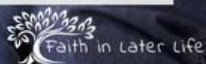
"We sold our vacuum cleaner today it was only gathering dust!"

And finally



Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home.

Deuteronomy 8: 18-19



“For the Lord takes delight in His people; He crowns the humble with salvation.”

—Psalm 149:4



Contact details:

Shrewsbury Abbey, Abbey Foregate,
Shrewsbury SY2 6BS Tel: **01743 232723**
St Peter's Church, Monkmoor Road, SY2 5BG
Vicar: Vacant

Churchwardens:

Bernice Firmin—bernice160@btinternet.com
Brian Newman—b.m.newman@outlook.com

Associate and Assistant Clergy:

Revd Steph Fahie—steph.fahie@gmail.com
Revd Pat Aldred—paldred@aol.com

Administrator: Steve Swinden

E: manager@shrewsburyabbey.com

<https://www.shrewsburyabbey.com/events/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ShrewsburyAbbey/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Friends who like Saint Peter's Church/>

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is open from 9.00am to 4.00pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and usually on a Tuesday morning. Staff have to move around a fair bit, so please look in the Abbey if we don't answer the buzzer or, better still, phone in advance if you are planning to visit .

Disclaimer:

The contents of this newsletter in no way reflect the views of the Church of England or the clergy or churchwardens of this parish. They are purely the personal opinions &/or comments of those who have contributed.