

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

September 2022



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](http://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 Cathy Dibben David Murray	809521 236178 236134
PCC Lay Chair:	Sybil Farmer	232568
PCC Treasurer:	Caroline Sinclair	232626
Bells:	To be confirmed	
Sacristans:	June Powell & Kath Ridgway	234412 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](http://www.wemcofe.co.uk)

Find us on 

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

#### **At Rest**

9th July Ivy Barber  
Thanksgiving Service and Interment of Ashes

#### **Holy Matrimony**

30th July Shannon Forrester and Matthew Goulding

## Book of Remembrance for September

1 <sup>st</sup>	Gerald William Gregory	19 <sup>th</sup>	Russell Mark Andrew Kidman
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ruth Ella Armitage	19 <sup>th</sup>	Christopher Mark Jones
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Charles Sydney Tommy	20 <sup>th</sup>	William Michael Fillmore
4 <sup>th</sup>	Nellie Louise Johnson	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Victor Jones
4 <sup>th</sup>	Vincent Frederick James Ratcliff	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Frances May Powell
5 <sup>th</sup>	Robert McGrady	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Charles Coyne Brien
6 <sup>th</sup>	Olive Muriel Kynaston	23 <sup>rd</sup>	George Henry Salisbury
6 <sup>th</sup>	Miriam Manning	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Alan John Jones
6 <sup>th</sup>	Edward Henry Abbott Barnes	24 <sup>th</sup>	Elsie Bacon
7 <sup>th</sup>	Patricia Mary Haarhoff	25 <sup>th</sup>	Phyllis May Didlick
11 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Young	27 <sup>th</sup>	Michael John 'Mick' Maddocks
11 <sup>th</sup>	Rupert Appleton Armitage	27 <sup>th</sup>	Marjorie Parry
14 <sup>th</sup>	Bella-Rose Emma Boyd	27 <sup>th</sup>	Michael Taylor
14 <sup>th</sup>	Winifred Margaret Wheeler	29 <sup>th</sup>	Joe Powell
15 <sup>th</sup>	George William Manning	29 <sup>th</sup>	Thomas Wilfred Speake
15 <sup>th</sup>	Victor Cyril Hodnett	30 <sup>th</sup>	Roy Gordon Wheeler
17 <sup>th</sup>	Herbert Wainwright	30 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth Ann Hull

### **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



Mr. Robert Charles Fowles (Bob) died on June 16th he was cremated on July 6th. It was his wish to have the collection donated to St. Luke's, Weston under Redcastle. The churchwardens visited Bob's partner, Ms Dorothy (Dot) Thomas, on August 1st to receive the money. Many thanks and best wishes to Dot and family.

## **SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER ACROSS THE BENEFICE**

DATE		WEM	WESTON	LEE
4 September	Trinity 12	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	With Wem
11 September	Trinity 13	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	11.15 am
18 September <sup>2</sup>	Trinity 14	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	With Wem
25 September	Trinity 15	8.00 am 9.45 am	11.00 am <sup>1</sup>	11.15 am <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harvest Festival

<sup>2</sup> The celebrant at Wem will be Rev Deborah Walton, Vicar to Prees, Edstaston and Whixall parishes and Chaplain to Thomas Adams School and John Talbot School.

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.

Ride + Stride  
Shropshire Historic Churches Trust  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### Wem

Please support St Peter & St Paul's as we are again taking part in this splendid event. In 2021, the Comeback Year after Covid, the County raised £30,788, almost back to where we were.

There are sponsorship forms at the back of the church. When completing the form please tick the Gift Aid column as this makes an added bonus to your donation.

My thanks to our Volunteer County Organiser and to Helen Hornsby for all their work.

Rob Ballantyne 01939 236565

Readers may like to know that Helen Hornsby is a patron of the SHCT who organise Ride & Stride. As detailed in our May magazine, SHCT makes a number of grants each year to churches around the County including recently St Luke's Weston and the Whitchurch Road Cemetery, Wem.

### Lee Brockhurst

St Peter's will be open from 10.00 to 16.00 but will be unmanned. However, refreshments will be available for those who visit the church.

There is still time to undertake a sponsored ride, walk, horse ride or car drive in aid of Historic Churches Trust. Our church will receive half the money raised minus the Gift Aid. Sponsor forms available from Phoebe or can be downloaded from the Website, you can also do Just Give. Website as follows: [shropshirehct.org.uk](http://shropshirehct.org.uk)

### WESTON VILLAGE SHOW

Our Village Show was a great success.. With perfect weather conditions, crowds flocked through the Show Gate together with many children and dogs. 1000 visitors paid to enter plus children free and complimentary entry tickets to all owners of classic vehicles and Sponsors.

The BBQ, beer and Pimm's and teas plus ice cream were all sold out. All the hard work preparing the Showground by several villagers was well rewarded.

Final Show profits are still to be announced.

Daphne.

The Friends of Whitchurch Road  
Cemetery, Wem

The  
Chapel of Rest

at the cemetery  
will be

open

**For the Historic Churches Ride and Stride Event**

**Saturday  
10th September 2022  
10.00am - 4.00pm**

**See the completion of our project to conserve the  
Victorian rush wall coverings - opening ceremony at  
12.pm with cake and refreshments  
all welcome**

## **Harvest Service**

**St. Peter's Church  
Lee Brockhurst**

**Sunday 25th September 11.15 a.m.  
Harvest Festival**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Harvest Auction Sale & Supper**

**Monday 26th September  
6.30 for 7.00 p.m.**

**£7.50 adults, £3.50 children under 16**

**At the village hall**

**Everyone is welcome –**

**Booking in advance for the supper is essential for catering purposes  
The closing date for booking the supper is 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**Please bring your own plate, dish, glass, drinks and cutlery**

**Everyone is welcome to just attend the auction, which will follow the  
supper, without booking**

## It's Back!!

We are delighted to announce that the “Brock Arms” in Lee Village Hall is reopening. For people new to the area, this is where for one night, the Village Hall becomes a pub, providing everything you would expect from your “local.” In the 2 years and more since the last Brock Arms, the hall has been completely refurbished and is looking splendid.

We hope you will come and join us – pop in for a drink, meet up with friends and neighbours, listen to the latest village gossip.

There will be a comprehensive range of beers on offer (draught and bottled) as well as lager and cider and a selection of competitively priced wines, spirits and non-alcoholic beverages. **Families are very welcome.**

The plan is for these nights to be repeated through the year and we will publish a calendar shortly so you can plan your visits. One important point – for the immediate future the bar will be cash only, so please remember to bring some!

The reopening of the “Brock Arms” will take place on  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

The location is Lee Brockhurst Village Hall  
Opening times are from 18.30 to 23.00

We are working on being able to accept credit cards  
but for the moment it is CASH only!

\* \* \*

## Bible Reading Fellowship

I am the rep for our church, unfortunately the numbers subscribing are decreasing, if anyone is interested please let me know. The New Daylight booklet (4 monthly) currently costs £4.85p and the large print booklet costs £6.00p, in addition we receive free BRF prayer diaries and BRF news which also features books, greeting cards etc that are available to purchase.

Helen Hornsby

## All in the month of SEPTEMBER

It was:

1900 years ago, from 13<sup>th</sup> September 122 to 128 that Hadrian's Wall was built in northern England. It ran for 80 miles from coast to coast and marked the northern limit of the Roman Empire. The Roman Emperor, Hadrian, wanted to separate the Romans from 'the barbarians.'

200 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1822 that the Catholic Church admitted that the 16<sup>th</sup> century astronomer Galileo Galilei might have been right about the Earth orbiting the Sun. The College of Cardinals reversed the Church's condemnation of his ideas. Galileo had spent the last nine years of his life under house arrest for publishing his work on the subject. He died in 1642.

100 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> September 1922 that the highest temperature ever recorded in the world was reported to be 57.7 Centigrade (136 Fahrenheit) in Al'Aziziyah in Libya. (Unofficial record)

90 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1932 that Saudi Arabia was founded when the Kingdoms of Hejaz and Najd were unified.

80 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> September 1942 that the British Royal Air Force launched a massive air raid over Dusseldorf Germany.

70 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1952 that the Farnborough Air Show crash took place in Hampshire. A de Havilland fighter jet broke apart and fell into the crowd, killing 31 people. Stringent safety measures were introduced to ensure it could never happen again.

65 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1957 that one of the Everly Brothers' best-known songs 'Wake up Little Susie' was released.

50 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> September 1972 that Palestinian terrorists invaded the Olympic Village in Munich, West Germany during the 1972 Olympic Games and took 11 members of the Israeli team hostage. All the hostages were killed, as well as five of the eight terrorists and a German police officer, when a rescue attempt failed.

40 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> September 1982 that Princess Grace of Monaco, formerly the American film and TV actress Grace Kelly, died in a car crash, aged 52.

30 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1992 that the radio station Classic FM began broadcasting in the UK.

Also 30 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1992 that the Black Wednesday sterling crisis took place. The UK crashed out of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM), raised interest rates from 10% to 15% and spent billions of pounds buying up sterling that was being frantically disposed of on international markets.

25 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1997 that Sinn Fein formally renounced violence and committed itself to resolving the troubles of Northern Ireland through peaceful means. This eventually led to the Good Friday Agreement in April 1998.

Also 25 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1997 that the people of Scotland voted in a referendum to establish their own parliament. (Opened 1<sup>st</sup> July 1999.)

Also 25 years ago, on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1997 that the people of Wales voted in a referendum to create the National Assembly for Wales, with devolved powers from Westminster. (Opened May 1999.)

## **Holy Days in the September Church Calendar**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Giles of Provence, Hermit, c710
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 & 1942
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604
- 6<sup>th</sup> Allen Gardiner, Missionary, 1851
- 8<sup>th</sup> **The Birth of The Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 9<sup>th</sup> Charles Fuge Lowder, Priest, 1880
- 13<sup>th</sup> John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, 407
- 15<sup>th</sup> Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258
- 16<sup>th</sup> Ninian, Bishop of Galloway, Apostle of the Picts, c432
- 16<sup>th</sup> Edward Bouverie Pusey, Priest, Tractarian, 1882
- 17<sup>th</sup> Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, 1179
- 19<sup>th</sup> Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690
- 20<sup>th</sup> John Coleridge Patteson, first Bishop of Melanesia, 1871
- 21<sup>st</sup> **Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist**
- 25<sup>th</sup> Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626
- 25<sup>th</sup> Sergei of Radonezh, Teacher of the Faith, 1392
- 26<sup>th</sup> Wilson Carlile, Founder of the Church Army, 1942
- 27<sup>th</sup> Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Lazarists, 1660
- 29<sup>th</sup> **Michael and All Angels**
- 30<sup>th</sup> Jerome, Translator of the Scriptures, 420



## Tu-wit-tu-woo!



The Tawny Owl is probably our most familiar owl; children grow up learning that tawny owls say 'tu-wit-tu-woo' although this is not the call of one bird. The familiar call is a duet between the female who starts with the harsh 'kee-vik' which is then followed by the male with the deeper 'woo-hoooo'. At this time of year you may hear a lot of owl calls as the young are noisily driven from their natal territory by their parents. Each existing territory they pass through will elicit much calling, shrieking and hooting. This is a dangerous time for the young owls and many will die, driven from hunting grounds by resident birds before they reach their first year. Once they do find a suitable territory, which is likely to be only a few kilometres from their place of birth, they may remain in it all year round for the rest of their lives, making them one of our most sedentary birds.

Tawny owls are a bird of woodland, choosing to nest within chimney-like holes within large trees. As with many woodland species, churchyards can be good places for them, containing a range of habitats full of food as well as trees for nesting. We think of tawny owls as eating mice and voles but they have quite a varied diet, depending on what is available. They may eat small birds, rabbits, beetles, frogs and worms too.

Tawny owls do well in owl nest boxes and churchyards can be good places for these. If putting one up, keep well away from paths as owls can attack people walking too near their nests. The best place for one is within a tree with ivy or lots of branches as when the young are preparing to leave the nest they start 'branching' – climbing up and down the trunk using ivy and branches as footholds, sitting in neighbouring trees and generally starting to explore. During this time the parent birds are still feeding them, and a young owl found on the ground is probably not in trouble and shouldn't be picked up in case a nearby parent attacks.

So, listen out for the tawny owls and think of the two birds duetting each other. Please let us know if you have owls within your churchyard and if not, how about putting up a nest box in a large tree?



All the best, Harriet Carty

*Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor.*

*harriet@cfga.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**



## Lee Brockhurst WI

If you were in Lee Brockhurst village on 16<sup>th</sup> August you might have spotted suspicious groups of ladies wandering around, peering into gardens, staring at houses, then conferring conspiratorially. Fear not: these were the teams participating in Lee Brockhurst W.I.'s Treasure Hunt which was postponed from mid-July owing to the dangerously high heat. It had the dual result of being an enjoyable social event which mixed up older and newer members, and of introducing newer members to the geography of village. The victors were Ann, Pat, Pam and Diana.

The next W.I. evening is the Brockhurst Bookworms' meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September reviewing 'The Land of Decoration', an unusual debut novel by Grace McCleen. This is followed the next night by 'What's the Point', our craft club, when the activity will be Botanical Printing. The final stroll of our Summer Strollers walking group will be on 13<sup>th</sup> September and will end with a meal – full details of location and timings are available from Mary (07484 316054).

At our main monthly meeting, on 20<sup>th</sup> September, RAF instructor Jason Davenhill will be teaching us about 'The Human Givens' – the nine essentials for maintaining a healthy brain. The members' competition is 'your favourite bookmark'.

Twenty choc-a-holics are well catered for with the chocolate workshop on 24<sup>th</sup> September. Lori Whinn, of the lovely hand-made chocolate company Coco Pzazz, will be teaching us to make giant buttons, decorated slabs and a 'surprise' harvest item. (From past personal experience, the queasy-looking ladies are the ones who ate all their decorations!!)

Finally, we are delighted to welcome Dee Moyses into our W.I. family. I do hope she enjoys her time with us as much as we enjoy having her with us.

All meetings are at Lee Brockhurst village hall unless otherwise stated. Please contact our excellent secretary, Julie, if you would like more information 01939 200237 / [jjwoolfenden@gmail.com](mailto:jjwoolfenden@gmail.com).

Sue Wilton-Morgan

## The Strawberry Tea at Brockhurst Farm

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July dawned dull and dry, there had been weather reports of a shower at about 2.00pm, but this turned out to be incorrect. There was a bit of a breeze but it was fairly warm.

A band of helpers arrived from about 11.00 and the tables in the garden were prepared after both they and the chairs were given a wash, the use of clothes pegs being necessary to keep the cloths in place.

Indoors the strawberries were hulled, scones split and jam and cream dispensed into glass dishes. The urn and hot water flasks were filled and ready to go. Produce was set out on the stall and trays containing all the crockery and cutlery were prepared.

A little before everything was in place the first ticket holders arrived and were invited to have a look at the garden and then find themselves seats. By 2.00pm more folk were arriving and the action began.

Sixty-four tickets had been sold but in the event only about 60 came to the tea. Margaret Marsh presided over the produce stall and very soon most of the items were sold. Roger besides being on the gate also made sure that everybody bought raffle tickets.

A regular pattern soon set in with trays of cutlery and crockery being brought out to the garden swiftly followed (in most cases) by the food and the tea pots or cups of coffee. A cousin of Judith's spent a lot of time washing up the crockery which considering she was a guest was way beyond the call of duty!

Our thanks go to Alex Lusby, Christine Morrell (guest at Brockhurst Farm), Georgina Lusby, Jackie Clarke, Judith Lester, Julie Bradbury, Margaret Marsh, Penny Naylor, Robert Marsh and Valerie Lusby without whom the Strawberry Tea would not have happened and to all those who bought tickets, produce and raffle tickets or made donations when they found they were unable to attend. Needless to say Roger did a lot of preparatory work and clearing up ably assisted by Ian Wilson.

Finally after several weeks we have reached the grand total of £661.00 which made it a very worthwhile project.

Sixty seems to be about the most we can satisfactorily accommodate and so if and when the tickets go on sale next year early booking is advised!

Phoebe Ashton



SHROPSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

[www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

Chairman: Stephen Winwood

August 2022

Dear Member

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September sees our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary service at Shrewsbury Abbey. It will be at 3.00 pm and the preacher will be the Venerable Fiona Gibson, Archdeacon of Ludlow who is one of our Trustees.

Choral Evensong in this magnificent building will be a joyful celebration of the Trust's work and an opportunity to acknowledge with gratitude the wonderful contributions that so many people have made to our cause.

You may already have this date in your diary, but if not please do come. If your church is a member, people from your congregation are also warmly invited to join us.

To help us with the arrangements please let Sheila Black know the numbers coming. Her telephone number is 01952 245896 or e-mail: [sheilablack8@btinternet.com](mailto:sheilablack8@btinternet.com)

We look forward to seeing you on the 18<sup>th</sup> September.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Winwood

Our thanks to SHCT for allowing us to print this letter

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

## Shropshire Hymnwriters

Several well known hymns were written by people with Shropshire links and I propose a short series in this magazine about them.

We begin very locally with **Reginald Heber**. He was born in 1783 in Malpas and educated in Whitchurch Grammar School, a school in London, and Brasenose College, Oxford. Then he went on a tour of parts of northern Europe for 15 months (southern Europe being inaccessible because of the Napoleonic Wars). Within a few months of his return to England he was ordained deacon (February 1807) and priest (May 1807). Very soon afterwards he was appointed Rector of Hodnet, including of course the chapelry of Weston under Redcastle, by his half-brother, Richard, who was patron of the living, of which their father had been Rector until his death in 1804.

In those days there were no hymn books as we have them in the Church of England. Congregations sang metrical psalms. Heber, however, was one of a few clerics who produced a hymn book for his own church. This contained a hymn for every Sunday in the year and some holy days. Some of Heber's hymns have remained popular to our own times: 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty', 'Brightest and best of the sons of the morning', 'God that madest earth and heaven', 'Virgin born, we bow before thee'. One other hymn by Heber which used to be very well known is 'From Greenland's icy mountains', but it is no longer considered 'politically correct' for its imperialistic sentiments and is not to be found in modern hymn books. It is said that Heber had agreed to preach at a Missionary Sunday service in his father-in-law's church in Wrexham. On the Saturday evening his father-in-law asked him to write a hymn for next day's service, and 'From Greenland's icy mountains' was the result.

In 1823 Heber left Hodnet to become Bishop of Calcutta, a diocese which included the whole of India and also Ceylon, Australia, and New Zealand. He died in South India on 3 April 1826 at the age of 42. His elder daughter, Emily, born in 1821, married Algernon Percy, son of the Bishop of Carlisle, who in 1847 by Royal Licence assumed the surname Heber-Percy.

William Price

## Daily Prayer Podcast

A free service bringing the ancient monastic cycle of daily prayer to millions of modern listeners has recently broadcast its 1,000th episode. The Daily Prayer podcast\* brings listeners together twice a day for the short traditional services of Morning and Evening.

The podcast, available both via the Daily Prayer app as well as all major podcasting platforms, was launched in March 2021. It has now been streamed more than four million times, with a monthly audience of 60,000 people.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, said: "Reaching 1,000 episodes of Daily Prayer is an impressive milestone. Being able to participate in Daily Prayer through the app has been of great help and encouragement for many to begin, sustain or develop their life of prayer."

Many people say they have found a rhythm of prayer by using it.

\*<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer/daily-prayer-app-and-podcast>



The next issue is scheduled to be prepared on Thursday 22 September 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)

## There's a woman in my mirror

There's a woman in my mirror,  
And she looks a lot like me.  
Though there's lines around her eyes,  
And her hair is wild and free.  
She is plumper than myself,  
And she is definitely grey.  
Did I miss the day this happened  
Has she always been this way?

And this woman in the mirror,  
Has an air of something calm.  
Like a tide that's going out,  
And a beach that's soft and warm.  
She has seen the world in colour,  
She has learned to know the truth.  
There's a wisdom in her wrinkles,  
There's a knowledge brought from youth.

And she seems to move more freely,  
As though released from earthly binds.  
Is she made of something lighter?  
Perhaps the weight she left behind.  
Like the press of expectation,  
And the need to yield and bend.  
I like this woman in the mirror,  
She's fast becoming my best friend.

Donna Ashworth

Sent to us by Tricia

\* \* \*

### You wait for us

You wait for us until we are open to You.  
We wait for Your word to make us receptive.  
Attune us to Your voice, to Your silence.  
Speak and bring Your son to us – Jesus, the word of Your peace.  
Your word is near, O Lord our God, Your grace is near.  
Come to us then, with mildness and power.  
Do not let us be deaf to You, but make us receptive and open  
To Jesus Christ Your Son, who will come to look for us and save us  
Today and every day, for ever and ever.

*By Huub Oosterhuis, (b 1933), a Jesuit priest in Holland whose ministry has mainly been to the student community of Amsterdam. He has played a major role in the renewal of the Dutch liturgy.*

## The Generation Game

Churches are one of the few places in our society these days where all ages and generations come together. Being in church is a way of life - not just being together on a Sunday morning. It needs to intentionally include all ages, to enable everyone to learn, worship, contribute and grow in relationship with Jesus together as a church family.

Trying to become an intergenerational community of faith has its challenges. We can become busy in our own learning and activities, often age groups can become segregated and how often are we open to learn something about faith from someone younger than us? Age brings wisdom, but we mustn't ignore younger leaders as St Paul emphasised in writing to Timothy.

Intergenerational approaches are modelled in much of the biblical narrative. Throughout the Old Testament there were occasions when all of God's people came together to pray, celebrate, worship, hear scripture and story, but there is also importance laid on the everyday living of faith (e.g. Deuteronomy 6:6-9). Jesus repeatedly challenged those who underestimated children, and in the Epistles, Paul repeatedly refers to the newly formed Church as 'the body of Christ' where every part needs every other part. This is no less important today.

Every church, parish and community are different so there will be no one way of creating opportunities for generations together. However, there are things we can all do to engage with those of other generations.

Building relationships is so important, a simple smile or welcome, chatting to others about what is happening in their life, or even sharing your faith story. When was the last time you shared your faith journey with another member of the congregation or someone in a different generation? Often, we are really pleased to see children's and youth work taking place in church but may not feel it is our calling. However, there is crucial role we can all play, building relationships and sharing faith stories with younger generations can be so powerful for a child or young person to hear.

For an informal chat about developing intergenerational ministry in your church please get in touch with Laura Edwards:  
[laura.edwards@lichfield.anglican.org](mailto:laura.edwards@lichfield.anglican.org)

*Laura Edwards is Lichfield Diocese's Evangelism Enabler with a focus on under-12s and an interest in new housing developments. She will be one of the keynote speakers for the 'Building Intergenerational Church' event for Lichfield and Hereford dioceses in Telford in October. More details at:*  
<https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/calendar/433>

## **Wilson Carlile, founder of the Church Army**

Wilson Carlile was born in Brixton in 1847, and did not set out to become an evangelist. Instead, he was brilliant at both languages and music, and excelled as a businessman. That is, until an economic recession and serious illness brought him crashing down and finished his career, aged only 31.

Not surprisingly, a serious breakdown followed, when Carlile questioned everything that he had been attempting in life. This search for a new meaning brought him to faith in Jesus Christ, and so turned his world upside down.

Wilson approached two Christians whose passion for ministry was already well known: the American evangelists Moody and Sankey, who were at that time in England. Wilson attended their meetings and supplied music via his harmonium. In return, he learned a lot about effective outdoors evangelism.

Carlile then prepared himself for a life of ministry. He was confirmed into the Church of England, studied at the London College of Divinity, ordained in 1880 and served his curacy at St Mary Abbots in Kensington. But Carlile wanted more than comfortable parish life, and soon began outdoor preaching again. He wanted to reach the poor, unchurched, of the community.

Carlile left Kensington to work in a slum mission, and by 1882 he was busy uniting the local Anglican parish missions into one organisation. Here his business skills in planning and organising proved invaluable, and soon he had founded the 'Church Army.' He then founded two training colleges, to train both men and women evangelists. After slight hesitation, the Church of England agreed to incorporate the Church Army into its structure, and even created the office of Evangelist for the Church Army captains and sisters.

In the years that followed, Church Army has done great work in evangelism, as well as in social and moral welfare. It helped support the troops during World War 1. Carlile remained honorary chief secretary until retirement in 1926. He died in 1942.



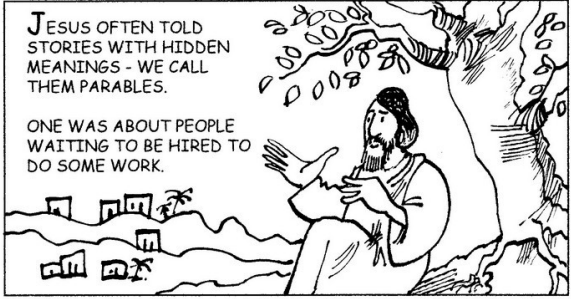


# The Hired Workers



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS - WE CALL THEM PARABLES.

ONE WAS ABOUT PEOPLE WAITING TO BE HIRED TO DO SOME WORK.



A HOUSEHOLDER HIRED A GROUP OF WORKERS FROM THE MARKET PLACE, FIRST THING IN THE MORNING. HE AGREED UPON A FAIR WAGE.



A BIT LATER ON THE HOUSEHOLDER RETURNED TO THE MARKET PLACE AND HIRED SOME MORE WORKERS.



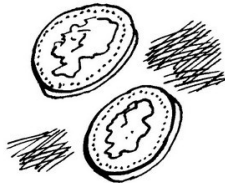
HE RETURNED SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE DAY, EACH TIME HIRING MORE WORKERS. HE EVEN HIRED SOME PEOPLE JUST AS THE SUN WAS SETTING!



WHEN THE DAY WAS OVER THE HOUSEHOLDER BEGAN TO PAY THE WORKERS, STARTING WITH THOSE WHO HAD ONLY JUST ARRIVED. HE PAID EVERYONE THE SAME.



THIS UPSET THOSE WHO HAD WORKED ALL DAY. THEY THOUGHT THEY SHOULD GET MORE.



BUT THEY WERE BEING PAID WHAT THEY HAD AGREED AT THE START OF THE DAY.

JESUS CONCLUDED "SO THOSE WHO ARE LAST WILL BE FIRST, AND THOSE WHO ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST" - IT'S A HARD PARABLE!



see Matthew 20:1-16