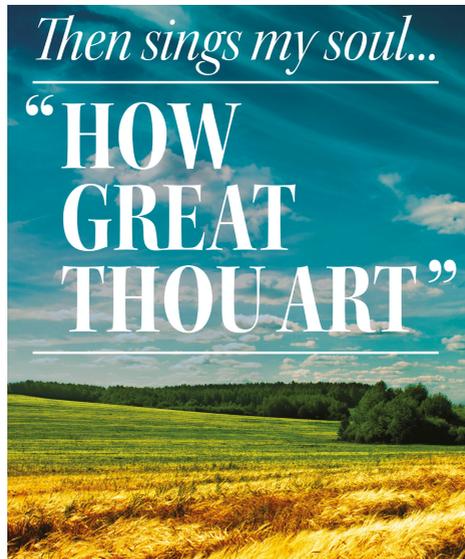


Parish Magazine for
Wem, Lee Brockhurst and Weston-under-Redcastle

October 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

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
Organist:	Glyn Williams	234954
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

At Rest

9th August Brian Bailey

16th August Mary Hawkins

Book of Remembrance for October

1 st	Terry Davies	17 th	Winifred Thomas
4 th	Colin Edgar Herriman	19 th	Vera Kathleen Johnson
6 th	Percy Thomas Walker	20 th	Edward John Edwards
7 th	Evelyn Donald	21 st	Eleanor Joyce Parker
7 th	Elise 'Lisette' Marie Denise Brooks	21 st	Hugh Courtney
7 th	Elsie 'Peggy' Blackmore	21 st	Brian David Wheatly
12 th	Elsie May Powell	23 rd	Robert Derek Taylor
14 th	Sarah Ann Woodcock	24 th	Patricia Phillips
15 th	Arthur Godfrey Leonard Price	25 th	Annie Elizabeth Jones
17 th	Janet Kenyon Ballantyne	25 th	Elizabeth 'Beth' Lochtefeld
		27 th	Thomas James Neville Bound
		29 th	Dorothy Maisie Gregory

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

10th September Sarah Anne Edgerton and Sam Oliver Smith

SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER ACROSS THE BENEFICE

DATE		WEM	WESTON	LEE
2 October	Trinity 16	8.00 am 9.45 am ¹	9.30 am	With Wem or Weston
9 October	Trinity 17	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	11.15 am
16 October	Trinity 18	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	11.15 am
23 October	Trinity 19	8.00 am 9.45 am ²	11.00 am	11.15 am
30 October	All Saints	8.00 am 9.45 am	Joint Benefice Eucharist at Wem	

¹ Harvest Festival

² Celebrant Rev Jo Farnworth Assistant Archdeacon of Salop

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.

Other Dates for your diary in Wem

Saturday 22nd October - Community Lunch in the Church Hall

Saturday 29th October - Coffee Morning in the Church Hall

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

After the momentous events of the last few weeks, two prayers:

A PRAYER FOR OUR LATE QUEEN

Dear Lord

We pray that following the death of our beloved and inspirational Queen, our Nation and the Nations of the world will re-evaluate their priorities in life and follow the values and standards that our Queen stood for, those of selflessness, compassion, grace and a quest for peace amongst all peoples. Her personality shone through the daily grind of people's lives to bring a light that manifested itself through that wonderfully infectious kind and happy smile. May her spirit live with us all for evermore.

Amen

By Roger Ashton

A PRAYER FOR OUR NEW KING, CHARLES III

Everlasting God, we pray for our new King.

Bless his reign and the life of our nation.

Help us to work together

so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness

flourish among us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

<https://www.englishcathedrals.co.uk>

All Souls Day

There will be a service at St Peter & St Paul's Wem on 2 November at 7 pm.

**THE FRIENDS OF
WHITCHURCH ROAD CEMETERY, WEM**

COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 15th OCTOBER 2022

9.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon

IN THE METHODIST CHURCH HALL



**All welcome! Please support us and help to raise funds
for ongoing improvements and maintenance of the
cemetery.**

Lee Brockhurst WI

On behalf of all members of Lee Brockhurst Women's Institute, I should like to express our deep sorrow at the loss of Queen Elizabeth II, our beloved monarch and fellow W.I. member. She joined W.I. in 1943 and succeeded her mother as President of Sandringham W.I. in 2003, only missing one January meeting throughout her reign. Her life of service is an example to us all and we send our sincere condolences to all the Royal Family.

On a happier note, it has been a busy September for Lee Brockhurst W.I. Early in the month our Brockhurst Bookworms had a very interesting discussion about their latest book, 'The Land of Decoration', which gave a fascinating insight into the lives of Jehovah's Witnesses. This was succeeded the next night by our 'What's The Point' crafters experimenting with 'Botanical Printing' and producing some intriguing results. Then our 'Summer Strollers' celebrated an enjoyable final outing for 2022 with tasty refreshments at the Tilley Raven.

At our main monthly meeting on 20th members are looking forward to hearing from Jason Davenhill, an RAF instructor and performance improvement specialist, about the 'Human Givens' and how to promote better brain health, but the event I think most members are eagerly anticipating is the harvest-themed Chocolate Workshop on Saturday 24th run by the excellent Coco Pzazz!

October kicks off with a beginners' and improvers' crochet session at What's The Point, and the Bookworms' six-weekly discussion occurs again on 10th, this time to discuss 'Wake' by Anna Hope. 'Chutney and Cheer' is the theme of the main meeting on Tuesday 18th when Melanie Latham demonstrates chutney making, selling her delicious creations in aid of The Stroke Association. The members' competition is 'a cheese knife or pickle fork'.

Murder is on the agenda for the meeting on 21st at Cockshutt Millennium Hall when the Shropshire Hills Murder Mystery Drama Group will be entertaining members of the Wem Group of WIs. This is always a popular get-together with a delicious repast, reuniting friends from Cockshutt, Clive & Grinshill, Hadnall, Hamer Hill, Loppington and Lee Brockhurst.

Continuing the theme of food and friendship, our final W.I. activity for October is a meal on Saturday 29th further details to be announced.

Most meetings are in Lee Brockhurst village hall, and we are always delighted to welcome visitors so if you would like to come along, do please contact our secretary, Julie, who will happily give you more details. Contact her on 01939 200237 / jjwoolfenden@gmail.com.

Sue Wilton-Morgan

Glyn Williams

We asked Glyn, the new organist at St Peter & St Paul's, to tell us a little about himself.

Born in Shrewsbury I started my musical education at the age of seven by taking piano lessons under Dr Kenneth Greenway and joining the choir of Shrewsbury Abbey, progressing to the organ at the age of 11 continuing my studies under Charles Jones, Richard Dacey & Alan Viner.

I also studied music at the former RSCM Headquarters at Addington Palace, Croydon and hold the LRSM Diploma in Organ Performance.

Being a former accompanist for the Shrewsbury Male Voice Choir for over 15 years I have been very fortunate to perform in many prestigious venues including the Symphony Hall in Birmingham, Waterford Cathedral Ireland & many churches & cathedrals throughout the country. Cathedral recitals have included Truro & Peterborough as well as local & national recitals, further afield at Brisbane Cathedral, Australia.

I have been the organist at Condover Church & Shrewsbury United Reformed Church for a number of years before moving to Wem in 2020.

I am married with two children ages 13 & 10. My hobbies include walking, jogging, swimming, real ale & of course music. My favourite composer is J.S Bach, I also enjoy playing light piano blues/jazz music.

The next issue is scheduled to be prepared on Thursday 20 October 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

Shropshire Hymn Writers (2)

Last month I wrote about Reginald Heber of Hodnet, and this month I turn to another Shropshire hymn writer, William Walsham How.

He was born in Shrewsbury in 1823, the son of a solicitor, and educated at Shrewsbury School and Oxford. His first curacy after ordination was in Kidderminster, and then, in 1848, he became curate of the Abbey church in Shrewsbury. His father bought the patronage of Whittington, near Oswestry, and in 1851 Walsham began 28 years as Rector of Whittington, which was then in the diocese of St Asaph. In 1879 he became Bishop of Bedford, which actually meant Bishop in the East End of London, and in 1888 he became the first Bishop of the new diocese of Wakefield. He later turned down the offer of the wealthier diocese of Durham, and remained in Wakefield until his death in 1897. He is buried in Whittington.

Walsham wrote hymns from his childhood, and some out of his 54 are still sung today. Undoubtedly the most famous is 'For all the Saints', sung today to a striking tune by Ralph Vaughan Williams. This hymn originally had 11 verses, but today only 8 are printed in the hymn books. Quieter hymns by Walsham still in hymn books today include 'O my Saviour, lifted from the earth for me', 'It is a thing most wonderful', 'Soldiers of the cross, arise', and 'O Jesu, thou art standing'.

William Price



All in the month of OCTOBER

It was:

250 years ago, on 21st October 1772 that Samuel Taylor Coleridge was born. He co-founded (with William Wordsworth) the Romantic Movement of poetry. Best known for *The Rime of the Ancient Marine* and *Kubla Khan*.

200 years ago, on 20th October 1822 that the Sunday Times newspaper was first published in the UK.

175 years ago, on 6th October 1847 that Charlotte Bronte's novel *Jane Eyre* was first published, under the pen name of Currer Bell.

150 years ago, on 11th October 1872 that Emily Davison, British suffragette, was born. A militant fighter for her cause, she died after being hit by the King's horse at the 1913 Derby.

Also 150 years ago, on 12th October 1872 that Ralph Vaughan Williams, British composer, was born.

125 years ago, on 18th October 1897 that Isabel Briggs Myers, an American personality analyst and writer was born. She created the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator with her mother, Katherine Cook Briggs.

100 years ago, on 18th October 1922 that the BBC was officially founded as the British Broadcasting Company (now the British Broadcasting Corporation.)

Also 100 years ago, on 24th October 1922 that George Cadbury died. He had transformed his father's chocolate and cocoa business into one of the world's most successful companies. He also provided low-cost housing and improved working conditions for his employees.

90 years ago, on 1st October 1932, that the British Union of Fascists was founded by Oswald Mosley. It was banned by the British Government in 1940 and dissolved.

80 years ago, from 23rd October to 5th November 1942 that the Second Battle of El-Alamein in Egypt took place. This important Allied victory marked the beginning of the end for the Axis in North Africa.

Also 80 years ago, on 30th October 1942 that crew members from the British destroyer HMS Petard retrieved codebooks from the German submarine *U-559*, enabling cryptographers at Bletchley Park to decipher the version of the Enigma code used by U-boats.

70 years ago, on 6th October 1952 that the world premiere of Agatha Christie's play, *The Mousetrap* opened in Nottingham. It then opened in London on 25th November, and is still running, making it the world's longest-running play. It has been performed more than 28,000 times.

65 years ago, on 9th October 1957 that the Lovell Telescope began operating at the Jodrell Bank Observatory in Cheshire. At the time it was the world's largest steerable dish radio telescope. Now it is the third largest. It played an important role in the early days of space launches, as it was the only radio telescope that could detect the weak signals from rockets, satellites and space probes.

60 years ago, on 15th October 1962 that British weather forecasts switched from the Fahrenheit scale to Celsius.

Also 60 years ago, from 16th to 28th October 1962 that the Cuban missile crisis began when the USA discovered that the Soviet Union had deployed ballistic missiles in Cuba.

40 years ago, on 11th October 1982 that Henry VIII's flagship the *Mary Rose* was raised from the bottom of the Solent, off the coast of southern England, 437 years after it sank.

30 years ago, on 13th October 1992 that the British Government announced that 31 of the country's 50 remaining deep coal mines would close by March 1993, putting 31,000 miners out of work. Six mines were closed immediately.

20 years ago – on 4th October 2002 that American terrorist, Richard Reid, 'the shoe bomber', pleaded guilty to trying to blow up a transatlantic flight using explosives hidden in his shoes. In January 2003 he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

10 years ago, on 22nd October 2012 that the American cyclist Lance Armstrong was banned from competitive cycling for life and stripped of all his titles including his seven Tour de France titles, for using illicit performance-enhancing drugs. After first denying the charges, he admitted he had used drugs throughout most of his career.

On the record

October sees Prisons Week (www.prisonsworld.org), a reminder to Christians to pray for all those affected by crime and imprisonment. More than 80,000 people are incarcerated in the UK at any one time, but it is very easy for those of us 'outside' to forget about these members of our society, as well as the officers, education and care workers, visitors and other members of the prison community – and the dedicated clergy and lay people who minister as chaplains and as chaplaincy volunteers. The Diocese of Lichfield has one of the highest numbers of prisons of any diocese of the Church of England, and whenever I visit any of them I am struck by the intense, isolated and often pressured atmosphere in these environments. Ministry in such situations is immediate, costly, and can be very demanding; it can also make dramatic differences in the lives of broken people. If prison life seems strange, distant and frightening to many of us, we should remember that for the earliest Christians it was often a present reality: 'Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them', the author of the Letter to the Hebrews wrote (Hebrews 13.3).

Churches and Christians outside can build a sense of connection with those inside in several ways. It is good certainly to learn more about the realities of prison life in order to inform our prayer and attitudes, to go beyond simplistic headlines and slogans in order to understand some of the real challenges facing people in our criminal justice system. The Prisons Week website, for example, has some good resources and links to help with this, and of course prison chaplains and visitors can speak powerfully from their own experience. I am impressed by the number of faithful church members who give of their time, energy and wisdom in supporting the work of chaplaincies and other prison departments as volunteers, helping some of the most helpless members of our society with friendship, encouragement and skills. And of course there can be great opportunities for individual Christians and churches to be involved at what can be the most challenging points in prisoners' lives: their release from prison. In our diocese, I am proud of the Yellow Ribbon Community Chaplaincy, [Yellow Ribbon – Community Chaplaincy \(yellowribbonuk.org.uk\)](http://YellowRibbon-CommunityChaplaincy.org.uk), offering faith based support to people looking to change their lives by breaking patterns of criminality.

Another way in which churches can fruitfully engage with the criminal justice system is through hosting Community Payback projects. As part

or a whole of their sentence, some people will be given orders to perform a certain period of unpaid work in a community setting. Such schemes are overseen by the Probation Service, who are very keen to look for partnerships with churches (and other faith groups) in offering suitable situations for this. Supervision is provided by probation officers, and the practical benefits for churches can be considerable – for example, in clearing or restoring churchyards or other areas of land; in redecorating or repairing halls or other buildings; in assisting with the setting up and running of Places of Welcome. Beyond the material results, though, there can be the opportunities to build new relationships of friendship, trust and appreciation with people for whom those values have often been in short supply. In one village, for example, a group of women in the parish started providing tea and buns for a group of young men working in the churchyard on a community payback scheme – a fitting response from what I often think should be renamed the 'Diocese of Cake'. Our own [Transforming Communities Together \(tctogether.org.uk\)](http://tctogether.org.uk) can advise on this, as can local probation offices.

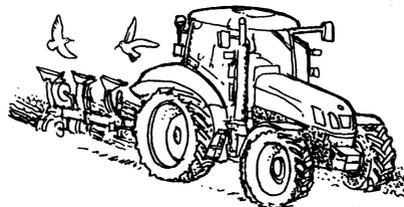
Whatever feels the right way for you or your church to engage with Prisons Week and all it stands for, my expectation is that you will find it an opportunity to deepen and enkindle your faith as well as to support and encourage people whose needs can be acute. Those of us 'outside' cannot and must not forget those 'inside'; and when we take the time and the confidence to build links, we will find our lives enriched in many unexpected ways.

Rt Revd Michel Ipgrave, Bishop of Lichfield



Holy Days in the October Church Calendar

- 1st Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, 553
1st Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury, 1885
4th Francis of Assisi, Founder of the Friars Minor, 1226
6th William Tyndale, Translator of the Scriptures, 1536
9th Denys, Bishop of Paris, and his Companions, c250
9th Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, 1253
10th Paulinus, Bishop of York, Missionary, 644
10th Thomas Traherne, Poet, Spiritual Writer, 1674
11th Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking, 675
11th James the Deacon, Companion of Paulinus, 7th C
12th Wilfrid of Ripon, Bishop, Missionary, 709
12th Elizabeth Fry, Prison Reformer, 1845
12th Edith Cavell, Nurse, 1915
13th Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066
15th Teresa of Avila, Teacher of the Faith, 1582
16th Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London, Martyr, 1555
16th Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, Martyr, 1555
17th Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, c107
18th **Luke the Evangelist**
19th Henry Martyn, Translator of Scriptures, Missionary in India and Persia, 1812
23rd **James of Jerusalem, the Brother of our Lord, Bishop & Martyr**
25th Crispin & Crispinian, Martyrs at Rome, c287
26th Alfred the Great, King of West Saxons, Scholar, 899
26th Cedd, Abbot, Bishop of East Saxons, 664
28th **Simon and Jude, Apostles**
29th James Hannington, Bishop & Martyr in Uganda, 1885
31st Martin Luther, Reformer, 1546





In Praise of Composting

Many churchyards have composting areas, sometimes a built series of bays and sometimes a pile against a wall or hedge. Others use the council composting system, putting grass cuttings and other organic debris into green bins. For those who have a compost area within the churchyard there may be many creatures depending on it. October is a good time to remove compost for use on flower or vegetable beds, it is less busy than other months and animals which will use the compost heap to hibernate will not yet be dormant. So why not dig out the compost and distribute it amongst those who will use it in their gardens and as you do, see what you will find.

First of all, there are a great many creatures which feed on dying and dead plant material, and also those feeding on each other! Look for a wide range of invertebrates including slugs, snails, worms, wood lice, spiders and centipedes. You may also find larger animals such as frogs, toads and slow worms as well as mammals including hedgehogs as well as mice, shrews and voles.

In a few compost heaps near to fresh water you'll find hatched grass snake eggs, leathery-looking white shells where the female grass snake took advantage of the warmth of the composting vegetation to place her eggs. Compost heaps offer warmth, shelter and an excellent food provision and if it's possible to have one in your churchyard this will add to the rich biodiversity to be found there.

Even if you cannot manage your own compost heap then it is well worth ensuring that all vegetable matter goes into some sort of composting system such as the council green bins, rather than into landfill. As well as producing something useful, composting is also good for your carbon footprint. Composting uses oxygen to break down vegetable matter and, whilst some carbon dioxide is released, much of the carbon and the nutrients are locked into the compost. In addition, a soil with plenty of compost or other organic matter will store more soil carbon, so your garden becomes a better place for carbon sequestration as well as growing more vegetables! Putting plant material into landfill, by contrast, releases methane, a far stronger greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

So give a cheer for the humble compost heap, it's helping us all in many ways!

All the best, Harriet Carty

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk,



O God, our help in ages past

Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748) is often called the 'Father of English hymnody'.

Watts was born in July 1674 in Southampton. (At the time of his birth, his father, an educated deacon in a dissenting Congregational church, was briefly in prison for his non-conformist beliefs.) As a boy, Watts showed outstanding ability with language (learning Greek, Hebrew, Latin and French). He also had an unusual ability for easy rhyming in English. (At the age of five, when scolded for giggling in family prayers, it was because he had seen a mouse on the bell-rope, and instantly composed the line: *'There was a mouse, for want of stairs, ran up a rope to say his prayers!'*)

Watts' literary ability, combined with his interest in theology, made him very unhappy with the congregational singing of the day, which focused almost entirely on strict metrical versions of the psalms. One Sunday after church, Isaac complained to his father about this. His father challenged him to write something better. Though only 18, Watts accepted the challenge, and produced his first hymn – which was duly sung the following Sunday.

It was such a success that he wrote new hymn texts every Sunday for the next two years. In all, he went on to write more than 600 hymns. Some of them are still well-loved today: from this one, 'O God, Our Help in Ages Past', which is a paraphrase of Psalm 90, to 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross', and the Christmas carol 'Joy to the World'.

A SMILE

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

Sent to us by Roger Ashton

Published by Tim Tilley Ltd Bristol many years ago