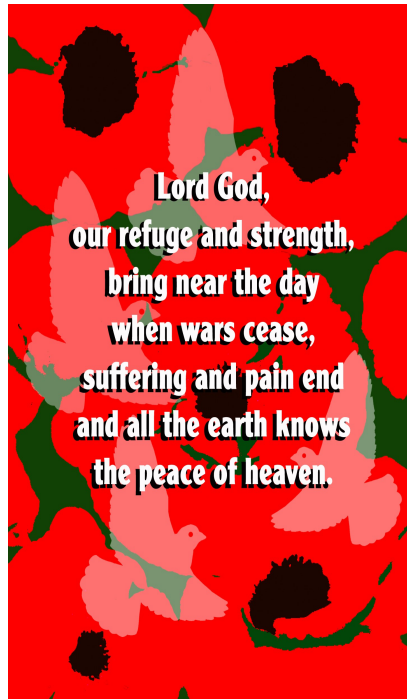


Parish Magazine for
Wem, Lee Brockhurst and Weston-under-Redcastle

November 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
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

16th September Margaret Hodson
21st September David Norman Albert Ball
23rd September Gwyneth Doreen Peate
24th September Robert Edward (Ted) Davies
30th September Christine Lloyd

St Peter and St Paul's Wem

Rotas for 9.45 am Services

Readers

6 November	NT	Helen Hornsby
	Gospel	William Price
13 November	NT	Elaine Shaw
	Gospel	Thelma Pugh
20 November	NT	Kim Archer
	Gospel	John Berry
27 November	NT	Thelma Pugh
	Gospel	David Murray

Intercessors

6 November	Katharine Murray
13 November	Olive Kenward
20 November	June Powell
27 November	Tim Heavisides

Ministrants

6 November	Alison Price
13 November	Alison Price
20 November	Tim Heavisides

Coffee Makers

6 November	David Murray
13 November	No coffee
20 November	Sybil Farmer
27 November	Helen Hornsby



Book of Remembrance for November

1 st	Jean Godfrey	13 th	Winifred Mabel Powell
2 nd	Mary Constance Ratcliff	14 th	Wallace Clive Jones
2 nd	Christopher Michael Hornsby	14 th	Samuel Edwin Philips
2 nd	Edith Olive Pugh	16 th	John Heslop
2 nd	Isabel Carman	17 th	Agnes Boscombe Caslaw
4 th	Joyce Jones	17 th	Nora Elizabeth Jones
4 th	Ian John 'Scooby' Skuba	19 th	John Morgan
7 th	Shirley MacQueen	19 th	David Henry Morgan Woolam
7 th	Elsie May Payne	23 rd	Joseph Ronald Hall
8 th	Edward James Ridgway	23 rd	Hilda Maude McCarthy
8 th	Gerald George Alan Hancock	23 rd	James Williams, Priest
8 th	Edith Mary Rudland	24 th	Carol May Blaney
9 th	Lilian Kathleen Randall	26 th	Edith Mary Birch
10 th	Eric John Woodcock	26 th	Agnes Hutchinson
10 th	George Rhondda 'Ron' Pugh	28 th	Roland Thomas Philips
10 th	Christopher David Mackay	28 th	Frank Penlington Roberts
11 th	Evelyn May Millington	29 th	Philip David Parker
11 th	William Henry Taylor	30 th	Denise Parker
12 th	Beatrice Maud Turner	30 th	Nancy Rosamund Wilson
12 th	Kathleen Doris Clawley	30 th	Henry Austin Gregory
12 th	John Alfred Curtis		

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

SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER ACROSS THE BENEFICE

DATE		WEM	WESTON	LEE
6 November	Trinity 20	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	With Wem or Weston
13 November	Trinity 21 Remembrance Sunday	8.00 am 9.30 am 10.45 am*	10.45 am*	With Wem or Weston
20 November	Christ the King	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	11.15 am
27 November	Advent 1	8.00 am 9.45 am	11.00 am	11.15 am

* Act of Remembrance and Church Service

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.

All Souls Day

St Peter & St Paul's Wem on 2 November at 7 pm

It is a pleasure to let you know that this year we are reintroducing the All Soul's Service after a gap of some years due to covid restrictions.

Also known as the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, this service welcomes us to reflect on those in our lives who have passed away and to remember them in a gentle and peaceful setting. There will be an opportunity for you to light a candle in your loved one's name.

At the service it is customary to read out the names of those who have died in recent years. Unfortunately, due to the disruption of the past three years, the church's records are incomplete so, if you would like the name of a loved one to be mentioned, when you arrive kindly print their name on a card which you will find at the back of church and place it in a basket. Someone will be there to help you: please allow time for this before the service begins

We hope to see you there.

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

**Autumn Festive
Fayre**

**Saturday 19th November
At Lee Brockhurst
Village Hall**

10.30 until 12.00

**Coffee, mince pies
Crafts, cakes,
Bric-a-brac
Raffle & more**

Everyone welcome

There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle. – *Albert Einstein*

Forthcoming Events in Wem

A Community Lunch in the Church Hall on Saturday 19th November 11:30 - 14:00

This event is free of charge. Booking is helpful but not essential. Please ring 01939 232682 or email claireglover728@gmail.com to book or for more information

Christmas Coffee Morning in the Church Hall on Saturday 26th November 09:30 - 12:00

Please join us for coffee, there will be cakes, jams and chutney and tombola stalls.

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

WESTON VILLAGE SHOW 2022

We are very pleased to report that our Village Show 2022 in August made a record Profit of £14000 which is an excellent result and a well-deserved tribute to all the hardworking volunteers who made the show such a success, aided by superb weather.

Donations of £4000 each have been made to Hope House Children's Hospice and "Do it for Deb's", a fundraiser for a new Scanner Appeal for The Rheumatology Department of the Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry.

Daphne Evans

Harvest Time at St Peter's, Lee Brockhurst

Following a well attended Harvest Festival Service on Sunday 25th September, for the first time in several years, the congregation of St Peter's were able to hold their Harvest Supper and Auction of Produce on the following Monday.

The turnout was amazing, 39 people sat down to eat a choice of Cottage Pie with vegetables or Chicken Casserole, provided by Val Lusby and Phoebe Ashton, This was followed by various desserts served up with custard, provided by Margaret Haarhoff, Margaret Marsh and Val and Phoebe. The atmosphere was convivial as folk drank their own preferred beverages and chatted. It was particularly pleasing to see so many villagers joining the congregation in this joyful event.

Following the meal Tim Wilton-Morgan, ably assisted by his wife Sue, conducted the Auction of Produce. In particular pots of Lemon Curd were sold for large sums of money!

The whole event was a very happy occasion and raised over £400.00 for the church.

We look forward to celebrating harvest again next year!

Our next fund raising event will be our Autumn Fayre on Saturday 19th November in the Village Hall. Do come along - coffee and mince pies will be served.

Phoebe Ashton

The next issue is scheduled to be prepared on Thursday 17 November and will cover December 2022 and January 2023. It 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)

Lee Brockhurst WI

Lee Brockhurst W.I. members were left in a reflective mood at their September meeting after an unusual and interesting talk by RAF instructor Jason Davenhill on 'The Human Givens'. His message was essentially 'keep all life elements in **balance**'. Perhaps our 'What's The Point' meeting assisted with this when members learned basic **crochet** stitches to make dishcloths – seemingly **stressed and relaxed** in equal measure! Less stressful was the **Brockhurst Bookworms'** October meeting when reviewing 'Wake' by Anna Hope, a compelling debut novel about three women in the aftermath of World War II.

Great fun was had at our successful **chocolate** workshop, lead by Coco Pzazz; we came away with a **delicious** assortment of variously flavoured bars, slabs and giant buttons. (It has been rumoured that one member still has uneaten chocolate, but I find that hard to believe!)

'Chutney and Cheer' was the theme of our October meeting when **four-times stroke survivor** Melanie Latham demonstrated chutney making whilst relating **hilarious** anecdotes. Members were able to buy her **delicious** preserves, sold in aid of the Stroke Association, with such wonderful names as 'A Bit on the Side', 'Turbo Diesel chutney' (formulated for a truck festival at Sandbach), and 'Hat and Handbag marmalade' (relating to where marmalade lovers keep their sandwiches, and includes passionfruit from Peru). She was probably the best speaker we have ever had – members were roaring with laughter throughout her presentation. It was a great meeting at which to welcome our newest members **Gill Egerton, Nina Girling, Joanne Plumb** and **Miriam Wilson** to our WI family. Congratulations go to **Meg Bilson, June Jackson** and **Julie Woolfenden**, for being placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively, with their unusual entries in our competition 'a pickle fork or cheese knife'.

Some of the upcoming events to which we are looking forward include our afternoon tea at The Old Rectory, the Wem Group of WIs' 'Murder Mystery' evening, the County visit to the Shropshire archives, and the lunch at 'Origins' at Shrewsbury College. We love to **welcome visitors** so if you would like to join in the fun, please speak to our friendly secretary, **Julie**, who will happily give you more details. Contact her on 01939 200237 / jjwoolfenden@gmail.com.

Sue Wilton-Morgan

Whitchurch Food Bank

The congregations and residents of the three parishes have been sending regular contributions to the Whitchurch Food Bank. They are very gratefully received as shown in the following letter from them. This was sent to Wem and very similar letters have been received in both Lee and Weston.

Thank you for your continued support.

Hello Sybil !

Our Manager at Food Bank, Alan Scutt, has been told that we received a super donation from the Harvest at ST. PETER & ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WEM last week (weighing 54.8 kgs) - How wonderful, we are truly most grateful THANK YOU SO MUCH ! Will you please pass on our sincere thanks those members of your congregation who so generously donated harvest goods!

We do rely entirely on the wonderful generosity which we receive from our local communities (and did you know that Wem is particularly generous to our Food Bank!) for without all the support we receive, we just wouldn't be able to function - It is not only people living in Whitchurch we help, but we support families in Wem, Prees, Malpas, and many of the villages in between !

Who knows what the next few months has in store for us all, financially - but there are so many who are already struggling to keep their heads above the water, and so we just have to be here for all who come to us for support and guidance. - Families with young children, single parents, and people living on their own, seem to be particularly vulnerable !

Little did we think when we set up the Food Bank in Whitchurch 9 years ago, that we would still be needed all these years later, but sadly, we are needed more than ever

Originally our 'clients' were supplied with food enough for 3 days, but since Covid we are able to be much more generous, and supply enough food for 7 days , plus providing them with fresh vegetables and Fruit, Eggs & bread paid from financial donations we receive, to supplement what we have been able to provide.

But, the generosity we are shown, certainly restores ones faith in human nature!

Once more, MANY THANKS for your wonderful support!

With Every Blessing

PAULINE STOKES - Secretary to Whitchurch Food Bank

Are we accidentally 'ableist'?

It's been a weird time lately hasn't it? The woman who embodied the strength and pride of a family of nations, succumbed, as we all must, to the destiny we all share, in the shedding and resting of the body which has worked hard in the carrying of hopes, fears, service, power and children. Over the last six months of speculation about the Queen's failing health, being kept discretely out of sight lest anyone think less of her, has taken me back to a time when I couldn't face going to the one place and gathering where my comfort, strength & hopes were most readily found - church. I stayed away for about 18 months... it was just too embarrassing, too difficult. I couldn't face not blending in, not standing up (like you are told to) for those hymn verses (HOW many?!). People would think I was either disrespectful or a nuisance, causing a fuss etc. It was best for everyone if I stayed at home, kept the mobility aids I begrudgingly used out of sight, just like Her Majesty and her PR team chose to do.

I wonder if anyone dared to challenge the Queen's thinking about this? I am glad that someone challenged me. In the way that perhaps only good friends can, she 'socked it to me' straight!! She told me that I was being prejudiced about being seen as disabled. She called me "ableist"! I was mortified - because she was right.

Fast forward 10 years and using a walking stick and wheelchair in my full time work and ministry as a vicar and someone who helps churches to put things in place so that nobody feels like a nuisance or a bother.

Our churches are places of invitation, where people may find comfort, strength to face difficult days, friendship and hope which transcends the struggles of our frail, limited bodies and lives.

So now I recognise the prejudice, the 'ableism' in myself, the world around me and in the church I have made vows to faithfully serve. As Christians this isn't yet another 'ism' we are afraid to be caught out being - accidentally or otherwise. It's something we should help one another to change so that nobody would be too embarrassed or ashamed to seek prayer, worship, comfort and fellowship in their parish church.

There are actually loads of simple and cheap ways to begin this journey in our churches. I'd love to share them with you so why not join a growing network of parishes learning together how to be the one place people can come truly as they are and find the grace we all need.

Revd Zoe Hemings is the diocese's Enabling All Advisor and vicar of Newport. Contact her by email (enabling.all@lichfield.anglican.org), phone (07871 622598) or the Enabling All team's Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/enabling.all>)

Holy Days in the November Church Calendar

1 st	All Saints' Day
2 nd	All Souls' Day; Commemoration of the Faithful Departed
3 rd	Richard Hooker, Priest and Teacher of the Faith, 1600
3 rd	Martin de Pores, Friar, 1639
6 th	Illtud, 540
6 th	Leonard, Hermit and Confessor, c559
6 th	William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1944
7 th	Willibrord of York, Bishop, Apostle of Frisia, 739
8 th	The Saints and Martyrs of England
9 th	Margery Kempe, Mystic, c1440
10 th	Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, 461
11 th	Martin, Bishop of Tours, c397
13 th	Charles Simeon, Priest, 1836
14 th	Samuel Seabury, Bishop in North America, 1836
16 th	Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Church Reformer, 1093
16 th	Edmund Rich, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1240
17 th	Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200
18 th	Elizabeth of Hungary, Philanthropist, 1231
19 th	Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680
19 th	Mechtild, Beguine of Magdeburg, Mystic, 1280
20 th	Edmund, King of the East Angles, Martyr, 1870
20 th	Priscilla Lydia Sellon, Anglican Religious, 1876
22 nd	Cecilia, Martyr at Rome, c230
23 rd	Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr, c100
25 th	Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, 4 th C
25 th	Isaac Watts, Hymn writer, 1748
30 th	Andrew the Apostle

St Margaret of Scotland

Margaret of Scotland has been called 'The Pearl of Scotland', but she began life in Hungary in about 1045. She was born to the expatriate English prince Edward the Exile, and so was an English princess. The family returned to Wessex in 1057, when she was 13, and following the death of King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings in 1066, her brother Edgar Aetheling should have been King of England, but he was never crowned. Instead, the family fled north, to Scotland, where she was married to Malcolm III of Scotland by 1070. As a Scottish queen she went on to become mother of three kings of Scotland, and of a queen consort of England.

Margaret was a Christian, and became a good friend of Lanfranc, a future archbishop of Canterbury. Her biographer tells of how she read narratives from the Bible to her husband, thus helping to 'civilise' him. He was illiterate, but so admired her reading, that he had her books decorated with gold and silver. She was also credited with helping her youngest son, the future King David I of Scotland, towards becoming a just and holy ruler.

Margaret introduced the worship and practise of the Church of Rome into Scotland. She also wanted to help the many pilgrims travelling in Scotland, and so she established a ferry across the Firth of Forth, which is where the towns South Queensferry and North Queensferry got their names.

Margaret performed many charitable works for the poor, and she interceded for the release of English exiles who had been forced into serfdom following the Norman conquest. She also began the restoration of Iona Abbey.

In private life, Margaret spent much of her time in prayer, using a cave on the banks of the Tower Burn in Dunfermline as a place of devotion and prayers. St Margaret's Cave is still there today, covered beneath a municipal car park.

Margaret died in 1093, and in 1250 Pope Innocent IV canonised her. Her relics were dispersed after the Scottish Reformation, but at one time Mary, Queen of Scots, owned her head.

All in the month of NOVEMBER

It was:

175 years ago, on 4th November 1847 that Scottish obstetrician James Young Simpson discovered the anaesthetic properties of chloroform. He helped popularise its use in medicine.

Also 175 years ago, on 8th November 1847 that Bram Stoker, Irish-born British writer, was born. He is best known for his Gothic horror novel Dracula.

125 years ago, on 15th November 1897 that Aneurin 'Nye' Bevan, British politician was born. He was the Minister of Health 1945-51 who led the establishment of the National Health Service.

100 years ago, on 4th November 1922 that British archaeologist Howard Carter discovered the tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen. On 26th November he reached a second sealed doorway and discovered the famous treasures.

80 years ago, on 5th November 1942 that the WW2 Second Battle of El-Alamein ended. British troops led by Generals Alexander and Montgomery defeated Rommel's German forces in Egypt. On 10th November, Winston Churchill announced: "This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

75 years ago, on 20th November 1947 that the marriage of Princess Elizabeth and Philip Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, took place at Westminster Abbey in London.

65 years ago, from 16th to 26th November 1957 that the first London Film Festival was held, at the National Film Theatre. (Now BFI Southbank.)

60 years ago, on 20th November 1962 that the Cuban Missile crisis ended and US President John F Kennedy lifted the military blockade of Cuba.

40 years ago, on 2nd November 1982 that Channel 4 Television was launched in the UK.

30 years ago, on 11th November 1992 that the Church of England voted to allow women to become priests. The first women were ordained in March 1994.

Also 30 years ago, on 20th November 1992 that the Windsor Castle fire broke out in a private chapel and spread to a large part of the building. Damage was extensive and took five years to repair, at a cost of £40 million. Buckingham Palace was opened to the public for the first time to help raise the money.

25 years ago, on 17th November 1997 that the Luxor massacre took place in Egypt. Islamic militants killed 62 people (mainly tourists) outside the Temple of Hatshepsut archaeological site in Deir el-Bahari.

15 years ago, on 19th November 2007 that Amazon released its first Kindle e-book reader.

Shropshire Hymnwriters, part iii.

The Reverend John Ellerton was Rector of Hinstock between 1872 and 1876. He wrote many hymns, two of which are still well known today, although since they are both evening hymns they are sung far less frequently than in the past, when the service of Evensong was held in most churches on Sundays, and indeed was in many places the best attended service of the day. I personally regret the demise of Evensong, sometimes described as the jewel in the Anglican liturgy.

‘Saviour, again, to thy dear name we raise’ was written to be sung as the final hymn at Evensong, with the lines ‘Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise/ with one accord our parting hymn of praise;/ we stand to bless thee ere our worship cease/ then, lowly kneeling, wait thy word of peace’. It is usually sung to the tune Ellers.

But undoubtedly his most famous hymn was ‘The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended’. It first appeared in a hymn book published jointly with William Walsham How (see last month’s magazine). Queen Victoria chose this hymn for her Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 1897 and it was sung in thousands of churches on Sunday 20 June in that year. Given that it contains the lines ‘So be it, Lord, thy throne shall never,/ like earth’s proud empires pass away’ it was perhaps a curious choice for the Queen-Empress. I remember being in a discussion as to whether ‘The sun that bids us rest is waking/our brethren neath the western sky’ ought not to read ‘the eastern sky’, and I leave you to think about that.

The hymn is sung to the tune St Clement, composed by the Reverend Clement Scholefield, and it was at first dismissed as a feeble waltz tune, but it is now universally accepted. It is possible that Mr Scholefield was assisted in its composition by Sir Arthur Sullivan.

Some years ago I took a service in Hinstock church (now possibly facing being closed) and I was shown a tree in the Old Rectory under which I was told that John Ellerton wrote the words of ‘The day thou gavest’. Historians can sometimes upset people, and I decided not to tell the people of Hinstock that the famous hymn was written in 1870, when Ellerton was Vicar of Crewe Green, near Crewe, two years before he moved to Hinstock. So it is not a Shropshire hymn, although its author was (later) a Shropshire parson.

William Price



Looking at Lichens

November can be a quiet month for wildlife-spotting apart from fungi, but have you ever taken a closer look at the lichens growing on the monuments within your churchyard? Forming a mosaic of colour these vary from simple, powdery scatterings and crusts to more elaborate leafy or even bushy structures. They are particularly rich and varied in unpolluted sites with clean air.

Lichens consist of two or more organisms living together as one. This is usually a fungus which forms the visible part of the lichen and within, protected by the fungal threads, are algal cells which can photosynthesise and provide food for the whole lichen. So, the fungus gets food and the algae gets shelter!

Churchyards are outstanding for lichens; there are approximately 2,000 lichen species in the UK, over 700 of these have been found in churchyards with half of them rarely if ever found elsewhere. Churchyard monuments provide a range of rock types with nooks and crannies caused by the monument shape and the carving of words and symbols. All of these nooks and crannies may have slightly different conditions of substrate, light, moisture and temperature which may suit different lichen species.

Lichens start to colonise as soon as something is set still, be it stone, wood or even rubber dustbin lids! Take a look at your older monuments and think how long the lichens may have been slowly growing there. The British Lichen Society has surveyed most churchyards so visit our atlas of biological records (burialgrounds.nbnatlas.org) and see how many have been found in churchyards near you.

Lichens don't need us to look after them but do need unchanging conditions so please encourage people to resist scrubbing them off, which also scratches the stone and makes it erode quicker; try to prevent ivy from smothering them and if a monument needs moving, try to erect it in the same orientation so that the conditions of light and shade remain constant. Other than that, take a magnifying glass and slip into the amazing miniature world of lichens.....

All the best, Harriet Carty

[Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor,](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk)
harriet@cfga.org.uk,

