

March 2024

The Benefice Magazine
for the Parishes of
St Peter & St Paul,
St Peter and St Luke



*St Peter and St Paul's,
Wem*



*St Peter's,
Lee Brockhurst*



*St Luke's,
Weston-under-Redcastle*

**THE BENEFICE OF
ST PETER & ST PAUL, WEM
ST PETER, LEE BROCKHURST
ST LUKE, WESTON-UNDER-REDCASTLE**

Rector

The Reverend John Christopher Jukes BTh (Hons) MA
The Rectory Ellesmere Road, Wem SY4 5TU
01939 235343
revjohnjukes@gmail.com

Retired Clergy

Canon Dr William Price
Prebendary Rob Haarhoff
The Reverend Edith Quirey

Further details are available on our website: www.wemcofe.co.uk
and on Facebook@Wemparishchurch

ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S CHURCH, WEM

Churchwardens

Sybil Farmer 01939 232568
David Murray 01939 236134

Parish Reader

Katharine Murray

PCC Lay Chair

Sybil Farmer 01939 232568

PCC Treasurer

Caroline Sinclair 01939 232626

Organist

Glyn Williams 01939 234954

Sacristan

June Powell 01939 234412

Church Flowers

Sybil Farmer 01939 232568

Church Hall Bookings – Via website/Facebook

Baby and Toddler Group (Sweet Peas)

Alison Hope – E-Mail to alisonhope18@yahoo.co.uk

ST PETER'S, LEE BROCKHURST

Churchwardens

Val Lusby 01939 235610

Roger Ashton 01939 232425

Treasurer

Roger Ashton 01939 232425

PCC Secretary

Phoebe Ashton 07858 123669

PCC Lay Chairman

Tim Wilton-Morgan 07802 735769

Church Warden Emeritus

Robert Marsh 01939 200641

ST LUKE'S, WESTON-UNDER-REDCASTLE

Churchwardens

Frank Hosie-Kingham 01939 200618

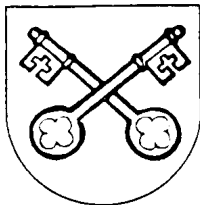
Helen O'Neill 01939 200663

Treasurer

Colin Holloway 01939 200682

Church Warden Emeritus

Arthur Fox 01630 685180



SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN MARCH

DAY	DATE	SEASON	WEM	WESTON	LEE
Sunday	3 rd	Lent 3	08:00 HE 09:45 HE	09:30 HE	11:15 HE
Thursday	7 th	<i>Perpetua, Felicity & Companions—203</i>	09:30 HE		
Sunday	10 th	Mothering Sunday	08:00 HE 09:45 HE	09:30 HE	11:15 HE
Thursday	14 th		09:30 HE		
Sunday	17 th	Lent 5	08:00 HE 09:45 HE	09:30 MP	11:15 HE
Thursday	21 st	<i>Thomas Cranmer</i>	09:30 HE		
Sunday	24 th	Palm Sunday	08:00 HE 09:45 HE	11:00 HE	11:15 HE
Monday Tuesday Wednesday	25 th 26 th 27 th	Holy Week	19:00 HE 10:00 HE 14:00 HE		
Thursday	28 th	Maundy Thurs	19:00 HE ¹		
Friday	29 th	Good Friday	09:30 ² 14:00 ³		14:00 ⁴
Sunday	31 st	Easter Day	08:00 HE 09:45 HE	09:30 HE	11:15 HE

HE—Holy Eucharist MP—Morning Prayer

- ¹ — The Stripping of the Altar and The Watch
- ² — Prayers and the Reception of the Holy Sacrament
- ³ — Meditation on the Last Hour
- ⁴ — The Last Hour



Notes from the Editor

Once again we have had to postpone the advent of the "Printed Magazine" for which we apologise.

March sees the winter gloom begin to lift as the morning become lighter earlier and the evening extend by a small increment daily. With the increased daylight the plants begin to start growing especially the bulbs. It is a joy to see the snowdrops, crocuses and early daffodils appearing and brightening up our gardens.

This year, at the very end of March, we celebrate Easter, much earlier than usual, and also the beginning of British Summer Time. Churches all over the country will be preparing for Holy Week leading up to Easter Day. Let us hope that the weather will match the promise of summer!

We hope you will find the mix of articles in this magazine interesting. We are always looking out for contributions big or small and advanced notice of events taking place in the Benefice.

Best wishes from The Editorial Team.
Phoebe.

Phoebe's contact details

phoebe42.lee@gmail.com or 07858123669 for any queries.

Canon William Gives Us An Insight Into Ministry In The 1870's

KILVERT IN MARCH

The Revd Francis Kilvert was a clergyman in the Wye Valley in Radnorshire and Herefordshire in the 1870s. His Diary gives us glimpses into ordinary life in his parishes, and I've selected some extracts from March in different years.

Saturday 26th March 1870.

A delicious day upon Clyro Hill. It was sunny and warm under the sheltering bank and woods of Wern Vawr and pleasant walking along the low road leading to the old farm house with its large projecting and highgabled porch. There was a stir about the house and yard. They had killed a fat stall-fed heifer yesterday and a party of people much interested in the matter among them old Jones and his wife were busy cutting up the carcase in the barn. A man went to and fro from the barn to the house with huge joints of beef having first weighed them on the great steelyard which hangs at the barn door. In the house Mrs Jones of New Building an old daughter of the house was engaged in the great kitchen taking up the joints from the table where the men laid them and carrying them into an inner room or larder to put them in salt. By the fire sat a young woman who hid her face and did not look up. She had a baby lying across her lap.

(Place names in Radnorshire were all Welsh, but few people spoke Welsh in that area.)

Saturday 16th March 1872

Down by 6.45 and waiting for Charles and the dog cart to take me to Three Cocks. [*Three Cocks was a railway station and Charles was the Vicarage groom. He had overslept.*] I went down to his house and there was Charles in bed with his wife and sound asleep. By this time it was 7.15 and the train left Three Cocks at 7.58. Charles had to dress, harness the horse, put him in the dog cart, and drive 5½ miles in the time. As we dashed up to the Three Cocks station the train glided up to the platform. Well done, old Rocket. No other horse would have done it. Charles was in a great fright. He said we did the distance in 20 minutes.

The train was exactly punctual. Another minute and we should have lost it.

(Trains transformed travel in the nineteenth century. Three Cocks was one of many remote junctions on the Cambrian Railway, this being where lines from Llanidloes, Hereford, and Brecon met.)

Thursday 20th March 1873

Going up the Old Forest we overtook three of the Llowes and Llandewi women returning from the Hay Market and toiling up the hill with their heavy baskets. Two of them were named Mrs Evans and Mrs Lewis and they had red handkerchiefs tied round their heads. Amidst their amusement, admiration and gratitude I took their baskets from them and carried them to Pen rheol on the edge of the open hill, the Beacons, where we parted company. Mrs Evans was a tall handsome woman with large dark eyes, beautiful, soft, pensive...Several times she wanted to take her basket from me, saying she was ashamed to see me carrying it, but I would not allow her. 'Why', I said, 'we are told in the scripture to bear one another's burdens'. 'Ay', she said, 'but there is not one in a hundred that would do it'.

Friday 13 March 1874

Charles Awdry told a good story which he said the Archdeacon of Sarum told him. The Archdeacon on a Visitation tour came to a small upland parish in the diocese of Salisbury. He asked the clerk how often the Holy Communion was administered in the year. The clerk stared. 'What did you please to say?' he asked. 'The Holy Communion', repeated the Archdeacon. 'How often do you have it in the year?' The clerk still stared open-mouthed in hopeless bewilderment. At length a suspicion of the Archdeacon's meaning began to dawn faintly upon him. 'Aw', he blurted out. 'Aw, we never do have he. We've got no tackling'.

(The 'tackling' was the chalice and paten for Holy Communion. In another extract Kilvert wrote of a church which had no water for baptism – 'the parson spat in his hand'.)

William Price.

Revd Christopher Cooke remembers Celia Camplin

Several months ago, Celia contacted me to ask if I would be prepared to say a few words at her funeral about her ministry as a Lay Reader. This request was renewed when I had the privilege of visiting her near the end of her life in the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. The smile was as wonderful as ever.

On that occasion, she said how much her Readership, first with David Jenkins, at **St Alkmund's, Whitchurch**, and then with me at **St Peter and St Paul's, Wem and St Peter's, Lee Brockhurst** had meant to her.

Not long after I had arrived as rector at Wem and Lee Brockhurst, the Bishop of Shrewsbury contacted me to see if there was a role for Celia Harrison, as she was then, with us. The Parochial Church Councils discussed it and agreed to enter a trial period. What a good decision that was!

Celia and I developed a very friendly and productive collaboration in Wem and Lee Brockhurst.

Rather independently of me, Celia ran Bible discussion groups in both Whitchurch and Wem which have continued until very recently. They were very much valued by participants.

Celia was the safeguarding officer for both Wem and Lee Brockhurst parishes.

Our collaborative work came under three heads:

St Peter's School: We both went in to take Acts of Worship. We wanted to involve the School more closely with the church than the three whole school visits at Christmas, Easter and Harvest when we shared the leadership. However, we realized the logistical problems of getting such a large school as a whole into the parish church more regularly. Celia devised and collaborated

with the staff of the school on innovative Year group visits to St Peter and St Paul's Church. The early years would explore the church building. Middle years would come for a Christingle service. School Leavers had a well-planned school leaving service.

St Peter's Lee, Brockhurst: The usual pattern was I would go one week to share Holy Communion and Celia would lead a service of the Word on the other. It was always a great joy when we could be together. On one Palm Sunday, the Bishop of Shrewsbury was to visit. Celia said she always led the congregation in procession round the outside of the Church on Palm Sunday and we should do the same when the Bishop came. However, we had not allowed for the height of a bishop's mitre when passing under some trees. The bishop was very gracious about it.

St Peter and St Paul's, Wem: Celia developed the teaching element of the monthly Family Eucharists. She was always well prepared and concentrated on getting the Gospel across and engaging as many people as possible. There seemed to be three main objectives:

To reach out to any children there,

To get the adults to think about the gospel in different ways, and

To embarrass and discomfit the Rector as much as possible.

I always seemed to be her fall guy, often asked to do something with my hands or move around in a chasuble. The congregation seemed to encourage her!

One of my many shortcomings as a parish priest is that I tend to be rather cerebral. **Celia was all heart.** That contrast made us a good team. The parishes of Wem, Lee Brockhurst, and Whitchurch are eternally grateful for the ministry of Celia.



Notes from The Diocese

The Lenten Journey



St Chad

'Following Christ in the footsteps of St Chad'

March begins with the celebration of the lives of two saints; on 1st March we have St David, (or Dewi Sant) 6th Bishop of Wales and on 2nd March we have St Chad, 7th first Bishop of Lichfield and our patron. These days punctuate Lent, giving us an opportunity to pause and reflect on how the holy people of old patterned their lives on that of Christ. We might consider how we may learn from their ancient wisdom at this point on our Lenten journey. It's a journey which has a distinctive shape, beginning with a purposeful focus on discipline, fasting and intentional holiness; it moves inexorably toward the intensity of its conclusion in Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Cross.



St David

Yet during these middle weeks of Lent we find ourselves with Jesus in the wilderness, a place of desolation and abandonment; yet paradoxically, it's potentially a time of great spiritual growth, if we dare to withdraw, to enter deeply into a time of self-examination and keep company with Jesus. We are invited to dwell, abide, to wait, to 'tarry', to slow down in our journey. We can learn much from the Celtic saints who lived the monastic life for whom these practices were embedded in their 'Rule of Life'.

Earlier this year, I chose Jeremiah 6:16 as a guiding verse: *"Thus says the Lord: Stand at the crossroads and look, and ask for the ancient*

paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'" It seems to me that Lent is indeed a good time to pause at the crossroads and look to those ancient paths and perhaps heed the prophet's words to take them?

One of the distinctive characteristics of both these saints, Dewi and Chad, is that they were encouragers of others in their mission. As founders of monasteries, they built communities of learning; but they also lived lives of discovery and adventure, spreading the Christian message and gathering disciples as they went. They recognised the wisdom of taking time out to rest, pray and study. We owe them, and so many others, much gratitude for their legacy of Christian practice.

In our Chad Foundations programme we have sought to embed some of these principles and practices in preparation for public ministry. The Chad programme allows those taking the first steps into ministry to explore what it feels like to be part of a learning community, albeit mostly online, in the virtual world of Moodle; yet we also take time out to pray, eat, study and enter into retreat together on our gathered days. We travel as companions together in small groups. Chad aims to be a journey of adventure and discovery, of exploring ministry and mission, where we can examine that vocational question, 'What is it Lord, that you have called me to do?'. As we each continue on our individual Lenten journeys, I wonder if that question is one that saints like Chad and Dewi might help us answer?

Clare Whitney - Lay Ministerial Learning and Development Officer
clare.whitney@lichfield.anglican.org

For information about the Chad Foundations Programme see the webpage:
lichfield.anglican.org/chad-foundations.



COUNTRYSIDE MATTERS

—March
from ROGER ASHTON



The Village Church

Over the centuries the village church has stood the test of time standing strong as its centre point binding the local community together. For a thousand years since the Norman Conquest the heavy stone construction has brought longevity and continuity values that a small rural population holds dear. The rural setting encompassed the local farming community and in times past the small cottage industries that supported the village people; there would be a baker, a brewer, a cobbler

and leather repairer and a dressmaker for instance. Christianity has powerful influence on life, from birth to death. Nature with its seasons and weather patterns was greatly respected and families would remain in their local area for generations. Of course since the advent of affordable transport that has changed and now villages are part of the commuter society totally changing the whole structure of the traditional community. Has this change affected the support of the church?

I can only speak for the area of North Shropshire and that trend is a slipping one; as the mainly elderly congregation are dying out and the younger generations are not replacing them. The younger generations seem to be developing an almost new culture for living with the influence of two parent careers, Sunday commercialisation, and television and social media time load. The village barn conversions and new infill housing have brought in a different group of people covering a wide selection of society some of whom take an interest in the Church. Support for the actual building, as a grand centre piece of architecture in the village, will have some impact too, I feel.

Traditionally the village church operated a Sunday School for the children of the local population bringing some continuity to the

importance of understanding the need for a belief in God, someone who could bring meaning to life and give clear guidance for improving kindness to others. Lee Brockhurst church had a Sunday School and an annual Confirmation Service at one time and I recall an amusing story that my father related to me which must have happened in the mid 1930's. It centred on our late herdsman Jeffrey Hall who was present at Lee church for his confirmation along with a school group. My father and paternal Grandparents were there helping out. Half way through the proceedings Jeff suddenly stood up and announced in a loud voice "them lots done".

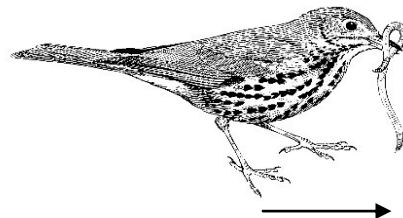
What of the future? Well weekly Sunday services are under severe strain as individual Parish Churches have not got enough Parish Priests to cover them. This situation gets worse as congregation numbers fall due to the Diocese and the Church of England's fiscal policy and financial constraints resulting in half salary posts. I dream of the Church of England releasing some of its vast capital reserves to support full salaries!



The Storm Cock sings in March

March is a great month to search for and listen to mistle thrushes. They start to breed in February and by March can be heard proclaiming from the tops of tall trees. Unlike other thrushes such as song thrush or blackbird, mistle thrushes are known for singing during stormy weather,

hence the name storm cock. They are also called Throstles, an old word for thrush. By perching high to sing, they amplify their already loud song which can be heard up to 2km away.



Compared to other thrushes the mistle thrush's song is more monotonous and piercing but still a joyful sound to hear and a herald of spring. You can identify the three thrushes by their song and once you have learned the difference they are quite easy to separate. Have a listen on the RSPB website as a starting point.

Mistle thrushes favour parkland conditions with big trees and grassland, where they feed on a wide variety of invertebrates. Churchyards and cemeteries can be perfect for them having mature soils full of invertebrates, few or no pesticides and mature trees for perching and nesting. Many burial grounds contain evergreen trees which were planted during the nineteenth century, these are now mature and offer excellent habitat for thrushes as well as other birds and animals.



Mistle thrushes are currently in decline in the UK and churchyards and cemeteries may be important strongholds for them. We would love to know how many churchyards have mistle thrushes breeding in them, and if you hear one singing, this will be a male who is proclaiming his territory so

a good indicator of breeding. Please let Caring for God's Acre know by making a record on iNaturalist, you can do this by recording the song or taking a photo of the bird. Alternatively you can email wildlife@cfga.org.uk.

All the best, Harriet

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**

The Friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery – A Brief Update

The cemetery is looking wonderful at the moment, snowdrops are everywhere and crocuses are appearing, with daffodils soon to follow!

On a lovely bright morning on Saturday 3 February, a group of hardy individuals met at the



cemetery to tackle the problem of recurring flooding under the Lychgate. A deep ditch was dug across the path, a drainage pipe was installed and the ditch was back-filled with gravel. Hopefully this will do the trick and visitors will no longer have to paddle through the area after heavy rain! Many thanks to all our helpers.



Other tasks were accomplished during the morning. We cleared away rotting and broken branches and we planted one of five saplings kindly donated by Shropshire Council, the remainder to be planted during the coming weeks.

We will shortly be reviewing our grass management strategy and will resume our work to improve biodiversity at the site. Our fundraising efforts will continue with a coffee morning at the Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 20 April at 10.00am. Please look out for the notices! Our AGM will be held in the Parish Church Hall on Wednesday 3 April at 6.00pm - if you are interested in our work please come along.

We will open the chapel to visitors as often as possible during the year, either for special events or for private viewings (please get in touch!).



*Part of the woven panelling on
the wall of the Chapel*

JOSEPH'S EASTER

'He's gone,' says Joseph; and, with Pilate's leave,
Eases the nails and lowers him from the tree,
Wraps him in reverent and tender thoughts.
And lays him in the cave called Memory.

That cave is deeply hewn in Joseph's heart.
All that is within will always be his own.
In memory's cave the treasure of his past
Is safe forever, walled and sealed by stone.

'He's safe,' says Joseph 'safe in this cool place,
And no one now can take my Lord away.
In years to come I'll still see his dear face
As clearly as I saw it yesterday.'



*Joseph of Arimathea
and Nicodemus take
the body of Jesus
down from the cross.*



'He's gone!' cries Joseph later, in despair.
But Mary says, 'He's left this word for you.
He cannot rest content to be your past –
So, he is risen, to be your future too'.

The Empty Tomb

*from TRICIA BAMFORD
Wem*

LETTERS TO GOD

Dear God,
Are you really invisible or is that just a trick?
Lucy

Dear God
Is it true my father won't get in Heaven if he uses his
Bowling Words in the house?
Anita





World Day of Prayer

Prepared by the Christian Women of PALESTINE, the theme for the 2024 World Day of Prayer is

"I beg you, bear with one another in love."

The Service will be held on
Friday 1st March, 2024 at 3pm.
at

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
(Roman Catholic Church)
Garbett Close, off Leek Street,
Wem.

ALL WILL BE VERY WELCOME

Letters

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We wonder what YOU make of the magazine and its content. Do you have opinions on an article — (be gentle now!) — suggestions — what would you like to see or read? Could YOU send something for publication? It would be great to hear from you.

There will be a dedicated Letters Page.

This month it's empty—what about the April edition?

We take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed in other ways—keep them coming, please.

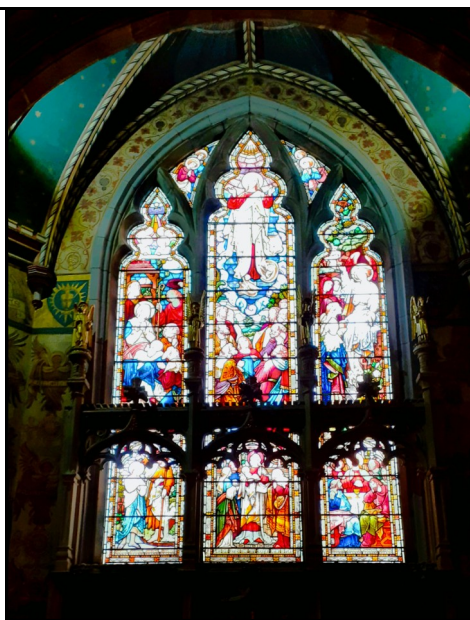
The Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Wem

FROM THE PCC

The PCC has had quite frequent meetings over the past few months, as there have been a lot of decisions to be made. A major topic has been to consider how we can make the church hall more useful and welcoming to the community, as well as for our own activities. The kitchen especially needs refurbishing. After a big clearout, it became apparent that damp in the walls must be attended to before the kitchen can be made both hygienic and efficient for preparing and serving food.

Linked to this has been the revival of the Social Committee, which has very quickly resulted in events - the Shrove Tuesday pancake feast and Lent lunches - where we can meet each other and welcome new friends. A programme is being put together for the rest of the year. Plans are also being developed to improve disabled access, a problem which has bothered us for a long time.

Following the Vision Day last September, which indicated a desire for more diversity and accessibility in our worship, the PCC has been seeking advice and costing for the installation of an improved audio system in the church, as well as provision for the projection of liturgy, songs and visual aids. Although the alternative service on the third Sunday morning has been discontinued, there is an intention to introduce other forms of



The East Window in St Peter & St Paul's

worship at different times.

Keeping the church building in good shape has to be a continual topic on the agenda. We are very grateful to John Berry for all his faithful work over many years. Now he is stepping back from the more onerous tasks, and David Murray as Warden has become more hands-on as well as having overall responsibility. Hopefully this year will see the start of repairs to the upper part of the church windows. You may also have noticed that the clock has stopped. It needs a new winding motor. This is expensive, and funding is being sought. David has also had a survey of the roof done with the help of a drone, which was able to reach and photograph some hard-to-reach spots and reassure us that nothing bad is happening just now.



Many thanks are due to Rodney Bellamy for generously donating his lovely grand piano, which you may have noticed is now back in the church.

Regrettably, several PCC members have resigned for various reasons, and we very much miss the presence of June Powell, who for health reasons has been unable to attend meetings. **We need new members!** There is also a vacancy for a Warden, following Ruth Empson's departure. Please consider whether this might be a way in which you can serve Our Lord and the church in Wem. Nominations will be being sought before the Annual Meeting on 11 April.

LENT IN WEM

TUESDAYS in LENT

20th & 27th February, 5th, 12th & 19th March

LUNCHES 12:30 - 1:30

Join us for just a simple lunch of Soup and a Bread Roll (£2)

and/or come to our LENT COURSE

"Women in the Bible"

2:00 - 3:30

In St Peter and St Paul's Church Hall

SATURDAY 23rd MARCH



10:00 - 12:00
in the Church Hall.

Stalls for Home Made cakes, marmalade and jams, tombola, bric a brac and a raffle.

Please bring your friends for coffee and a chat.

followed by: 

12:00 - 13:30
Community Lunch
in Wem Church Hall.

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



THE SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE LUNCH



On Tuesday February 13th, Shrove Tuesday, we held a Pancake lunch in the Church Hall . David Murray and Thelma Chilcott served pancakes with savoury fillings; smoked salmon and cream cheese, brie & bacon and tomatoes, or mushroom and leeks. Sweet fillings were blueberries with cream and maple sauce, Nutella and orange, or the traditional lemon and sugar. As it was half term we were pleased to welcome families, with 50+ people enjoying their pancakes.



The Church of England
Electoral Roll

Why you should be on the St Peter & St Paul's electoral roll.

It's that time of year again: time to renew the St Peter & St Paul's electoral roll! It might not sound very exciting, but it's an important thing that we need to do as a church. Each year we have a specific period where we update the electoral roll.

This year (2024) we have until Wednesday 27th March 2024.

THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 11th April 2024

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION 2024

“Electoral Roll Revision dates 14th March – 27th March 2024.

Information and application forms are available in the orange binder at the rear of the Church”.

The Church Electoral Roll is a list of those people who are allowed to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on the 11th April 2024. A new Roll was completed in 2019, this year we only need to revise the Roll.

To apply for inclusion on the Electoral Roll, you need to be baptised, over 16 years of age, live in the parish, or, if not, have worshipped in the parish for six months prior to enrolment.

A copy of the 2023 Roll (updated 17/2/24), showing names only, is on the notice board inside the West Doors and in the orange binder at the rear of the Church. Please check if you are already included. The PCC maintains the detailed Roll in electronic form which can be made

available for inspection if a reasonable request is made to the PCC.

If anyone would like to be added to the Roll, they need to complete an "Application for Enrolment" form available in the orange binder (blue folder), place the completed and signed form in an envelope provided and please put that in the pink folder at the rear of the orange binder.

If anyone wishes to be removed from the Roll or has any questions, please contact me.

Neil Allan Price

Church Electoral Roll Officer—neilprice17661@gmail.com



Church Flowers at St Peter and Paul's Church

We will be decorating the church for Easter on Saturday 30th March and so the flower arrangers will meet to plan this over coffee in the Town Hall on Wednesday 20th March. We will also agree a rota for arranging the pedestals for the year. Please speak me if you would like to help.

In the past people have kindly donated to the flower fund in memory of loved ones or the celebrate special anniversaries. If you would like to sponsor a particular date; there will be a form at back of church to request a specific date. Sponsorship money should be paid to our treasurer Caroline Sinclair.

Sybil

Email Syb.fbcwem@btinternet.com

or 01939 232568

The Parish Church of St Peter, Lee Brockhurst

The Bells of St Peter's are about to be re-hung!



The bells were removed on Monday 12th February and taken down to Dorset for restoration. We have been raising money over the past 8 months and have exceeded our expectations. We have also had a number of generous donations, and together with a successful application for a grant from the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust, which is good news., we are nearly there. Thank you to the SHCT and to all the donors for your generosity.

Near, but not there!

If you would like to donate to our Bell Fund, cheques can be made payable to The PCC of Lee Brockhurst and sent or given to Roger Ashton, Brockhurst Farm, Wem SY4 5SB; alternatively a bank transfer can be made to our Santander Bank Account

Sort Code 09 01 52 Account Number 98509709

**Phoebe Ashton, PCC Secretary
07858 123669**



St Peter's west end covered in a web of scaffolding

The Bells of St Peter's

The 'modern' and larger bell of the two dated 1721



The old and smaller bell, probably from the early (?) 1400's





Coffee and Chat

**Come and join us for Coffee
and Chat
at St Peter's Church,
Lee Brockhurst
On The Third Wednesday
of every month
between 10.30 and 12.00
No charge but donations towards church
funds welcome!
Further information from Phoebe on
07858123669
or phoebe42.lee@gmail.com**



The Parish of St Peter's, Lee Brockhurst, **Annual Parish Council Meeting**

The Annual Parish Council Meeting (APCM) will be held on Thursday 21st March 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Lee Brockhurst.

All villagers are welcome but only those whose names appear on the Electoral Roll (a copy of the 2023 Electoral Roll is posted in the Church Notice Board by the gate) can vote at the AGM although all villagers may vote to elect the two Church Wardens which is a separate meeting held beforehand.

A Revised Electoral Roll will be presented at the APCM by the Electoral Roll Officer.

Copies of the Agenda for the Meeting and Minutes and Accounts from the 2023 meeting are available from Phoebe Ashton, PCC Secretary (email phoebe42.lee@gmail.com)



The Parish Church of St Luke,

Weston-under-Redcastle

WESTON NEWS



Advanced notice!

**WESTON VILLAGE SHOW
SUNDAY 4th AUGUST 2024
PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!!!
AND TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS!**



SPONSOR A LILY THIS EASTER

St. Luke's Church invite you to sponsor a lily in remembrance of a relation or friend. The flowers will be arranged in the Church over Easter. A Remembrance Scroll will be displayed in the Church listing the names of all those who have been remembered.

A donation is suggested of £5 a lily and this can be paid on Sundays at Church where you can add your names to the list, or if easier contact Lynn Griffiths, Hembury House, Weston, O1939 200503.

Please let us have your names and money before the 16th March and any surplus monies will be used buying extra lilies to make St.Luke's look glorious for Easter.



A BRIDGE DAY

A wonderful day organised by Pam Hiles, on behalf of Severn Hospice and St. Luke's Church, Weston, was held at Hawkstone Park Hotel on Friday 9th February.

25 tables of Bridge players - 100 people - had a very successful and enjoyable day, and enjoyed a wonderful lunch. Our very grateful thanks go to the management of the Hotel for their generosity in donating and allowing us the use of their hotel, and its facilities.

Thanks must be given to the Ladies of Weston who very kindly gave their time and helped on the day, and donated delicious puddings.

A sum of £700.00 was raised for the Church, and £750 for the Severn Hospice.





A Blessed and Very
Happy Easter
to You All

Thank you very much
to all our contributors.

The April Issue
needs your input by the 15th of March,
but definitely no later than 22nd, please.
All articles e-mailed to Phoebe Ashton
phoebe42.lee@gmail.com

In Word, please, and any Pictures as jpeg's

If you do not have access to a computer
a written article is OK.

Phoebe will type it up if you get it to her