

# Broadway with Wickhamford

# The Grapevine

Issue No. 196 – July & August 2020 -  
Due to Covid19 this issue is a free edition  
and available only online



# Who's Who:



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	Pat Clinton (also Deanery Synod, Electoral Roll Officer & Flowers)	832112
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carole Collis	882018
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**Parish Council (Clerk)** Kevin Beasley [broadway.parishcouncil@unicombox.co.uk](mailto:broadway.parishcouncil@unicombox.co.uk) 854813

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**Memorial Hall** Pam Locke 831073

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**Women's Institute** Lyn Wellavize 830108

*NB It is a requirement of the Data protection Act 1998 that all contacts be asked to agree to the use of computers. You should write to us if you do not want to allow us to put contact details on our computers for use in church records & or publications.*



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[www.facebook.com/wickhamfordchurch](https://www.facebook.com/wickhamfordchurch)



**Deadline for the next Grapevine is:**

**23rd August 2020**

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**



## Revd Michelle (Shellie) writes...

I would like to start by thanking everyone who has helped the Broadway Support Group through this pandemic so far and those that continue to do so. Also thank you to those who have used our group and also been patient with us as we collect your items.



**TOGETHER**  
WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS

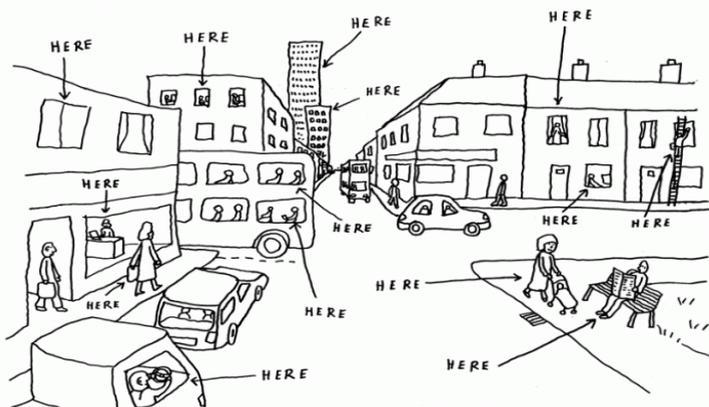
As a village we have pulled together for the good of our community and it has been awe inspiring ... whether its donating time, remaining at home, offering food and delivery services or altering how you organise your business we have all in some way pulled together to get through this.

For me as a Christian I see this as God's love in action and where our church buildings may have been closed , I know through the emails and phone calls I have received some people disagreed with this and saw it as the church turning it's back on people, it enabled us to be church in a different more practical and useful way during this time. Church as I have tried to say isn't about the building it's about the people and how we respond to what is happening around us in society. Church is about showing God's love in action, word and deed so yes we have prayed in our homes on our own, or corporately in different ways through WhatsApp, Zoom, Facebook and what ever means we've been able to gather, but we've also become true neighbours to our community joining with others to help where it is needed so we can get through this crisis the best way possible.

So where is church?

WHERE THE CHURCH IS

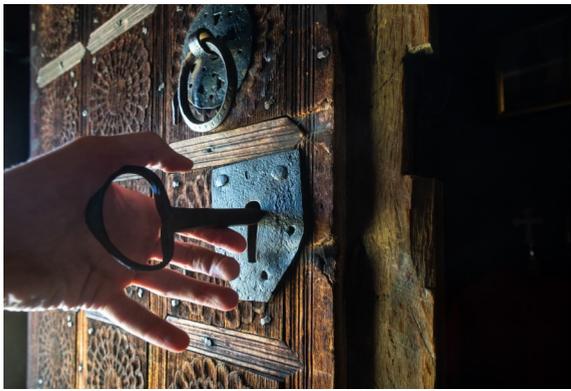
As the picture shows it's everywhere with the people in community—we haven't been closed at all—just our buildings. We adapted like others in community to be where we were needed. So to those who feel we should have kept our doors



open—were sorry they feel this way but I would ask them to look again at what church is?

Having said this I am delighted that following our risk assessments we have been able to unlock 2 of our churches doors.

St Michael's Church, Broadway is open throughout August on Sunday's and Wednesday's 10am—12pm for private prayer.



St Eadburgha's Church, Broadway is open throughout August on Tuesday's and Friday's 10am—12pm for private prayer.

We hope in September to offer some gathered worship for those who wish to meet in church (all of this is always subject to new covid-19 guidelines) 6th September 10.30am in St Michaels Church weekly Sunday Morning.



We also hope to offer fortnightly Evening Prayer in St Eadburgha's Church starting on 13th September, 27th September and 11th October.

We will also continue to offer Evening Prayer on Zoom for those who still wish to worship and isolate at 6pm.

To join Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89563918565?pwd=SEdLbGdhMWFFR0xDNI1OC9NTzNyQT09>

Meeting ID: 895 6391 8565  
Passcode: 591377

I'd like to share with you some of the discussions noted from the Diocesan Synod recently held on Zoom as discussed at our PCC meeting in July from Jo's notes of the meeting:

*Bishop John observed that a few weeks ago, a Diocesan Synod meeting on Zoom would have seemed impossible. He prays that God will bring good out of the pandemic – a reinforcement of the truth of our inter-dependence; of our appreciation of nature; and of a move away from the 'market society', so that we know what something is worth, not just what it costs.*

The new chairman of the DBF (Diocesan Board of Finance), the Rev. Andy Todd, presented the annual report and accounts, which were received by the Synod. There was a deficit of £754,000 for 2019 (compared with £1.1m in 2018). He explained that £44m of the reserves is Glebe and can only be used for clergy stipends, thus reducing the call on Parish Share. Most of the rest is ring-fenced – only £6.1m is unreserved and even some of that is earmarked (eg fixed assets such as Holland House). Although the balance sheet shows total funds of £72.6m (an increase of £4m during the year) only £833,000 was available in cash at the year end. Though this may seem a lot, the DBF has a monthly outlay of £725,000 of which £500,000 goes on stipends, wages, NI and pensions for clergy and staff.

The Dioc. Secretary, John Preston, presented the current financial status, forecasts and action plan that Bishop's Council is following, to address the present financial challenges. He remarked that 40% of income in the average parish had dried up but in several rural parishes there was good progress in people moving to on-line giving. He stressed that the diocese understood the plight of parishes and was there to help.

#### Action Plan:

- Maximise Parish Share – Mr Preston acknowledged the commitment of parishes to paying what they can
- Implement a Diocesan Fund for one-off gifts for stipends – by June 1<sup>st</sup> it had received gifts of £21,500
- 23 staff on furlough from April 1<sup>st</sup>
- Push through property sales – at June 27<sup>th</sup>, four houses are under offer
- Reduce cash flow / expenditure – budget holders are doing what they can as fast as possible
- Pause clergy appointments from outside current staff and probably speed up the reduction of stipendiary clergy numbers (previously planned to be 15 posts by end of 2024).
- Delay house purchases
- Expand credit lines - £2m overdraft agreed at 5.5% over base; the national church has agreed support.
- Monitoring and planning: review group (DBF chair, vice chair, Dioc. Sec. & Director of Finance) meet frequently;
- PCC treasurers regularly briefed; Dioc. Restructuring Group looking at reduction of clergy numbers.

#### Parish Share Review

The Archdeacon of Dudley, chair of the Parish Share Review Group, presented a paper about setting 2021 Share requests. She commented that 'principled pragmatism' was the Group's watchword and they will start using the language of 'cost-based ministry' but no new parish share system is to

be proposed till the requests for 2022.

*Rev. Richard Clarke suggested clergy forego their 2% increase in stipend but Bp. John said the bishops had decided to accept their increase and Gift Aid it back. There seemed to be general approval for detailed consideration of the proposals for a new Parish Share system to be deferred till face to face discussion can take place, and for each benefice to be provided with an explanation of how the amount requested relates to the cost of ministry received.*

### **Diocesan Restructuring**

*Archdeacon Nikki Groarke presented a paper about the Diocesan Restructuring Group's objectives:*

- *to develop a new strategy by Sept. 2020, based on the Open Conversations ideas;*
- *to enable leaders of churches with 50+ members to grow those churches,*
- *while other churches will be re-designated, moved to occasional use or under voluntary leaders;*
- *to reduce operational costs by £1m by 2025 – restructuring more quickly if finances dictate;*
- *to 'increase our agility as a diocese to enable us to respond flexibly as mission opportunities arise*
- *and as finance permits';*
- *to develop ways to form a realistic transition plan and a Deanery simplification plan by the end of 2020.*

*Different parishes will be affected in different ways by restructuring, and discussions about it will happen locally. Reduction of the number of deaneries from 13 to 6 is being debated. The national church has awarded the Diocese £463,000 in Capacity Grant to support the changes and Archdeacon Nikki has become Dioc. Leader for Transformation and Change, with Archdeacon Robert taking over some of her Archdeaconry responsibilities.*

*Bishop Martin (of Dudley) will look at the strategy for ministry – recruitment, resourcing and support.*

*Some appointments will be made (at no additional cost to Parish Share) to enable the changes in churches of all sizes.*

### **Diocesan Governance Review**

*John Preston said that at the moment, there are 13 committees involved in governance, with 54 meetings annually, and several overlaps – resulting in over 2,000 people-hours in meetings.*

*He aims to review and streamline the governance structure, with the help of present committee members, other dioceses and charities.*

I hope this helps to keep you up to date with where our diocese are at but also the struggle churches are having across the diocese and national church. These conversations are happening everywhere and also discussions of how we come out of lockdown and questioning everything we do. We have to look not at what we want or wish wistfully to go back to but ask what is best for God's mission in our community and for our church not just locally but as a whole. We can bury our heads in the sand and not see that people who don't come to church have related to our churches and what we have offered in ways we could never imagine. It may not be our preference but if we stay with what we've done and what we want where will we and our church be in 10 years time?

If we answer honestly .... looking at those who come to our buildings, it could be quite disheartening. But if we look to what's happened since Covid-19 we should take heart for people of all ages have pulled together and also found prayer to be helpful—not in ways some would recognise but in many different ways and I take many positives from that.

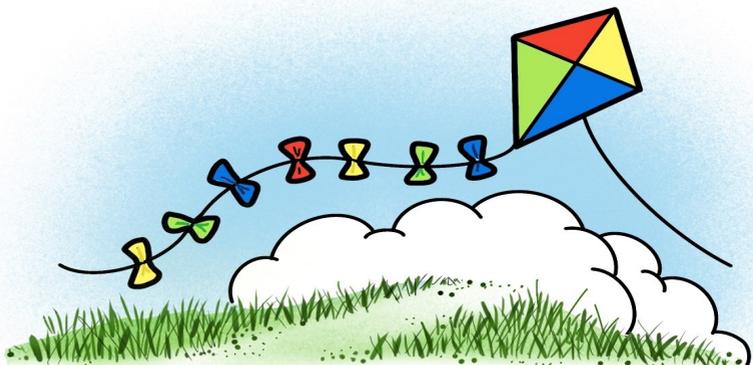
What do people here in Broadway want from their church?

What does God want for us?

These are the questions we need to ask and try to answer the best way we can, they're being asked I'm sure in most parishes and Diocese at the moment.

Please continue to stay safe

*Shellie*



# BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL WORKERS



FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS, THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSTANT IN DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS.



FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPIRE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE.



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED.



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED, THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY - THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS; ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

TEXT: JAYNE MANFREDI

CartoonChurch.com

## Useful Information

**Sermon podcast:**

**Our diocesan website:**

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/>

**BBC H&W Thought for the Week** at 7.40am

(possibility of a Sunday service on the radio being looked into)

**BBC Radio 2**

- Sundays from 6am - Reverend Kate Bottley and Jason Mohammad present uplifting stories about life, love and modern spirituality, alongside a great soundtrack for your Sunday morning.

- Each weekday morning there is Pause for Thought—[www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p015nm0y/clips](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p015nm0y/clips)

**BBC Radio 4**

- 8.10am Sunday worship

- 9.45 Daily Service

- Thought for the day—<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00szxv6>



# A letter from Archdeacon of Dudley

## Cultivating thankfulness

As I write this piece for you, at the very end of May, life is still full of uncertainty, and I have no idea what the situation in our country, or in our churches, will be like by the time you read my words. The year to date has been one of unprecedented change – much that we now regard as ‘normal’ would have been unimaginable this time last year. We have adapted our life styles, followed the guidelines, practiced social distancing, closed our church buildings and endeavoured to stay alert to slow the spread of a global pandemic and save lives.

I wonder what you have most missed during these months of lockdown. And I wonder how long we will consciously treasure those things when we eventually have them back in our lives. Because we take so much for granted, until it’s suddenly not there, or not allowed. For me, it’s been all about people – my family and friends. Throughout April and May, there were many things we could only do with ‘members of our own household’. I, along with over eight million other people in the UK, live alone, so until late May I couldn’t do anything with anyone! Apart from my virtual encounters (which fill most days – the wonders of technology have enabled meetings to go on, so the world hasn’t ground to a complete halt). How I have missed being with my Mum and Dad, my wider family, sharing a meal and a hug.

How I have craved a face-to-face chat with a friend. How I have longed to mingle with others over a coffee at the end of a church service, after having sung our hearts out in praise and shared communion and a sign of peace together.

Some of those joys are gradually being restored now. I can see my mum in the garden, but not hug her. I can run with a friend and chat to my heart’s content, but running a marathon with thousands of others is off limits. Church buildings are likely to be closed for gathered worship for some time yet. My spirits have been lifted wonderfully by these new freedoms, and I want to keep that sense of thankfulness and joy, never again taking such things for granted.

In his letter to a small church in Colosse, Saint Paul urges his readers to ‘be thankful’, to ‘sing with gratitude’. It’s easy to forget thankfulness when we take things for granted, the freedoms most of us have as able

bodied people in a relatively affluent part of the world. When the freedom to leave our homes, walk the hills, get a haircut, worship together, hug our family gets wrenched from us, we are perhaps prompted to realise how little we appreciated all that was good. I hope to have an attitude of gratitude long after this crisis is over. I want to be thankful for all the things I have missed, not just for the first few weeks I have them back, but forever.

As we venture into whatever the new normal looks like, let's cultivate thankfulness and grateful hearts, and never take our blessings for granted.

**Nikki Groarke**

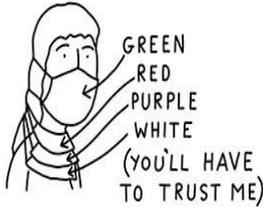
# FACE MASKS



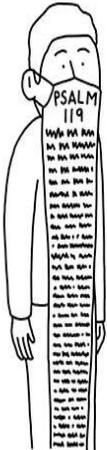
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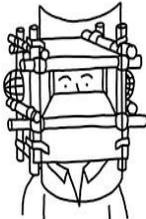
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LITURGICAL



BIBLICAL



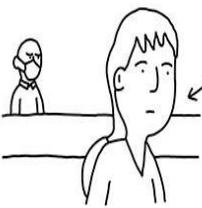
OVER-ENGINEERED



CLERICAL



FLORAL



EXEMPT



NON-COMPLIANT

# A letter from the Broadway URC minister Richard Becher

Names cause pain but silent statues invite question...!



I had not understood for many years why a street name had to be changed as if there was a need to delete a memory from history. It was, after all, MY family name denied a place in history all because my grandfather had acquaintances who were corrupted by the power too absolutely corrupt! At least, he still stands as a statue in Berlin inviting a story to be told through questions asked: Who was he? Why? How? When?

Johannes R. Becher, the grandfather I never met, but is in my DNA, wrote poems, books and songs that inspired hearts and minds to seek justice and freedom. He was a German who

challenged the power of Hitler so was accused of high treason in literature. Words were the weapon of his crime for which he had to flee his beloved homeland.

He identified himself as a communist before he recognised how the ideals had become corrupted into a fearful power. He believed in the ideal of “sharing everything we have to meet the needs of everyone in society.” That sounds a familiar vision from the heart of the bible!

My grandfather could have changed his communist identity and betrayed his beliefs by wrapping himself in the swastika, but he thought he was giving his life for everyone to have a better future. Naive or misguided, self seeking or peace making, people make their judgements and the statue invites the questions that will never be asked if was not there.

Before he died he renounced what communism had become, but still proclaimed a justice for everyone and the unity of people across the borders of east and west. He wrote about such unity in the words of the East German National anthem, but the government didn't like his lyrics so only allowed the tune to be played. A vision silenced by the power that corrupts!

Remove the statue and his story will disappear and with it many other stories that might be told through questions asked: Who? When? Why? Passing such a statue in the street or in a park invites the questions and starts the

conversation, but I can understand how walking down a street with a name can open old wounds from history and cause great pain.

You have to speak the name when you ask directions. You have to write the name when you send a letter. You have to work with the name in office blocks built in remembrance of people and even live in it if a flat is in a tower block named after someone. The only question is the angry one of why must I live with this memory every day of my life?

I don't think my grandfather was bad enough to have his street name changed, but at least the statue still stands for people to ask the question if they choose: Who? Why? When? And the answers will invite stories to be told and a conversation about history that can build a better future for everyone.



We can open the door of many cupboards and skeletons will come tumbling out, but everything must be considered in the context of the people we grow to become and the good we do.

There can be more pain in the name of a street or an office block; the name of a park or a block of flats than in the statue of one person who invites questions about history. I wouldn't want people to walk down a street in Berlin, or ask directions to it, and feel uncomfortable, but I do want

people to share the stories that give us all a better understanding of history.

**In 1992 I visited Berlin for the first time and found a street name with a red line through it and about to be replaced. On another visit my daughter was able to ask questions about his history.**

God Bless

*Richard*

# **A letter from Dean of Worcester Cathedral**

## **Let's Clap the Unheroes Too**

We've clapped the healthworkers and the carers. We've applauded Captain Tom. Medals are being struck and honours will be awarded for those who have given exceptional service to the community during the pandemic. Absolutely right. There are many heroes to be honoured.

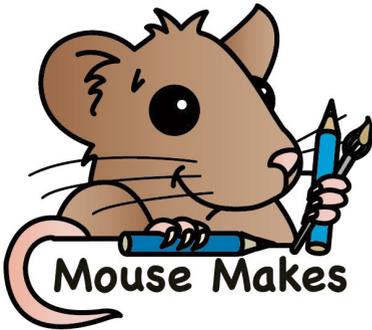
But I want to spare a clap for the unheroes too. The unheroes are those of us who haven't managed to do anything exceptional during the pandemic. We haven't risen to the occasion, or given conspicuous service to the community. Frankly we hated the lockdown. Perhaps we were ill, or shielding, or furloughed from work, or working from home, and we found it depressing. We were confused by the disruption of our ordinary routines. We grumbled a lot. We never quite discovered an answer to that terrifying future question, 'And what did you do during the pandemic, grandad?' We didn't even tidy the attic.

So why do we, the unheroes, deserve a small round of applause? Because we stuck it out. We hated every minute of it, but we kept to the rules, we stayed at home, and we didn't put other people's lives at risk. We were part of an enormous global effort to contain the spread of coronavirus and prevent it from killing yet more people. To that extent, we did our bit. We too saved lives. That's what we did during the pandemic.

**Peter Atkinson,  
Dean of Worcester**

**My ducks are absolutely  
not in a row.**

**At this point, I don't even  
know where my ducks are.**



The **PSALMS** are hymns of **PRAYER** and **PRAISE** to God.

*"I will proclaim your greatness, my God and king; I will thank you: I will praise you for ever and ever."*

Psalm 145:1-2

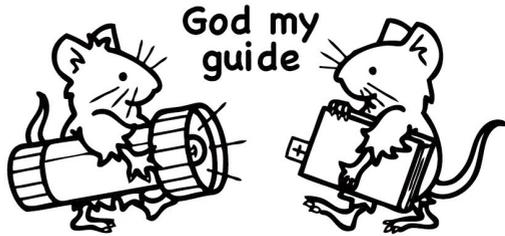
### Glory to God



"How clearly the sky reveals God's glory! How plainly it shows what He has done."

Psalm 19:1

Cut out and colour these cards to help you to **thank** and **praise** God.



God my guide

"Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105

### God's World

"The world and all that is in it belong to the Lord: the earth and all who live on it are His."

Psalm 24:1



### Praise the Lord!

"Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord."

Psalm 150:6



### Give thanks!

"Your constant love is better than life itself, and so I will **praise** you. I will give You **thanks** as long as I live; I will raise my hands to you in prayer."

Psalm 63:3-4





## Conversations about the future of our Church

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/about-us/open-conversations/>

Following the open conversations held around the Diocese at the start of the year, we are now planning a series of further opportunities to engage with the process as we look at how we can effectively resource a healthy and sustainable Church into the future.

It will be a chance to hear more about the strategy for mission and ministry across the Diocese and think about how it might impact on your own church. Only by working together can we ensure that God's Kingdom continues to grow in Worcestershire and Dudley.

These meetings will be held online using Zoom, but will follow a similar format to the previous open conversations, with opportunities for people to contribute in small groups. To sign up for one of the conversations, please contact the training team with your preferred date on [training@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:training@cofe-worcester.org.uk) or [01905 732812](tel:01905732812). You will be sent the Zoom details ahead of the conversation.

Conversations will take place on the following dates:

- **Tuesday 8 September: 3 to 5pm and from 6 to 8pm**
- **Friday 18 September: 10am to 12 noon**
- **Monday 21 September: 6 to 8pm**
- **Tuesday 22 September: 6 to 8pm**
- **Thursday 24 September: 6 pm to 8pm**
- **Monday 28 September: 2 to 4pm and 6 to 8pm**

To sign up for one of the conversations, please contact the training team with your preferred date on [training@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:training@cofe-worcester.org.uk) or [01905 732812](tel:01905732812). You will be sent the Zoom details ahead of the conversation.

## What if I don't have access to Zoom – how can I get involved?

Recognising that not everyone will be able to join a video call, we are providing two alternative ways to take part in the Open Conversation process:

- 1) We are asking those attending to partner up with someone in their church without zoom access and share their experience, if possible, showing some of the video clips which will be available on this web page on their own tablet or phone, and giving a summary of the table time discussions in which they participated. So please do ask around in your congregation and find someone who is willing to do this with you.
- 2) Join one of **two telephone conference calls**, where a shortened version of the input will be communicated. These will be free to dial into, and accessible to anyone with a phone. **More information will follow shortly on these**



## Feedback from the open conversations Dec 19 - Feb 20

Nine different sessions were held in different venues throughout the Diocese in December 2019 to February 2020. Thank you to everyone who came to the open conversations and filled out the feedback sheet.

[Read a summary of the feedback.](#) If you'd like a hard copy, please do feel free to contact the diocesan office.

[Download](#) the booklet given out at the open conversations.

# Changing our deaneries - a consultation

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/deanery-consultation.php>

Last week we launched a consultation on a proposal to reduce the number of deaneries from 13 down to six. All are welcome to contribute to this consultation, which will run until **Friday 4 December**.

Diocese of  
Worcester



Reducing the number of deaneries is an important step towards ensuring our diocese is fit for purpose going forward. Our current deaneries are very small and moving to larger groupings will offer more flexibility when considering where ministers are placed as well as provide a broader canvas for mission planning. It makes sense to carry out significant restructuring in one go rather than make a series of changes over time and also to align our structures more closely to civic ones – at the moment, the Metropolitan borough of Dudley is spread across three deaneries, and the City of Worcester is divided across two.

It is proposed to move to six deaneries, with each having a mix of urban and rural and a town (or towns) working in partnership with their rural outlying areas.

1. **GREATER DUDLEY DEANERY** uniting Dudley, Kingswinford & Stourbridge Deaneries. We examined establishing two smaller deaneries – Dudley North and Dudley South, but the natural dividing line ended up with too small a Dudley South.
2. **REDDITCH & BROMSGROVE DEANERY** made up of the current Bromsgrove Deanery plus the Wychebrook benefice and the benefice of Elmley Lovett w Hampton Lovett & Elmbridge w Rushock and Hartlebury and Ombersley w Doverdale currently in Droitwich Deanery.
3. **KIDDERMINSTER & STOURPORT DEANERY** uniting the current Kidderminster and Stourport deaneries.

4. **WORCESTER DEANERY** uniting the Worcester East and Martley & Worcester West Deaneries, plus the Saltway Team Ministry from Droitwich Deanery.

5. **MALVERN & UPTON DEANERY** uniting the Malvern and Upton deaneries.

**PERSHORE & EVESHAM DEANERY** uniting the Pershore and Evesham deaneries plus the Bowbrook benefice from Droitwich Deanery.

As a result of benefices being in different deaneries, the Bowbrook and Wychebrook group ministry will no longer exist. The Deaneries of Greater Dudley and Redditch & Bromsgrove would form the Archdeaconry of Dudley, the other four will be the Archdeaconry of Worcester.

The Church of England suggests that the size of a deanery synod should be between 50 and 150 members. Currently nine of our deaneries are too small, and the biggest deanery synod only has 59 members when full. By moving to six deaneries, synods would have between 70 and 135 members, helping to make them more effective. However, having larger deaneries doesn't prevent smaller mission areas meeting together, including with ecumenical colleagues. Mission and ministry structures might look different in different deaneries. For the largest deaneries, it might be that clergy preferred to meet in smaller chapters, and that a Sub-Dean could be appointed. Rural Deans will become Area Deans, as some parts of the diocese are not rural. We will also need to consider their workload, and whether some administrative support is needed.

Moving to six deaneries in this way also largely unites existing deaneries to ease the change process, with only the current Droitwich deanery being pragmatically divided into different new deaneries. Going to a larger or smaller number would lead to more disruptive change. All parishes will continue to have representation on deanery synod and larger deaneries would not be disadvantaged at Diocesan Synod as the number of places available to a deanery is linked to the size of that deanery (number of clergy, total of electoral rolls).

The concept of simplification was raised at the Open Conversations, where it was broadly supported. This proposal has been shaped by discussion with the Rural Deans and Lay Chairs, and with the Diocesan Mission, Pastoral and Resources Committee.

[Read the full consultation document.](#)

To respond to this consultation, please email: [john.preston@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:john.preston@cofe-worcester.org.uk).



## Broadway Coronavirus Support Network



47 mins · 🌐

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR GROUP AND VOLUNTEERS

As we move into a new and more hopeful phase since the Covid Pandemic began - our amazing team of Volunteers are now returning to work either full or part time and whilst many will endeavour to help those self isolating and vulnerable stocked up it may now take a litter longer to provide food and medications, for eg - these might be dropped later in the day to fit around our working hours.

We would like to extend a HUGE note of thanks to all of our Volunteers who have made such a difference by helping those in need in our Village.

THANK YOU TEAM BROADWAY SUPPORT NETWORK 🥰



# Local Directory

*what is on offer / available from our local businesses during lockdown  
This information was accurate week beginning 26th April.*



**WE DELIVER,  
7 DAYS A WEEK!**  
Stay home, stay safe

01386 853040  
07483 404497  
INFO@BROADWAYDELI.CO.UK

**Broadway Deli** are offering to deliver anything they sell in the shop, fresh fruit and veg, flour, bread, cheese etc. they are delivering in Broadway and surrounding villages.

Orders are placed over the phone 01386 853040 or 07483 404497 We are open now 7 days a week, Monday—Saturday 8am-5pm and Sunday 9am –4pm, we are limiting the amount of people in the shop to 3 though.

We are also happy if people wish to collect an order, or do their shopping in the hour before they officially open if they are self isolating.

## Collins of Broadway Butchers

01386 852061 Kennel Lane, Broadway

We'd like to inform all of our customers that during these difficult time's of the covid 19 pandemic that we are still open.

We will be fully stocked next week and also we will be having spring lamb shoulders of lamb on offer and hopefully fingers crossed English strawberries and new potatoes from Cornwall.

Please be aware that we will be closing at 3pm until further notice, this is so we are able to deliver all of our customers orders in a prompt manor. We apologise for any inconvenience that this my cause but thank you for your understanding

Just a quick reminder that the shop will be closed a week on Friday, that being the 8th of May due to it being the early May bank holiday

We are only allowing 2 customers into the shop at a time, this is not only for our own safety but also the safety of our customers. If you do require anything at all please do contact us on 01386 852061 or message us on our Facebook page and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as we possibly can. We thank you for you patience and understanding during these worrying times for us all.





**\*\*This weeks menu\*\***

please message any orders, payment taken by Bank transfer, Paypal or debit card

Free delivery Broadway & surrounding villages Tuesday & Friday

Free delivery to Evesham and surrounding villages On Friday or

a small delivery charge of £2 if needed on a Tuesday, any

questions please PM us

Stay safe

07519 081061—[nikkikris@thecotswoldlarder.co.uk](mailto:nikkikris@thecotswoldlarder.co.uk)

## THE COTSWOLD LARDER

FRIDAY DELIVERIES, FREE BROADWAY DELIVERY ON ANY ORDER, EVESHAM & SURROUND FREE DELIVERY ON ORDERS £10 AND OVER, PLEASE ADD £1.50 IF UNDER MINIMUM ORDER,

**FATTOUSH SALAD BOX £4.50** - A fresh zingy Bulgur wheat salad, that contains, toms, mixed peppers, red onion, mint, parsley, coriander & Lime juice, & to finish off a pot of our homemade minty Tzatziki to pour over.

**PLOUGHMANS BOX £9.95** – Our take on a classic, our box contains our Homemade mini Beer bread, extra mature cheddar, local pork pie, chutney, apple, celery, baby toms, pickled onion, hand cooked potato crisps, butter portion, mustard

### OUR LOCAL ASPARAGUS QUICHE

Slice **£3.50**

(6 portion) 1/2 Tray **£14**

(12 portion) Full tray **£25**

### COTSWOLD LARDER CREAM TEA FOR 2 **£14.95**

2 x Homemade fruit scones

2 x homemade plain scones

Clotted cream

strawberry jam

2 x Cotswold Larder Brownie fingers

2 x Tea envelopes

Butter portions

### GLUTEN FREE & VEGAN OPTIONS

6 X LEMON & ELDERFLOWER MUFFINS - **£12 (V)**

6 X LEMON & ELDERFLOWER MUFINS **£12 (GF)**

6" VICTORIA SPONGE **£12(GF)**

### CAKES BY THE SLICE

VICTORIA SPONGE **£3.00**

LEMON & ELDERFLOWER **£3.50**

RASPBERRY & WHITE CHOC **£3.50**

BROWNIE PORTION **£2.50**

QUICHE SLICE **£3.50**

### CAKES, CUPCAKES & BROWNIES

MIXED BOX OF 6 CUPCAKES - **£10**

Mixed box contains 1 each of the following

Lemon & Elderflower, White choc & Rasp, Chocolate & Cherry, Strawberry 99, Vanilla Vic, Choc Mocha

6" LEMON & RASPBERRY CAKE - **£11**

6" VICTORIA SPONGE - **£10**

CARROT CAKE TIN LOAF - **£8**

1/2 SLAB (6 PORTION) ROCKY ROAD - **£10**

CHOC CHIP BROWNIE – Available in the following

WHOLE TRAY OF 16 - **£20**

½ TRAY OF 8 - **£ 13.50**

4 STACK - **£7.50**



A general product list to assist you when placing an order. For collection or delivery.

Either call us on 01386 830546 or email us [info@waysidefarmshop.com](mailto:info@waysidefarmshop.com)



In the current times we cannot guarantee we will have all of these all of the time but we are doing our best and at present have no issues with supply.

### Vegetables

Asparagus  
Baking potatoes  
Courgettes  
Bunched beets  
Pre packed beetroot  
Cauliflower  
Calabrese  
Purple sprouting  
Local cabbage  
Spring greens  
Mushrooms  
Leeks  
Carrot  
Bunched carrots  
Aubergine  
Celeriac  
Swede  
Butternut squash  
Sweet potato

Old potatoes  
Washed mids  
Mallorcan scrapers  
White cabbage  
Red cabbage  
Parsnips  
Onions  
Ginger  
Fennel  
Garlic/Smoked garlic

**Salad**  
Avocado  
Spring onion  
Cucumber  
Piccolo tomato  
Vine tomato  
Celery  
Little gem/Oakleaf  
Red, yellow, green peps  
Baby spinach

### Fruit

Rhubarb  
Conference pears  
Pink lady  
Bramley apples  
Cox apples  
Braeburn apples  
Bananas  
Seedless grapes  
Lemons  
Limes  
Pink grapefruit  
Local beet orange  
Large orange

### Alcohol

Wine  
Local beers/ciders  
Wayside ciders/Perry

### Chilled

Milk  
Cream  
Butter  
Yoghurts  
Quiche (made by us)  
Pies – cooking and picnic  
Cheese  
Pate  
Bacon  
Sausages (made by us)  
Coleslaw  
Parma ham  
Chorizo  
Salami  
Chicken  
Beef mince  
Steaks  
Pork/lamb chops

### General goods

Eggs  
Rice - white/brown  
Cous cous  
Pasta  
Dried Lentils – red or green  
Chickpeas  
Dried beans – haricot, black eyed, kidney  
Canned cannellini  
Canned chickpeas  
Canned Bean  
Passata  
Tinned tomato  
Tomato puree jar  
Bolognaise sauce  
Garlic pasta sauce  
Flour – self raising/plain/bread  
Bread – bloomers/seeded white sliced/granary

Salt  
Rapeseed oil  
Chilli sauces  
Jams (made by us)  
Chutneys (made by us)  
Honey  
Cheese Biscuits  
Willy's apple cider vinegar  
Cakes  
Biscuits  
Traybakes (made by us)  
Nuts  
Selection of Mrs Darlington's condiments  
Scones (made by us)

**Cotswold raw dog food and treats**



**RUSSELL'S**  
A RESTAURANT WITH ROOMS

**WE ARE OPEN!**

We want to reassure you that we have and always will maintain exceptional standards of cleanliness and hygiene throughout the restaurant and hotel. Our guests and staff remain our top priority and we have ensured that the entire team has been fully briefed with current guidelines. Our staff also fully understand all of the current and relevant information regarding self isolation and any extra precautions that must be taken.

We are closely monitoring the situation across all three of our sites, and like a lot of businesses we are

We have made some changes in our restaurant to give our guests more space between tables to give customers and members of staff peace of mind. We are also now introducing a takeaway menu which is available to view on our website and social media.

We are of course taking advice from the government but for now  
**WE ARE OPEN!**

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to stay safe, wash your hands, support the vulnerable people around you as well as small local businesses wherever possible.



## The Coop (previously Budgens)

Is open 8am—8pm Monday –Saturday and 10am—4pm  
Sundays

The Coop is taking food orders between

10am and 1pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

on 01386 842870. *For those over 70 and/or self*

*isolating call the Broadway Coronavirus Support Group and we will pick the order up once it's ready and deliver to your door—07780002565.*



## Nisa Local—01386 859218

Bibsworth Avenue, Broadway

Opening times—8am - 8pm - Monday - Sunday

Order for delivery—Phone between 8am - 1pm Monday -  
Friday same day delivery.

Phone and no contact collect.—Monday - Sunday

Phone between 8am - 3pm



## The Broadway Florist

It's that time of the week again!  
Thank you all again for your orders last  
week. I am so grateful for the support

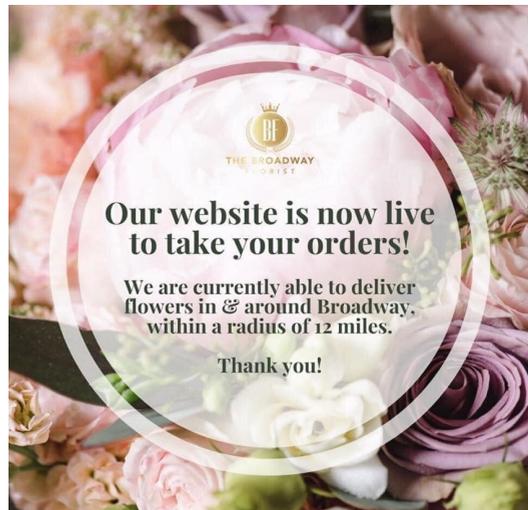
Once again, all bouquets and  
arrangements will be 'florist's choice'  
orders need to be placed by 10pm on  
Tuesday evening, to be processed and  
delivered Thursday and Friday.

Online orders only!

Visit <https://broadway-florist.com/shop/>

We will deliver Thursday and Friday in  
Broadway and the surrounding areas.

Thank you  
Shelley x



We are now open Friday and Saturday evenings for take away pizza!

Offering a delivery service in Broadway, Willersey & Childswickham!

We are now taking orders for delivery or collection between 5pm and 8pm.

You can order anytime using our new online system or give us a call anytime after 3pm tomorrow on 01386306670 or 07399679258.

<https://number32broadway.co.uk/takeaway-and-delivery-menu/>



### Delivery Menu

Delivery is £3 for orders in Broadway, Childswickham & Willersey.

#### Burgers

All Served In Peter Cook's Brioche Buns

##### No.32 Burger £8

Dry Aged Beef Burger, Streaky Bacon, Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Gherkin, Red Onion & Paprika Mayo

##### Pulled Pork Burger £7

Harissa Spiced Pulled Pork, Cheese, Red Cabbage 'Slaw' & Homemade BBQ Sauce

##### Bacon Burger £8

Dry Aged Beef Burger, Cheese, Streaky Bacon, Bacon Jam & Baconnaisse

##### 'Imposter' Burger £8

100% Plant Based Burger, Caramelised Red Onion, Grilled Halloumi, Lettuce, Tomato, Gherkin & Garlic Mayo

#### Pizzas

##### Margherita £12

Tomato, Mozzarella, Oregano & Basil

##### Hawaiian £13

Tomato Base, Bacon, Parma Ham, Pineapple & Mozzarella

##### Pulled Pork £13

Tomato Base, Harissa Spiced Pulled Pork, Bacon, Jalapenos, Red Onion & Mozzarella

##### Zeus £13

Tomato Base, Sun Blushed Tomatoes, Olives, Artichoke, Spinach, Red Onion, Halloumi & Mozzarella

##### Feast of Meat £14

Tomato Base, Pepperoni, Salami, Bacon, Parma Ham, Mozzarella, Rocket & Balsamic

#### Sides

##### Skin on Fries £3

Rosemary Salt

##### Sweet Potato Fries £4

##### Halloumi Fries £5

Pineapple & Chilli Salsa, Hot Sauce

##### Red Cabbage 'Slaw' £3

#### Homemade Sauces

##### Roast Garlic Mayo £0.5

##### Smokey BBQ Sauce £0.5

##### Paprika Mayo £0.5

##### Baconnaisse £1

**Open 12.30 to 8.00 pm Mon-Sat**



**Open for Takeaway**

**Customer collection only, no pre-orders accepted**

**Tues-Weds-Thurs-Fri-Sat**

Beer Battered Cod and Chips - £8.00

Chicken Goujons and Chips - £8.00

Breaded Scampi and Chips - £8.00

Battered Halloumi and Chips - £7.00

Paddock Farm Sausage & Chips - £7.00

Chips - £2.50

Large Chips - £3.00

Gluten free variants available

To contact us please use email as the telephone will not always be answered [info@russellofbroadway.co.uk](mailto:info@russellofbroadway.co.uk)

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to stay safe, wash your hands, support the vulnerable people around you as well as small local businesses wherever possible.

Ross, Andrew & Gaynor Riley & team.

# Sew U knit Crafts

For all you crafters and existing customers.

If you're needing haberdashery, wool, crocheting and knitting accessories, crossstitch, tapestry, craft kits, patterns and books.

Please call the shop on 01386 853779 with any enquiries. Check out our website [www.sewuknitcrafts.co.uk](http://www.sewuknitcrafts.co.uk) where there is a contact us form or email [sewuknitcrafts@outlook.com](mailto:sewuknitcrafts@outlook.com). We are also on Facebook.

Sew U knit Crafts are offering a FREE, safe (mutually pre agreed) delivery service in Broadway or a full postal service to customers further afield.

Take care and keep safe.



# ShopWright

## Box of Delights

Greetings cards, gift wrap, gifts, toys, chocolates and jigsaws are available for free delivery locally.

Telephone ShopWright on 853478,  
and leave your name and contact number on the answerphone.

*Chrissie will return your call and help you make your selection*



# Cotswold building supplies

01386 852552

[shop@cotswoldbuildingsupplies.co.uk](mailto:shop@cotswoldbuildingsupplies.co.uk)

<http://www.cotswoldbuildingsupplies.co.uk/>

Week commencing 27th April 2020 we will be taking telephone calls between 9am & 4pm Monday to Friday.

We are continuing to do deliveries and there are call and collect slots available Monday to Friday too.

There is a limited amount each day so social distancing can be maintained. Please do not come to the premises without a booking as we will be unable to serve you.

We are still operating with a skeleton staff so delays will be inevitable at times. For the foreseeable future we will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

It's subject to change as the rules may change.



**Broadway Cotswolds**  
Enjoy - Eat - Shop - Stay



**As of 3rd August establishments included in & near Broadway are:**  
**Broadway Tower Country Park**  
**The Bakehouse Broadway**  
**Crown and Trumpet Inn**  
**The Lygon Arms Broadway**  
**Russells of Broadway**  
**Number 32 Broadway**  
**Russells Fish & Chips**  
**The Swan Inn**  
**Tea Set Broadway**  
**Broadway Golf Club**  
**Bell Inn Willersey**  
**New Inn Willersey**  
**Childswickham Inn**



**THE MAN CAVE BROADWAY** are offering **FREE DELIVERY** on **EVERYTHING** for **EVERYONE!**



Looking for a cool unusual birthday gift or simply a little something to cheer someone up?

Checkout the website at [www.themancavebroadway.co.uk](http://www.themancavebroadway.co.uk) and enter code **FREEDL** at checkout for free safe, social distancing delivery.

Or call Julian on 07977006605 and he'll be more than happy to help!



# Station Garage Petrol Station

Just to help keep you all informed Station Garage Petrol Station will remain open but with new reduced hours as of today and they are; **Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm**

**Saturday 8am to 4pm**

**Sunday 8am to 2pm**

**We are doing our best to support key workers including NHS, care workers and the farming community by staying open but ask all our customers to please be mindful of the 2 meter rule when in the shop.**

**Stay safe x**

Our doors will be open from

# Saturday

Here is what we will be doing to keep you safe...

- A queuing system has been put into place
- No table bookings
- A member of staff will escort you to your table
- Some tables will be out of action during busier times
- There will be a thorough clean down between customers
- Track & trace is required
- Hand sanitiser for every customer
- Take away is still available
- Garden available weather permitting

Please bear with us during this difficult time.

We're looking forward to welcoming you back ♥



## You Can Now Bring Guests To The Club

Firstly, we would like to say a big thank you and welcome to all the new members from the village.

We are extremely happy with all our social distancing measures and how well they are working, we are very pleased to say that we have received lots of positive feedback about the systems we have put in place.

Due to this, we now feel ready to open our doors fully, to both new members from outside the village as well as guests being welcome again.

We are also taking cash in addition to the card system, and there is a 10p discount if you pay cash.

We are open from 3:30pm until 9pm today, 11:30am until 5pm tomorrow and then from 5pm every day next week.

Kind Regards,  
Alison  
On behalf of



# Apple Tree Bed and Breakfast

Apple Tree Bed and Breakfast is located on Station Road, Broadway. We've achieved "We're Good to Go" certification, the Industry Standard mark which means we have followed government and industry COVID-19 guidelines, have a Risk Assessment in place and a process to maintain cleanliness and aid social distancing. We re-opened on 5th July and are welcoming guests back to Broadway. If you have family or friends who haven't been able to visit you, please feel free to give us a call on 01386 853681.

We have 8 comfortable rooms: double, king size, twin, single and family (no under 14s) with private car parking and free WiFi.

Our website is at [www.appletreebroadway.co.uk](http://www.appletreebroadway.co.uk) for more information, together with our Covid-19 Procedures and online booking. Best prices are direct.



# Bursaries available for local students studying arts worth £500 - £1000+

Applications for the annual student arts bursaries offered by Broadway Arts Festival Trust are now open for 2020, supporting local students seeking careers in the arts. Funding for the grants in 2020 has increased by 1/3rd, in line with their charitable objectives.

Each year, arts grants are made to local students age 18 or over on September 1st, starting or already in full time education in the arts. These bursaries apply to students studying Fine Art, Applied Arts, Music or the Performing Arts. The grants are awarded in order to help students with course expenses and travel for their field of study. Priority will be given to applicants who currently reside in the parish of Broadway or WR12 postcode, but applications will also be considered from neighbouring areas.

Eight grants were awarded to students at the end of 2019 on a wide range of courses including Music, Architecture, Stage & Screen Performance, Art & Design, Music, Film Production and Drama.

Visit [www.broadwayartsfestival.com/grants](http://www.broadwayartsfestival.com/grants) for more information and to print the application form. Applications (via paper/post) need to arrive before 5pm on Monday October 12th 2020.

## **I DREAM A WORLD**

**I dream a world where man  
No other man will scorn,  
Where love will bless the earth  
And peace its paths adorn  
I dream a world where all  
Will know sweet freedom's way,  
Where greed no longer saps the soul  
Nor avarice blights our day.  
A world I dream where black or white,  
Whatever race you be,  
Will share the bounties of the earth  
And every man is free,  
Where wretchedness will hang its head  
And joy, like a pearl,  
Attends the needs of all mankind-  
Of such I dream, my world!**

Langston  
Hughes

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

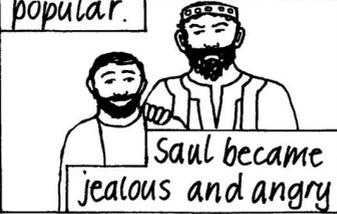
It can be read in the Bible in  
1 Samuel 24

God chose Saul to be the King of Israel,  
but Saul chose to disobey Him. God said  
that the next king would not be Saul's son.

Saul didn't know  
that God had  
chosen David to  
be the next king.



David was very successful  
as a fighter and very  
popular.



David had to go on the run and  
hide.



One day, Saul  
and his army  
were in En-Gedi.  
Saul needed to  
pee, so he went  
into a sheep  
fold built next  
to a cave...

David and his men were hiding at the  
back of the cave!



David crept over and  
cut a piece off Saul's  
robe.



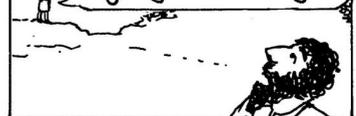
Then David felt bad.



David waited until Saul  
was far enough away  
then he shouted to him.



Your majesty, I could have  
killed you today, but I  
knew it was wrong. I want  
to prove to you I'm not  
trying to harm you.



David, you are better than  
me. I would have killed you  
but you were kind.



Now I know you will be  
the next king, but please  
look after my family.

David promised, and  
Saul and his army  
went home.



# August Crossword

## Crossword Clues

### Across

1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)

3 See 1 Across

8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)

9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)

11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)

14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)

15 In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)

17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)

20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)

21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)

22 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)

23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

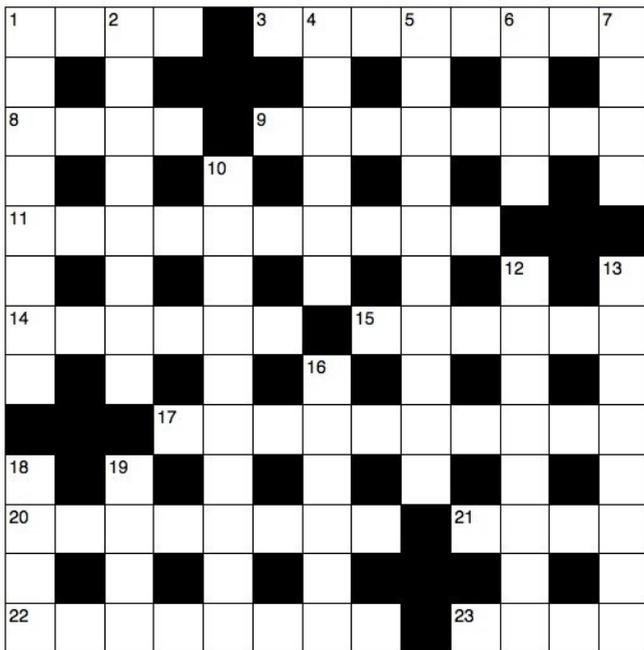
### Down

1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)

2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)

4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)

5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2)



(10)

6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2)

(4)

7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)

10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)

12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)

13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)

16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)

18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)

19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

# God in the Arts

by the Revd Michael Burgess.

## The Transfiguration – beholding the Glory

TQ – Tingle Quotient – is the name given to those things that can produce a tingle down the spine or a frisson of excitement. It could be a piece of music or the sight of an evening sunset at sea. We look, we hear, and our sense of wonder as something sublime unfolds before us produces delight and awe. We see a hint of glory that can even lead us to worship.

I think the monk who lived in cell no 6 at the Dominican convent of San Marco in Florence must have felt that when he entered his room and saw for the first time the fresco of the Transfiguration that Fra Angelico had painted. I am sure the sight would have stopped him in his tracks, just as Peter, James and John were stopped in their tracks as they beheld their Lord transfigured before them on the mount.

From 1436 Fra Angelico painted a whole series of frescoes for the convent from the High Altar to the Chapter House to the cells of the monks. Here in cell no 6 there is a restrained simplicity and directness about the Transfiguration. One of the three disciples looks out towards us, while the other two are caught up in wonder and awe as they look on Jesus with the faces of Moses and Elijah on either side.

Here Fra Angelico is not seeking to impress a wealthy patron: he is providing a focus for devotion and prayer for the monks of his community. The scene speaks to us of that sense of awe and reverence.

On August 6 we celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration. The Gospel accounts relate that special moment of revelation to the inner group of disciples. The glory shown to them evoked a sense of wonder and marvel, but also a sense of loss. For the glory proved elusive and just out of human reach. The moment of revelation passed, and the disciples had to go down the mount again to meet the crying needs of the world, all but forgotten when they were with their Lord on the mountain top.

The monk in his cell would ponder the glory of Fra Angelico's fresco, knowing that he would be called from his cell to take up his monastic duties. But the painting would go with him to sustain and nurture his life. It is the same with us: we have moments of glory. But they pass, and we must return to our daily lives. As we look on this month's painting, we sense that glory and wonder which can sustain us through life. As Thomas Jones says in his poem on this episode:

*Like a pearl we hold  
Close to our hearts  
what we have heard and seen.*



# God in the Sciences

by Dr. Ruth Bancewicz

## Parable: The Strength of a Seed

At this time of year we enjoy the fruits of our gardens, fields and hedgerows: vegetables ripen, crops are harvested, and berries begin to show bright among the leaves. Much of this growth started with a few seeds in spring: the miracle of life coming from small dead-looking things. There is a league table of long-lived seeds. The winners so far are from the narrow-leaved campion, buried by squirrels in the Siberian permafrost over 30,000 years ago. When those seeds finally germinated, they became healthy plants that flowered and produced seeds of their own.

The Bible contains many links between seeds and spiritual growth, and the parable of the sower is the most famous (in Matthew 13). A person may hear or experience something of God which has the potential to germinate into a life of following Him, resulting in the fruit of others coming to know God too. But things can happen that snatch that seed away, killing it before it has finished germinating, or choking its growth.

What about the knowledge of God that gets trampled, churned too deep in the mire of life to receive the warmth and light it needs to develop into faith? Buried seeds don't always die, but they can lie dormant, remaining alive but inactive until the earth is turned over. The possibility of that moment of connecting with something divine, scrap of knowledge, or snatch of conversation resulting in a changed life may seem infinitesimally small, but it's not zero. The seed may be incredibly tough, just waiting for a chance to grow.

The Gospel narrative plays on the fact that it took a long time for the disciples to understand the full implications of Jesus' teaching: a germination process that took many of them three or more years. They could have been discouraged, but Jesus was not. I don't think it's too much of a stretch to draw out of the parable of the sower to include the observation that it can take a long time, sometimes decades, for people to work their way through the various barriers, sticking points, and phases of forgetfulness that may keep them from following through on their spiritual experience. When we finally receive – or are open to – the encouragement, challenge, or experience that helps our faith in Christ grow, we can experience the rich fruit of a transformed life.

# Symbols in our churches

## Reflected Faith: a Prayer Notebook

*The Rev Dr Jo White begins a new series on symbols in our churches. This will run for the rest of 2020.*

I recall when I was 14 years old going to stay on my own with my French cousins in the South of France, for three weeks during the summer holidays. It was a brilliant time which I thoroughly enjoyed. There was a sense of 'freedom' being away from close family and the ability to ride a 'moped' legally into the town and surrounding area! I wished it could have lasted much longer.

However, as the homeward flight crossed over the last of the English Channel and British land came into sight, I found myself unexpectedly crying. I suspect that when the time comes for us to return to collective worship in our buildings that will happen for many of us.

It's not that we can put a finger on one specific aspect or another of our gatherings or buildings that we so sorely miss – but rather it's all those parts making up the whole.

One thing that helps me at the moment, is having a Prayer Notebook handy. It sounds very grand and holy, but it is just jottings of issues, places and people who are in the news or who have asked for prayer. At the back I make a jotting of phrases or parts of a reading or prayer that resonated with me at that moment.

It helps me to be, as well as feel, a part of the body of church as I take my place in praying and it also encourages me to look out for the ways that Christ feeds me during these strangest of times.

*This month: Find an unused notebook or fold a few pages together to make one. Cut the edges of the pages like an address book and mark each with: places, people in need, family, friends, issues, celebrations, words, etc. Whatever works for you – as large or as little as you like.*

*Make a note of news items, things people say in your conversations, comments on what you read and so on. You don't have to read or write in it every day, just when you notice something that 'grips' you. Allow God's Holy Spirit to bring you His peace through the process and enable you to pass that on to others.*

## HYMN: The story behind ... JUST AS I AM

The hymn 'Just As I Am' must be one of the most famous in the world. It has been sung by tens of millions of Christians at Billy Graham Crusades the world over, just for starters! Yet it was not written by a professional who was 'aiming' at a specific market, as many songs seem to be written today. Instead, it was written by an artist in Victorian times.

Her name was Charlotte Elliott, and she was born in Clapham in 1789. She grew up in a well to do home, and became a portrait artist and also a writer of humorous verse. All was well until Charlotte fell ill in her early 30s, and slid into a black depression. A minister, Dr Caesar Malan of Switzerland, came to visit her. Instead of sympathising, he asked her an unexpected question: did she have peace with God? Charlotte deeply resented the question and told him to mind his own business.

But after he left, his question haunted her. *Did* she have peace with God? She knew that she did not, that she had done some very wrong things. So, she invited Dr Malan to return. She told him that she would like to become a Christian, but would have to sort out her life first. Dr Malan again said the unexpected: "Come just as you are." The words were a revelation to Charlotte. She had assumed that she would have to put her life in order before she could hope to be accepted by God. Instead, she realised that Jesus wanted her just as she was – and He would take care of the sin. Charlotte became a Christian that day.

14 years later, in 1836, Charlotte wrote some verses that summed up how it had been between her and Jesus that day. They ran:

*Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that thy blood was shed for me,  
And that thou bids't me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!*

*Just as I am, tho tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt  
Fightings within, and fears without,  
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!*

Charlotte could not have dreamed that 150 years into the future, her verses would be sung by millions of people all over the world, as they responded to the Gospel presented at many great Billy Graham crusades, and made their way forward to do just as the hymn describes – to come to Jesus Christ, despite sin and fear and doubts, to come 'just as I am.'

# Pandemic ‘transforms the Church into Netflix’

*by the Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the CofE.*

The Covid-19 pandemic has “propelled the Church into the contemporary world,” says a new report from CPAS, an Anglican evangelical mission agency working with UK and Irish churches.

‘Everyone Welcome Online’ looks at the lockdown’s impact on churches and concludes, “Last month we were the Odeon, today we are Netflix.

“In the 1950s, the Odeon was okay, but then along came consumer choice, individualism and crowded complex lifestyles. Then came TV film channels, and now Netflix, Prime and others, where you can watch whatever you want, whenever you want, wherever you are on whatever you’ve got.”

The authors, Bob Jackson and George Fisher, say “The Government has shut our ‘Odeons’ down, so in response we have stumbled into ‘Homespun Netflix’ and it’s looking promising.

“Most churches going online have discovered that far more people are accessing their services than ever came to the building. What seemed initially to be a devastating blow to churches may actually generate growth.”

Bishop of Sheffield Pete Wilcox described the 26-page report as “An astonishingly thorough and perceptive overview of online church.”

The authors, who devised the popular ‘Everybody Welcome’ course published by Church House Publishing, include feedback from churches experiencing increased numbers of people logging in for online services, both live and recorded.

One church reported “We’ve had a huge number of hits, many more than the number of people in church on a Sunday, connecting with people who would not come to a regular service.”

The report analyses who is responding and detects groups ranging from friends and family of church members, to the housebound with

links to the church, people linked by christenings, weddings or funerals, people who have moved away, occasional churchgoers and people who have found the church through a denominational or diocesan link.

The authors encourage churches to make contact with people who are 'dropping in' to the services, suggesting "Contact as many people as you can to say hello and how nice it was to see them connect with the church, and ask how they are and how the church can help them."

People are finding it easier to access church online because they can join in the services without feeling concerned about 'doing the wrong thing' – like standing or sitting at the 'wrong' time – they don't have to enter a strange building and meet new people and they can access the services at a time that suits them.

One church reported: "One previously non-churchgoer said that online she felt comfortable, fully part of the service and so more welcomed than if she had been in the building unsure of how to behave."

The report's authors are keen to hear from churches about their experiences during lockdown and ask people to contact them at [allarewelcome2020@gmail.com](mailto:allarewelcome2020@gmail.com)

The 'Everyone Welcome Online' report can be accessed free at: <https://www.cpas.org.uk/church-resources/understanding-christian-leadership/everyone-welcome-online/everybody-welcome-online/#.Xs-E7UBFxPY>



*They were trying to remember when they had last left the house.*

# Think about making a will and planning your funeral

*David Pickup, a solicitor, considers funerals during coronavirus*

*On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. John 11 17-19*

We have been living in strange times throughout the lockdown. Many of the life event services in church have been postponed or have gone ahead in a very different way. Funerals have had severe limitations on the numbers who could attend.

Many people have been thinking about the meaning of life and have made wills during the coronavirus crisis. We should all make a will to avoid the disappointment and worry for our loved ones if we do not. Only today I had to advise some grown 'children' that their father's estate would all go to the estranged wife because they were still married at the time of death. Probably not what the father had wanted!

Sometimes I get asked about the funeral arrangements; or rather, told that so-and-so should not be allowed to attend. Sometimes families do fall out, but can you stop someone coming to a funeral when it is really a public event?

Funerals are usually arranged by executors and they can keep the ceremony as quiet as possible by not announcing it in advance. Church services are public, and it is difficult to stop people attending. Many cemeteries are public places and again anyone can visit them. Crematoria are not usually public and there it is easier to control who is invited and who is not.

If you are worried about what will happen at your funeral, perhaps now is the time to think about putting things right. You could do a letter of wishes to go with your will to say that you hope that people reconcile and let bygones be bygones.

As always this is a light-hearted comment on a complex subject. Always get proper professional advice.

# THE WAY I SEE IT:

## What have you missed most during lockdown?

*Canon David Winter is feeling very solitary just now...*

It's a good question, because it is about the things that make us tick. When I examined my list, I found obvious things – going to church, live sport on TV, meeting up with friends for a coffee or a beer.

But as I thought more deeply about it, I realised that what I missed most was TOUCH. For nearly four months I have not touched another human being!

That is an astonishing deprivation. When a baby is born, its first experiences are all of touch. The strong hands of the midwife, mother's excited and loving embrace, tiny hands reaching out to feel mummy's face. We touch our way into life.

And then it goes on. Holding hands with friends, being hugged by grandma, your first serious kiss, and perhaps a last tearful one at the end of a much-loved life.

We greet each other with a holy kiss, the Bible says. And why not? Sight, smell, hearing and touch. Four senses. And I think lockdown has taught me that the greatest of these is touch!

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## St. James the Least of All

*Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least in the county of C- for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...*



### On the perils of leaving the pulpit

The Rectory  
St. James the Least of All

*My dear Nephew Darren*

When the churches reopen for public worship (whenever that is!) I hope you will come and take Evensong one Sunday. But, thinking of your visit last August, I would prefer you used the pulpit when preaching. How could Colonel Brockle complete 'The Times' crossword and Miss Balmer her knitting with you constantly walking up and down in front of them? They found it most disconcerting, as out of politeness, they were obliged to listen to you. It was a unique experience they do not wish to repeat.

Those few who defy Anglican tradition and sit at the front of the church were also placed in the dilemma of trying to decide whether they should keep turning in their pews as you paraded down the nave and then rotating back to the front as you re-emerged up the side aisle. It did Lady Plumtree's vertigo no good at all. It also allowed people to see that you were wearing suede shoes. For many of our worshippers, the most appalling of heresies are as nothing when compared to brown shoes under a cassock.

I appreciate you made heroic efforts and got your sermon down to 30 minutes, but that is still 20 minutes longer than they anticipated and 29 minutes longer than their attention span.

No, use the pulpit in future; that is the reason why stonemasons 600 years ago put twenty tons of marble in our church in the first place and it would be a shame to disappoint them. It also means that from a distance of 100 yards and a height of 20 feet, no one can tell that the glass of water I use liberally while preaching is in fact a gin and tonic.

I concede that our pulpit has its dangers. I have known several bishops come to grief as their robes wrap themselves around the newel post as they ascend the steps. One, unable to untangle himself, was obliged to preach while half-way up the steps and with his back to the congregation, while our verger was dispatched to find a pair of scissors.

Perhaps, before your next visit, we may install a mechanical floor in the pulpit, so that after 10 minutes, it slowly lowers you into the crypt while the congregation can get on with singing the last hymn before getting home in decent time.

Your loving uncle,  
*Eustace*

## Visit the C of E online page

There is now a range of digital resources for to you connect with God at this difficult time. These include:

Time to Pray app (<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/time-to-pray>) which is free and has an accompanying daily audio offering on SoundCloud and iTunes.

Mental health reflections (<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/mental-health-resources/supporting-good-mental-health>)

Tips to tackle isolation (<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/mental-health-resources/dealing-loneliness-and-isolation-five-top-tips>)

Finally, there are the Church's smart speaker apps, which provide a range of Christian resources. <https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/our-smart-speaker-apps> In March alone, the number of people using the Alexa app rose by more than 70 per cent.

More details at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

Finally I understand why cars have these things...

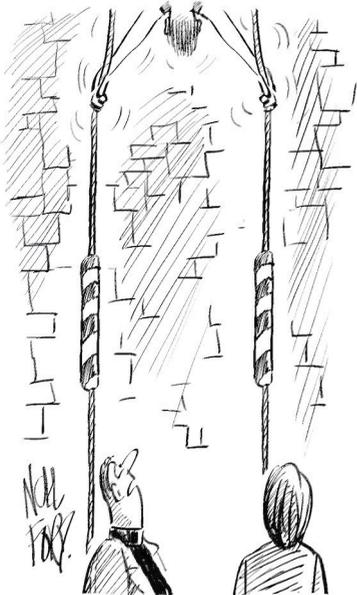


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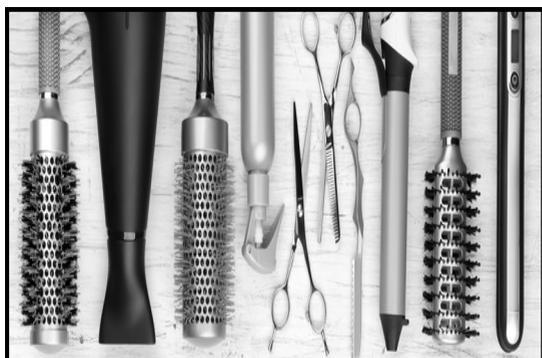
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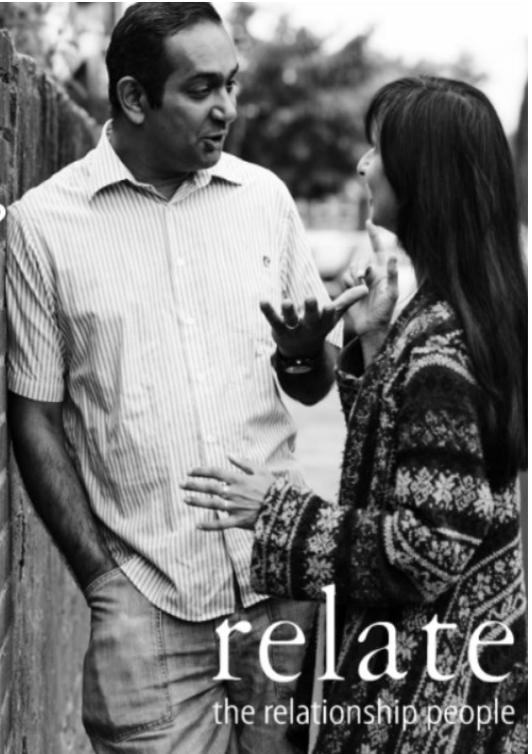
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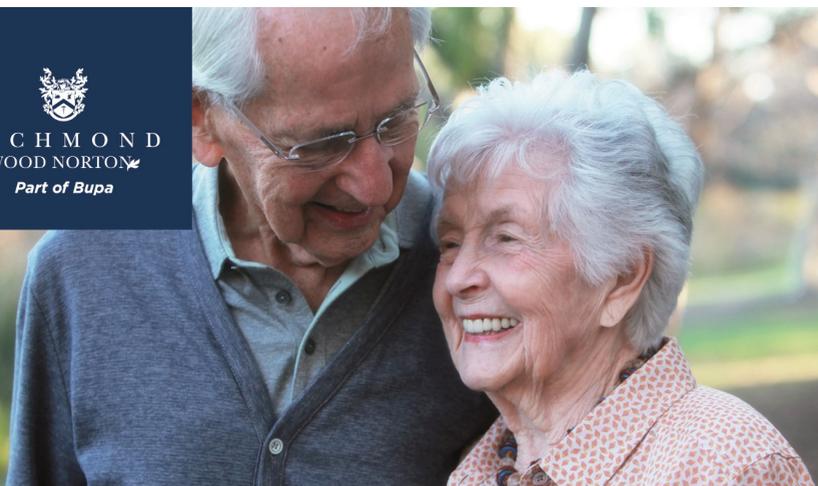
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## Future Dates for your diary .....



Until we can gather together safely there are unfortunately no further dates for the diary.

## Can you help us?

We are looking for people across the Diocese who will record a short video in response to one of these statements:

- 'What I love about my church is...'
- 'My church's greatest strengths are...'

If you'd like to get involved, record a short clip and send it to James at [jatkinson@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:jatkinson@cofe-worcester.org.uk) before the end of August.

## Registers

### Baptisms



### Weddings



Fred and Victoria

### Funerals

John Skinner  
Nigel Simms  
Raymond Wright  
Irene Taylor  
Stella Knight

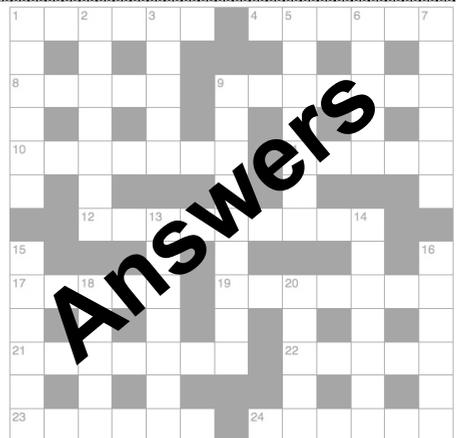


Stalingrad. 20, Maid. 7, Sins. 10, Backbone. 21, Baca. 22, Whose eye. 23, Seth. 12, Marriage. 13, Shadrach. 16, Plenty. 18, A bow. 19, ECHO. 1, Jonathan. 2, Omission. 11, Near. 9, James. 8, John. 3, And

**August**  
**Crossword**  
**Answers**

**ACROSS: 1,**

John. 3, And  
James. 8,  
Near. 9,  
Omission. 11,  
Theocratic. 14,  
Asleep. 15, By-  
path. 17,



## From the Editor

“For more than 30 years, The Grapevine magazine has been delivered to homes in Broadway and Wickhamford.

Whether you want to be informed about the goings on in the Anglican churches, inspired by the locals, read thought-provoking articles, get stuck in to the crossword / puzzles page, get gardening tips or have a go at the recipe, we have you covered.



The local church needs your help so we can be here for you when you need us—please choose the magazine as a way of supporting your local church. Therefore if you're passionate about your local church and want to support it this is the magazine for you.

Enjoy.”

*Miss cellaneous*

*If you wish to contribute to the magazine editorial the deadline is the 10th of the previous month—email the editor: [grapevinebroadway@gmail.com](mailto:grapevinebroadway@gmail.com)*



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## Subscription

To purchase the magazine for the year costs £10.00 for 10 editions (July and August, December and January being double editions).

The distribution coordinator is John Hayes:

email: [jhayes159@btinternet.com](mailto:jhayes159@btinternet.com) or phone 01386 852296.

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# Broadway & Wickhamford

## Ways to stay in touch

Parish Office: 01386 852352

Church WhatsApp Group

Email: [broadwaycofe@gmail.com](mailto:broadwaycofe@gmail.com)

Web: [stmichaelsbroadway.org](http://stmichaelsbroadway.org)

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[@WickhamfordCofE](https://twitter.com/WickhamfordCofE)

Broadway Coronavirus Support Network:  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
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Contact:

Tel: Revd Michelle (Shellie) Ward -  
07780002565.

E-mail: [broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com)

**Deadline**

**for the next Grapevine  
is:**

**23rd August  
2020**