

# FORUM

JANUARY 2021

# Happy New Year



Welcome to a winter wonderland!  
Highley Council Christmas Garden Lights prize winners (more inside)



Streetwise



Severn Valley Benefice



Charity Shop set  
to re-open Pg. 28

## NEW YEAR 2021 & CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



1st prize this year went to Diane and Andy Nicholls at 49 Yew Tree Grove. Diane said that she loved putting the lights up because she hoped it would cheer people up a bit. Over the years they have extended the display with various additions including traffic bollards! The hardest part is taking them down again on Boxing Day!



2nd Prize won by Hawthorne Drive (front page) and Coronation Street (3rd) for its timely message to stay safe and wash hands throughout the Christmas period!



Highley Primary School children designed a wonderful array of cards for our Christmas Card competition. Alongside is Sophie's which was sadly missed out! A beautiful design Sophie.

### Submission of Articles and photos.

Material must be submitted to ... 'highleyforumeditor@gmail.com' ... Photos submitted must be of the best quality possible but under 5 mpx. Please give photos titles that relate to any accompanying articles / photos.

**Main Contents:**

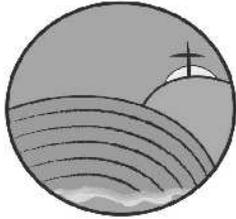
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St. Mary's Church Shop	Highley Library	Highley Forum												
<p>The shop helps to raise donations to local, national and international causes. Re-saleable items are always welcome and bulky items can be</p> <p><b>Currently Closed</b></p> <p><b>Opening Hours</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mon</td> <td>10:00—12:00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tues</td> <td>10:00—12:00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed</td> <td>10:00—12:00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thurs</td> <td>10:00—12:00, 14:00—16:00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fri</td> <td>10:00—12:00, 14:00 - 16:00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat</td> <td>10:00—12:00</td> </tr> </table>	Mon	10:00—12:00	Tues	10:00—12:00	Wed	10:00—12:00	Thurs	10:00—12:00, 14:00—16:00	Fri	10:00—12:00, 14:00 - 16:00	Sat	10:00—12:00	<p><b>Opening Hours</b></p> <p>Monday —Thursday 9:00—21:00</p> <p>Friday 9:00—19:00</p> <p>Saturday and Sunday 9:00—16:00</p> <p>Normally closed</p> <p><b>Check at Severn Centre</b></p> <p><b>Tel: 01746 860000</b></p> <p>The Customer First Point is available at the library, please speak to a member of the reception staff.</p>	<p>Please send correspondence to: <b>highleyforumeditor@gmail.com</b></p> <p>For the attention of The Editor Reports and event details from groups or societies are welcome.</p> <p><b>Subscriptions</b></p> <p>If you would like to take out a subscription to the Highley Forum please contact the Editor to be added to one of our distribution rounds. <b>Cost: £6 per year</b></p> <p><b>Advertising</b></p> <p>If you would like to advertise in the Forum please contact the Editor at highleyforumeditor@gmail.com or phone 862837</p>
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Every effort has been made to acknowledge sources of material in this publication. Sometimes this is not possible, because sources may be untraceable, or material may have been used unknowingly. If you recognise any unacknowledged material please notify the Editor and we will do our best to rectify this.

**Deadline for submission** - 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the date of publication; earlier for January issue.  
Please send submissions to [highleyforumeditor@gmail.com](mailto:highleyforumeditor@gmail.com)



Severn Valley Benefice

**The Severn Valley Churches:**

St. Mary, Highley

and at the Severn Centre

St. Mary, Billingsley

St. Peter, Chelmarsh

St. Bartholomew, Glazeley with Deuxhill

## *Fringe benefits from Covid-19?*

I'm sat at home writing this month's piece while all about me are Christmas preparations, sparkly decorations and twinkling lights... but you're reading this and Christmas is over, New Year is coming / has come and gone and 2021 is about to become reality.

Christmas is usually a time for families and celebrations, for gathering together and enjoying one another's company while remembering God's ultimate plan for our salvation beginning in the form of a baby.

But this year is different. Well, all of this year has been different, so it's no surprise that Christmas and New Year will follow suit and be a time where normality has to be put to one side and gatherings will be small and socially distanced, virtual or even delayed until we can meet safely. We won't be visiting my sister this year, or going into my brother's house; we won't be spending Christmas day with all the in-laws and our friends are just going to have to wait...

This year we're going to be quieter, slower, more peaceful. Perhaps we can try to remember the point of Christmas more without so much noise and busyness... perhaps we can take the time to think about that first Christmas, the one with a baby being born in a cattle feed box.

There wasn't a pandemic back then, but times were hard anyway. The Romans were occupying the country and had ordered some form of census; people were having to travel and register and generally change their way of life for a while. Mary and Joseph couldn't meet with people for the birth of their first child, there wasn't any of the normal family support available because they weren't going to be at home, so maybe it wasn't so different to our Christmas this year. Maybe this year, our Christmas celebrations are going to be more realistic, less materialistic, less distracted from the real meaning behind this season.

I suppose that by the time this gets published I'll know whether Christmas really was all that different and I might re-read this and try to remember what I was thinking!

I have also been wondering what things will look like in a few months' time, when the vaccine has been given to enough people that life can begin to become a bit more normal. I really hope that we don't just pick up from where we were last March. It may have been a weird year with all sorts of restrictions but it has also seen an amazing amount of positive changes in people's outlooks, their time management, their families. People working together (even if it has been online) caring for their neighbours, their environment, the hungry. If it wasn't for Covid19 do you really think that a 100 year old guy going for a walk in his own garden could have raised over £32 million for the NHS? I really hope that we take a long hard look at the things that we were doing before coronavirus and seriously consider whether they actually need doing at all, and look at the new things that we have done during the year to see if they should be continued, even if we would never have thought of them last year.

.../...

...

We have a chance to make a real lasting difference to our lives and our communities. To put down the dross and pick up the gold, to continue to support those around us and to love our village and not just our immediate friends. So as a New Year starts and an end to all these restrictions is in sight, don't get too excited about "returning to normal" if that just means returning to where we were a year ago. Look forward to something new, to something better; Mary and Joseph didn't go to Bethlehem and then just go home again afterwards. Their lives changed forever, not completely, Joseph was still a carpenter, Mary was still his wife, but now they were a family, and they didn't go home for a few years, they moved on and improved, they grew together and, well, "the rest" as they say "is history".

**Mark Williams**

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## All Change!

As we move into a new year, there is much to cheer as well as some changes on the horizon.

In December, Mary & David Rayner broke the news that they were moving to live closer to their son and daughter-in-law in the Gloucester area. This was all a bit of a shock and once we'd taken it in we began to reflect on all the good they have done here in Highley and in the benefice.

David has been Churchwarden in Highley since 2017 and project-managed the Church Restoration project which is now all but complete. This involved him being on-hand at virtually any time as the repairs often required complex access and questions as to how and where to place things. David has always been willing to get involved in jobs that some others would be nervous about trying, re-flooring the vestry and giving it a new lick-of-paint to name but one example. He is always on hand when it comes to changing bulbs, sorting out problems with gas and electricity and his technical skills have helped enable a new updated sound system in St. Mary's. For the last year David has had Roy Adlington as a companion as Churchwarden as the sharing of the tasks and privileges that come with the role is really important. We'd love to have someone to step in and assist Roy as we go into 2021, so if you want to know more talk to David, Roy or myself.

Mary has been our Treasurer since 2018 and has incorporated her accountancy expertise into the demanding role of providing annual reports and accounts to the Charity Commission as well as the parish and diocese. This former is necessary as we also run the Charity Shop in Highley. Mary was reluctant to take this on as she much preferred, in 'retirement' to develop her role as Reader (taking services) and in pastoral care. However, there came a time when we had no-one else to turn to and so she bravely took on the job and we have thus been able to witness her expertise at first hand. The good news is that Mandy Homer has offered to take on the Treasurer's role with a hand-over in the new year. Thanks, Mandy.

Mary & David came to Highley from the Guildford area, around the same time as I moved into the Rectory. They have made many friends and are always willing to chat to people out in the streets around Highley and in our churches. What a great example they have been of how to live out what it means to be a Christian today.

Thank God, though we will sorely miss them.

**Mike Harris**

---

Do remember to use the Comfort and Joy booklet during the period from Christmas to 2nd January. It is full of interesting reflections on the season and how to use these days to develop our faith and calling.



Highley St. Mary	Billingsley St. Mary	Chelmarsh St. Peter	Glazeley St. Bartholomew
David Rayner 862114 Roy Adlington 861666	Vacancy	Derek Arnold 07956 844854	Vacancy

## The Severn Valley Churches - 2021

As we look back on the year past, few of us will be sad to see it go! And yet the days are the same length and we are all another year older.

Churches have been hit hard throughout the world as services are taken online and we also have become more dependent on cameras, computers, editing suites and the need to learn how to present ourselves in the media. None of this has been easy and we are indebted to people like Stewart Page and Mark Williams for editing most of our material.

It looks as though the one 'live' physical service per week in the benefice will continue for a while yet and it seems to have worked, especially for the smaller village churches which have seen numbers attending actually increase as they welcome more people from Highley.

We have had a good many funerals over these months, but very few weddings and no baptisms due to the small numbers allowed to attend.

**On January 3rd** we will have the first service of the year in Highley which will enable us all to face the future boldly as we covenant with God to that end. We will use the text of the Methodist prayer: 'Lord God, in our baptism you called us and brought us into your Church, commissioning us to witness to the faith of the crucified Christ and to be his faithful followers to the end of our lives; so now with joy we take upon ourselves the calling of obedience and for the love of you engage ourselves to seek and do whatever you want of us. We are no longer our own, but yours.' Ponder this and come prepared.



## Shoe Boxes Galore!

Thank you to everyone who made up shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child this year. We sent a magnificent 51 boxes! That's 51 children, whose lives don't have much joy in them, who will have smiles on their faces this Christmas and hopefully know that someone, somewhere, cares.

*Val Smith*

## Chelmarsh

Christmas will be very different this year, but, the determination and the creativity of people will ensure that Christ's birth is celebrated with prayer and thanksgiving and socially distanced carol singing outdoors, in accordance with the rules.

### Christmas Stall held 12th December

This took place at Rosemary Cottage by kind permission of Liz Bebb. The sale of craft items as stocking fillers and other Christmassy things – mincemeat, chutney, berried holly, marmalade and jam was to try to offset some of the shortfall in church collections because of restrictions to services, and a very useful amount of **£118** was raised. So thank you very much to everyone who supported the stall and to those who contributed items to it.



**We, the PCC of St Peters Church, would like to wish everyone the comfort and joy of a very happy Christmas-tide, and a good New Year.**

## Billingsley

On Friday 4th December at 3.30pm Mr Rob Pace drew the balls from the bag for our first Christmas Draw when all money collected by the 100 Club goes into the prize fund. The first number to be drawn was 72 and Mr A Leather took the top prize of £120. Number 94 made a second appearance in two draws and scooped a second prize of £60 for Mrs S Bowen and the third prize went to Mr J Dunbavin, number 28.

Congratulation to all the lucky winners and thank you to all 60 members who are supporting the 100 Club.

Since September there have been 12 separate prizes totalling almost £600. £340 has been raised to contribute to the upkeep of the church building and future community projects. Given the challenging year we have all faced this source of income has been a lifeline to enable the church to continue.

Wishing all our supporters seasons greetings, good health and happiness.



First out of the bag -  
The 100 Club at Billingsley

## How Many More Waves?

As the days are dark, and winter still stretches ahead, many of us find the prospect of more restrictions for months to come even harder than when we first went into lockdown.

After nine months of coronavirus, we are emotionally drained. We are financially drained. We are lonely, depressed, frightened, and facing deep uncertainty, from job losses to health problems to relationship breakdown. We are running out of steam, and the virus is still going strong.

There is a strong parallel in all this with the ancient book of Job and his experience of loss and pain. Like Job, we are discovering that we are not always entitled to health, wealth, and happiness; and, like Job, our suffering inexplicably goes on and on. Like the irritating moralising of Job's comforters, the constant critique of the media only seems to make things worse. And, like Job, our minds are incapable of totally grasping the meaning of all this suffering. We need hope.

Job was deprived of everything, yet even in his despair he never lost his belief that God was there. Occasionally an indestructible hope burst forth like a ray of light in the darkness of his pain. "I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God." (Job 19:26)

But the truly transformative moment for Job came when, instead of seeing his situation in front of God, he finally *saw God in front of his situation. Then, even in the intensity of his suffering, the greatness of the Almighty eclipsed the problem. That is the revelation we need.*

In this sad and weary time, lament is therapeutic, and we can be completely real with our Father in Heaven. Yet in our lament, the path to rekindling true hope lies in the possibility of focusing on the character and immensity of God. Greater is He that is in us than the pandemic that is in the world. Join in with the ancient words of Psalm 42: 'Why are you downcast O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, my Saviour and my God.'

Parish Pump article

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## And on a lighter note...

It was mealtime during a flight on a British Airways plane:

"Would you like dinner?" the flight attendant asked the man seated in the front row.

"What are my choices?" the man asked.

"Yes or no," she replied.

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at an Aldi store but she couldn't find one big enough for her family.

She asked a passing assistant, "Do these Chickens get any bigger?"

The assistant replied, "I'm afraid not, they're dead."

I broke my finger last week..... On the other hand, I'm ok.



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## Letter from Westminster

Happy New Year. As I write ahead of the Christmas break, I cannot speculate on the latest news about COVID19 or Brexit. But I can say, with some sense of surety, that at last my Bill to clean up our rivers is due to have its Second Reading on 15th January.

It has been a real eye opener for me, taking on this issue. When I was successful in the Private Members Bill ballot, and said I called for ideas to help our environment, I was offered many good ideas by constituents and organisations. But after learning about the appalling state our rivers were in, I felt convinced I had to act.



Incredibly, the more I have learnt about this issue, the more amazed I have been that our rivers have been legally allowed to be polluted to such an extent up to now. One can look at the peaceful rivers and babbling brooks of Shropshire, and think our water is clean. But in reality, even here in South Shropshire, sewage spilled into local rivers for a total of 7,721 hours last year alone, as a result of 72 discharges from water treatment works across the constituency. The Severn, Teme, Worfe, Clun, Rea, and Borle Brook, have all been affected by sewage spills.

These figures are replicated across the country, and demand a fundamental change in approach. In fact I suspect the actual amount of spillage may be higher, as the current system of event monitoring across the country leaves a lot to be desired. Water companies are licensed to spill, providing a release mechanism intended to be used during exceptional storms. But this has now become routine - virtually whenever it rains.

I am delighted to have support of around 100 MPs so far with broad cross-party interest, but we shall need many more to have a chance of this Bill becoming law. I remain hopeful of securing government support for as much of the Bill as possible, to give the greatest chance of changing the law, either through this Bill or by incorporating the principles of my Bill into other legislation or regulations.

The Bill already enjoys the support of The Rivers Trust, The Angling Trust, Surfers Against Sewage, Wildlife Trusts, Wildlife & Countryside Link, RSPB, Salmon & Trout Conservation, Freshwater Habitats, Bug Life, Waterkeeper Alliance, London Waterkeeper, Windrush Against Pollution, Sewage Free Swimmers, Blue Marine Foundation, Outdoor Swimming Society, British Canoeing, Royal Lifesaving Society, Marinet UK, and the Institute of Fisheries Management. So we have a good cohort of organisations behind the Bill.

While this Bill is my immediate priority for the New Year, I am looking forward to 2021 being a year in which we see international action on climate change – through the COP26 global climate conference later in the year. The Biden administration has signalled it will rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement, helping to build international cooperation and consensus for cutting emissions and stabilising global temperatures.

I share everyone's hope that the COVID19 vaccines prove effective, allowing us to return to some sense of normality. It will be important, after all the sacrifice of the year gone by, to reconnect through community, families and businesses, and to build greater hope for our future.

We start 2021 having left the EU and its transition period – I sincerely hope with a new trading relationship which at the time of writing has still not concluded.

Philip Dunne MP

## Letter to the Editor

The Friendship Club at Garden Village decided to hold a McMillan Coffee Morning, but because of lockdown couldn't have more than six people together, so we had four little get-togethers at four members' homes. We also sent a quiz around the village to name the Teddy Bear and have received donations.

We would like to thank everyone for their help and support as £710 was raised for the McMillan nurses.

Because it is difficult to see people at present, we would like to wish you all the best for 2021.

Anne Price

---

### HIGHLEY ON THE HILL

A poem from Les Hall

**Do you know Highley on the hill?  
It was a thriving mining village,  
Where real men worked  
in filthy black dirt,  
For pay that was a pittance.**

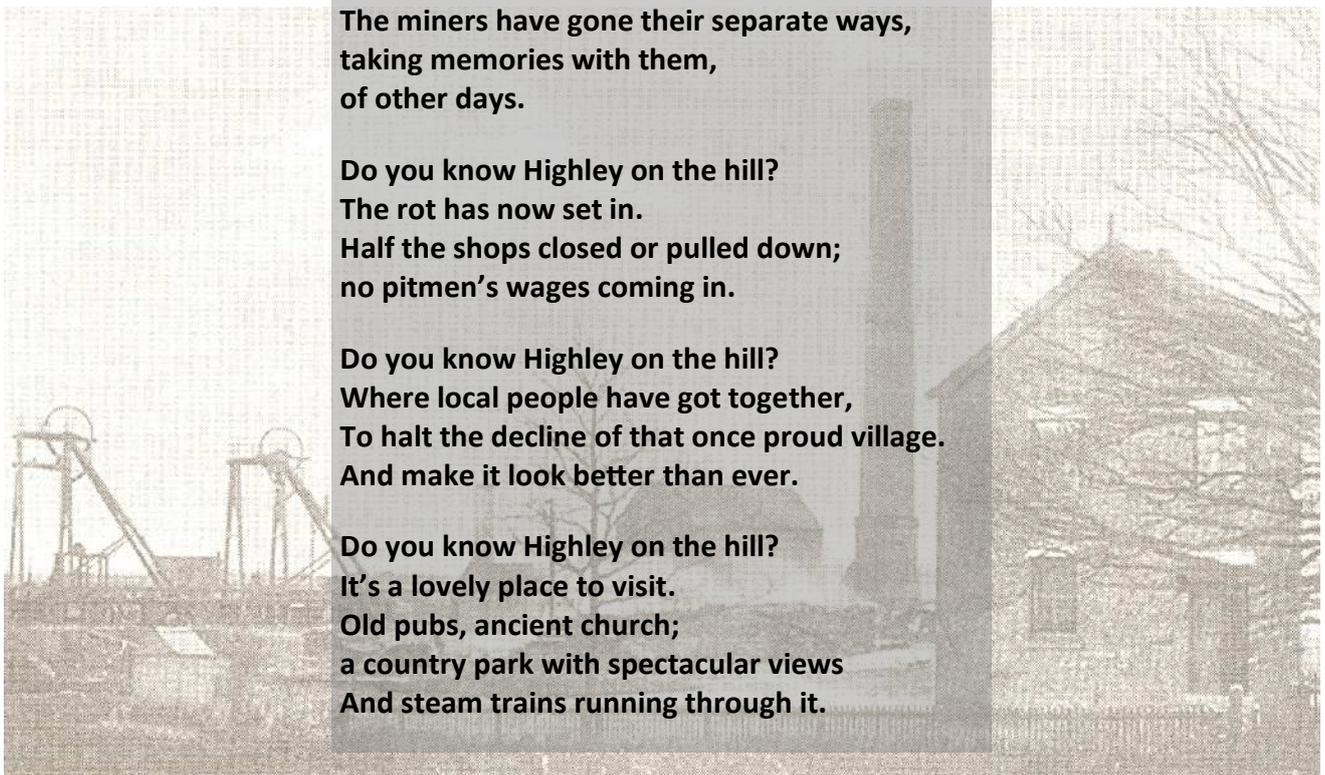
**Do you know Highley on the hill?  
Alas, the colliery's now closed  
and still ...**

**The miners have gone their separate ways,  
taking memories with them,  
of other days.**

**Do you know Highley on the hill?  
The rot has now set in.  
Half the shops closed or pulled down;  
no pitmen's wages coming in.**

**Do you know Highley on the hill?  
Where local people have got together,  
To halt the decline of that once proud village.  
And make it look better than ever.**

**Do you know Highley on the hill?  
It's a lovely place to visit.  
Old pubs, ancient church;  
a country park with spectacular views  
And steam trains running through it.**



Highley colliery in its heyday during the first half of the last century.

## County Councillor's Report

Happy New Years all round.

Well, we got here, eventually, but by golly what a trip it's been, uphill all the way to get to 2021, let's hope it's now a steady, even run and that cresting the hill after the uphill bit doesn't lead into it all going downhill because, for sure, there's a lot of change on the way and not all of it for the better.

Covid aside, on the Shirehall front, until we're sure about the impact of the vaccine on re-opening business as near as possible to normal, with the local elections still – as far as anyone knows – scheduled for May, whether the talked about changes to the way the county council runs will still happen is in the hands of the gods.



As I've said in earlier articles, the various statements of intent that have come from the Shirehall Executive need to be considered in the light of events that have happened in previous years, especially because we've seen earlier policies completely overturned by a change in personalities at the top proving, as always in politics at any level, that even a week is a long time in politics.

But it's what is happening at a national level that will see us impacted the most, especially the proposed changes to planning legislation. Within days of your reading this article a survey will be dropping through your door asking for your opinion on "affordable housing" in a scheme called 'Right Home, Right Place'. What it won't tell you is what worries me the most.

We already know that we have a lot of local people desperate for an affordable house, a better house, no argument there, an affordable house is a good thing, what isn't always so good is the place where such houses are built, the 20 affordable houses behind the telephone exchange being a case in point. With an access opening onto a bend in the main road just along from the brow of Benn's Bank, the children from those 20 family homes will be heading for school across a stretch of road generally acknowledged to be one of the most dangerous in the village!



In response to my pleading for the safety of those children, the planning committee placed a condition on those 20 houses stating that they should not be occupied until a suitable crossing point has been established. The developers have been given the go ahead to start work despite there being no crossing point and none in prospect. Logic is there none!

Looks like fingers crossed for 2021 then.

Dave Tremellen  
Independent Member for Highley Division of Shropshire Council

# Puzzles for January

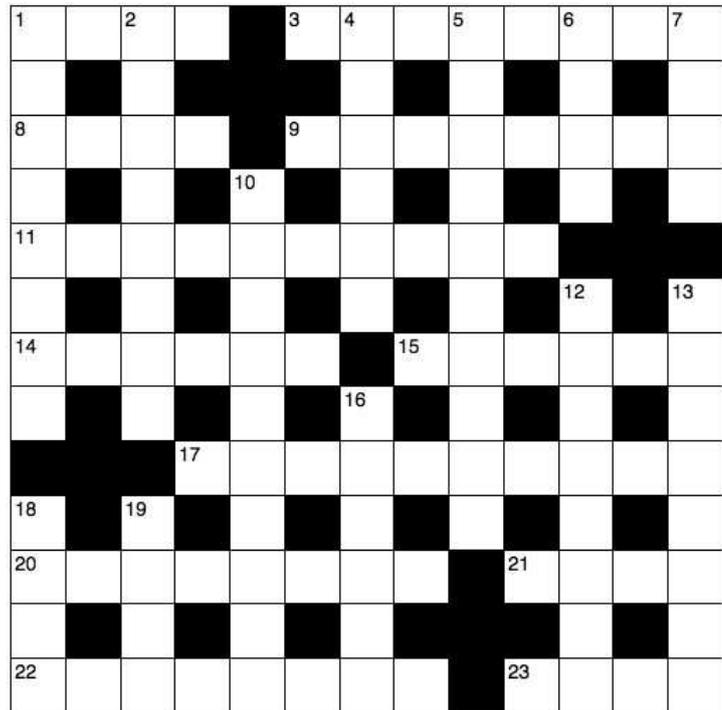
## Crossword Clues

### Across

- 1 'Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a — began to crow' (John 18:27) (4)
- 3 Fetters (Job 33:11) (8)
- 8 Perform on a musical instrument (1 Samuel 16:23) (4)
- 9 Paul describes it as 'the third heaven' (2 Corinthians 12:2-4) (8)
- 11 Loyally (Deuteronomy 11:13) (10)
- 14 Hens? Me? (anag.) (6)
- 15 Not visible (Matthew 6:6) (6)
- 17 Predicted site of the final great battle (Revelation 16:16) (10)
- 20 Jacob's youngest son (Genesis 35:18) (8)
- 21 One of Zophar's eleven sons (1 Chronicles 7:36) (4)
- 22 For example, London, Paris, Rome (8)
- 23 United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (1,1,1,1)

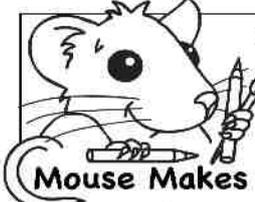
### Down

- 1 Favourite church activity: Fellowship round a — — — (3,2,3)
- 2 Divinely bestowed powers or talents (8)
- 4 Pile together (1 Thessalonians 2:16) (4,2)
- 5 Commanded to justify (John 8:13) (10)
- 6 Timothy's grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5) (4)
- 7 Killed (Psalm 78:34) (4)
- 10 One of Graham Kendrick's best-known songs, — — King (3,7)
- 12 Indecency (Mark 7:22) (8)
- 13 Unceasing (Jeremiah 15:18) (8)
- 16 He prophesied 'the abomination that causes desolation' (Matthew 24:15) (6)
- 18 British Board of Film Classification (1,1,1,1)
- 19 Pans (anag.) (4)



Solutions on page 33

Hi Kids, have a go at this



**What happened after Jesus had been born in Bethlehem?**

**READ Matthew 2:1-12**

Who came from the East? ☆

Why had they come? ☆

What were they following? ☆

Who was alarmed by their arrival? ☆

Who had the prophet written about? ☆

Where were they then sent? ☆

What were they to look for? ☆

..... and why? ☆

Where did the star lead them? ☆

Who did they see? ..... What did they do? ☆

How were they warned to go home another way? ☆



**READ Matthew 2:13-23**

Who appeared to Joseph? ☆

What was he told? .... Why? What did he do? ☆

Who then became angry?..... and why? ☆

What horrible thing did he then do? ☆

When Herod died where was Joseph told to take his family? ☆

Where did Jesus finally grow up? ☆



## As Coronavirus continues...

.. We eagerly await the vaccine!  
 Already some local residents have been called-up for their first jab and it won't be long before others join, so we're doing well for a rural community. Highley Pharmacy (Giles) is not involved at the current time, but it may well be necessary to roll this out again next winter alongside the regular flu jab and this may well involve local chemists—we'll wait to see!

**Remember we're here to help if you need any assistance, let us know.**

At the time of writing, 30 people have requested Christmas dinners on Christmas Day. These will have been cooked by our friends at Bridgnorth Baptist Church, then delivered by Highley volunteers to each home.



### Highley Covid-19 Support Group



Hello neighbours, as we go into the autumn and winter, we want you to know we are still here to help should you need us.  
 This support group has been set up by St. Mary's Highley and Highley Parish Council with the sole aim of offering assistance wherever we can during this outbreak.

**If you are self-isolating due to coronavirus we can help with:**

- Picking up shopping
- A friendly phone call
- Posting Mail
- Prescription collection

In responding to any of the above, please contact the following numbers relative to the day of the week (01746 or other):

- **Monday** - Thelma on 562005 or Peter on 862553
- **Tuesday** - Mike & Moira on 862837;
- **Wednesday** - Pat on 861155 or Elaine on 861431
- **Thursday** - Dave on 07979295387
- **Friday** - Bernadine on 862137 or Martin 861813
- **Saturday** - Roy on 861666
- **Sunday** - Try any of the above

Alternatively, make your specific request known through the 'Contact' section of [www.stmaryshighley.co.uk](http://www.stmaryshighley.co.uk).  
 You will need to give your name, phone number and address. The person answering your call/enquiry will then contact a member of the team who will fulfil your request to the best of their ability and contact you when the order is ready, to arrange drop-off and payment when appropriate. There is no charge for this service. **Note: We cannot manage card transactions.**

This community service is supported by Highley Medical Practice and Highley Pharmacy.

**Please note:** We will do our very best to help but cannot be held responsible for any shortcomings due to unforeseen circumstances.  
*In all cases, please observe the NHS guidelines overleaf.*

## Highley Churchyard

We sometimes get calls when people notice their family graves have settled to leave a dip in the ground. This can be caused when there is a weakness underground, so you may see a few in a line. If this happens you can let us know or call the gravedigger direct: Simon Link on 07976944535. On the other hand, movement of headstones is best dealt with by the monumental mason who fixed it in place for you.

You will be aware that St. Mary's PCC is in conversation with Highley Parish Council over future burials in Highley once the remaining space is taken up in some 8-10 years or so. We are pursuing a number of options and will keep readers informed as we go along.

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## Word for Today

**What you WEREN'T sent to do**  
*'As my Father hath sent me...so send I you.'*

John 20:21 (KJV)

Jesus said, *'As my Father hath sent me...so send I you.'* Notice, it's about how God wants us to share the gospel, not the rules, regulations, and dictates of various denominations. Understand this: 1) We were sent to serve, not be served. *'The Son...came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life [as] a ransom'* (Matthew 20:28 KJV). Ever notice that when we are the last to be served at a restaurant we get angry? We think we deserve better. But in God's kingdom the power is at the bottom, and it's from there Christ governs and conquers. We must come to the end of ourselves. We don't represent Jesus unless we are willing to put on the apron of humility and wash our brother's feet, even if his name happens to be Judas. 2) We were sent to do God's will, not our own. Jesus said, *'I came...not*

*to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me'* (John 6:38 KJV). When we're young and people inquire about our plans for life, we sometimes say, 'I'd like to be a doctor, or a teacher, or a nurse.' But we really need to add 'the Lord willing', because unless He's in it, you are on your own. Choosing the wrong occupation will put you in the wrong place, with the wrong people, and consequently everything in your life will be wrong. John said, *'The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever'* (1 John 2:17 NIV). To miss God's will – is to miss the purpose for which you were born. Don't let that happen to you.

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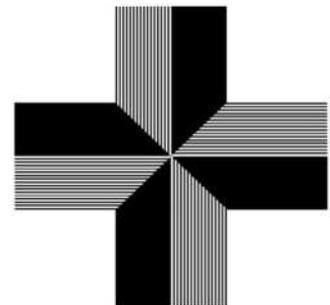
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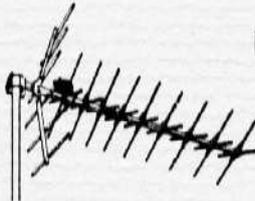
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## *Afloat on the Rolling Deep*

Soapy Sam was on his second pint and had paid for Nipper's when he arrived at The Bay Horse.

"Got a new job; promotion you might say," he informed his friend. "I expect Mr Whitman has finally found out you know as much about gardening as could be written on a postage stamp," commented Mr Cook. Sam was indignant. "No indeed; one of the two crew on his boat has fallen sick and I am taking his place for a while. We are taking Mr Whitman and his daughter down to Bristol and then they are going on holiday. The other crew man lives in Bristol and is going to visit his old mother, and will return from time to time to check how well I am managing. I shall be left in sole charge as a kind of watchman. I am well prepared. I have bought a sailor's cap." "How come he thought you were a suitable stand in?" inquired Nipper, suspiciously. "Well, I told him I had a lot of experience on paddle boats," explained Sam. "Paddle boats!" exploded his friend, "Why, they went out in the 1800s." Sam regarded him pityingly. "You are ignorant Nipper, there are dozens of them at Blackpool. Masher and me hired one last year. Unfortunately he turned the paddle backwards on one side and we went round in circles." Light dawned, "You mean those little boats the children can manage on a shallow pool?" "Yes, the lady in charge said a 10 year old could manage one, when she rescued us. We had overrun our time you see. When I saw Masher was paddling backwards I reversed mine to match, but, for some reason, the boat went backwards and we hit one with a little girl in it."

He stood up and ordered another pint. "I rescued her when the boat overturned, but Masher fell overboard and kept yelling he was drowning. He had drunk too much you see. The damage wasn't much and the child was in a bathing costume and the water was only about 2 feet deep. Her mother was not a bit grateful. She told me her daughter could swim and needed no help and said quite a lot of other things which I will not repeat." "So, the end result is you and the experienced sailor will take your employer and his daughter down to Bristol on the boat and he will leave you in charge of an expensive craft. I expect to hear that the good ship 'Nautical Nan' has sunk at her moorings as the temporary watchman removed the bilge plug thinking it was the entrance to the cellar." "I am glad you told me that. Where is the cellar on a boat?" asked Sam with interest. Nipper sighed, "Your nautical knowledge astounds me." He rose and dusted fag ash from his trousers. "I do wish you would learn to use an ash tray Sam."

The next day Sam departed for Bristol and Nipper assumed he must have arrived safely since he had heard no news of wrecks in the Bristol channel.

The following day a long term haulier hailed Nipper. "My mate has gone sick. This 'flu bug I reckon. How are you fixed for a trip to Bristol with me? I need someone to help unload." Nipper readily agreed and after unloading the big truck he had a meal in a small cafe and resolved to visit Sam in the 'Nautical Nan' at her moorings. "They will not have left him alone. I expect the other crew member will be there as a safeguard," he mused. He found the 'Naughty Nan' as he mentally named her and was astonished to find Sam alone. "The other chap has had to stay with his mother. 'Flu he reckons. A lot of it about. Comes of not drinking enough beer. After all neither you nor me has got it," Sam assured him. "Masher is coming down to keep me company. Says he always fancied an ocean voyage."

This information filled Nipper with misgivings. "Surely one idiot on board is bad enough," he thought but he consoled himself knowing that the 'Naughty Nan' was safely anchored and, even with a crew such as the Masher and Soapy Sam, was unlikely to come to much harm. Anyway he decided not to return with the lorry driver. He would visit the two intrepid mariners in a day or so to check that all was well.

.../...

.... The next day he called again at the docks. No sign of 'Naughty Nan' at her moorings. "I knew it. The two fools have managed to sink her," he muttered. Hastily he boarded a smaller vessel that was moored alongside 'Naughty Nan'. "Sunk? No!" laughed the owner who happened to be there. "They have gone for a short trip around the bay. Sam told me that he and his friend had experience of paddle boats. Mind you, I did think it odd when they asked me where the oars were kept. A dead calm, drift a bit in the bay and and likely will have to be towed in. They started the auxiliary engine that would take her out on the next tide, but normally it is only used for berthing etc." Nipper, however, was worried. He knew Sam! "I'll tell you what, if you just help me I would not mind a little trip myself. My usual crew member has 'flu." A few simple instructions and the boat was underway. "Can actually cope single handed," explained his new friend, "though it does keep you pretty busy." Eventually they sighted the 'Naughty Nan' drifting idly. No one at the wheel, but a raucous chorus of "A Life on the Ocean Wave" drifted over to them. "Dear me, it sounds as though someone is intoxicated," commented Nipper's shipmate. "Fortunately there's not much sea traffic." Nipper cut him short. "Can you get me alongside and I'll board and steer." "Can do better than that. We will come alongside and we can both board. I'll set a small sail and head for port. Start the motor and berth her with little damage done though I fear your friend Sam will lose his job." "Mr Laxton," muttered Nipper, "that is a minor worry. She seems a big boat for two men to handle." "We'll drift in using tidal flow," he assured Nipper. "but not to Bristol I fear; we will berth higher up beyond the Severn's influence."

Sam warmly greeted his friend. "Masher is not much use," he confided. "He has been drinking that French plonk we found in the 'fridge. Stuck to beer myself." Nipper found Masher lying in his bunk. "He is not drunk, at least no more than usual," he commented. "I think he may have 'flu."

Once they berthed the Masher was swiftly taken to hospital, and Nipper prepared to break the news of the boat's disappearance from her Bristol anchorage. To his surprise Mr Whitman seemed quite jovial.

"I am pleased Sam used his initiative and removed the vessel to a safe anchorage. You see although I have had a 'flu injection my Daughter Nancy has not had one and I was dreading a return to Bristol where it seems so prevalent. Two crew members down with it and now poor Mr Masher has it. I must reward him when he recovers. It was an unusually brave action to help take the vessel out with so little experience."

Reporting this favourable turn of events to Sam, Nipper said, "Your usual luck seems to hold. Your theory about drinking beer to avoid 'flu is somewhat flawed. What about poor Masher, he drinks enough?" "Ah," grinned Sam triumphantly. "That is where you are wrong. I told you Masher was drinking that French plonk. If he had stuck to beer he would have been alright! If those Frenchies had eaten roast beef and sausages instead of frogs' legs and stuff that tastes like vinegar there probably would have been no 'flu epidemic in the first place." "Well, perhaps you will expand on that theory to Mr Whitman and explain that you threw his prize bottles of French wine overboard as you thought they were contaminated with the 'flu virus. At least that will explain their disappearance." "I'll tell his daughter Nancy. She will pass it on to him. In his eyes she can do no wrong," said Sam.

Nipper grinned appreciatively. "Sometimes, Sam, you seem to show a glimmer of intelligence. Let's drink the rest of the beer."

... Alan Honeybourne

# A NEW EDITOR FOR THE FORUM!

## GOOD NEWS

Just as I was beginning to lose hope that an editor would step forward for our illustrious mag, the Revd. Val Smith stepped up and offered to take over from the April 2021 issue.

That is a great relief and gives us some confidence in the future of the magazine.

In addition a young student has also offered his assistance and I would hope that in due course there could be a merging of skills that would see the Forum running on for years to come.

If you advertise, a letter should be coming out shortly, now there is some certainty, inviting you to renew your ad and make any changes, with costs for 2021.

If you subscribe, we're holding our subscription for 2021 at £6 and will put in a subscription reminder in next month's issue. Payment requested by the end of March, please.



Mike Harris

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# The Way Ahead for the CofE?

The momentous events of 2020 will have a “profound effect” on the future of the Church of England and our wider society, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have said.

In a recent joint address to the General Synod, Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell said the Church of England must adapt and put its trust in God to become a “simpler, humbler, bolder Church.”

The archbishops’ comments came as they addressed the first online sitting of the General Synod following a legal change to enable it to meet remotely amid the coronavirus restrictions.

They outlined how the coronavirus pandemic and its economic fallout are providing the backdrop to huge social changes – here and around the world.

They also singled out how the Black Lives Matter movement and the publication of the IICSA report on abuse had exposed the Church’s own failings and the need to change.

Archbishop Justin told Synod: “2020 will be a year that registers in memory and in history. It can be compared with 1929, with 1914, with 1989.”

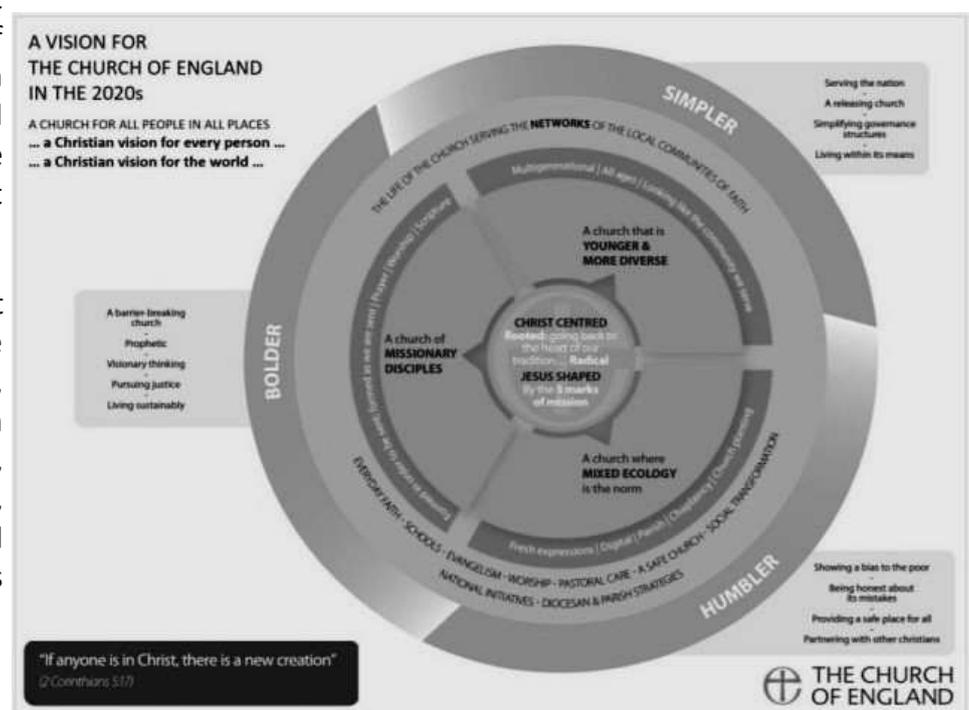
“We are aware that this is a year in which huge changes are happening in our society and consequently in the Church.

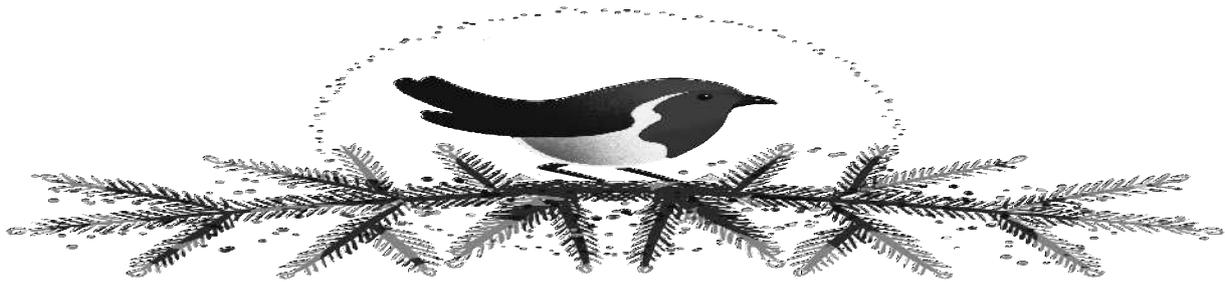
“For let us be clear, there is no possibility of changes in society failing to have a profound effect on the shape, calling and experience of mission in the Church.”

Outlining the dramatic events of 2020, he added: “These crises are not signs of the absence of God but calls to recognise the presence of the kingdom and to act in faith and courage, simplifying our life focusing on Jesus Christ, looking outwards to the needy and renewing in our cells our call to wash feet, to serve our society and to be the Church *for England*.”

Archbishop Stephen went on to outline the work of groups set up to discern how the Church of England might respond and change in light of the recent challenges.

He told Synod: “If we put our trust in God, and if we learn to love one another, then I believe we can become a simpler, humbler, bolder Church, better able to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ.”





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In Highley we are trying to share ideas in order to live a more sustainable existence and reduce our carbon footprint. Anyone is welcome to send them to [highleyfoe@gmail.com](mailto:highleyfoe@gmail.com).



### Idea of the month - Scott

The winter time often reminds us of how draughty our windows are and how much we rely on natural gas to heat our homes. To reduce our carbon footprint we have recently had our loft insulated and boarded to save losing heat out of the roof. Our new loft hatch has draught excluder tape, as well as a cushion of loft insulation above it. The Energy Saving Trust will give you information on any possible grants. We are lucky to have cavity wall insulation, but for those with solid walls, there are still options. Make sure you do your research though, as poorly installed insulation can lead to damp.

Insulating your curtains with a thermal blackout material is a great intermediary idea if you are saving for more energy efficient windows, and simply shutting internal doors and fitting draught excluder tape to door frames can help reduce the movement of cold air around the house.

### Building a new future - Alastair

Our government is starting to make some changes to the planning system to make it easier to build. If you are thinking about starting a new building project in the new year, make sure you choose the most efficient insulation for your walls and ceilings. Also consider changing from a fossil fuel heat source to something more sustainable.

Use recycled materials as far as possible. The recycled building products network is a good place to start, or simply ask your local supplier. There are plenty of local builders' merchants selling reclaimed materials.

### Poached pears in red wine (you could use Marsala wine if you're splashing out!)

#### Ingredients

Seeds from 1 vanilla pod (or 1 tsp extract)  
1 bottle red wine  
225g caster sugar  
1 cinnamon stick, halved (or 1/2 tsp)  
fresh thyme sprig, plus sprigs to serve  
6 pears, peeled, but kept whole with stalk

#### Method

Add everything to a small saucepan, and poach the pears, covered, for 20-30 mins, making sure they are covered by the wine. They should be tender all the way through when pierced with a cocktail stick. You can make these up to 2 days ahead and chill.

### Christmas candles - Jen

It's the time of year when a lot of scented candles are burnt, filling the room with comforting fragrances. Did you know that a lot of candles are made with paraffin wax, which not only produce quite a lot of smoke, but also release toxic compounds into the air, including acetone, benzene, and toluene; all known carcinogens. If you are thinking of getting a scented candle as a gift or for yourself, consider ones made of beeswax, soy, rapeseed (great because it's grown in the UK), or coconut.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL**

**Alastair MacNaughton**



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Unit 11 Finepoint Way, Stourport Road, Kidderminster DY11 7FB  
[info@kidderminsterselfstorage.co.uk](mailto:info@kidderminsterselfstorage.co.uk)

## The Charity Shop in Highley

Following a meeting with our lovely volunteers this morning, we are pleased to let everyone know that our nice new shop in Coronation Street will open at 10.00am on Friday morning January 8<sup>th</sup> 2021!

To enable us to open safely, any donations have to be isolated for 48 hours, so we will have to put a system in place for accepting your items. We will be receiving donations at **THE PARISH HALL (back entrance) on:**



**Tuesday afternoons 2-4pm and Thursday mornings 10.00am – 12noon BY APPOINTMENT ONLY Please ring 01746 861722 to make an appointment.**

Due to the smaller space, we cannot accept any electrical goods or large furniture at the moment.

We hope this will only be short term but **PLEASE DO NOT leave items outside the shop.**

For the time being and due to restrictions, we will only open on Friday morning 10 – 12, Friday afternoon 2 -4 and Saturday morning 10 – 12. We can only admit 2 people in the shop at any time, socially distanced and would ask all our customers to adhere to Government guidelines.

We should like to thank everyone for their patience and support and look forward to welcoming you back.

**Gay Lilley**

## New Archdeacon of Ludlow



We welcome the Revd. Fiona Gibson as the new Archdeacon. Fiona is the first woman to be appointed to a senior position in the diocese of Hereford (not before time, I hear you say).

She has left the post of vicar in a rural benefice in St. Albans diocese where she began her training 13 years ago.

The Bishop of Hereford, the Rt Revd Richard Jackson, welcomed the appointment and said: "I am thrilled that Fiona will be joining us as Archdeacon of Ludlow. This is a key appointment to our diocesan leadership team .... She brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm, proven expertise in education and demonstrable fruitfulness in mission. She will share with me the in the oversight and missional leadership of our diocesan family as we proclaim Christ and grow new disciples."

# WORK OUT OR WIND DOWN

at The Severn Centre, Highley

- Gym
- Outdoor Swimming Pool
- Group Exercise Classes
- Racket Sports
- Childrens Activities
- Sports Halls
- Outdoor Pitches
- Library



Find out more [www.haloleisure.org.uk](http://www.haloleisure.org.uk)  
or call **01746 860 000**



Working together for the people of Highley



**Rachel Siddall**  
DipCFHP, MPSPract

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- Thickened nails
- Corn removal
- Callus reduction
- Verruca treatment
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- Foot health advice

**07478 007 913**  
[rachelsiddalldy14@gmail.com](mailto:rachelsiddalldy14@gmail.com)



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[www.sevg.co.uk](http://www.sevg.co.uk)

<b>St. Mary's Church - Rector:</b>	Rev. Mike Harris	highleyrector@gmail.com	862837
Associate Minister	Rev. Val Smith	valandkeiths@aol.com	861966
Assistant Curate	Rev. David Poyner	d.r.poyner@aston.ac.uk	01562 68638
Retired with Permission to Officiate	Canon Rose Lawley	rosemarylawley@gmail.com	862301
Churchwardens	Mr David Rayner	862114 Roy Adlington	861666
Readers	Mrs Mary Rayner		862114
	Mr Keith Smith (PTO)		861966
PCC Secretary	Mrs Rose Lawley	rosemarylawley@gmail.com	862301
Allsorts (Ladies' Group)	Mrs Lin Evans		861087
Coffee Morning (Tuesdays)	Mrs Yvonne Shaw		861723
Children's Sunday Groups			
Friday Event	Mrs. Rachel Williams	the-friday-event@hotmail.com	862875
MCMC's Discos	Mark Williams & Chris Smith		860230
Age UK		enquiries@ageconcernshrops.org.uk	01743 233123
Bowls Club	Lorraine Brooks		860386
Brownies		(Rainbows - Jessica Lloyd - 861090)	
Carers Trust 4 All			03333 231990
Community Car Scheme	Mr Richard Dudson		861817
Cricket Club	Mrs Denise Goulden		861031
Gardening Club	Mrs Morag Ross		862450
Guides	Mrs Gay Lilley		861722
Highley Colliery Band	Dave & Lisa Burge		862018
Highley Companions	Elaine Moore		861431
Highley County Primary School	School Office	(Tanya Mathers)	861541
Highley First Responders	Dave Fulton	Coordinator	861580
Highley Medical Centre	Dr Selva	Bridgnorth Road	861572
Highley Mini Minors Toddler Group	Mrs Sharon Dalziel		862087
Highley Minors Childcare Centre	Dawn Bethel / Kath Davies	Severn Centre	860005
Highley Parish Council Parish Clerk	Mrs Ella Preston	81 Woodhill Road	861979
Co. Cllr. & Highley Patients Group	Mr Dave Tremellen	dave.tremellen@shropshire.gov.uk	07979295387
Highley Rugby Club	Mr Rob Parr		862094
Highley Welfare Junior Football Club	Ms Emma Carter		07752207828
HWJFC: Mini Kickers (3.5—7 years)	Jo Matthews		862017
Housing Support Officer	Jan Moseley	862442	07582 003972
Highley Venturers	Mrs Chris Corfield		861477
Parish Hall Bookings			861242
Pop-in-club	Mrs Pam Stinton		861821
Severn Centre			860000
Severn Strollers	Barbara Skilton		862003
Women's Institute	Mrs Eunice Williams		861613



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 r.f.h.p



**OVER 60?**

**In need of help and advice?**

**Not sure where to find it?**

**Age UK may be able to help.**

**They are currently working on  
 a fresh approach to the  
 support they give locally.**

**In the mean time, please  
 contact them direct on:**

**01743 233123**

email:

[enquiries@ageconcernshrops.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ageconcernshrops.org.uk)

## Community Cars

### **Voluntary Driver(s) wanted**

**Could you spare some time to drive  
 people on essential journeys?**

**e.g. medical appointments at local  
 surgeries & hospitals, occasional  
 shopping trips, etc.**

**Community Cars needs extra help!**

**Hours of work – flexible!**

**Volunteers can specify times when they  
 are usually available (or not)**

**Drivers receive payment for each journey  
 to cover their running costs.**

**Please contact Richard Dudson on  
 (01746) 861817 for further details.**

**Volunteers will need to complete a short  
 application form, & a CRB check will be  
 necessary.**

**No transport for essential journeys?  
 We may be able to help...**



**For further information, or  
 to book a car, please contact:**

**Richard Dudson  
 (co-ordinator)  
 (01746) 861817**

**Andrew Powell  
 (01746) 861716**

**Daniel Humpage  
 (01746) 862794**

**Reasonable charges**

The scheme is managed by Shropshire Council's  
 passenger transport services



**Funerals:**

- Wednesday 2nd December - Stanley Charles Gilman
- Monday 7th December - Gordon Thomas Griffiths
- Wednesday 16th December - Susan and Paul Jordan (Telford Crem.)

**NOTE: TIMETABLE:** Diamond Buses [www.diamondbuses.com](http://www.diamondbuses.com) 0121 322 2222

**Monday to Friday - 125 - Stourbridge Bus Station - Bridgnorth, Sainsburys Superstore**

\* Not including Bank Holidays

Stourbridge Bus Station, Stourbridge	--	--	08:00	--	09:10	<b>10</b>	15:10	16:20	17:20	18:25
Broadwaters Heath, Hare and Hounds, Broadwaters	--	--	08:18	--	09:25	<b>25</b>	15:25	16:38	17:38	18:43
Kidderminster Bus Station, Kidderminster Arrive	--	07:27	08:28	08:37	09:35	<b>35</b>	15:35	16:48	17:48	18:53
Kidderminster Bus Station, Kidderminster Depart	--	07:27	08:28	08:37	09:37	<b>37</b>	15:37	16:50	17:50	18:53
Kidderminster General Hospital, Kidderminster	--	07:34	--	08:44	09:44	<b>44</b>	15:44	16:57	17:57	
Bewdley Load Street, Bewdley	06:30	07:45	--	08:55	09:55	<b>55</b>	15:55	17:08	18:08	
Button Oak, Buttonoak	06:36	07:51	--	09:01	10:01	<b>01</b>	16:01	17:13	18:13	
Kinlet, Kinlet	06:43	07:58	--	09:08	10:08	<b>08</b>	until	16:08	17:20	18:20
Highley, Highley	06:53	08:08	--	09:18	10:18	<b>18</b>		16:18	17:30	18:30
Highley Garden Village, Woodhill	06:56	08:13	--	09:21	10:21	<b>21</b>		16:21	17:33	18:33
Chelmarsh, Chelmarsh	07:00	08:18	--	09:26	10:26	<b>26</b>		16:26	17:38	18:38
Eardington, Eardington	07:05	08:23	--	09:31	10:31	<b>31</b>		16:31	17:43	18:43
Bridgnorth, Sainsburys Superstore, High Town	07:12	08:33	--	09:38	10:38	<b>38</b>		16:38	17:50	18:50
Bridgnorth Low Town, Low Town	07:15	--	--	--	--	--		--	--	--
Stanmore Industrial Estate, Stanmore	07:22	--	--	--	--	--		--	--	--

Current Timetable from October 2020  
SATURDAYS with some variations - check.

**Monday to Friday - 125 - Stanmore Industrial Estate - Stourbridge Bus Station**

			* (0712)						* RS
Stanmore Industrial Estate, Stanmore	--	07:24	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Bridgnorth Low Town, Low Town	--	07:32	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Bridgnorth, Sainsburys Superstore, High Town	--	--	08:40		<b>40</b>	14:40	15:45	16:45	18:05
Eardington, Eardington	--	07:37	08:49		<b>49</b>	14:49	15:55	16:55	18:14
Chelmarsh, Chelmarsh	--	07:42	08:54		<b>54</b>	14:54	16:00	17:00	18:18
Highley Garden Village, Woodhill	--	07:47	08:58		<b>58</b>	14:58	16:05	17:05	18:23
Highley, Highley	--	07:51	09:01	then	<b>01</b>	15:01	16:09	17:09	18:26
Kinlet, Kinlet	--	08:01	09:11	at	<b>11</b>	until	15:11	16:19	17:19
Button Oak, Buttonoak	--	08:08	09:19	these	<b>19</b>		15:19	16:27	17:26
Bewdley Load Street, Bewdley	--	08:15	09:25	mins	<b>25</b>		15:25	16:33	17:32
Kidderminster General Hospital, Kidderminster	--	08:27	09:35		<b>35</b>		15:35	16:44	17:43
Kidderminster Bus Station, Kidderminster Arrive	07:30	08:35	09:41		<b>41</b>		15:41	16:50	17:49
Kidderminster Bus Station, Kidderminster Depart	07:30	08:37	09:43		<b>43</b>		15:43	16:52	17:50
Broadwaters Heath, Hare and Hounds, Broadwaters	07:38	08:45	09:49		<b>49</b>		15:49	17:00	17:58
Stourbridge Bus Station, Stourbridge	07:55	09:05	10:05		<b>05</b>		16:05	17:17	18:18

\* (0712) service serves Sainsbury's Superstore out of normal sequence. RS - Continues to Rail station by request

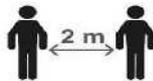
HM Government

NHS

## Bus travel guidance

### Stay safe

Keep 2m apart from people not in your own household while waiting



### Look out for 'bus full' signs

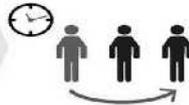
The bus will only stop when people want to get off or if there is enough space onboard



If they do stop, they will normally only be able to let one passenger on for each one that gets off.



Be prepared to wait and please help others by prioritising those who need to travel more urgently than you



STAY ALERT - CONTROL THE VIRUS - SAVE LIVES

## Crossword Solution from page 15

C	O	C	K		S	H	A	C	K	L	E	S	
U		H			E		H		O		L		
P	L	A	Y		P	A	R	A	D	I	S	E	
O		R		T		P		L		S		W	
F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	L	Y				
T		S		E	P	E		L		U			
E	N	M	E	S	H		U	N	S	E	E	N	
A		A		E		D		G		W		E	
				A	R	M	A	G	E	D	D	O	N
B		S		V		N		D		N		D	
B	E	N	J	A	M	I	N		B	E	R	I	
F		A		N		E			S		N		
C	A	P	I	T	A	L	S		U	S	P	G	

### Parish Hall Office

01746 861242

For information about weddings, Baptisms (Christenings), child's Dedications or general enquiries about church service times and parish information, please contact the Parish Office. The office will be open on Thursdays (generally) from 10:00 - 12:00pm.

If there is no answer and at other times, there is a telephone message service and if you leave your name and telephone number someone will get back to you in due course or phone: 01746 862837

### Waste / Recycling Collections

Black bins: Monday 11th & 25th

Crates & green bins: **Tues 5th** & Mon 18th  
Apart from the small area of Garden Village and Highley Park Homes which has a collection the following day.

### Forthcoming Events

- Gardening Club**                      Wednesday  
Severn Centre
- Police Surgery**                      Thursday  
10:00 - 12:00                      Severn Centre
- Severn Strollers**                      Mondays  
10:30 / 11:00                      (not Bank Holidays)  
Severn Centre  
(Contact: Barbara Skilton: 01746 862003)
- Women's Institute**                      Tuesday  
Severn Centre
- Patients' Group**                      see Facebook page
- Computer Support Sessions**  
see opposite

### Star Housing

**Housing Support Officer  
in Rhea Hall.**

**Contact Jan Moseley: 01746 862442**

#### Services available:

General Drop-in: Friday 9.30am-1.30pm

Coffee Morning: Thursday 11am-12noon

**regarding services:**

Wednesdays 10.30am-12.30pm

Community Room,  
73 Rhea Hall Estate,  
WV16 6LD

All Round Property Maintenance	11	Haycox, P & Son (Funerals)	25	Severn Edge Vets	29
Bache PR (Carpenter)	10	Highley Garage	22	Severn Valley Stoves	10
Cleobury Country Centre	11	Highley Pharmacy	18	Stark, A, Carpentry	19
Clive Powell (General Garden )	27	Holford, CE (Electrical)	11	Tele - Satt Aerials	19
Cleobury Country Centre	24	Ince, B (Funeral Directors)	25	Vivians Mobile Hairdressing	27
Cost Cutter	11	Irena Foot Clinic	31	Village Butcher & Farm Shop	17
David Dexter (Motor Repairs)	11	Jenpac Computers	10	Wyre Forest Pest Control	17
Edwards AJ Decorating Services	17	JSM Foot Health Care	10		
Foot Health Practitioner	29	Kidderminster Storage & Removals	27		
Garden Services (Clive Powell)	27	Kinlet C of E School	24		
Halo Leisure (Severn Centre)	29	Kinlet Hall	19		
Harris, Edwin & Sons (Funerals)	25	Martin, Tony (Plumbing etc.)	9		
		Millfields Boarding Kennels	11		
		Northwood & Sons (Funerals)	25		
		Ovenclean	19		
		Park House Nursing Home	9	Bus Information	32
		Perry & Phillips (Funerals)	25	Events - Church	33
		Piano Tutor - Francis Engelheart	11	Events - General / Waste	33
		Physic Health Consulting	22	Library	3
				Parish Registers	32
				Registrar's Office	25

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS & mention HIGHLEY FORUM**



Every Tuesday from 10.30 am-midday.  
Come along and have a chat whilst enjoying a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. Voluntary donations to Mary's Church.

**Venue: Yvonne 861723**

Gay & Jill, Church St  
Moira & Ivor, Church St  
Gill & Alun Rees,  
Denise Lobban, 14 Church St  
Mary & David Rayner, Prestwood House, Netherton Lane  
Janette Hill, 62 Yew Tree Grove

Please check the notice board at church nearer the time to confirm locations.

**A warm welcome is extended to all**



*First Tuesday in the month  
2-4pm. (note time change)*

*Programme  
Cancelled  
until further notice*

**Allsorts of topics for  
Allsorts of ladies of  
Allsorts of ages**

Photo Gallery



**CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER FOR CHELMARSH**

Liz Bebb had a great idea for a 'light touch' sale of edibles and lovable outside her home in Chelmarsh. It raised over £100 for St. Peter's.

**The Severn Centre**  
lit up again for Christmas with a superb tree. Sadly no Lights Switch-on in 2020 due to Coronavirus.

November 2021 will soon come round when, hopefully we will be able to mingle again!



**St. Mary's Billingsley** prepared for Christmas—thanks to Dave and Amanda



The crib scene at **St. Mary's Highley** The Whitefoots set it up this year.

# JANUARY 2021

**January Services**

Everything subject to change, check website  
*Please observe social distancing and wear a face covering. Space in churches limited.*

**3rd Highley 10am**  
 Covenant Communion & virtual

**10th Chelmarsh 10am**  
 Holy Communion & virtual

**17th Glazeley 10am**  
 Holy Communion & virtual

**24th Billingsley 8am**  
**Highley 10am** Family Service and virtual

**31st Family CHRISTINGLE and virtual**  
 Make Your Own - follow instructions online or join us. Look out for info.

**You are also warmly invited to attend the bi-weekly St. Mary's Zoom gatherings at 5pm for 40mins**

Contact: [markandamywilliams@gmail.com](mailto:markandamywilliams@gmail.com)  
 'Www.stmaryshighley.co.uk'

Some of the 50+ Christmas shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse being loaded for the first stage of their journey abroad.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>Morning Prayer</b> 9:00am</p> <p><b>HOME GROUPS</b></p> <p><b>7.30pm</b> The Byre, Woodhill Farm</p>	<p><b>Morning Prayer</b> 9:00am</p> <p><b>Coffee Morning</b> 10:30 - 12 noon (page 34 - venues)</p>	<p><b>Holy Communion</b> 9:30am</p> <p><b>HOME GROUPS</b> 10.30am The Rectory, Church St <b>7.30pm</b> Prestwood House, Netherton Lane</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #00a09a; color: white; padding: 5px;"><b>Next Copy Date: January 15th</b></p>	<p><b>Morning Prayer</b> 9:00am</p> <p><b>Friday Event</b> 19:30 at the Parish Hall Term time</p>

Currently not taking place