

across ROYSTON

Issue 54

October / November 2022

£1.10 where sold

The magazine of the Church of St. John the Baptist, Royston Parish
Church, part of the worldwide Anglican Communion





Pellys



Legal advice for today

Centrally located in their offices in Market Hill Royston, Penn Sassoli have been offering legal services to the community for more than 35 years.

Ideally located for clients requiring a solicitor in Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire or locally to Royston, Oscar Sassoli offers a highly personal service specifically tailored to meet individual client needs.

Our lawyers embrace the challenges of our ever-changing world and pride themselves on finding the right legal solution for you today, tomorrow and whenever you might need us in the future.

T: 01279 758 080 | E: info@pellys.co.uk | W: penn-sassoli.co.uk



Oscar Sassoli Solicitor



Christine Colbon, Solicitor - Wills, Probate & Lifetime Estate Planning



Bill Simpson - Conveyancer



Sarah Perry Paralegal - Wills, Probate, & Power of Attorney

Pellys Solicitors Limited is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority - SRA number 554552

Penn Sassoli and Angel & Co are trading names of Pellys Solicitors Limited.

PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Loving God, we thank you for your many blessings since our church fire. We ask that as the months progress we will stay united as your body. Protect us from distraction as we seek to re-build your beautiful House of Prayer, and grant us courage to witness to your generous love to all whom we meet. Amen.

Memorial book

Newlings of Royston have very kindly given a home to our Memorial Book.

Please feel welcome to visit Newlings (Fish Hill) to view the book and pay your respects to a loved one.

Produced by the Editorial Team:
roystonpc.churchoffice@gmail.com
www.roystonparishchurch.org.uk
Printed by The PrintWorks,
Bassingbourn, Cambs

Contents

ECO Church news	4
Bishops' Harvest Appeal	6
Tea Time Praise dates	7
Message from Christian Aid	9
Word Puzzle	9
Re-opening of our Church	10
Prayer for King Charles III	11
Change and Transition	12
St. of the month: St Leonard	14
Ordination Congratulations	15
F J Smith Memorial Service	15
Mission: The Church Army	16
The Howe Chair	18
Elizabeth Fry	20
Children's Page	22
Crossword	23
Parish Registers	24
Contact Information	25
Service dates	26
Heath Watch with Holly	28
Shoebox Information	30
Fledgling Youth Group	31



ECO CHURCH

Royston Parish Church Eco Group

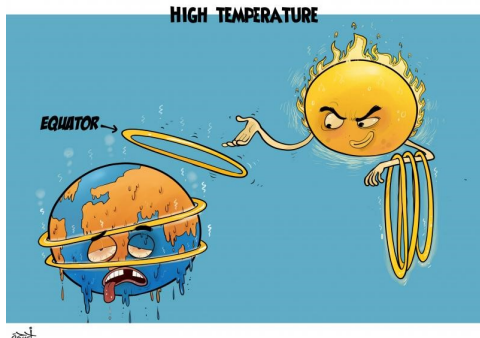
The bug church, based on a design by Laura (Aged 9) and built by Mike Maze and Kevin Cardwell, has now been filled and completed!

All the materials were sourced within half a mile of the church and include crocks, bricks, fir cones , twigs and small logs. Michael, aged 3 has filled one shelf with bamboo canes from his grandparents' garden . These have been sanded down at the ends , to protect insects entering the hollow tubes.



The final touches using dried seed heads from Nigella and Lychnis plants have now been added and the whole bug church wrapped in chicken wire to prevent the contents falling out!

In the next magazine, we will have a photo of Laura “ cutting the ribbon” at the dedication ceremony in the Autumn term.



THE WRONG KIND OF RECORD-BREAKING

At the PCC's Environment Committee meeting on Wednesday 13th July, in the light of a predicted heatwave, I foolishly offered to write a “light-hearted” piece on climate records in the UK. However, two days later, the Meteorological Office is-

sued the first ever “Red warning” for extreme heat and it quickly became clear that this may well be a situation about which we may not feel at all light-hearted. Nevertheless, we have dealt with previous major crises by keeping a sense of humour, or at least with Christian faith and positivity intact, so I am sticking to my resolve to write a short article, even though some of the content is actually rather serious. Any views expressed are, of course, just the author’s own.

It is well known that the current record was held for virtually three years by our well-loved local metropolis of Cambridge with a temperature of 38.7 °C (101.7 °F) recorded on 25th July 2019 at the University Botanic Garden. I am sure that, with true Cambridge erudition, they took due care to keep the thermometer well away from the many glass-houses.

The two previous UK temperature records were 38.5°C (101.3°F) at Faversham, Kent, on 10th August 2003 and 37.1 °C (98.8 °F) at Cheltenham on 3rd August 1990.

As regards the other regular contenders, Gravesend in Kent frequently features strongly, hosting the UK’s record temperature for the year in both 2010 and 2011. Presumably it is this tropical-tendency which led the local authority to create a lengthy promenade and sandy beaches, despite the town being on the Thames directly opposite the port of Tilbury, rather than actually on the coast.

Finally, Heathrow is another place which is frequently “there or thereabouts” when it comes to claiming the record, having come very close in both 2015 and 2020. I am reliably informed that this is a result of a combination of the sun reflecting off such a vast area of tarmac and the heat emanating from the sheer number of exasperated passengers at the check-in queues.

As the latest heat-wave approached, on Saturday 16th July, our friendly local key-cutter got us seriously worried when he said that he would be visiting the bookies to place a bet on 44°C for Tuesday 19th. However, he then explained that that day would be his 44th birthday, which he saw as a good omen for a successful bet.

Monday 18th came and went without any UK records being broken. However, our region continued to “lead the way”, with the hottest temperature of the day of 38.1 °C being recorded in the village of Santon Downham in Thetford Forest. This temperature was also an all-time record for Suffolk.

Your correspondent continued to monitor the situation as Tuesday 19th arrived (it was too hot to do much else) and at noon the almost-inevitable duly happened and the forecasters were fully vindicated, when the Guardian website reported a temperature of 39.1 °C. The only slight surprise was that the new UK record-holder was located nowhere near any of the other earlier contenders, being the Surrey village of Charlwood – although there was again a London Airport connection, as it is located on the northern boundary of

Gatwick. The airport theme continued as, less than an hour later, according to the provisional Met Office figures, the temperature reached 40.2°C at Heathrow. At 4.00pm the record was broken for the third time in one day, with 40.3°C recorded at Coningsby, near Lincoln. Thirty-three other locations saw highs that surpassed the previous record of 38.7°C and the lowest temperature recorded during the course of the day in the UK was higher than that of any previous “minimum for the day” ever recorded.

Clearly, on this and future occasions, our thoughts and prayers should be with firefighters, those workers exposed to the heat (either indoors or outdoors) and those whose health makes them vulnerable to extreme conditions. I am obviously not going to be able to even attempt to analyse here where this leaves us in the climate-change debate, but there seems little doubt that, for many people in the UK and in neighbouring countries, the events of Tuesday 19th July 2022 will have been seen as a pivotal moment.

Phil Perry



THE BISHOP OF ST ALBANS' HARVEST APPEAL 2022

NOT FORGOTTEN



‘For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever’ (Psalm 9:18)

This year, the Bishop of St Albans’ Harvest Appeal will be partnering with Tearfund and will help change the lives of people in Mozambique who have been traumatised and displaced by conflict. For example, a gift of £52 could provide a family forced to flee their home with an emergency food package; £135 could give five families a hygiene kit, including soap and sanitary pads.

If you would like to support your brothers and sisters in this way, please make cheques payable to: ROYSTON PCC and send them to the vicarage: 20 Palace Gardens, SG8 5AD, indicating your donation is for the Harvest Appeal. You may prefer to donate via BACS: Bank Account: Royston PCC. Sort Code: 30-97-16. Account Number: 00055620. Bank: Lloyds Bank.

Thank you for your support, Heidi.

Teatime † Praise!



2nd October

6th November

@ 3.30pm at Icknield Walk School
and on YouTube

www.roystonparishChurch.org.uk

ALL WELCOME

**Advertisers in 'Across Royston' help to make this magazine viable –
please support them!**

Across Royston is the journal of the Parish Church. Articles printed in this publication may not represent the views of the church or of all the members. Final date for receiving articles: 4th of the month prior to publication. Published six times a year. Articles, letters, sketches, poems, etc are welcome for possible inclusion in the magazine. The Editor's decision is final. If you submit a piece from another publication please make sure you get written permission to use it. The editorial team reserve the right to edit submissions as they see fit. Entries included on a first-come, first-served basis – we have limited space each issue, so get your entries in quickly!

Fine music made locally
Royston Choral Society

*You are invited to...
come to our concerts
join the choir
find out more*

Contact: Sue Pegram
secretary@roystonchoralsoc.org.uk
01763 838185
www.roystonchoralsoc.org.uk

Why not pay a visit
to our website?

Lots of valuable
information and
links.

[www.roystonparish
church.org.uk](http://www.roystonparishchurch.org.uk)

Want to subscribe? Its just £6 per year.....

Email: ks_cardwell@hotmail.com

Or telephone Kevin Cardwell on 07717 800330

**Include your name, address, contact details and we will arrange for
you to receive the magazine**

JEREMY RULE FUNERAL SERVICE

Jeremy Rule. MBIE. Dip. FD.
Ben Rule. Dip. FD.

Independent Family
Funeral Director

Providing a caring and personal
service at all times from a local
Royston family

12, Church Lane, Royston
Telephone: **01763 242560**

NEWLINGS OF ROYSTON THE FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE

Personal care & attention 24 hours
a day, by local caring, qualified staff

Memorials

Pre-Paid Funeral Plans

Fish Hill Royston
Tel: (01763) 242375

www.newlingsofroyston.co.uk

A MESSAGE FROM CHRISTIAN AID....

A thank you for your support and
generosity this Christian Aid Week.

Royston Christian Aid Group has raised
£1,150.66 to help families around the
world to transform their own lives.

Together, we can restore justice to our world.



L	A	W
D	P	N
A	M	S

Word puzzle

How many words of 4 letters or more can
you make from these letters all including
the central letter. No proper names, plurals,
adverbs, conjugated verbs (past tense etc)
comparatives or superlatives.

Target 28 words answers on page 24

Let's Celebrate the Re-opening of our Church Building!

By Clare Davies – Chair of the MAP committee

After nearly four long years since the fire of 2018, our church community have been worshipping outside our beloved church, but the time is now rapidly approaching when, at long last, the repairs will be complete and we move back into our rejuvenated and restored house of prayer in the heart of Royston!

This event will not only be a cause for rejoicing by our congregation, but we expect it to generate a lot of interest from the wider population of Royston who, whilst they may not be regular churchgoers still regard it as “their church”. This presents a wonderful opportunity to welcome visitors into our bright, warm, flexible space, and to tell them the good news of what we do as a church. The Mission Action Planning (MAP) team have been planning a **FESTIVAL OF RE-OPENING** with a whole series of events to celebrate:

SATURDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2022: OPEN DAY (times to be confirmed, but approximately from 10am-3pm) - to welcome anyone who is interested to come and see inside the church, to admire the beautiful restoration, and to find out about all the things that we have to offer. There will be music (choir singing and an opportunity to request Louise to play a favourite hymn on our new, digital organ), delicious refreshments, children's activities, bell-ringing, exhibits from the different church groups (Mission, Social/Ladies' and Men's groups, Housegroups, Eco Church, Children's Church and MAP), flower displays and even a chance to make your own floral button-hole to take home! The Fund-raising committee will be saying a big “Thank You” to everyone who has supported us, and people who have donated chairs will be able to see them and test them out!

SUNDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2022: Morning Services as usual at 9am and 10:30am (the new time for services in the church building) followed by in the afternoon a **TOWN SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING** at 3pm (time to be confirmed) - a joyous service with popular hymns and music open to all the townspeople.

During December, we will once again have a large Christmas Tree on which people can hang decorations in memory of loved ones, and there will be our usual range of Christmas Services, including a **Christingle Service**, the **Carol Service**, Christmas Eve **Crib Services**, **Midnight Mass** and **Christmas**

Day morning service to look forward to.

SUNDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2023: CHURCH RE-DEDICATION SERVICE (3pm – time to be confirmed) We have booked Bishop Alan to come and rededicate the church, and we will be inviting special guests such as the Emergency services, Civic representatives, people who have worked on the restoration, donors, organisations and other people with links to the church to join the congregation for this formal re-opening.

Before the end of November, we will also be having a “soft start” to returning to worship in the church building but at the time of writing we can’t confirm the exact dates for our first services – keep an eye on our Notice Sheets, websites and social media for the up to date information. Before worship begins we still have to install and commission the organ, the audio visual system, carry out risk assessments, check that everything is working, and no doubt there will be some hiccups in the first few services when we can’t find the ON button for things, but it will all be good practice for the big events that we have planned.

As with all building projects, unexpected things can crop up, and there is an element of risk to the dates – we have already had many delays. So, please keep praying that everything goes smoothly in the final stages of the project and that we can celebrate together in November.

A PRAYER FOR OUR NEW KING, CHARLES III

Everlasting God, we pray for our new King.
Bless his reign and the life of our nation.
Help us to work together
so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness
flourish among us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Change and Transition. Opportunity or Challenge?

Joanne is cross with me. She has had to remind me (again) that it is my turn to write this letter. I am already past her deadline and still not managed to produce anything. So, this evening, I had determined to get it done and came home from work with some ideas in my head, only to be told that just before I came in, it had been announced that our beloved Queen Elizabeth had passed away this afternoon. Perhaps procrastination has its place, as I can now include my own brief tribute to her Majesty as well as looking forward to our own local change and transition: a new start in our refurbished Church building.

I doubt that I can pay any better tribute to her Majesty than so many more distinguished people have done but her example of dedication, commitment and service, done with grace and good humour and based on a firm personal Christian faith has been the mark of her reign. I pray that those who follow her will show similar attributes.

However, her passing inevitably leads on to change, as King Charles III will lead us in his own inimitable way. At the same time as a change of monarch, we have a change of prime minister who will have her own agenda. There may well be some bumps in the road as we transition to these new regimes. But change offers new opportunities, on the local scale as well as on a national scale. As I write, we are anticipating being able to worship in our own Church building once again within a month of the publication of this magazine (but don't hold your breath!), with plans in hand for events in November to celebrate our return. I believe the Christmas tree has been ordered.

Things will return to normal. Slap wrist, John. New normal!! Our building has served many generations before us and gone through many changes, most of which are likely to have caused some people difficulty getting used to the changes. We may be challenged by the appearance of the internal space: no pews, smooth floor, chairs, no organ pipes, re-located font, etc. Each generation has adapted this lovely 900 year-plus old building to varying patterns and styles of worship. What the fire has opened up for us is the opportunity to adapt once again to provide not only ourselves but future generations of worshippers and others who find peace in this space a building suited to future needs and capable of further development as imagination and funds allow.

The Church is the community of faithful people seeking to serve God by worship in Church gatherings and by offering service to the surrounding community. Worship is only complete if it involves both those aspects. Worship is “worth – ship “; giving God what He is worth in everything we do, not just when we meet to sing his praises. The building is a space that enables that worship so our vision in not just repairing the fire damage but in seeking to look forward to how the Church can be fully present in our community has led us to take decisions affecting what we can provide in worship and service.

I urge you to enjoy the newness of the old building and probable new ways we will be worshipping. We have been on a pilgrim journey through several meeting places. We have lost a few on the way for various reasons but we have also gained a few. Let us be thankful that our wilderness experience has only lasted 4 years. The Israelites had 40 years before they entered the Promised Land! We may find it a bit challenging getting used to the new ways but our vision must be for the work of presenting the Good News of Jesus Christ to the coming generations.

In ordination services, the Bishop talks about the Gospel being timeless but needs to be preached afresh in each generation. Ways of communicating are changing and the Church has to keep up or lose the opportunities to reach a new generation. In my younger days, it could be assumed that most people had had a basic grounding in the Christian Faith in school but many people today do not have even that elementary knowledge. Social media is a useful tool in the right hands but is beyond me and I firmly believe that public worship together in one place is empowering for our faith and, if open and made attractive to all, is one way of not only celebrating the Faith but also passing it on. Faith that is caught rather than taught tends to take root better.

So, as our nation faces many changes and challenges with a new monarch and new government, we do so locally as we enter this next phase of the life of the Priory and Parish Church of St John the Baptist in Royston.

A 900 year-old building refreshed to serve the congregation and community for the next 900 years!

John Fidler

SAINT OF THE MONTH NOVEMBER 6TH ST. LEONARD

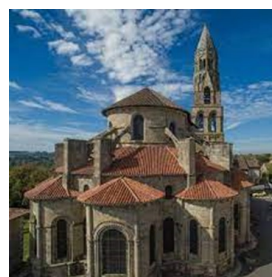
Leonard became one of the most popular saints of the middle ages following the writing of a Life in the 11th. Century, although it is not possible to confirm the historical accuracy of this biography.

It tells us that he was a Frankish nobleman of the 6th. Century at the court of King Clovis I, founder of the Merovingian dynasty. When Leonard converted to Christianity he was granted the right to visit prisons and to free those he wished. Then Clovis offered him a bishopric, but Leonard instead became a monk, building himself a cell at Noblac, near Limoges, and living as a hermit when not preaching around Aquitaine.



One legend was that Leonard lived in the Limousin forest where Clovis hunted, and that through Leonard's help and prayers Clovis's wife was safely delivered of a child. The grateful king granted Leonard as much land as he could ride around on a donkey in one night, and on this land Leonard founded the abbey of Noblac, living there until his death in 559.

A town grew up around the abbey, now Saint-Leonard-de-Noblat (*Romanesque church illustrated*) This became a staging post on the pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela, thus helping to spread the cult of St. Leonard, as did the many miracles associated with him. Prisoners who invoked him were said to see their chains break before their very eyes, and he was credited for the release of a crusading prince of Antioch, Bohemond, from a Moslem prison in 1103. Released prisoners made pilgrimages to his church, including Richard the Lionheart.



Leonard's cult spread throughout Europe : France, Scotland, the Low Countries, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, particularly in Bavaria, Bohemia, Poland, and England, where no fewer than 177 churches are dedicated to him. Towns in Sussex and Roxburgh commemorate him and in Italy alone over 200 places bear his name.

He is the patron saint of women in labour, and of prisoners, including political prisoners and prisoners of war. In art he is often depicted holding chains.

Ordination Congratulations

On June 24th, a former member of our congregation, Jess Lancaster, daughter of Kath and Reg Hounsell, was ordained in Truro Cathedral, to serve locally in Launceston on a non-stipendiary basis.

If you don't recognise the name, you may remember her as Tracey Hounsell.

We pray that God will bless her ministry and watch over her and her family as she seeks to answer God's call.



F. J. Smith Memorial Service

We would be delighted if you would join us for a celebration of the life of F John Smith on Sunday 11th December at 3.00 pm in church.

Sarah and Lorna



FOCUS ON MISSION: THE CHURCH ARMY



The Church Army is an evangelistic organisation and mission community founded in 1882 in association with the Church of England and now operating internationally in many parts of the Anglican Communion, with over 300 evangelists who have been commissioned and admitted in the Church of England after 2–4 years of training. They may not necessarily work directly for the Church Army but may instead work in Anglican churches, projects and teams. There are similarities to the Salvation Army, and the two sometimes work together, but the Church Army is not a separate church denomination. Its funded work focuses on centres of mission and key projects and tends to operate in areas of deprivation.

At St. John the Baptist we help support the work of Church Army minister James Hawksworth, who this year moved with his family to serve in the Ipswich area. James has recently shared some of his news ; here is an extract which describes one part of his work :

“The area where we live is mixed. Like most places there are nice areas that appear more affluent and there are those areas that are not. There seems to be lots of drugs in the area and there are also a few local gangs very close by. It is by no means a ghetto but, it does show the desperate need for community action and God’s loving kindness to be present in the area.

I have visited many local churches and spoken to different project leaders too, there seems to be a lot of good pioneering work going on in the area which makes me feel very proud that I am a part of the change we’re beginning to see across the deanery. There are regular discussions that revolve around good practice and shared learning and regular prayer meetings where we discern where we think the spirit is leading and where we work out how we might join in with what God is already doing.

At the moment, my work is still very much at the beginning stages. I am now beginning to take over the afterschool club that is running on Wednesdays at St Francis’ Church. This has a very dedicated team from the Church and the school Chaplain is a part of the team. Andy, the youth worker responsible for the afterschool club is in the middle of his ordination training and will eventually have to leave to carry this training on within a church setting, possibly outside of the area. Andy and I have been meeting once a week to discuss, pray and prepare sessions, talks and ways to develop our work with this group of 20 young people.

This has been fun and challenging at the same time! We have begun to develop good relationships with these young people and because of this have been able to set up another session on Sundays to explore life issues and the wisdom of Jesus Christ through the beatitudes. This has opened the eyes of the young people to see how the teachings of Jesus makes sense, even now; 2000 years on! This course encourages social action, personal character and the development of a deep relationship between God, Jesus and his people, the church.

Our hope is that this group will eventually develop leaders that will be able to help run the Wednesday session in small ways - to begin with.
Our other hope is that this small group of explorers will become the beginning of a faith filled community for Jesus Christ."

As a church, St. John the Baptist is committed to giving 10% of our regular income to charities and missions. The Church Army is one of those we regularly support.



RT HON SIR OLIVER HEALD QC

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
FOR NORTH EAST HERTFORDSHIRE**

If you have any concerns please contact me

Email: oliver.heald.mp@parliament.uk

Telephone : 01462 486074

or look on www.oliverhealdmp.com

The Howe Chair by Clare Davies

As most readers will know by now, our refurbished church will have chairs rather than pews, and we have received much support from the congregation and community via the “Sponsor a Chair” scheme towards the purchase of 250 chairs. This article describes more about the process of how we selected the “Howe Chair” for St John the Baptist Royston and describes some of the history of the chosen chair, which is known as a design classic.



Why chairs rather than pews? After the fire in 2018, the Victorian pews in the Parish Church were badly damaged by burning debris and water. The PCC had to decide whether to have the pews restored or to take this as an opportunity to install chairs. Many discussions were held including a survey of the congregation: whilst some people liked the traditional look of pews, the majority felt that chairs would be more comfortable and would enable a more flexible use of the church space, especially as we do not have a church hall in which to hold social events. The decision was therefore taken to identify a suitable chair.

A Day at the Racecourse In the autumn of 2019, a couple of members of the Mission Action Planning/Fabric Development Committee went to Sandown racecourse, not to watch horse-racing but to attend the “Church Resources Exhibition”: a great trade fair for all things Ecclesiastical. This vast exhibition showcases products ranging from bibles to building designers, “holy socks” to chasubles, audio visual systems to organs, and, of particular interest to us, ecclesiastical furniture including chairs and pews. There were examples of all kinds of seating: traditional and modern, light to heavy, wooden and fabric covered. We were able to talk to the designers and manufacturers and, most important, to sit on a wide range of chairs, enabling side-by-side comparison. It was fascinating to note that, when we happened to sit down on a modern pew as we were making notes about what we had seen, that the pew felt incredibly uncomfortable compared with any of the chairs we had sampled. At the end of an exhausting visit to the exhibition, we had drawn up a shortlist of potential chairs.

Side by side comparisons From the exhibition we had identified a “long list” of 10 different chairs. We were also guided by a document from the Church Care Guidelines published by the Church Building Council giving advice about what chairs were considered suitable for a historic building and practical tips (such as the suggestion that 10% of chairs should have arms). We also considered our requirements: we knew that we would regularly want to move the chairs around for different style services and events (e.g Sunday Eucharist to Tea Time Praise to a concert or Quiz Night or Harvest Supper) so it was important that the chairs should be light, and stackable. Therefore the sort of solid, upholstered church chairs found in many churches would not be appropriate for us. Furthermore the Church Care Guidelines warned against fabric covers which could get stained by food or drink served in a multi-function building. Bearing all this in mind, the Fabric Development committee identified a shortlist of four chairs to request as loan samples from their suppliers to enable a side-by-side comparison in Royston. These samples were duly delivered to the Vicarage early in 2020 and were used for various church meetings. One sample was made entirely from a very lightweight wood laminate, weighing between 3 and 4kg so could literally be lifted with one finger, but it proved to be rather firm and uncomfortable to sit on. The other, metal framed chairs weighed a bit more, between 6 and 7kg, but were still easy to move and proved much

more comfortable. Very early on, it became clear that people seemed to particularly like sitting on one kind of chair in the trial: the Howe chair. And so, at the last Fabric Development Committee before lockdown in March 2022, we voted to select this Howe Chair for our church.

The Howe 40/4 Chair was designed by an American called David Rowlands back in 1964. As a young man, David served as a pilot in the US Air Force in Europe during World War II, and he found the design of the pilot's seat in the fighter aircraft extremely uncomfortable, especially over the course of a long mission. He vowed that if he survived the war, he would work to design more comfortable, ergonomically correct seating. He studied the form and contour of seats that would best fit the greatest number of people. He then turned his mind to how to make a lightweight, stackable, comfortable chair – and the Howe 40/4 was born in 1964: The name 40/4 signifies that 40 chairs can be stacked within a height of just four feet. The chair was an immediate design success, winning the Grand Prize at the 13th Milan Triennale competition. It is used in universities, concert halls, churches and cathedrals (including Canterbury cathedral) all over the world, and an example is exhibited in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. The Howe chair (in a darker colour than the light oak we have selected) has been in use at St Paul's Cathedral since 1972, proving its rugged durability. Over 8 million chairs of this design have been sold, so we are in good company in making this choice!

Sponsor a Chair We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the people of Royston in sponsoring chairs. We still need a few more donations to reach our target of 250 chairs. If you would like to sponsor a chair for yourself, a community group or in memory of a loved one, there is still a chance to donate £250 and have a chair named accordingly. If you would like to donate a chair, a form is included in this magazine or you can download one from our website.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A CHAIR?		
Your Name:		<i>Please return this completed form and cheque for £250 payable to "Royston PCC" to:</i>
Address:		
Phone:		
E-mail		
Would you like a plaque? Select <u>one</u> of these three options:	<input type="checkbox"/> "In memory of _____" <input type="checkbox"/> "Donated by _____" <input type="checkbox"/> No Plaque required	<i>Rev'd Heidi Huntley The Vicarage 20 Palace Gardens ROYSTON SG8 5AD</i>
Are you a tax payer? If you are able to make a Gift Aid Declaration, we can claim the tax back.	Complete the following box only if you wish to claim Gift Aid: I wish this donation to be treated as a Gift Aid donation. I understand that I must pay an amount of Income tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on my donation in the tax year. Signature Date	

CHRISTIAN OF THE MONTH: ELIZABETH FRY

Commemorated by the Church of England on October 12th.

Born Elizabeth Gurney in 1780 in Norwich, she was a prominent Quaker philanthropist, and social reformer, especially associated with prison reform, combining this with the raising of a large family. Her father was a wealthy banker and merchant, whilst her mother's family were the bankers Barclays.

Aged 20 Elizabeth married another Quaker, Joseph Fry, of the Bristol Fry family, with whom she had 11 children. They lived in east London, and in 1811 Elizabeth became a minister of the Religious Society of Friends.

On a visit to Newgate Prison (*illustrated*) in 1813 she was horrified by the conditions that she found. She wrote *"All I tell thee is a faint picture of reality; the filth, the closeness of the rooms, the furious manner and expressions of the women towards each other, and the abandoned wickedness, which everything bespoke are really indescribable"*. At first she



concentrated on the conditions for the children but soon turned her attention to the plight of the women. She encouraged other middle class women to visit prisons and set up classes to teach the prisoners skills. In 1817 she wrote *"Already, from being like wild beasts, they appear harmless and kind"*. In 1818 she toured the prisons in England and Scotland and established other Ladies' Associations and in the same year was asked to speak to both houses of parliament about the conditions in prisons - the first woman to present evidence to parliament. She used her position in society to influence their view of prisons and prisoners.

She founded The Association for the Improvement of the Females at Newgate, which provided clothing, instruction and employment for the women and introduced them to the holy scriptures. They wished to inculcate in them *"those habits of order, sobriety, and industry which may render them docile and perceptible whilst in prison, and respectable when they leave it"*. Newgate was transformed by the work of the Association, and her methods were adopted elsewhere in Europe.

The death penalty was common for even minor offences. Initially giving what comfort she could to those facing death, Elizabeth worked to get death sentences commuted to deportation to Australia, and then campaigned for the

rights and welfare of prisoners who were being transported. She visited 106 transport ships and saw 12,000 convicts. Her work helped to start a movement for the abolition of transportation, which was officially achieved in 1837.

Although best known now for prison reform, this was not Elizabeth's only passion : she founded a night shelter for the homeless and Visiting Societies to support the poor, was involved in the campaign to abolish slavery, and opened a training school for nurses, inspiring Florence Nightingale. She was indeed the figurehead of much of the philanthropic endeavour in the country. She died in Ramsgate in 1845.

You will be familiar with the image of Elizabeth, which appeared on the reverse of the Bank of England £5 note in circulation between 2002 and 2016. The original engraving from the 1820's by Mary Pearson is illustrated. Interestingly, the banknote designer Emma Cook reversed the image to fit in with the overall note design.



HERTS/CAMBS BIBLE SOCIETY ACTION GROUP

Annual Open Meeting

Thursday 27 October 2022

7.30 pm for 7.45 pm

Methodist Church

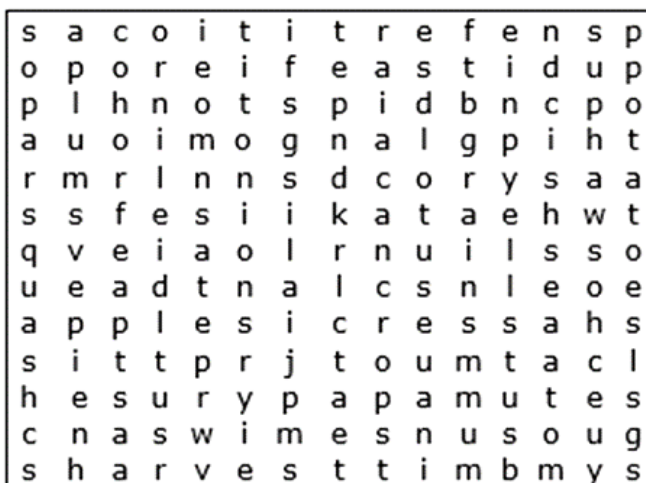
Queen's Road, Royston

Thanks Offering, Bring and Buy Stall

and Refreshments

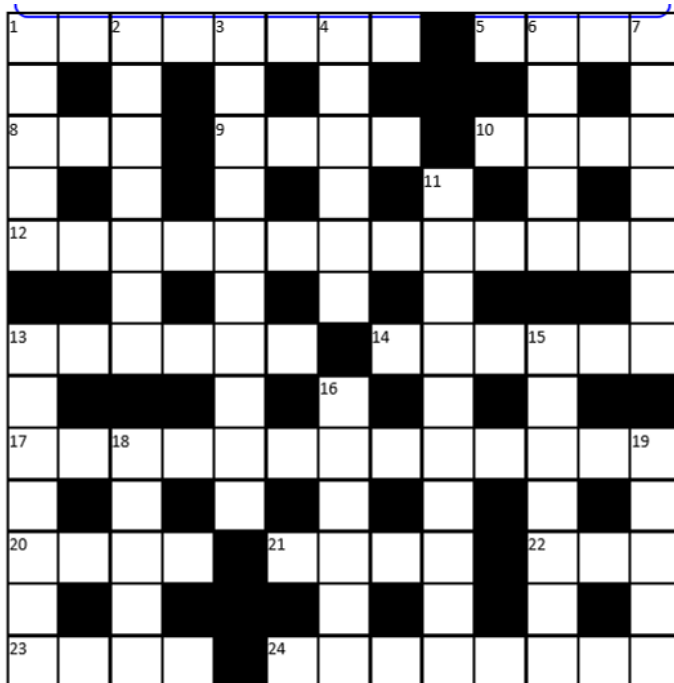
ALL WELCOME

CHILDREN'S PAGE



harvest
 crops
 feast
 grains
 wheat
 apples
 plums
 potatoes
 onions
 squash

CROSSWORD by DUNCAN RODGERS



ACROSS

1. Former chocolate bar brand (8)
5. Drink coarsely (4)
8. Graphics interchange format (3)
9. Food (*slang*) (4)
10. Continent (4)
12. Popular biscuits (7,6)
13. Learner indicator (1,5)
14. Venomous snakes (6)
17. Selection of sweets (7,6)
20. Way out (4)
21. Volcano (4)
22. Easter chocolate (3)
23. Roster (4)
24. Lender (8)

DOWN

1. Black _____, chocolate brand (5)
2. Denial (7)
3. 1810 (3-4-3)
4. Legitimate position (2-4)
6. Chocolate bar brand (5)
7. Drinking vessels (7)
11. Buying method (6,4)
13. After dinner drink (7)
15. Mountain (7)
16. _____ card, payment method (6)
18. Celebrities (1,4)
19. Big cat (5)

ANSWERS

CROSSWORD

Across

1. Marathon 5. Swig 8. Gif 9. Nosh 10. Asia 12. Custard Creams
13. L-plate 14. Adders 17. Quality Street 20. Exit 21. Etna 22. Egg
23. Rota 24. Creditor

Down

1. Magic 2. Refusal 3. Ten-past-six 4. On-side 6. Wispa 7. Glasses
11. Credit card 13. Liqueur 15. Everest 16. Oyster 18. A-list 19. Tiger

WORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

Alap, damp, lamo, napa, napalm, paan, padsaw, palm, panda, pandal, pawl, pawn,
plan, plasm, plasma, psalm, salp, samp, sampan, slap, snap, spam, spawn, swamp,
swampland, swap, wasp.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

Alyssa Wellard, Arthur Nicholson

We welcome them into the family of Christ's church

Recently departed

Sylvia Clarke, Maurice Harris, Peter Radley, Daisy Cowper,

May God Grant Them Eternal Rest

Weddings

Dylan Howe to Amelia Nicholls

Julian Nesteriuc to Zoe Reader

United in love as Christ is united with His Church

Contact Information

CLERGY

Vicar:

Rev'd Heidi Huntley 243145
The Vicarage, 20 Palace Gardens, Royston SG8 5AD
hahlive@gmail.com
(off duty on Friday)*

Assistant Priest:

Rev'd John Fidler 241886
8 Stamford Avenue, Royston
(off duty on Saturday)*

LICENSED READERS

Reg Bailey 250637
regbailey@aol.com

*** Please avoid contacting the staff on their off duty days**

CHURCH WARDENS

Linda Dwight
Clare Davies 248787

CHURCH OFFICE

Joanne Wallis 07935 774633
roystonpc.churchoffice@gmail.com

BELLRINGERS	222408	GIFT AID SECRETARY	
Alan Curtis		Brenda Strangleman	245273
MUSICAL DIRECTOR		HOUSE GROUPS	243145
Louise Atkins		Revd. Heidi Huntley	
louiseatkins234@gmail.com			
CHURCH FLOWERS		Children and Young People	243145
Rosemary Dowling	247270	Revd. Heidi Huntley	
CHURCH TREASURER		MAGAZINE TEAM	246911
Phil Burchell	848937	Joanne Wallis	
CRÉCHE		PCC SECRETARY	
Mary Primett	243711	Kathy Young	223805

Sunday Services for October 2022 **Icknield First School Hall unless otherwise stated**

2nd October	HARVEST FESTIVAL	
	9 am	Said Eucharist
	10.15 am	Eucharist with Choir
	3.30 pm	Tea Time Praise!
9th	9 am	Said Eucharist
	10.15 am	Eucharist with Choir
16th	9 am	Said Eucharist
	10.15 am	Eucharist with Choir
23rd	9 am	Said Eucharist
	10.15 am	Eucharist with Choir
30th	9 am	Said Eucharist
	10.15 am	Eucharist with Choir

Sunday Services for November 2022

Services to be confirmed

VENUE AND SERVICES TO BE CONFIRMED

**PLEASE SEE POSTERS AND NOTICE SHEET
FOR UPDATES**

Home & Hospital Visits & Appointments

The staff are always glad to administer the Sacrament at home and to visit the sick and housebound when they receive a request—please contact the Vicar on 243145

Heath Watch with Holly (the little dog)

Welcome to the twenty-second in a series of dog walking diaries, documenting the flora and fauna on the beautiful heath as the seasons change.

July & August 2022

July



Summer was most definatley here, the grass was as tall as Holly, the flowers were blooming, the birds singing, the paths in the grass had become narrow and the sky was blue. I reflected one day as I walked how the birds can sound like an orchestra, the wood pigeon rather like a bassoon or a 'cello perhaps, the lark maybe a violin or a flute and the rooks (I love the sound of a rookery) would be the percussion.

Meanwhile blackberries started to form early and the trees were in full leaf.

The heath is well used in the summer, golfers were taking care to stay on the fairway as the rough was almost unplayable, some Eco friendly tree surgeons were cutting down some ash trees and in the early morning I occasionally see someone practicing Thai Chi, from a distance it is like poetry in motion.

One day I heard rustling in the undergrowth in the woods and thought it was a mouse when I looked it was a baby wren, this must have been the smallest bird I have ever seen.

The grass was mown at the end of July (and through August of course, there is a lot of it)! Holly loves to play in the grass that is left behind and needs a good shake before going indoors. Thinking of grass I noticed a lot of grasshoppers this year and am amazed how far they can jump. When I was young I used to see and hear crickets but there doesn't seem to be so many about these days.

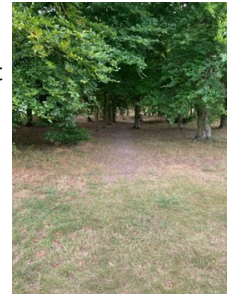
On two consecutive days I saw a pile of blue butterflies all holding on to a single plant, it was an odd sight as they looked like one giant insect until they flew away.

At the end of July it became very dry and there were concerns at fire risk and plants started to die back. You will all recall that this dry spell got worse and we had a record heat wave in August. To conclude July I must mention a most beautiful sight when I looked up at a clear blue sky and watched a red kite, it was flying slowly and rather low, I could see its plumage and beautiful colours, it was one of those moments when watching nature stops being a scientific observation and becomes an aesthetic experience.



August

The hot weather dominated August, many days were too hot for Holly (and for me) so we walked less, even the wind was hot, we did see some stag beetles, wild Thyme, which the bees love, and at dusk I saw what I think was a hummingbird hawk moth but, as is often the problem with nature, as soon as I saw it, it was gone. If anyone else saw one please let me know as it will incline me to think that I did identify it correctly. I saw some beautiful lichen in the woods which surprised me because I thought the hot weather would not suit it. When we got back to our long walks others were back too, dog walkers greeting each other and agreeing how hot it was, the Rotary club preparing for the kite festival and members of "The Friends of Therfield Heath" who do everything from litter picking to watering a tree which was waiting to be planted.



By now the remaining grass was brown and crackled when you walked on it. Small brown dogs, like my sister's dog Chester disappear from view in it and on one occasion Holly flushed out a lady's dog when she had no idea where it had got too. There are GPS collars to track a dog from a SMART 'phone but it is easier and cheaper to tie a helium filled balloon to the dog, so if you see a little brown dog with a helium filled balloon tied to its collar you will know why.

The rain came on 25th August and the heath started to green up again, signs and colours of autumn began to appear and the year moved on. We are now past the 11th Sunday after Trinity and will soon start looking forward to Christmas.



Finally, one odd sighting was a dragonfly, they don't belong on the heath, they live by ponds rivers lakes and streams, but I guess it had lost its habitat in the dry conditions and was using its last energy to find water, I hope it succeeded. A reminder to all of us to take care of the world, and to do our part to help put an end to climate change before it is too late.

Postscript, August 31st. I have just seen some swallows flying low over the newly mown grass catching flies, such a beautiful sight, I couldn't let this article go without mentioning it. We all know the saying "One swallow doth not a summer make" but a flock (or "kettle" to use the correct collective noun), well, that's another story!

More next time.....

Fledgling Youth Group

In July, Reg Bailey and I met with six young people in Costa for the first of our youth group sessions. The young people came well prepared with their choice of drink and cake!



Once we'd had a chance to tuck into them, we spent some time getting to know one another, and played some games which helped us delve into some deeper questions about God, society and our lives. We also had a time of prayer where we all wrote our Intercessions on a card and placed them in a Kilner jar, and offered them to God with a final prayer led by Reg.

All of the young people engaged fully and we're looking forward to our next session with them in October.

Please pray for our young people at this critical stage in their faith journey. Many thanks, Heidi.

- SALES
- SERVICE
- PARTS

HAYTER
MAKERS OF THE FINEST MOWERS

Husqvarna

HONDA

TORO



Water Softener Salts
£8.99 per Bag
Or 3 Bags For £23.00



Mark Weatherhead

Ashworth House, St Neots Road, Hardwick,
Cambridge, CB23 7QL, Tel: 01954 210355

Email: sales@uldaunmowers.co.uk

Royal British Legion Club



Hall for hire
Fully stocked
bar available

Mill Rd, Royston

Tel- 01763 244560

Email-

roystonrblclub@xlninternet.co.uk



Flooring



Decking



Skilled Craftsmen



Garden Furniture



01279 626389 andrewbanks.co.uk

