

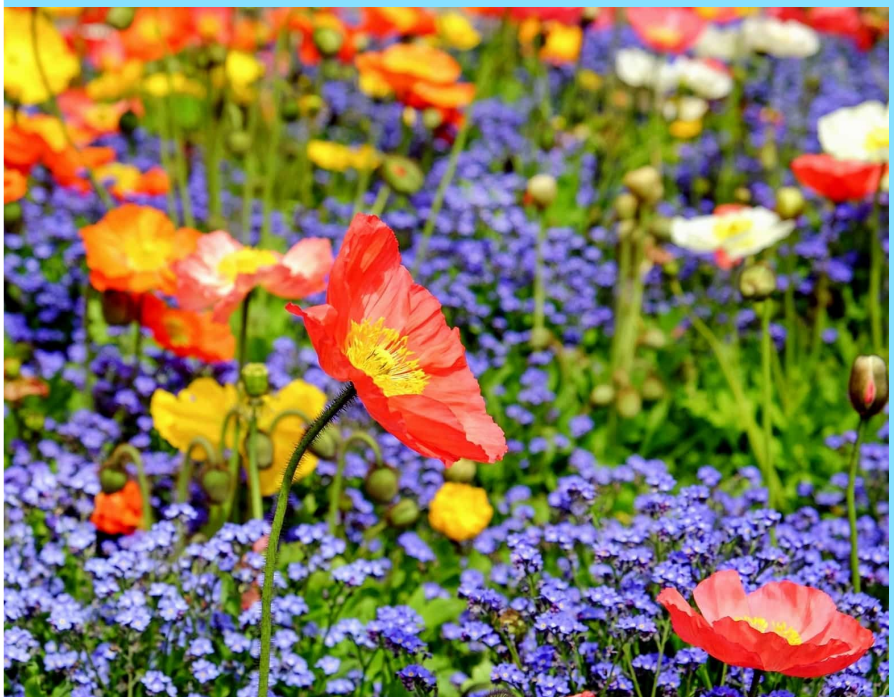
# *across* **ROYSTON**

**Issue 86**

**August / September 2023**

**£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](mailto:info@pellys.co.uk) | W: [penn-sassoli.co.uk](http://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.



## ANNOUNCEMENT

### NEW VICAR FOR ROYSTON



We are pleased to announce that The Reverend Dr Steven Sivyer, currently Priest in Charge of the Flegg Group, Martham Benefice in the Diocese of Norwich, has been appointed as Vicar of Royston. This is subject to the completion of the usual legal formalities after which further information will be announced. Meanwhile please remember Steven and Emma, Nathaniel and Lydia in your prayers at this time.

#### Contents

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Eco Church –Crossness Engines  | 4  |
| Dates for the Diary            | 9  |
| Parish Letter                  | 10 |
| Christian: John Bunyan         | 12 |
| Focus on Mission: Global Care  | 14 |
| Sponsored Bike 'n' Hike        | 15 |
| Gardening Tips for August      | 16 |
| Gifts from God                 | 18 |
| St. of the Month: St. Honorius | 19 |
| Crossword                      | 23 |
| Parish Registers               | 24 |
| Contact Information            | 25 |

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| Diary Dates            | 26 |
| Children's Page        | 28 |
| Mullard RA Postscript  | 29 |
| Heath Watch with Holly | 30 |





ECO CHURCH

Royston Parish Church Eco Group

## Crossness Engines – the solution to “The Big Stink”

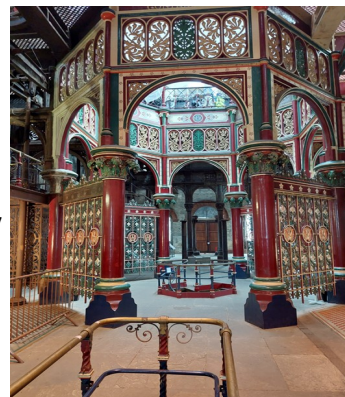
by Clare Davies

UNICEF and the World Health Organisation reported in 2019 that 1 in 3 people globally do not have access to safe drinking water, sanitation and basic handwashing facilities – a shocking statistic. We are fortunate to live in Britain, a country where we take clean drinking water for granted. However, it has only been just over 150 years since water treatment systems were put in place in our capital city. I found out about some of the history of London’s sewage treatment during a recent visit to “Crossness Engines”, an industrial heritage site located within the Thames Water’s Crossness Sewage Treatment works (Europe’s second biggest sewage treatment works) located near Thamesmead in South East London.

Our museum tour guide explained how, in the 1860s, the government was forced to initiate a massive infrastructure project to manage sewage waste. Until 1865, London – a city whose population was growing enormously at the time - did not really have any proper means of dealing with its sewage. Whilst some waste from cesspits was carted away from the city centre by “night soil men” for use as fertiliser in the countryside, much human waste from cesspits and the newly invented WCs just emptied into local drains which discharged into London’s rivers (such as the Fleet, the Tyburn and the Peck) and thence to the Thames. Although the Thames is a tidal river, the tides did not succeed in sweeping the waste out to sea but instead it kept accumulating in the middle of London. At the same time, drinking water was being taken from...the River Thames! In addition, those same carts that were taking human waste out of the city were used to



*Beautiful brickwork exterior. Originally it also had an impressive mansard roof, and a chimney designed to look like an Italian campanile!*



*Beautiful brickwork exterior. Originally it also had an impressive mansard roof, and a chimney designed to look like an Italian campanile!*



bring fruit and veg (grown with the aid of all that human manure) back into the city in the same carts. The result was that a series of cholera outbreaks hit the city of London. At that time, people did not attribute the cause of this devastating disease to contaminated water, and for a long time nothing happened. What brought matters to crisis point was the stench emanating from the river. In 1858 there was a particularly hot summer, and the accretions of hundreds of years of human pollution in the Thames began to ferment – right by the newly rebuilt Houses of Parliament – a problem known as “the big stink”. The guide showed us photographs from that time of the gleaming new parliament building bedecked with huge awnings soaked in chemicals hanging over the windows in a futile attempt to keep the noxious aromas out! This really brought home to the politicians that something had to be done! Rather than move the location of parliament (which was one of the solutions considered), it was decided that a sewage system had to be created for “preventing as far as may be practicable the sewage of the Metropolis from passing into the River Thames within the Metropolis”.



*One of the four huge original beam engines. We were told that, as a special birthday treat, the children on the workers used to be allowed to ride on top of the moving engine! No health and safety rules in Victorian times!*

Responsibility for this great infrastructure project was given to 39-year-old Joseph Bazalgette, the Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan Board of Works (MBW). He and his team set about designing and building a series of interconnecting sewers to carry the effluent eastwards some 14 miles downstream the Thames Estuary from where it could be discharged and swept out to sea. A location in a marshy, relatively unpopulated area, close to current day Thamesmead, was selected for South London: Crossness. If the tide was ebbing, the waste flowed directly into the Estuary, but at other times it had to be pumped into specially built reservoirs and then discharged into the river on the outgoing tide.

Across London some 1,100 miles of street sewers and 82 miles of “intercepting sewers” (to prevent outflow into the city’s rivers) were built using bricks and the newly developed Portland cement as mortar. It was then that the Embankments that we know today on the Thames waterfront were created in central London, serving both to conceal the new sewers



and to act as flood defences. Until that time there had been warehouses and wharves giving directly onto the (contaminated) foreshore, right in the heart of London. The plan was for the sewage to run through large tunnels on either side of the Thames, travelling eastwards towards Crossness on the south bank and to Barking on the north. At Crossness, a great pumping station was designed by the architect Charles Driver to house four large beam engines to pump the sewage into the cathedral like vaults of the covered reservoir where it could be held until the ebb tide, at which time it was released into the Thames to be swept away (untreated – more on this later) towards the North Sea. The four steam-powered pumping engines were named after four members of the Royal Family: Victoria, Prince Consort, Albert Edward and Alexandra. What I found fascinating was that this pumping station was not just some bland, utilitarian building, but a beautifully decorated edifice described by Nikolaus Pevsner as "a masterpiece of engineering – a Victorian cathedral of ironwork" and is now Grade I listed. The photos accompanying this article show the elaborately detailed brickwork and the stunning decoration of the brightly painted cast iron work of the supporting columns and the floors.

Amazingly, this massive engineering project took only seven years from start to finish and Crossness was opened with great ceremony on 4th April 1865, by Edward, Prince of Wales.

Owing to the remote (at that time) location of Crossness and the need for staff to be always on hand to keep the station running, houses for the workers and their families were constructed on top of the reservoir. The houses were well appointed with flush lavatories (of course!), fires in most rooms, fly screens on the windows and gas lighting. There was a school on site and a cricket pitch, but no church, no shops, and no pub – the consumption of alcohol was strictly forbidden!

As I mentioned earlier, initially the sewage was discharged untreated into the Thames. This was one of the factors leading to Britain's worst every inland waterways disaster. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1878, just an hour after 75 million gallons of raw sewage had been discharged into the river from Crossness and Barking (in addition to chemical waste from local factories



*Fig and senna pod detailing on the pillars. The perforated floors represent the rippling water of the Thames outside*



and the Beckton gas works), the paddle steamer Princess Alice carrying hundreds of passengers on a day trip collided with a coal vessel, the Bywell Castle; the Princess Alice was split in two and sank. Whilst a few passengers were picked up in rowing boats or managed to get towed away by ropes flung from the Bywell Castle, within minutes, the cries and struggles of those remaining in the water stopped: they had either been drowned or asphyxiated from the waste. About 640 people lost their lives (the exact number was never known). After this, in the 1880s, the MBW began to purify the sewage at Crossness and Beckton prior to discharge. They also commissioned a fleet of vessels to transport waste sludge out to sea where it was dumped – a practice which continued until 1998 when a European Union directive banned it.

Over the years, various improvements were made to the engines, and by 1892 each pump could lift six and one eighth tons of sewage at each stroke. By this time, more capacity was needed, and a further engine house had to be built to accommodate more engines. The original engines continued to be used up until the 1950s, when a new treatment plant was built. The engines fell into disrepair, until in 1985 the Crossness Engines Trust was formed and began a programme to conserve them, with “Prince Consort” being brought back to working order. Unfortunately, at the time of my visit, due to a crack having been found in a support beam, it is currently out of action. It would have been a great experience to have seen, heard and felt such a large piece of equipment in operation.

It is a testimony to the build quality of Bazalgette’s sewers that many are still in use. However, these Victorian sewers now struggle to cope with the waste created by London’s ever-expanding population, especially when there are heavy rainstorms. As a result millions of tonnes of raw sewage are once again spilling into the Thames each year. To remedy this, a new, 25km long ‘mega’ sewer was commissioned in 2018 with a target completion date of 2025 – the same length of time that the original project took.

Overall this was a great day out. It was fascinating to learn how, in Britain, we have only had sewers and sewage treatment for just over 150 years, and that, once they decided to do something about it, not only did our Victorian ancestors build such a large infrastructure project quickly but they also turned it into something of great and lasting architectural beauty.

If you are interested in visiting Crossness Engines, see <https://www.crossness.org.uk/> for details of future Open Days.



**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](mailto:secretary@roystonchoralsoc.org.uk)  
01763 838185  
[www.roystonchoralsoc.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.newlingsofroyston.co.uk)



## Dates For The Diary

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> August 10:30 - 4:30 | Church Fundraising stall at the Royston Kite festival, on the Heath.   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 7pm       | Cheese and wine evening in church. Tickets £12 available from the fundraising Committee  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> October            | Harvest supper in church, proceeds going to the BRAVE Trust  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> December            | Folk band Milady Clare's Musicke, bringing to Life Popular Music of Earlier Times.<br>This will take place in church with proceeds going to church funds |



## PARISH LETTER     ANTICIPATION

### REVD. JOHN FIDLER

*At the time of writing, the closing date for applications for the post of vicar of Royston has passed and the interviewing process is about to take place. Who is likely to be our next vicar is still unknown but by the time you read this there may have been an announcement.*

*The word “anticipation” has, according to the dictionary, had a variety of shades of meaning over the years since the 14th Century but the one I like best in this context is “to take hold of in advance”.*

*We will have a new vicar. Who and when are, at the present moment, unknown, but it will happen. We expect to take hold of our new vicar in the sense of welcoming them amongst us. In the meantime we have the opportunity to continue to explore and encourage the gifts and talents of members of our Church as we work together to maintain the life and witness of this congregation.*

*I have seen various people step up to take on tasks that enable the continuation of our worship and other activities that draw people in. It is a fact that people from a variety of Church backgrounds and denominations now seem to feel at home with us and there is evidence of growth in numbers.*

*I pray that there will be a corresponding growth in understanding the Christian faith and allowing the Holy Spirit to permeate our lives both as part of the Church and in our daily lives.*



*As Christians, we of course have an anticipation beyond the immediate future. We can take hold in advance of eternal life by virtue of the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross if we will but believe in Him. His rising from the dead demonstrates there is something beyond this life which He wants to share with us.*

*Eternal life is not just more of the same; it is a different quality of life focussed not on what we may expect in the here and now but with an eternal perspective not limited by physical death. Such a perspective allows us to see life's difficulties as transient, as this life itself is transient; we are here for only a comparatively short time.*

*An eternal view allows us to not put our own interests first so enabling us to serve others after the pattern of Jesus Christ who anticipated (took hold of in advance) his return to his Father's side to prepare a place for us. (John 14 v 1-4).*

*As we wait for an announcement as to who may come to be our new vicar, let us take hold of them in advance in expectation of their arrival.*

*Pray for them and any family they may bring with them so that we may embrace them in the belief that God has brought them amongst us for a purpose. God's purpose; to lead us into the immediate future and encourage us to anticipate heaven, freeing us for service to ourselves and the community in which are set.*



## CHRISTIAN OF THE MONTH: JOHN BUNYAN

*Commemorated by the Church of England on August 30th.*

John Bunyan was born in 1628 in Elstow, Bedfordshire. It's about 20 straight miles from Royston, so I suppose we can claim him as a local. He had some schooling, and learned his father's trade of tinker (mender of pots and pans). His mother died in 1644 when John was nearly sixteen, and he then joined the parliamentary army to fight in the English Civil War.



By his own admission he was “ungodly” during his three years in the army, but during his service he did come across radical religious ideas. It seems to be his marriage in 1649 to a pious young wife that really began his conversion, and he spent the next few years developing his religious beliefs whilst wrestling with his guilt about sin.

Travelling as a tinker, in 1653 he came across the non-conformist Bedford Free Church, which he joined, and at which he began to preach, both in the church and in the surrounding countryside.

At this time he also began writing. By 1656 he was living in Bedford, but in 1658 his wife died (he later re-married), leaving him with 4 young children, one of whom was blind.

After a period of religious freedom, the monarchy was restored in 1660 and non-conformists found themselves persecuted. Bunyan was arrested at Harlington, Bedfordshire, in 1660, charged with abstaining from church attendance and holding unlawful meetings. Because he refused to recant, he was to spend the next



12 years, with occasional paroles, in Bedford Gaol. Eventually, in a mood of greater religious tolerance, the king issued a declaration of indulgence in 1672, and thousands of non-conformists, including Bunyan, were released.

It is well-known that whilst in Bedford Gaol he began to write his great religious allegory *The Pilgrim's Progress*, although it wasn't published until 1678. He published over 40 other works including the autobiographical *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners*, *The Life and Death of Mr. Badman*, and *Holy War*.



*The Pilgrim's Progress* (particularly Part 1) is one of the greatest, best-known and influential books in the English language, and has also been translated into over 100 other languages. It is an allegory in the form of a dream, in which Christian, on the advice of Evangelist, flees from the City of Destruction and journeys to the Celestial City, through such places the Slough of Despond, the Valley of Humiliation, the Valley of the Shadow of Death, Vanity Fair and Doubting Castle, meeting characters like Mr. Worldly Wiseman, Faithful, Hopeful and Giant Despair.

In later life Bunyan continued writing, preaching and serving as the pastor of The Bedford Meeting, often travelling on horseback to preach around Bedfordshire, the nearby counties and London.

It was in London that he died of a fever in 1688, and he was buried in the non-conformist graveyard of Bunhill Fields. An elaborate stone tomb-chest with Bunyan's effigy was added on the spot in 1862.



## FOCUS ON MISSION

### GLOBAL CARE



Working through grassroots Christian groups worldwide, the mission of Global Care is to tackle poverty one child, one family, one community at a time.

Here they explain their priorities :

*"Our first priority as a charity is to identify and support the most vulnerable children. Not just those living in poverty, but those trapped by additional barriers preventing them from breaking out of poverty.*

*Children with disabilities in places such as Uganda, rejected by society and neglected by their families. Dalit children in India who experience ethnic discrimination excluding them from school. Girls in countries like Sri Lanka, undervalued by families because of their gender and vulnerable to child marriage. Street children in Guatemala, extremely vulnerable to sexual exploitation, abuse and crime.*

*This focus on the most vulnerable children takes us to the 'dark villages' of Zambia overlooked by local government and cut off from resources. It takes us to very recent war zones, such as South Sudan and Syria. It takes us to the children no one notices, the communities no one wants to know, the people with no hope and no future."*

**Global Care has been one of the missions that St. John the Baptist Church supports for many years. We currently sponsor a young student in education in Sri Lanka, from whom we receive regular news.**



## FOCUS ON MISSION CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY



We have heard that C. M. S.'s Tom and Verity Clare, whose work in Uganda we have been supporting, have decided to return to the United Kingdom.

At the same time another couple, Simon and Sarah Cawdell, have gone out with C.M.S. to the Ugandan city of Gulu, where Sarah will work in a theological college and Simon will work alongside local farmers in sustainable projects.



The P.C.C. has made the decision to ask C.M.S. to use our donations to support Simon and Sarah's work, and we look forward to hearing news of how they are settling in.

### **Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust**

#### **SPONSORED BIKE 'n HIKE - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

In each of the last 7 years we have raised over £ 1,000 which was divided equally between BHHCT and our own parish funds.

Select your own route for cycling or hiking between the churches – there are over 600 churches to choose from so make it as long or as short as you wish. Most churches will be open on the day. The Sponsorship Packs will be available late July and if you would like a pack, please contact:-

Mike Maze ( 245606 or [mikefmaze@aol.com](mailto:mikefmaze@aol.com))

Details of how you can sponsor individuals online will follow in the August editions of Church News.

The Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust is a non-denominational body formed to raise funds and makes grants for repairs of churches and chapels in the two counties. This annual event is now in it's 31<sup>th</sup> year and is their major fund raising event in the year. In 2022 they supported our own fundraising efforts with a grant of £ 7,000 towards our new lighting, which only encourages us to keep up our solid support for the good work they do.



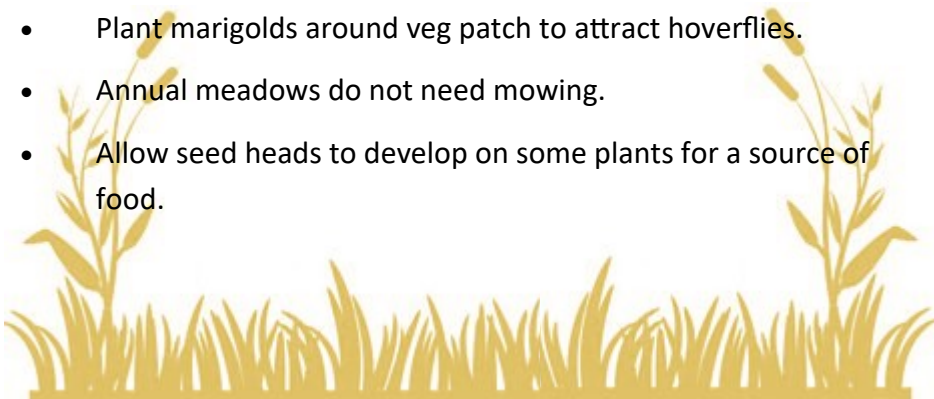
## Gardening tips for August



- Prune Wisteria
- Deadhead flowering plants regularly
- Watering! - particularly containers, and new plants, preferably with grey recycled water or stored rainwater.
- Collect seed from favourite plants
- Continue cutting out old fruited canes on raspberries
- Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners
- Keep ponds and water features topped up
- Lawns on thin soils may benefit from a high phosphate feed; this will help toughen roots for the winter period..
- During dry periods cut the lawn a little longer
- Plant Hyacinths, 'Paperwhite' daffodils for Christmas
- Pick over and cut back alpines.
- Keep Camellia and Rhododendron well watered to ensure good flower bud development..
- Take cuttings of Pelargonium and Osteospermum as soon as possible
- Prune climbing and rambling roses, which do not repeat flower or produce hips (once flowering has finished).
- Ventilate your greenhouse on sunny days and damp the flooring down to increase the humidity



- You can still sow quick maturing crops like Rocket, Lettuce and Radish, turnips and fennel.
- Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners.
- Pinching out the top of broad beans once the lowest flowers have set will help prevent aphid attack.
- Plant marigolds around veg patch to attract hoverflies.
- Annual meadows do not need mowing.
- Allow seed heads to develop on some plants for a source of food.



**RT HON SIR OLIVER HEALD KC**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**FOR NORTH EAST HERTFORDSHIRE**

If you have any concerns please contact me

Email: [oliver.heald.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:oliver.heald.mp@parliament.uk)

Telephone : 01462 486074

or look on [www.oliverhealdmp.com](http://www.oliverhealdmp.com)



## **GIFTS FROM GOD**

***I asked God for strength.....***

**And he gave me difficulties to make me strong.**

***I asked God for wisdom....***

**And he gave me problems to solve.**

***I asked God for prosperity.....***

**And he gave me brain and brawn to work.**

***I asked God for courage...***

**And he gave me danger to overcome.**

***I asked God for love...***

**And he gave me troubled people to help.**

***I asked God for favours...***

**And he gave me opportunities.**

***I received nothing I wanted....***

**And I received everything I needed.**



## SAINT OF THE MONTH: 30 SEPTEMBER      ST. HONORIUS

In the late sixth and early seventh centuries Pope Gregory the Great sent missionaries to this country to convert the pagan Anglo-Saxons to Christianity.

One such missionary was the monk Honorius, a Roman by birth, who came to Kent in 601 and who then worked in evangelism for the next quarter of a century. In 627 he was consecrated as the fifth Archbishop of Canterbury, succeeding Justus. The pope had agreed, at Honorius's suggestion, to elevate York to an archdiocese, so that when one archbishop, Canterbury or York, died, the other would be able to consecrate his successor.



We know little of his personal life, indeed whether Honorius was his birth name or one he chose when he became Archbishop. Nonetheless, he ruled for another twenty-five years and his episcopate is noted for two events in particular. He consolidated the conversion of eastern England by sending the Burgundian Felix to Dunwich, from where he evangelised the East Angles.

Furthermore in 644 Honorius appointed the first native Englishman to be a bishop : the Kentish Ithamar of Rochester. Ithamar himself went on to consecrate the first English Archbishop of Canterbury, Frithona (Deusdedit), in 655.

Honorius died on September 30th., 653, the last of the Gregorian missionaries. He was buried at Canterbury in the monastery of St. Peter and St. Paul (later St. Augustine's), which became the centre of his cult.

(Note: Do not confuse him with his near contemporary St. Honorius, Bishop of Amiens, also known as St. Honoratus and St. Honoré)



Royston Parish Church

Taizé Service  
of Meditation

17<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
6.30 pm

You are most welcome  
to join us



# ROYSTON PARISH CHURCH



## Teatime Praise!

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September  
(No August Service)

3.30 | pm

Royston Parish Church

**ALL WELCOME!**





CHEESE and WINE

SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER

7:00PM

ROYSTON PARISH CHURCH

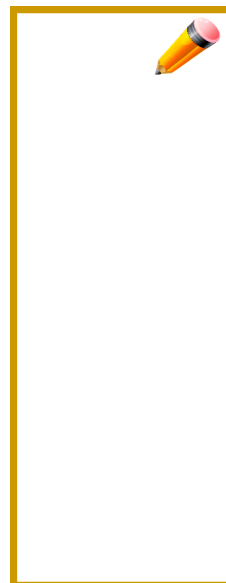
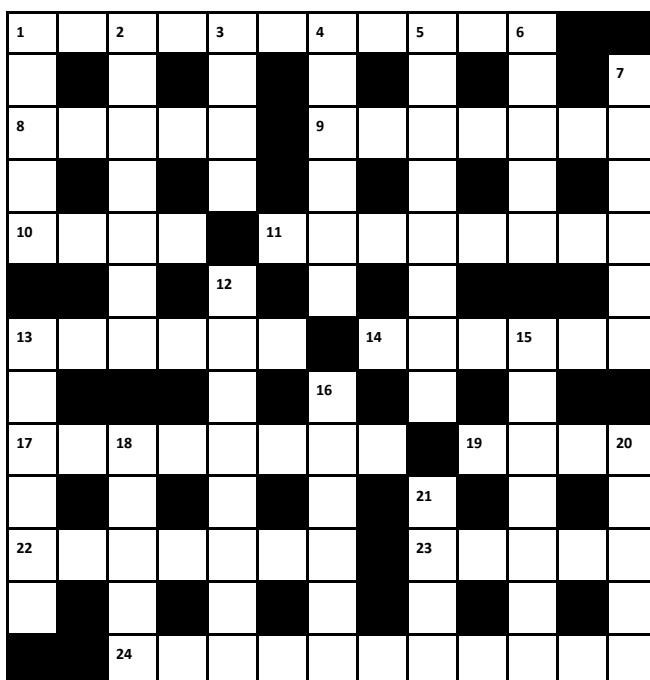
Tickets £12

Available from the fundraising committee.  
Ticket price includes cheese, crackers and a  
glass of wine or sparkling elderflower.  
Additional drinks available for a donation.

PROCEEDS IN AID OF CHURCH  
FUNDS



## CROSSWORD by DUNCAN RODGERS



### ACROSS

1. Requiring no support (11)
8. Donkeys (5)
9. The least (7)
10. Boast ; corvid (4)
11. They always look down in the mouth (8)
13. Self-contained unit (6)
14. Dressed like a Scot (6)
17. Parental substitute (8)
19. Biblical sailor (4)
22. Fast train (7)
23. Brighton paper (5)
24. A continent (11)

### DOWN

1. Biblical patriarch (5)
2. Bunyan's Slough (7)
3. Yorkshire paper (4)
4. Digit (6)
5. German-born scientist (8)
6. Occasions ; multiply (5)
7. Entertained ; tickled (6)
12. "Men of Old" felt it (8)
13. Old boys' paper (6)
15. Depressions (7)
16. German emperor(6)
18. Christian course (5)
20. Biblical prophet (5)
21. Post (4)

Answers page 24



## ANSWERS

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

#### Across

1. Independent 8. Asses 9. Minimum 10. Crow 11. Dentists 13. Module 14. Kilted 17. Guardian 19. Noah 22. Express 23. Argus 24. Australasia

#### Down

1. Isaac 2. Despond 3. Post 4. Number 5. Einstein 6. Times 7. Amused 12. Gladness 13. Magnet 15. Troughs 16. Kaiser 18. Alpha 20. Hosea 21. Mail

### PARISH REGISTERS

#### **Baptisms**

*Rupert Atterton, Jasper Atterton, Verity Mitchell*

*We welcome them into the family of Christ's church*

#### **Recently departed**

*Revd. Caroline Wilson, Joan McDonald, Muriel Clark, James Messenger*

*May God Grant Them Eternal Rest*

#### **Weddings**

*Christopher Beagle to Hannah Burton, Matthew Cooney to Elle Winter*

*United in love as Christ is united with His Church*



## Contact Information

### CLERGY

Vicar:

In Vacancy

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

Vaughan West

Vaughan.west@ntlworld.com

### CHURCH OFFICE

Joanne Wallis

07935 774633

roystonpc.churchoffice@gmail.com

|                               |        |                             |        |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------|
| BELLRINGERS                   | 222408 | GIFT AID SECRETARY          |        |
| Alan Curtis                   |        | Brenda Strangleman          | 245273 |
| MUSICAL DIRECTOR              |        | HOUSE GROUPS                |        |
| Louise Atkins                 |        |                             |        |
| louiseatkins234@gmail.com     |        |                             |        |
| CHURCH FLOWERS                |        | CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE   |        |
| Rosemary Dowling              | 247270 | CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE       |        |
| CHURCH TREASURER              |        | MAGAZINE TEAM               |        |
| Jonathon & Charlotte Wicks    |        | Joanne Wallis—Church Office |        |
| Roystonpc.treasurer@gmail.com |        |                             |        |
|                               |        | PCC SECRETARY               | 245606 |
|                               |        | Mike Maze                   |        |
|                               |        | mikefmaze@aol.com           |        |



## Sunday Services for August 2023

### Services to be held in Royston Parish Church

|            |          |  |
|------------|----------|--|
| 6th August | 9 am     | Said Eucharist   |
|            | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist with Choir<br>No TTP—School holidays    |
| 13th       | 9 am     | Said Eucharist   |
|            | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist with Choir                              |
|            | 12.30 pm | Baptism of Harry Croll and<br>Jonathan and Harry Havis |
| 20th       | 9 am     | Said Eucharist   |
|            | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist with Choir                              |
| 27th       | 9 am     | BCP Holy Communion Service                             |
|            | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist with Choir                              |

**Weekday services** (SEE WEBSITE AND WEEKLY SERVICE SHEET)  
**Eucharists: 11 am Wednesdays (followed by refreshments)**



## Sunday Services for September 2023

### Services to be held in Royston Parish Church

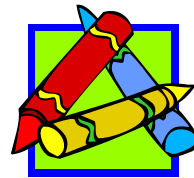
|               |          |  |
|---------------|----------|--|
| 3rd September | 9 am     | Said Eucharist   |
|               | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist with Choir                              |
|               | 3.30 pm  | Tea Time Praise!                                       |
| 10th          | 9 am     | Said Eucharist   |
|               | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist with Choir                              |
|               | 12.30 pm | Baptism of Tobias Mayer,<br>Ava Roberts and Hope Trust |
| 17th          | 9 am     | Said Eucharist   |
|               | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist with Choir                              |
|               | 6.30 pm  | Taizé Service of Meditation                            |
| 24th          | 9 am     | BCP Holy Communion Service                             |
|               | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist with Choir                              |

#### 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 to arrange a visit.



## CHILDREN'S PAGE



# Summer

## WORD SEARCH

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

BEACH  
BASEBALL  
ICE CREAM  
SWIMMING

PICNIC  
VACATION  
SUNFLOWER  
WATERMELON

SANDCASTLE  
HEAT  
BOATING  
POOL





## **Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory (MRAO) Cambridge**

### **Postscript by Joh Fidler to Clare Davies' article in the previous magazine.**

For the last 16 years before I retired, I was a Lift and Crane Surveyor for an insurance company. My job was to carry out the statutory safety examinations of various kinds of lifts and lifting equipment. This is something unseen by the majority of people. Although in factories and warehouses looking at cranes and fork trucks etc, I was seen by people working there, in blocks of flats and office blocks most people would be unaware of my presence except that a lift might be out of service at an annoying time. For those who are wary of travelling in lifts, be reassured that there is a legal requirement that every passenger lift should be subject to an independent safety examination every 6 months. People would not see me because I would be inside the lift shaft either on top of or underneath the lift, checking the safety features and the general condition of the lift and its machinery. If I found a dangerous fault it would be highlighted in my report to the owner and if urgent repair was required, the HSE or local authority would also be advised. Only on 3 or 4 occasions in 16 years did I actually switch the lift off which in theory was beyond my authority but I never got any complaints to the boss!!

What has this to do with the MRAO? Cambridge University was at the time one of our clients and the MRAO fell into my area. I would visit every 6 months. There are no lifts at the site but quite a lot of lifting equipment; hoists, slings, shackles etc, some to be done six-monthly and some annually. It was one of my easier jobs since many of the items were rarely used and just came out of the box for me to look at and they did make a nice cup of tea.

Manchester University was also one of our clients, which means Jodrell Bank and its satellite dishes were ours also. As Clare mentioned, the largest dish that you see most clearly as you come over the hill going towards Cambridge, is linked to Jodrell Bank. Every 6 months I would meet 2 maintenance men who would come from Jodrell Bank for the day and they would give me access to the site. There is a compartment with the radio equipment just underneath the dish with some hoists to be checked as well as one or two on the supporting structure. I also had to go up in the cherrypicker to examine the focal point above the dish. To do this the dish had to be on its side. To check the structural integrity of the dish itself, I needed to walk about on the dish which means it had to be flat. Because the dish can be moved remotely from Jodrell Bank the maintenance guys would disable the interlocks so we could position the dish where we wanted it.

Just occurs to me that there are many things in life which we take for granted that unseen people do for our benefit and this is just one example of that sort of job.



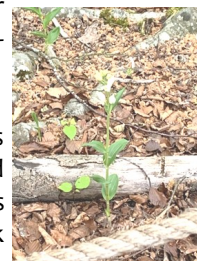
## Heath Watch with Holly (the little dog)

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



May and June 2023

May started with a bank holiday and coronation which created a general feeling of optimism, for a while dog walkers, golfers and the other regular users of the heath all had the same topic of conversation.



My daily walks with Holly continued, I took a walk in the woods one day and got stung by stinging nettles, Holly runs in and out of them and doesn't appear to notice, perhaps nettles don't affect dogs. I called to mind how as a child I used to look for a wild plant called Dock which, when rubbed on to your skin stopped the stinging, I looked for some but there wasn't any to be found. Stinging nettles, have a pretty leaf, beautiful flowers and can be a good source of food apparently containing many nutritional benefits. Later in the month we had an alternating pattern of rain and sun and the grass grew tall, the cow parsley became strong and the rough edges to the golf fairway was thick and I saw a number of struggling golfers. Dogs can easily get lost in long grass, my sister's dog has a tracker (a type of mini satnav) on his collar so he can be found with a mobile phone and at least one local dog has a helium balloon tied to its collar so that its owner can always see where it is.



There are a lot of new houses being built opposite the heath and new pathways are being created where residents cross over to enjoy the heath, I guess that's how the other pathways started, just by regular and frequent use rather than design. By this time the cowslips were fading away and being replaced by buttercups and other summer flowers including a lovely little white flower called the star of Bethlehem, it only opens in the sun and is a delight to see. The chestnut trees too were in flower and when we had windy days pieces of chestnut flower filled the air. When the wind blows the grass the movement reminds me of the sea and from a distance takes on a pink or purple shade. I saw two wrens, such lovely little birds, I like the way their tails go straight up and I watched a dunnock which is a beautiful but overlooked bird, even the



RSPB describes as “quiet and unobtrusive”. May ended as it began with a bank holiday, to me this time of year with Ascension day and then Pentecost (what happened to the word Whitsun?) marks the start of summer and I’m ready for warmer weather.

Moving to June, the rapid growth continued and some of the paths started to get overgrown. I saw some white helleborine, which is a variety of wild orchid, a



flower which is becoming rather uncommon in the UK, this find coincided with SpringWatch on the TV with its wonderful photography, bee eaters in Norfolk and the reported sighting of a supposedly extinct black-veined white butterfly in south east London, I had renewed enthusiasm! I feel sure that there are more bees and snails this year and there appears to be more flowers on the wild blackberry plants. It was very hot in the middle of June and Holly is getting old so we can’t go as far as we used to and couldn’t make the heath at all on the hottest days but there is always something to see, even the

centre of town is once again home to Swifts. Back to the heath though, one late evening Cockchafer were in abundance, these are strange flying beetle-like insects get caught in hair and clothes, I brush them off without hurting them of course.

Finally how good it is to see the wild roses at this time of the year, bees much prefer the single flowers to the thickly petaled cultivated varieties because the pollen is far more accessible.

Despite the heath becoming dry and dusty in late June Holly and I continued to enjoy our walks and from time to time take a rest before returning home, many of the seats on the heath have plaques in memory of a local person. Being part of an old Royston family myself, I usually recognise the names and call them to mind as I walk by.

So that was June, mostly hot and dry, but leaving me looking forward to the remainder of the summer and all that the heath has to offer at this time of year.

I recently read an article in the newspaper about a decline in numbers of Cuckoos so I excuse myself for not having heard one yet

.  
More next time.....

Anthony Pigg



- 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](mailto: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](mailto:roystonrblclub@xlninternet.co.uk)



FLOORING



GARDEN FURNITURE

OTHER PRODUCTS TOO! JUST ASK.



DECKING



RENOVATION SERVICE

OVER 25 YEARS OF QUALITY SERVICE  
[andrewbanks.co.uk](http://andrewbanks.co.uk) 01279 626389



