

# THE RIPPLE

April 2023



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## PARISH SERVICES

### SUNDAY SERVICES:

- 8:00am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Holy Communion  
11:00am 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Informal Family Service  
11:00am Other Sundays Parish Communion  
6:30pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Informal Service  
4:00pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Messy church (no service in August)

**WEEKDAYS:** 9:30am Holy Communion - Thursday

**RECTOR:** Reverend Suzan Williams Tel:674948  
The Rectory, Whittington SY11 4DF – email: revwilliams1991@icloud.com

### CHURCHWARDENS:

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### WHITTINGTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL:

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## “THE RIPPLE” (Whittington Parish Church Magazine) Vol 35 No 12

April 2023

### Rectors Ramblings

We are about to celebrate Easter. The story of Easter is one of dread and anguish, pleading and desperation, isolation and imprisonment, suffering and dying, burial and rising, hope and victory. A fitting story for the days that lie ahead of us.

There will be times when all seems dark, when we feel, or are, alone – when we are afraid. Jesus lived through all those things. He is the One we pray to when life feels unbearable. Everything we feel finds its echo and answer in him.

Jesus' instruction to his disciples was, “Stay together.” On the cross he gave his best friend John and his mother to one another to care for. After he died, the disciples shut themselves in a room and hid away. Jesus walked through the walls of that room and wished them peace but never once did he berate them for isolating themselves and staying safe.

When Jesus rose from the dead, it overturned everything people thought they knew. Out of the deepest despair came the brightest hope; the hope of a resurrection life for all of us, with a resurrection body, and no more tears or mourning or crying or pain because those things will pass away. They have not passed away yet, though; we are not there yet. And so there will be tears and mourning and crying and pain even while we hold the bright new life of God within us. To mourn does not mean we lack faith: mourning is the response we are meant to have to loving and losing, the natural expression of a loving heart in a broken world. When someone goes on into glory and wonder and the door shuts behind them before we get even a peek, it is heart breaking. We are like grubby bulbs lurking below the surface with no idea of the strength and beauty of the plants we will become. It

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is hard to have hope.

But we also have permission to be joyful for endless mercy that understands our struggles, for the bright breaking-through of the beauty of later into now, to relieve us in our struggle and remind us that the struggle is not endless; for the love that surrounds us and carries us back to ourselves when we forget who we are and how precious and loved we are, by God and by others. We have an Easter faith, in the God who gives us more than just this one life. None of our learning and loving and gaining and growing and brilliance and beauty is ever lost. God holds everything together and God has hold of us. When Jesus died he let himself fall into the hands of God and was held safely and rose gloriously. Jesus did not rise for himself but for us, to give us a glimpse of our future.

Troubles come to pass. They do. But hear it right, they come to *pass*, not to stay forever. It is God who stays forever. Life will spring up again. It always, always does. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Every Blessing

Suzan



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April  
2023

**DIARY**

**2 PALM SUNDAY**

11:00am Informal Family Service with the distribution of Palm crosses

**3** 10:30am-12:00noon Cameo in church (Come and Meet Each Other)

**5** 7:30pm Monthly Whist Drive in the Senior Citizens' Hall, £2.50 including light refreshments

**6 MAUNDY THURSDAY**

6:30pm Holy Communion and the Stripping of the Altar

**7 GOOD FRIDAY**

10:00am-12:00 noon Messy Church "Eggstravanza"

2:00pm An hour at the Cross

**9 EASTER DAY**

8:00am Holy Communion

11:00am Parish Communion

**10 BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY**

**11** 2:00pm Whittington Senior Citizens Annual General Meeting followed by Easter Tea; see pages 7-9

**12** 7:00pm Whittington WI meets in the Community Centre

**13** 9:30am Holy Communion

**16 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

11:00am Parish Communion

**4** 6:30pm Informal Service

- 17 **LAST DAY** for magazine material for the May edition of “The Ripple” all material to Anne Ward, 5 Boot Street, Whittington – eaw4@btinternet.com
- Whittington Church of England School re-opens after the Easter break
- 10:30am-12:00noon Cameo in church (Come and Meet Each Other)
- 18 2:00-3:00pm Praise and Play in church
- 20 9:30am Holy Communion
- 23 **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – ST GEORGE’S DAY**
- 8:00am Holy Communion  
11:00am Parish Communion
- 24 10:30am-12:00noon Cameo in church (Come and Meet Each Other)
- 25 12:00noon Whittington Senior Citizens monthly lunch at the White Lion; further details page 7-9
- 2:00-3:00pm Praise and Play in church
- 27 9:30am Holy Communion  
12:00noon Soup Lunch at the Rectory; further details page 13
- 30 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
- 11:00am Parish Communion
- 10:30am-5:00pm Whittington Open Gardens, in Aid of Save the Children; further details page 10
- MAY**
- 1 10:30am-5:00pm Whittington Open Gardens, in Aid of Save the Children

Goodness is action – not intention to act. – *John Fowles*

Extracts from the Parish Registers  
for the months of January/February 2023



REQUIESCAT IN PACE  
“May the Souls of the Faithful Departed Rest in Peace”

- 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 Anne Louise Hilary Taylor  
aged 62 of Glebe Meadows
- 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Edward Fragleton  
aged 85 of Rosehill Drive
- 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Pamela Mary Wynne  
aged 50 of Walsham How Crescent



~~~~~  
**Reflecting faith – Easter Flowers**

Many types of flowers are used in churches, but during Easter, there is one that is especially loved: the Easter Lily (*Lilium cadidum*). It is a tall, highly perfumed flower topped by large, graceful, white trumpet-shaped blooms. Unfortunately, the pollen can permanently stain cloth due to chemicals it contains so florists and church flower arrangers remove all the stamens before bringing them anywhere near church fabrics, or near to where ministers wearing white might brush against them.

Frescos in a high-class villa in Amnisos, and in the throne hall of the Knossos Palace, both in Crete, dating between 1600 – 1500 BC have been uncovered depicting the flower. Since the times of the Assyrian and Egyptian empires they have been an emblem of the sovereignty of kings. Starting from its natural habitat in Palestine and Lebanon, it was spread over the whole eastern Mediterranean by the Phoenicians, who predate the Greek and Roman civilisations. During Greek and Roman times it was regarded as the symbol of sublime love, procreation, and glory and was used for making the ritual bridal wreath. In



the Jewish tradition (Solomon's Song of Songs, Ch. 2 v 1-2) lilies symbolized youth and virginal state. Christ referenced them as well (Matthew Ch. 6 v 8).

In the Middle Ages red lilies seem to have been a symbol of the virgin Mary although the white Lily candidum was to become her particular flower, symbolizing purity of soul and chastity. Hence its common name, the Madonna Lily. At the height of the Renaissance, Leonardo da Vinci painted The Annunciation (1472–1475) of the Virgin Mary by the Archangel Gabriel holding a Madonna lily.

It's thought that Easter lilies came to symbolise Christ because they embody purity – the trumpet-shaped blooms recall the horns that heralded the resurrection of Christ.

You can still make a donation towards Easter flowers; the basket on the table at the back of church will be there until Maundy Thursday, or it can be given to the Rector or Churchwardens. If you are new to the Parish and would like to become involved in the flower arranging then please contact one of the Churchwardens, new volunteers are always welcome.

**WHITTINGTON SENIOR CITIZENS  
Over 50's Club – Recycled Teenagers**

I hope you all remembered to put your clocks forward on 25<sup>th</sup> March and that you all stayed safe during that spell of snowy weather we experienced.

The next monthly Tuesday lunch at the White Lion will be on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon and costs £10 per person; it includes a two-course meal and a cup of tea/coffee. **Please contact ME on 01691 662236 if you wish to join us;** club membership is not a necessity, why not join us one month, we are a friendly bunch.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at 2:00pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April and will be followed by our Easter Tea at approximately 3:00 pm, for which a donation would be much appreciated. Subscriptions for 2023 will be due on this date and it has been decided to leave the amount at £10 per person, it would be helpful to have your subscription as soon as possible after this date

and if anyone would consider becoming a member of the committee, they would be very welcome.

Unfortunately, we have found it necessary to cease the Monday afternoon whist sessions for the foreseeable future due to lack of support; it is uneconomical to heat the hall for just three or four players during the winter months. When the weather improves, and if enough people show some interest, we will consider re-starting them. Please contact Liz Corrin on 773733 if you would like to play on a Monday afternoon; it would be an ideal opportunity for anyone wishing to learn the game

The monthly sessions held on the first Wednesday of the month are well attended, with ten tables being in play in March; there is plenty of room for more to join in. The game starts at 7:30pm and has a small charge of £2.50 to cover tea/coffee and biscuits. Run by Carol and Derek Pope everyone is welcome; there is also a raffle.

The weekly Thursday coffee mornings continue to be very popular for a good natter and catch up; again, membership is not a requirement. We actually had ten people turn up for a coffee the Thursday it snowed in March. We meet any time after 10:00am and usually finish about 11:30am. We ask for just £2.00 to help with our rising utility bills and other costs. £2 is not a lot for a coffee (or two) together with a biscuit. If someone has a birthday, then cakes and a tittle are sometimes on offer. This is a very friendly gathering and means you can save on your own heating for an hour or so.

**Events currently held at the hall:**

**Monday 7:30 – 9:30 pm** – Line dancing with Steve Mason for beginners/uppers/improvers (phone for details 07963662426).

**Wednesday 1:30 – 2:30pm** Exercise Class – this starts sitting down to warm up and then graduates to standing if comfortably able. This class is a great chance to forget your troubles, come along for a laugh and a giggle.

**Thursday 10:00am** Coffee

Junior Ballet Class after school during term time with Ellie Moss.

**7:30pm** TNS hold a Youth Group gathering during term time.

**ITEMS FOR YOUR DIARY FOR 2023**

**11<sup>th</sup> April** 2:00pm Annual General Meeting followed by Easter Tea

**8<sup>th</sup> May** 12:00noon Bank Holiday Monday Celebration of the

- 30<sup>th</sup> May** Coronation of King Charles III a Ploughman's Lunch  
Trip to Shire Horse Centre Cotebrook, Tarporley – all breeds of horses, red squirrels, foxes, etc., coffee shop and gift shop - £30 to cover entry and coach
- 20<sup>th</sup> June** A coach tour of Anglesey – coach £25
- 11<sup>th</sup> July** New Brighton – coach £25
- 11<sup>th</sup> August** Black Country Museum, Dudley – coach £15, entrance to museum £15 and canal boat trip £10 – total £40
- 12<sup>th</sup> September** Llandudno – coach £25
- 10<sup>th</sup> October** Harvest Lunch
- November** Fish and Chip lunch – also a coffee and mince pie morning
- 5<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Tea
- 15<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas lunch at The Navigation

If you would like to join us for any of the above, please contact me.

**Gillian Roberts – Secretary 662236**

**National Stop Snoring Week 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

Do you love and also live with someone who snores? Then you will know how difficult it can be at times. Snoring can put great strain on the health and relationship of both partners. For this reason, the British Snoring & Sleep Apnoea Association (BSSAA) runs the National Stop Snoring Week, to encourage people to seek help with their problem. It warns that: 'snoring will not go away – it will only get worse if not addressed.'



Sadly, snoring affects a large portion of the adult population. It can range from gentle vibrations to whistles to very loud growling. The noise of snoring is well known to be one that cannot be tolerated for long without

disrupting sleep. Long-term snoring can even be an indicator of a potentially serious sleep disorder known as obstructive sleep apnoea, which is found in 4% to 10% of adults.

So, if someone in your home snores, you may find the following websites helpful: The British Snoring & Sleep Apnoea Association (B.S.S.A.A.): <https://britishsnoring.co.uk>; Mayo Clinic: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/snoring>; NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/snoring>

# SAVE THE CHILDREN

## 3 OPEN GARDENS

**+ PLANT SALES + REFRESHMENTS  
+ ENTERTAINMENT**

**SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
and MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY  
10:30am – 5:00pm both days**

**GARDEN CROFT, Daisy Lane  
has a Cottage Garden with Plant Sale**

**GABLE CROFT, Church St  
has Old Walled Garden, Restored Victorian  
Conservatory and Refreshments**

**THE CHURCH HOUSE, Church St  
First time opener with 1 acre garden and  
Lawn Games**

**KINNERTON MORRIS MEN – SUNDAY 2:00pm  
HASLINGTON FOLK GROUP – MONDAY 2:00pm  
BAGPIPER ANDY – BOTH DAYS**



Reg. Charity no: 213890

**Garden entrance by donation,  
proceeds to Save the Children**

01691 – 650711/656934/658599

**Dogs on leads welcome  
Parking signs will be in place**

## AS WE WELCOME THE CUCKOO



The 14<sup>th</sup> April, St Tiburtius Day, is traditionally “Cuckoo Day”, when you hear the first cuckoo; it can be heard from then onwards until St John’s Day on the 24<sup>th</sup> June. However, in Worcestershire there is a saying that the

cuckoo is never heard before Tenbury fair (21<sup>st</sup> April), or after Pershore fair (26<sup>th</sup> June). The first sighting is often in the far South West and Isles of Scilly, gradually moving north-wards. In recent years the cuckoo has tended to arrive on average five days earlier than usual, likely due to climate change; hearing the first cuckoo call is traditionally reported by a letter to The Times newspaper.

The bird has arrived from its winter residence in Central Africa, Zambia and Tanzania. They migrate mainly by night and often at high altitude of between 1 ½ and 3 miles above the ground where strong following winds may aid them on their way. They cross the Sahara Desert in one 50-60hour continuous flight; it returns from late September onwards.

Other places outside of Worcestershire hold Cuckoo fairs: Marsdeners in Marsden West Yorkshire, according to local legend, used to try and prolong the bird’s stay by building a wall around any nest where its eggs were hatching. The fair at Downton, in Wiltshire, marks “opening the gate” to let the cuckoo through. Heathfield, East Sussex, marks the beginning of summer at Heffle Cuckoo Fair by releasing a cuckoo from a basket so he “flies up England carrying warmer days with him”.

An old traditional rhyme about the Cuckoo’s summer life cycle goes:

In April I open my bill  
In May I sing night and day  
In June I change my tune  
In July far far I fly  
In August away I must

Some believe that it is good luck to have money in your pocket when you hear the first cuckoo call; but whatever you are doing at that time you should repeat throughout the year as the call was a sign that the particular activity will be beneficial. Whilst for others when you hear that first call you should

put a stone on your head and run as fast as you can until the stone falls off. Mark the spot where the stone fell, and if you return to it the next day there should be money underneath it. Sadly, single ladies believed the number of calls or notes they first heard signified how many years they would remain unmarried.

## CUCKOO SONG

Tell it to the locked-up trees,  
Cuckoo, bring your song here!  
Warrant, Act and Summons, please,  
For Spring to pass along here!  
Tell old Winter, if he doubt,  
Tell him squat and square—a!  
Old Woman!  
Old Woman!  
Old Woman’s let the Cuckoo out  
At Heffle Cuckoo Fair—a!



March has searched and April tried—  
’Tisn’t long to May now.  
Not so far to Whitsuntide  
And Cuckoo’s come to stay now!  
Hear the valiant fellow shout  
Down the orchard bare—a!  
Old Woman!  
Old Woman!  
Old Woman’s let the Cuckoo out  
At Heffle Cuckoo Fair—a!

When your heart is young and gay  
And the season rules it—  
Work your works and play your play  
’Fore the Autumn cools it!  
Kiss you turn and turn-about,  
But my lad, beware—a!  
Old Woman!  
Old Woman!  
Old Woman’s let the Cuckoo out  
At Heffle Cuckoo Fair—a!

**Rudyard Kipling**

## SOUP LUNCH AT THE RECTORY

**AT 12:00 NOON ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

THURS 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH

THURS 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY

THURS 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE



**CONTACT SUZAN FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO BOOK**

**YOUR PLACE:**

revwilliams1991@icloud.com – 01691 674948

Ellesmere Guides 1923 – 2023

I have been thinking for a while about Ellesmere Guides centenary, which I had reason to believe would be in 2026, although from an old log book I knew that the Golden Jubilee (50 years) was celebrated in 1971. Recently I learnt that the first meeting of the Ellesmere Guide Company was on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1923.

When I began Guiding in Ellesmere 40 years ago, we had Guide units in Ellesmere, Criftings and Cockshutt. For 10 years, more recently, we had a unit at Welsh Frankton and once upon a time there was a unit in Welshampton. It would be wonderful to meet up with some of those past Guides and also anyone who is interested to find out more about what we do now.



So, to begin our year of celebration, on Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May, the actual centenary of that first meeting and a Bank Holiday, we have an open meeting for current and past members, friends and interested public: **2:30 - 4:30pm in Ellesmere Town Hall**. Do come along, bring your memories and any handbooks, log books, badges, uniform .... to share with our current girls, and to discover what we get up to now. Please pass this message around local communities and to those who have moved away. If you would like more information do contact us: [ellesmereguides@gmail.com](mailto:ellesmereguides@gmail.com) **Fran Butler**

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## “THINE BE THE GLORY, RISEN, CONQUERING SON”

Here is a hymn that is so well known and loved that it has simply burst the bounds of Easter, and gets sung regularly at other times of the year. It has two stories behind it. First, the music. The rousing music did not start out as a hymn, but instead was written by Handel for his opera ‘Judas Maccabeus’, first performed in 1746. Originally the words ran ‘See the conquering hero comes’, for Handel’s opera tells the story (found in the Apocrypha) of the leader of the Jews, Judas Maccabeus, who led an army against the Syrians and restored worship at the Temple. With its triumphant refrain after each verse, the music is easy to learn and sing, and has been played to great effect either by trumpets, guitars or on an organ in a large resonant church.

Secondly, the words. They were not written until 1884, which was 138 years after the music. We owe them to the Revd Raymond Budry, a Swiss pastor from Lausanne. Ordained in the Free Evangelical Church in Vaud, he spent 35 years as the pastor of Vevey on Lake Geneva. Budry wrote the hymn in French (‘A Toi La Gloire!’) to console himself after the death of his first wife; it was first published in 1885. Soon it found its way into English – translated by a Baptist minister from Kingston-upon-Thames, Richard Hoyle.

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu’ring Son;  
endless is the vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won.  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.  
*Thine be the glory, risen, conqu’ring Son;  
endless is the vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won.*



It is not clear who first had the happy idea of teaming *those* words with *that* music, but when they did, the hymn really took off. By 1904 it was being translated into other languages. The theme of ‘battle’ is never far from this hymn, whether it was the battle of Judas Maccabeus, or the battle over sin which was won by Christ on the cross and in rising from the tomb. Easter, of course, marked the biggest victory over the biggest enemies of all time: sin and death.

What would Handel make of his battle music becoming one of the world’s most popular and well-known Easter hymns? He was a devout man, working for the poor, praying twice each day, and attending St Paul’s Cathedral. So, it seems pretty certain that he would be delighted.

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## PRIZED NATURE

Churchyards are very important places for those whose loved ones are buried there, but a survey of visitors to some churchyards in Sussex found that they are often visited by people who value their peace and beauty. The Churchyard Award Scheme is run, by volunteers, to celebrate the work of volunteers (and aren't we fortunate here in Whittington) in maintaining and developing churchyards and church gardens across the diocese of Lichfield. The Award Scheme was originally conceived to encourage care, in the sense of 'grounds maintenance' and that is still an objective. But as we have become more aware of ecological issues, the scheme has devoted more attention to the role of churchyards as precious habitats, and as a diocese we have been blessed to receive lots of support and advice from 'Caring for God's Acre' ([www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)), a conservation charity focussed on burial grounds, that habitat found in every community.

During the months from May to August a team of volunteer 'judges' visit churchyards and gardens and make notes on a wide range of aspects and features. In September the judges meet and prepare certificates for each entrant and draw together some feedback for each individual churchyard or garden. There is then an awards ceremony, usually in October, when achievements are publicly celebrated and ideas are shared. In addition to these elements of the scheme we hold a garden tea party to which all volunteers are warmly invited as a way to express thanks to all who work hard and give time and loving care to maintaining these special places.

When steps are taken to make churchyards more 'nature friendly' this is not always consistent with perfect tidiness, but it demonstrates that the church is actively seeking to address concerns over loss of natural habitats and biodiversity.



Whether large or small, rural or urban, a churchyard or garden, all are invited to participate. Entry is free – full details of how to enter can be found on the diocesan website under 'Find advice' and then 'Environment' tabs, or just follow this link: [www.lichfield.anglican.org/churchyard-award-scheme-2023.php](http://www.lichfield.anglican.org/churchyard-award-scheme-2023.php). The closing date for applications this year is 10<sup>th</sup> April 2023; Dr Alison Primrose has led the Churchyard Awards team for the last five years and can be contacted on 07794 515142.

## WHITTINGTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

On the first of our snowy nights, members braved the freezing conditions and we saw an excellent turnout with 21 in attendance for our March meeting and 18 of those ladies put in a huge amount of effort for our Spring show. This was a super special show as it's the first to be held since the Covid pandemic and we were all very excited to see the entries! Following a brief business meeting to discuss what's on in WI at the moment we got on with the show.

The classes included bulbs and plants, floral art, cookery - savoury and sweet, preserves, arts and crafts and photography. We saw a total of 67 entries in 21 classes and, as always with WI members, the standard was extremely high. Judging commenced at 5:30pm and it took 3 judges 2 hours to judge every entry fairly, including tasting of the delectable food and preserves. It was very hard to tell which entries would be placed highest as they all looked brilliant with a high level of creativity displayed. It was wonderful to see that our ladies have quite a degree of skill up their sleeves, showing some very creative talent and artistic flair. Each section received an award for the most points won. We also had our usual monthly raffle which was excellently supported with several prizes including some of the prize-winning cookery entries from the show - donated by the members.

I was lucky enough to win the prize-winning beetroot chutney from the preserves class - all I can say is this has already been devoured by my household!

### **Results:**

Bulbs and plants: Debbie Warmisham    Floral Art: Barbara Molesworth  
Miniature Garden: Debbie Warmisham    Arts and Crafts: Julie Sheffield  
Cookery Sweet: Susan Barclay    Preserves: Ruth Haile  
Cookery Savoury: Kathryn Greenwood    Photography: Julie Sheffield  
Special Cookery Class: Kathryn Greenwood  
Goff Plate - awarded for the most amusing shaped vegetable: Sophie Anderson

The overall highest points won went to Julie Sheffield

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7:00pm in the Community Centre. We're excited to have a talk on 'Weird and Wonderful Cheese'

including tasting! There's also an Easter bonnet competition and the swap table for April is seeds. Please contact Louise Idoux 07779133411 or Sophie Anderson 07951793350 if you'd like to come along and see what it's all about! You have 3 meetings for free so you can decide if WI is for you! Everyone will be made very welcome.

**Sophie Anderson**



Both Bowls and Cricket seasons will soon be upon us and hopefully the weather will improve before the opening games of the Oswestry Bowling season which start w/c 10<sup>th</sup> April and the cricket coaching sessions commencing on Friday

5<sup>th</sup> May (All Stars /Dynamos) for 5-11-year-olds. Further information can be obtained from the website, Facebook or twitter.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April the Club are organising a Spring clean of the clubhouse and ground surrounds to coincide with the cricket-force tidy up weekend - hopefully members will support this initiative - please bring your own equipment.

The Club has received a grant from the English Cricket Board to improve their facilities with three lane cricket nets, sight screens, and wicket covers so that the club can work along-side the Shropshire Cricket Board to make the facility a Women's and Girls Hub for both practice and county games. Although this is still in its infancy this season, it's hoped that this will be a major hub for the area and the county in the ensuing years.

#### Home Bowling Fixtures: Start time 7:00pm

|          |                                  |   |                   |
|----------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| "A" Team | Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> April   | v | Llanymynech A     |
|          | Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April   | v | Criftins          |
| "B" Team | Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April | v | Brymbo            |
|          | Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May    | v | Llanymynech Foxes |
| "C" Team | Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> April | v | Whittington D     |
|          | Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April | v | Llanymynech C     |
| "D" Team | Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April  | v | Llanrhaeadr D     |
|          | Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May     | v | Chirk AAA D       |

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#### "Vets" Team: Start 1:00pm

|                               |   |               |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April | v | Llangynog     |
| Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May    | v | Weston Crofte |

Everyone is welcome to attend these games. Membership details playing or associate can be obtained from: Ianwenachalmers@hotmail.com

Further information is available from Cricket/Bowling Club Secretary: jacquiwhitley@yahoo.com or Bowling Secretary Hannah Hampson - whittingtonbowlssec@outlook.com

**Car Boot Sales** have been arranged as follows: Pitch Fee £6

|              |                               |                 |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bank Holiday | Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> April | 9:00am – 1:00pm |
| Bank Holiday | Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May    | 9:00am – 1:00pm |
|              | Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May   | 9:00am – 1:00pm |

Refreshments available.

**Mike Brunt**

#### AN AFTERNOON IN THE GARDEN

1. Cut down the dead stems of Autumn Fruiting raspberries to the ground.
2. Sow early carrots, peas and broad beans.
3. Time to propagate or move herbaceous perennial. Start with fleshy rooted plants such as Day Lilies, Hostas and Kniphofias. Fibrous rooted plants such as hardy geraniums and asters can be split up until the end of the month. Remember to water well.

#### Flower of the month: Species of Dwarf Tulips:

Their flowering time follows on from the daffodil. Pale yellow Tulipa Turkestanica and pink Humilis are two species which send up an abundance of flower from one bulb. There is also a rare wild native called Tulipa Sylvestris. The yellow flower on 35cms stems is sweetly scented. In the 1850s records show that it was cultivated in William Walsham How's rectory garden, here in Whittington.



Tree of the month: Elder Sambucus Nigra: Often arriving in the garden as a chance seedling, but valued



18



for its abundant creamy yellow flowers and scent, in late spring. Freshly gathered the flowers can be made into a refreshing cordial. Left on the bush, clusters of black berries appear, ready to be turned into elderberry wine, or an autumn feast for birds.

**APRIL at Whittington Castle –**

**The Castle is open daily 9:00am – 4:00pm**

**31<sup>st</sup> March 11:30am-1:30pm Lancia Car Stopover**

**1<sup>st</sup> April 10:30 – 12:00 noon Eco-Warriors –**

Our regular children’s club; dress appropriately for the weather and finish with a complementary hot chocolate. at [kitchen@thecastle](mailto:kitchen@thecastle).

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult

**1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> April 10:00am-4:00pm American Civil War Society Re-enactment.** Visit our 2 living history camps, Confederacy

(south) and Unionist (north) and watch infantry and artillery displays.

Entrance £5 per car and by donation for those on foot.

**4<sup>th</sup> April craft@thecastle** Join our informal crafters – patch-work, paint, scrap book, sketch or knit, do it with others. Both novices and experts share their skills. Find inspiration or do your own thing – there is coffee, cake and laughter. Everyone welcome, small fee applies.

**7<sup>th</sup> April 10:00am-4:00pm Plant Hunters Fair –** Normal car parking fees apply.

**23<sup>rd</sup> April 10:00am-4:00pm Eco Fair –** Trade and charity stalls with information to make the little changes that can make a big difference. Normal car parking fees apply.



**Kimberley Powell, Castle Manager**

Telephone 01691 662500

E-mail: [info@whittingtoncastle.co.uk](mailto:info@whittingtoncastle.co.uk) -Website: [www.whittingtoncastle.co.uk](http://www.whittingtoncastle.co.uk)

**Why was the Easter bunny upset?**

*He was having a bad hare day.*

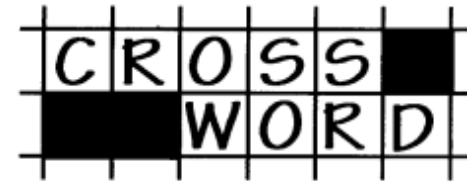
What is Easter Bunny’s favourite kind of music?

*Hip-hop, of course!*

What do you call a rabbit that can tell a good joke?

*A funny bunny.*

Comfortable truth isn’t. – Anon



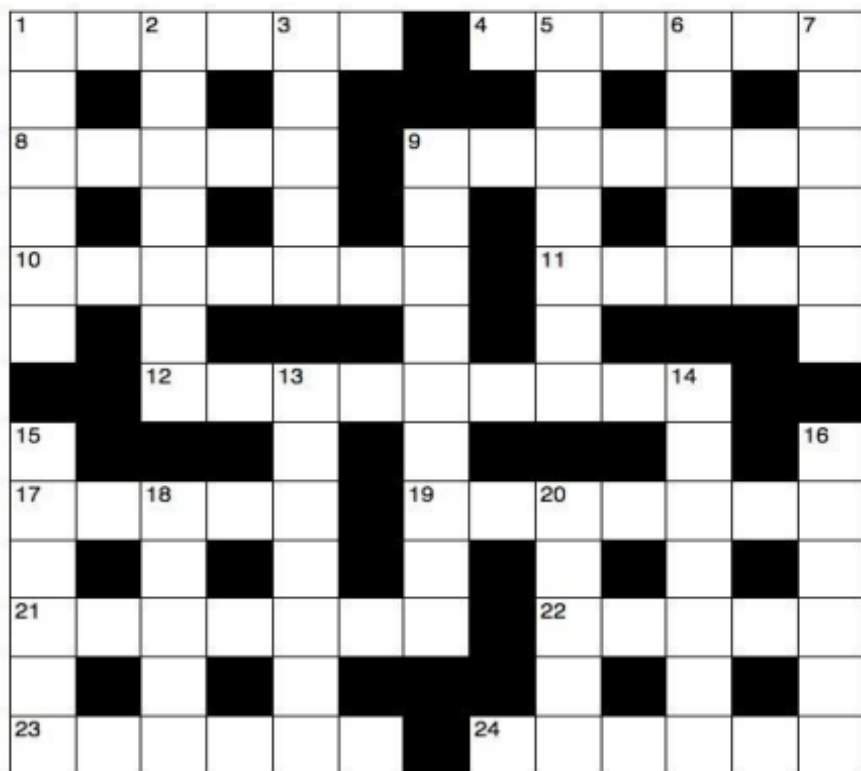
**ACROSS:**

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 ‘Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it’ (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah’s message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America’s Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 ‘Look, here is — . Why shouldn’t I be baptized?’ (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3–4) (5)
- 19 ‘Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord’ (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis’s half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 ‘The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles’ (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 ‘I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me’ (Matthew 25:36) (6)

**Down:**

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be ‘worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine’
- 15 The human mind or soul (6) (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 20

- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)  
 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)  
 20 Bared (anag.) (5)



**C A M E O – COME AND MEET EACH OTHER**  
 in WHITTINGTON PARISH CHURCH EVERY MONDAY



10:30AM – 12:00 NOON

Come along to our weekly get together to meet other people from the community  
 There'll be tea, coffee and toast

Contact Suzan for more details: [revwilliams1991@icloud.com](mailto:revwilliams1991@icloud.com) or  
 Tel: 01691 238658

**BEING FOR THE MOST PART WHAT  
 THE LIVING THINK OF THE DEAD**

This is the subtitle to the book "Everybody's Book of Epitaphs" compiled by W.H. Howe. Until cremations were first introduced into this country in 1879 this title reflects the views expressed on many headstones throughout the country. Here are just a few examples:

**Wigtown churchyard, Galloway:**

Here lies Tom Taggart, of honest fame,  
 Of stature low, and a leg lame;  
 Content he was with portion small,  
 Kept a shop in Wigtown, and that's all.

**St Nicholas', Yarmouth:**

Owen Moore is gone away,  
 Owin' more than he could pay.

**In a churchyard near London:**

Stop, Reader! I have left a world  
 In which there was a world to do;  
 Fretting and stewing to be rich –  
 Just such a fool as you.



**From a tombstone in Wiltshire:**

Here I lie, my name is BALL –  
 I lived – I died, despised by all;  
 And now I cannot chew my crust,  
 I've gone back to my ancient dust.

**In a cemetery near Salisbury:**

I bowl'd, I struck, I caught, I stopp'd,  
 Sure life's a game of cricket;  
 I block'd with care, with caution popp'd,  
 Yet Death has hit my wicket.

**And in Burlington churchyard, Mass. U.S.A.:**

Sacred to the memory of Anthony Drake,  
 Who died for peace and quietness sake;  
 His wife was constantly scolding and scoffin',  
 So he sought for repose in a twelve-dollar coffin

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Chocolate Hot Cross Bun Loaf (Jamie Oliver)

200 g mixed dried fruit, such as dates, cranberries, raisins, sour cherries  
150 ml semi-skimmed milk  
1 x 7 g sachet of dried yeast  
4 teaspoons runny honey  
30 g blanched hazelnuts  
400 g strong white bread flour, (plus extra for dusting)  
1½ teaspoons ground cinnamon  
50 g unsalted butter, (softened, plus extra for greasing, at room temperature)  
50 g dark chocolate, (70%)  
2 tablespoons plain flour

Roughly chop any larger pieces of the mixed dried fruit, destoning any dates and place **half** in a small bowl. Just cover with boiling water and leave to soak.

Gently heat the milk in a small pan over a low heat for 1–2 minutes, or until slightly warmed. Pour into a jug and stir in the sachet of dried yeast and honey.

Blitz the blanched hazelnuts in a food processor until roughly chopped, then tip into a bowl.

Tip the soaked mixed fruit and soaking water into the food processor and blitz until roughly chopped and slightly jammy.

Add the bread flour, ground cinnamon and sea salt, then pour in the yeast mixture and blitz for 1 minute, or until you have a smooth dough.

Cut the butter into cubes, add to the dough and pulse until combined.

Transfer to a flour-dusted surface and knead for 5 minutes, or until smooth and springy. Place in a large flour-dusted bowl, cover with a damp tea towel and prove in a warm place for 1 hour, or until doubled in size. Grease a 1-litre loaf tin, then dust with a little flour.

Carefully knock the air out of the dough and transfer to a clean flour-dusted surface.

Sprinkle over the remaining dried fruit and knead it into the dough for 2 minutes.

Roll the dough out to roughly 25cm x 25cm. Break the chocolate into small chunks and sprinkle over the dough with the hazelnuts, pushing them into the dough with your fingertips.

Roll up the dough into a loose sausage shape then carefully place it into the tin and pop in a warm place for a further 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 170°C/325°F/gas 3. Mix the plain flour with 2 table-spoons of water and use a teaspoon or piping bag draw a cross on the top of the loaf. Bake in the hot oven for 45 – 50 minutes, or until golden.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool in the tin for 5 – 10 minutes, then tip out onto a wire cooling rack and brush with the remaining 2 teaspoons of honey before serving.

### The Humble Daisy

The humble and always cheerful garden daisy, so familiar to us all, and a common feature of our lawns is much more than just this as it has a long history of interest and can even be used as a food, as well as a remedy. Although the common daisy (*Bellis perennis*) is no longer in vogue with modern herbal medicine it is used by homeopaths. The primary use of the flower heads is as a good good alternative to the well-known alpine remedy Arnica.



Arnica is famous for its help with bumps, bruises, knocks and swellings; our indigenous lawn daisy does all of this too, but is more easily accessible.

By soaking the flower heads in oil or adding the extract to ointments and creams, or even just bruising the leaves and flowers, and rubbing the juice where it is needed is very helpful and soothing. Used externally, the oil or juice can be helpful when applied to varicose veins as well. This may not make visible, bulging ones disappear, but could help stabilise existing ones and prevent further deterioration or worsening. Safe for children and adults, but caution is always advised when used in early pregnancy. It may be prescribed following childbirth or surgery.

The flowers and leaves are safe to consume, so may be added to salads and stews. The flower buds can be pickled in brine, vinegar or oil as an alternative to capers (this can also be done with dandelion buds). As a flower remedy the daisy is said to help clarify the mind and help with concentration, aiding the ability to absorb information and organise things. In the future we may even use it for ADHD, but more research is needed. So next time you are muttering about having too many daisies in your lawn and you have no time to make a daisy chain, think of the many amazing uses of this tiny plant offers.

**Louise Idoux**



### Beware when the choirs meet

The Rectory  
St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

You agonised recently over your ecumenical service: who should be invited? Who should preach? What about the order of service? If you had attended our recent combined churches' choir festival, your own dilemmas would have seemed a little less acute.

At the pre-meeting, there was heated discussion about whether those choirs who normally wore robes would be comfortable standing among those who didn't. The more aesthetically sensitive worried whether St Agatha's pea green cassocks may clash with our red ones. Intending to be helpful, but phrasing it rather badly, someone suggested that the normally robed choirs should wear nothing. Colonel Wainwright was a little too quick to chuckle.

I began to wonder if a prize was to be awarded to the person who raised the greatest number of concerns: Should the choirs stay separate? Would the tenors be next to the altos or the basses? Where would extra seating be placed? Would the heating be on for the rehearsal? Then came what you would call the 'elephant in the room': of all the choirmasters, *who would conduct and who play the organ?* Tension mounted, and expressions grew grim. But before the committee started to dig trenches in my carpet and position howitzers under the desk, I briefly left the room, turned off all the electricity and claimed we'd had a power cut. This is a useful device for truculent committees; sadly, it can be used only rarely.

Come the day, an uneasy truce lasted while everyone adopted the traditional solution to disagreement within congregations, and simply did exactly what they wanted. Some were robed, some were not, some choirs congealed in their own huddles, while others joyfully sat next to people from other churches – mainly so they could point out their neighbour's wrong notes. Some sang in the right key, some sang in the wrong key, some sang what sounded like quite different songs altogether.

The service ended with one choir thinking that the organist had played too loudly, while another choir thought that the conductor wasn't up to much.

Everyone agreed afterwards that we must do it again, while firmly stating that if their own choirmaster didn't conduct next year, they wouldn't be there.

Thankfully, one fundamental thing on the day united them: they all said that our church was too cold, and they all went down to the pub afterwards to warm up.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

### Answers to March's Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS:** 1, Corinthians. 9, Abandon. 10, Eglon. 11, Spa. 13, Deem. 16, Hi-fi. 17, Abijah. 18, Ohad. 20, Myth. 21, Now see. 22, Knit. 23, Tide. 25, Arm. 28, Nahor. 29, All done. 30, Kind-hearted.

**DOWN:** 2, Of age. 3, ISDN. 4, Tens. 5, Idea. 6, Nullify. 7, Hardworking. 8, Enlightened. 12, Praise. 14, Mad. 15, Vigour. 19, Abishai. 20, Met. 24, Is one. 25, Arid. 26, Male. 27, Slur.

### THE KENNEL CLUB

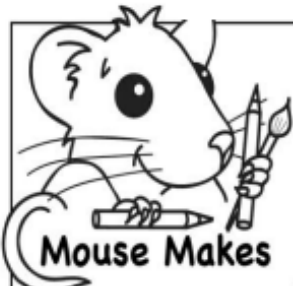


150 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1873 the Kennel Club was founded in London by 13 gentlemen who wanted to have a consistent set of rules for governing the popular new activities of dog showing and field trials. It was the first national kennel club in the world.

It now oversees and licenses dog shows and agility competitions throughout the UK and operates Britain's national register of pedigree dogs. The only dog show that it actually runs is Crufts which it acquired in 1939, though that show originally began in 1891. The Club recognises 221 breeds, of which the Labrador Retriever is probably most popular.


In 1874 the first Kennel Club Stud Book was published listing the results of all dog shows and field trials since 1859, and included sets of rules for running dog shows and field trials. The Stud Book has been published every year since and provides a record of results for all championship dog shows, field trials along with obedience and agility competitions. In 1949 it began investing in veterinary and scientific research projects to ensure the improved health and welfare of dogs and in 1985 the Young Kennel Club was formed so young dog lovers aged 6 – 24 could learn new skills.

# CHILDREN'S PAGE




**Mouse Makes**


**HE IS RISEN!**  
Read the story of  
The Resurrection in  
*Matthew 28:1-20*



Into Jerusalem



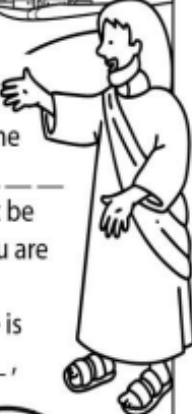
Jesus is Betrayed




The Last Supper


How many other words can you make from  
**RESURRECTION**

An \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord came down from \_\_\_\_\_ and going to the \_\_\_\_\_ rolled back the \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ said, "Do not be \_\_\_\_\_, for I know you are looking for Jesus who was \_\_\_\_\_, He is not here; he has \_\_\_\_\_, just as he said."

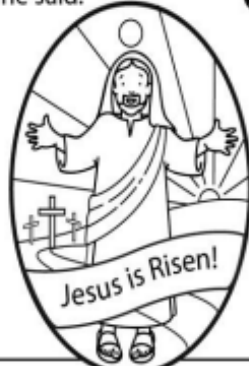




Jesus is Crucified



Jesus is Buried



Jesus is Risen!

Glue this page onto card. Cut out the ovals then colour in. Punch a hole at the top and hang up for Easter

Apr23 © Deborah Noble • parishpump.co.uk

## SO WHO WAS ST TIBURTIS? (Page 11!)

The 14<sup>th</sup> April was until 1969 celebrated as the Saints Day of Tiburtius, Valerian and Maximus, a new one on me I have to admit. They are three Christian martyrs who were martyred or buried on 14<sup>th</sup> April in the Catacombs of Praetextatus on the Via Appia near Rome and that is more-or-less all that is known of them.

The story goes that Saint Cecilia, patron saint of music and musicians, was forced into marriage by her parents with a nobleman, Valerian, despite her vow of virginity. At the wedding she sat apart from the party and when it came time for her marriage to be consummated, she told Valerian that an angel was watching over her who would punish him if he sexually assaulted her, but would love him if he respected her virginity. When Valerian asked to see the angel, Cecilia replied that he could see the angel if he would go to the third milestone on the Via Appia and be baptized by Pope Urban I. After following Cecilia's advice, he saw the angel standing beside her, crowning her with a chaplet of roses and lilies.

"The Second Nun's Tale" part of Geoffrey Chaucer's "The Canterbury Tales" is a retelling of their story along with the conversion of Tiburtius and Maximus to Christianity. It is believed that Cecilia, along with her husband Valerian, his brother Tiburtius, and a Roman soldier, or official, Maximus, suffered martyrdom in around 230 AD.



In 1969 this feast day was removed from the Roman Catholic calendar since the only thing really known about them is the historical fact of their burial in the Catacombs of Praetextatus. However, the Eastern Orthodox Church still honours them together with Saint Cecilia on her feast day the 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

*Saints Cecilia, Valerian, and Tiburtius by Botticini*

**Present** – For their vicar's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, the congregation at St Mary's decided to give him a present of a new suit. The vicar was so moved by the gift that the following Sunday he stood before everyone and began his homily with a tear in his eye, "Today I am preaching to you in my birthday suit."

A hangover is the wrath of grapes

Apologies for absence received from Councillors Hickman and Bromley.

**KEY ITEMS: Fitzwarine Play Area** – The Clerk reported that the new platform and steps were fitted on 14<sup>th</sup> February however the single point swing has not yet had the fixings replaced (Councillor Davis). No other issues had been reported. NOTED.

**The King's Coronation:** 1. Following a discussion on various options with regard to a commemorative item to gift to the young people of the Parish, it was RESOLVED to purchase a Commemorative Coronation Coin for every child at Whittington Church of England Primary School (228 currently on the roll) and the Clerk was asked to order 240. *Councillor Whitby took part in the discussions but not the voting process.* Once received, discussions can take place with the school regarding how they are to be distributed (possibly during an assembly). 2. Council then considered possible grants and working in collaboration with the Castle and Whittington Together.

**Defibrillators and Bleed Control Kits:** The Clerk reported that the Defibrillator on the Highways Depot Wall at Park Hall had been deployed and was used in a cardiac arrest, as confirmed by the West Midlands Ambulance Service. All items have now been replaced, including a new battery and pads. Wrexham Community First Responders have offered to deliver training on the Bleed Kits however it was RESOLVED not to arrange any training at present as the kits are self-explanatory.

**Police Report:** The latest report was noted.

**Your Local Police Officer and Community Support Officers Contact**

**Numbers:** Local Police Officer: - PC 3718 Kate Le'Clere – 07870219518  
Police Community Support Officers: - PCSO 6412 Dave Hughes – 07870219190; and PCSO 40279 Pete Roberts – 07870219019

**About your Team:** Safer Neighbourhood Teams work with local people and partners to identify, tackle and solve issues that matter to the community. Officers continue to come to people when they need them and provide a high-quality service however you contact us – in person (on the street, at

community bases and at PACT meetings), on the phone or online. In the event of a Police emergency call 999 for urgent attention; or ring 101 for non-emergency calls. The Police mobile numbers above will only be answered if the Officer is on duty. If your call is not answered please leave your name, number and a brief message; officers will respond at their earliest convenience when next on duty.

**Get in touch** - 📞101 to talk to your local SNT or report a crime

✉️ [oswestryrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:oswestryrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

🌐 [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)



@Oscops - Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger.

**Shropshire Councillors Report:** See Highways for Councillor Charmley's report.

**Planning:** a) To note recent planning decisions published by Shropshire Council. **I. Reference:** 22/04833/FUL (validated: 14/12/2022) **Address:** Whittington Cricket & Bowls Club, Babbinswood **Proposal:** Installation of a three lane, fully enclosed, ECB approved non-turf practice system **Decision:** Grant Permission.

b) Consider the following Planning Application: *Councillor Beaumont declared a bias and left the room and Councillor Davis took the Chair.* **I. Reference:** 22/05078/FUL (validated: 25/01/2023) **Address:** The New Saints FC Foundation, The Venue, Burma Road, Park Hall, SY11 4AS **Proposal:** Extension of existing car park, formation of one full sized 3G football pitch, one full sized grass football pitch and 6 training pitches together with associated fencing and lighting. It was RESOLVED to MAKE A REPRESENTATION with the following comments: • The application includes additional parking space however, the Parish Council consider this to be insufficient as there is currently a shortfall at the site and, therefore, these additional spaces will compensate for this, rather than actually providing additional, new space for the proposed new facilities. The existing lighting is invasive for residents and the Parish Council would welcome a review of current lighting before approving any further lighting at the site. Further lighting needs to be sympathetic and not exacerbate the issue. • The Parish Council request that the outstanding 106 agreement, which includes installation of the footpath, be put into place before any future development takes place. This is an outstanding condition from the 2009 planning consent



a scheme can be done to remove the hedge the footway on that side can be and was further re-iterated by the Parish Council when the application in 2014 for the car park extension was considered. The condition attached to the 2009 planning consent was that: "No development shall take place until a scheme to provide highway improvements (pedestrian/cycle/traffic calming, as appropriate) along Burma Road and North Drive has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Council and the development hereby permitted shall not be brought into use until the approved highway improvement scheme has been carried out strictly in accordance with the approved details, (or any other timescale to be agreed)". • If approved, the Parish Council request that officers consider placing a condition on the consent, that requires the incorporation of additional sports facilities for community use, as this development provides an opportunity to look more closely at the needs of grass roots sport in the area as a whole. *Councillor Beaumont re-joined the meeting and was re-instated as Chair.*

c) No planning applications had been received after the issue of this meeting's agenda.

**Highways, Pavements and Footpaths:** a) Following a site visit with the Head of Highways on 13<sup>th</sup> February Councillor Charmley reported that the meeting had been positive and that applications for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funded projects are beginning to be considered again, helping to progress projects. The following areas were visited and discussed: **Gobowen Road (B5009):** 30mph extension, in progress and will be completed in the spring. **Castle Street signage:** Repeater signs etc, have been ordered and will be installed once they arrive; estimated 2 month wait. **Traffic Regulation Order at the Three Trees:** This is now in the schedule to be delivered and will go out to consultation this spring; bollards to stop parking on the verge are also on the list. **Wooden gateway on Ellesmere Road:** It was agreed that this is unsightly, Highways will look at options; one suggestion was changing the road markings to give the effect of a narrow road. They are looking for several trial areas, so he was asked for this to be included. **Station Road kerb markings:** These have been missed and will be reinstated as soon as possible and enforcement will be put in place once the kerbs have been reinstated. **Top Street:** Stopping the 'rat running' would alleviate the parking issues. The Gobowen end was discussed and considered dangerous, and Highways will be putting a scheme forward as a safety scheme and looking for CIL funding; no timescale at present. **Boot Street / Penybryn crossing:** Ownership of the hedge is being followed up. If

continuous and it will be cheaper than a crossing. Crossing feasibility study costs will be looked at. **Park Hall footpath:** This will be followed up and ensure it is in the programme for CIL. No timeline at present but 106 funds are in place for Rugby Club corner to the venue. **Park Crescent junction:** The lights are missing off some of the poles, this will be followed up. **Community Car Park Ownership** – still outstanding. Yew Tree hedge to be added to the list to investigate. Councillor Charmley was thanked for his work on this and for arranging the site visit. The Clerk will now follow up items on the list to request more definitive timescales and regular updates.

**Next meeting:** – This will be face-to-face meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm in the Senior Citizens' Hall with limited space for members of the public wishing to attend. Future meeting dates will be published on the Parish Council website.

The Agendas for forthcoming meetings are available 3 clear days before the meeting, either on the Parish Council Website or the two Parish Noticeboards, one in Park Hall and one outside the School. The full minutes (in draft form) can be read on line two days after each meeting, <https://whittingtonpc.com>, or via a copy from the Clerk Amy Jones. Tel: 01691 829571 email: [clerk@whittingtonpc.com](mailto:clerk@whittingtonpc.com)

Jill Whitby

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### ROBERT CLIVE

His statue stands in The Square, Shrewsbury, put up almost ninety years after his death in November 1774. Clive grew up in Styche, near Market Drayton and, in 1746 as an eighteen-year-old clerk with the East India Company he made his first visit to the Indian sub-continent. Clive first came to prominence when competition between his employers and the French East India Company found Clive, who had no military experience or training, defending the town of Arcot in Tamil Nadu against attack by the French. His forces of 200 European and 300 Indian fighters faced an army of 100,000 men, including 600 French soldiers. His skills as a brilliant exponent of guerrilla tactics helped to establish British power in southern India.

After elevation to lieutenant-colonel Clive commanded an expedition to recover Calcutta from Nawab Siraj-Ud-Daulah in December 1756. The battle was short, with minimal British casualties, and on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1757 Calcutta was recaptured. His greatest victory was at Plassey on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1757. The local Nawab, had an army of 50,000 men whilst Clive had just 3,000. The

battle was not prolonged as Clive and his Indian banker allies had secretly offered the leader of the opposing troops a position as ruler of Bengal should they win the battle; though he was little more than a puppet ruler. These two battles led to Britain becoming the foremost European power in India.

His courage was part of the reason for his success; one of the affectionate Indian names for him was Bahadur, 'the Brave'. Once, when wounded by a French sword slash, the two men supporting him were killed by a bullet passing through their heads. Clive, slumped half-conscious between them, escaped. Unlike other major figures, such as Churchill, Napoleon or Wellington, few deaths resulted from Clive's victories. Wellington counted the deaths in tens of thousands; Clive counted them in hundreds at worst. During the dying days of the Moghul Empire in India when Clive was active, the figures speak for themselves: 1739, Persian sack of Delhi, 25,000 civilians massacred; 1741-51, Maratha invasions of Bengal, 400,000 civilians killed; 1757, Clive's victory at Plassey, 500 dead.



Following his return to England in February 1760, he became MP for Shrewsbury the following year, a post he held until his death. His elevation in 1762 to an Irish peerage, Baron Clive of Plassey, County Clare allowed him to remain an MP. He was described by William Pitt the Elder as "a heaven-born general."

However, his acquisition of huge wealth in India led to accusations of bribery, corruption and looting; the jealousy amongst his contemporaries was led by a former friend who was by then chairman of the East India Company. The attempts they made trying to cut off his income from his Indian estates failed, but they did prevent him from becoming a national statesman despite his many triumphs not only in war but also in reforms within the Company and the army. When the Company subsequently appealed to the British government to save it from bankruptcy two parliamentary committees uncovered corruption amongst the company's servants which in turn set off an attack on Clive as the instigator of the whole process; nevertheless in 1773 Parliament finally declared that he did "render great and meritorious service to his country".

By comparison his home life was much more sedate. His wife Margaret was well educated and they had nine children, the eldest of whom Edward became 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Powis. Margaret once had a young Mozart play for her, and her brother Nevil was Astronomer Royal. At home in the evening, he and Margaret tended to socialise with old friends and family. Margaret might practise her music or Clive might take their little niece Peggy on his knee and coax her to tell him all the naughty words she had learned at school. His health was not good and he suffered severe bouts of melancholy, leading to his apparent suicide in November 1774 at the age of just 49. When he died his fortune was around £500,000, about £33 million today. Robert Clive is buried at St Margaret's Church, Moreton Say.

The 1,000 plus collection of South and East Asian artefacts displayed in the Clive Museum at Powis Castle is the largest private collection of this type in the UK and includes ivories, textiles, ornamental silver and gold and weapons. It also includes this opulent palanquin, or travelling couch which was abandoned by Siraj-ud-Daulah after the Battle of Plassey; it was the platform from which the Bengal ruler could see, and be seen by, his subjects.



*They could have either a procession of crosses, or a donkey. But not both.*

## WHITTINGTON ORGANISATIONS

**CRICKET/BOWLING CLUB SECRETARY:** Tel:830901  
Jacqui Whitley – jacquiwhtley@yahoo.com

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:** Ian Chalmers  
Ianwenachalmers@hotmail.com

**BOWLING SECRETARY:** Hannah Hampson  
whittingtonbowlsec@outlook.com

**TREASURER:** grahamhumphreys63@gmail.com Tel:622385

**COMMUNITY CENTRE BOOKING SECRETARY:**  
Mrs Kath Griffiths Tel:662116

### SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR WHITTINGTON AND WEST FELTON:

Mr Stephen Charmley, The Coppers, Park Street, Oswestry SY11 2HF  
e.mail:Steve.charmley@shropshire.gov.uk –www.stevecharmley.co.uk  
Tel: 07870280747

### WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL:

Amy Jones (Clerk to the Council) Tel: 829571  
Held the fourth Tuesday in the month – clerk@whittingtonpc.com  
http://www.whittingtonpc.com

**WHITTINGTON YOUTH CLUB:** (Facebook page: Whittington Youth). Meets Thursday evening 7:00pm – 8:30pm in the Senior Citizens' Hall; entry fee £2. Activities for 10-16-year-olds supervised by qualified youth workers and activity coaches from The New Saints FC Foundation Ltd. Telephone 01691 889791 or email: info@tnsfcfoundation.org.uk

**FRIENDS OF WHITTINGTON CEMETERY:** Working parties are held throughout the year – we are always grateful for any help  
Sally Leppanen Tel: 658163 Mob: 07835338032 sally@leppanen.co.uk  
Mike Brunt Tel: 01691 661874 or Mob: 07855772527

### BAPTISM SECRETARY:

Mrs Margery Mellor, 10 Boot Street, Whittington Tel:681036  
e.mail: i.mellor@tiscali.co.uk 35

## WHITTINGTON ORGANISATIONS

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE:

Second Wednesday in the month in the Community Centre  
Secretary: Sophie Anderson Tel: 07951 793350

### WHITTINGTON CASTLE PRESERVATION TRUST:

Chairman: Jonjo Evans Tel:671300  
Castle Manager: Ms Kimberley Powell Tel:662500

**BELL RINGING:** Details from Brian Rothera Tel:657778

### BROWNIES, GUIDES:

6:00-7:15pm Thursday except in school holidays in the Community Centre  
Brown Owl: Mrs D. Gough, 2 Newnes Barns, Ellesmere Tel:624390

### BEAVER, CUBS & SCOUT INFORMATION:

Group Scout Leader + Akela: Mrs B Cassidy, 2 Heather Bank, Gobowen  
Tel: 07907972657 or 01691 658016

Beavers 6-8yrs Tues 6.00-7.15pm; Cubs 8-11yrs Fri 5.45– 7.30pm  
Scouts 11-14 yrs and Explorer Scouts 14-18 Fri 7.45–9.30pm

### WHITTINGTON UNDER FIVES GROUP:

Sessional and extended hours Carer and Toddler Sessions  
Leaders: Dawn and Mandy Tel:670127  
Meet in the Community Centre 9:00am – 3:00pm

### SENIOR CITIZENS:

Monday Whist Drive, Thursday Coffee Morning  
All meetings in the Senior Citizens Hall  
Secretary: Mrs Gillian Roberts, 4 Western Avenue Tel:662236

### MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE:

The Mobile Library will stop in the cul-de-sac by the Three Trees/White Lion on alternate Tuesdays between 2:55pm – 3:55pm.

**CHURCH WEBSITE:** www.whittingtonchurch.org.uk

**MESSY CHURCH:** https://m.facebook.com/stjohnthebaptistwhittington/



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