



March 2025

PARISH MAGAZINE

St. Oswald, King & Martyr, Oswestry
and Christchurch, Rhydycroesau 50p



For all your Mobility Aids

MOBILITY SCOOTER & WHEELCHAIRS

1

We offer a wide range of mobility scooters & wheelchairs in store.

From lightweight boot scooters up to large road and off road scooters



2

WALKING AIDS

We offer a range of walking aids such as walking sticks, rollators and frames



3

STAIRLIFTS

With a wide range of stairlifts available, you don't need to look any further!



4

SERVICING AND REPAIRS

With our highly experienced and skilled technicians we provide a full servicing and repair service for ALL mobility aids.

We also like to keep you mobile, so offer a FREE courtesy scooter service whilst we have yours!



Every Day Aids

Rise & Recline Chairs

Scooter & Wheelchair Hire

01691 701007

VISIT US AT WELSH FRANKTON, OSWESTRY, SY11 4NX

WWW.SHROPSHIRESOLUTIONS.CO.UK



W. E. Price

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

We provide the highest level of care,
compassion and professionalism.

Available 24 hours a day

Pre-paid funeral plans available

Oswestry 01691 652995

www.wepricefuneraldirectors.co.uk

Oakwood, Salop Road, Oswestry, SY11 2RN



FUNERAL PLANS FROM

Golden Charter

Smart Planning for Later Life



ValentineWindow CLEANING

www.valentinewindowcleaning.co.uk

0 7 5 4 0 6 4 8 5 6 5



WINDOWS | SOFFITS & FACIAS | CLADDING | CONSERVATORIES

GUTTER CLEANING | JET WASHING | SOLAR PANELS



We've been doing things differently since 1407. Don't take our word for it - come and see for yourself.

Join us for a
Personal Tour
at our Prep School (4-11) or Senior School (11-18)

'We learn not for school but for life'

If you would like to arrange a Personal Tour, scan the QR code or speak to our admissions team on 01691 655711.



**THE PARISH CHURCHES OF ST OSWALD, KING & MARTYR, OSWESTRY,
AND CHRISTCHURCH, RHYDYCROESAU**

Vicar of Oswestry & Rector of Rhydycroesau

The Reverend Harvey Lloyd Gibbons, M.A.
St Oswald's Vicarage, Penylan Lane, Oswestry, SY11 2AJ. Tel: 01691 653467
email: revdharvey@gmail.com

Associate Minister

The Reverend Jassica Castillo-Burley
Tel: 07809 414747 email: stoswald.minister@gmail.com

Licensed Readers

S Oswald's:

Reader Emeritus

Mr Bill Bowen, BEM

Churchwardens

S Oswald's: Miss June Williams

Tel: 652544

Mr Alan Neale

Tel: 07901 543287

Mrs Muriel Jones

Tel: 653598

Mr John Abram MBE TD

Tel: 653316

Christchurch: Mrs Elizabeth Stanley

Tel: 676450

Rosemary Davies

Tel: 07813757498

Parochial Church Councils

S Oswald's: Hon Secretary: Ms Carron Boulton

Tel: 652861

Hon Treasurer: Mr Paul Evison

Tel: 653315

Christchurch: Hon Secretary:

Hon Treasurer:

Director of Music

S Oswald's: Mr M Donkin e-mail michaeldonkin44@gmail.com

Tel: 07779 917724

Organist:

St Oswald's: Josephine Sands email: joasands@hotmail.co.uk

Christchurch:

Parish Office

S Oswald's: Church Street, Oswestry SY11 2SY.

Tel: 652861

Parish Administrator: Ms Carron Boulton

email: stoswald.office@gmail.com

Reg. Charity No. 1133346

All it takes is a bit of discipline...

'Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild; forty days and forty nights, tempted still, yet undefiled'... so go the words to Smyttan's classic Lenten hymn as printed in Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New. The word lent conjures up many feelings: speaking personally; abstinence, study, prayer, repentance, simple living, and once it's all over, relief!

The observance of Lent is ancient, beginning in the second century. Originally it was much shorter, not becoming the familiar 'forty days' until the fourth century, when during the Council of Nicaea in 325, bishops spoke of the *quadragesima paschae* (forty days before Easter). As you might expect with 'all things church', the way the number of its days is calculated is not straightforward and varies by denomination.

Roman Catholics count from Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday (44 days), whereas most Protestants count through to Holy Saturday (46 days) with both excluding Sundays. Sundays are always feast days so are non-fast days, and you can have your tippie or piece of chocolate with a clear conscience. The Church of England, being a broad church has churches who use either, St. Oswald's ends Lent on Maundy Thursday when the *Triduum*, the great three days begins. Oh, and our Orthodox sisters and brothers use a different calendar altogether.

However, unlike the remnants of the abbeys and priories which pepper our landscape, the season of Lent should not be seen as an archaeological ascetic practice in the history of the Church. Lent is as relevant, in fact it could be said, even more relevant today than it was before. Lent is patterned on Jesus' retreat into the desert where he was challenged to identify and overcome his idols and more fully inhabit his baptismal identity. It was a time for Jesus to reflect upon his relationship with, and to, the Father.

It is the same for us, lent is a time for us to identify and overcome our idols and re-inhabit our baptismal identity. Lent is the time to reflect upon our relationship with God, to open ourselves up to God and allow God to cleanse and heal us. It is a time of renewal but also one of challenge for at the heart of lent lies a very important word, discipline.

The Oxford dictionary defines discipline as *'the practice of training people to obey rules or a code of behaviour, using punishment to correct*

disobedience. It can also define a *'branch of knowledge'*, or *'a field or course of study'*. Discipline can also be used as a verb where it is *'to train (someone or oneself) to obey rules or a code of behaviour'*. Discipline therefore is training that makes people more willing to obey, or more able to control themselves, resulting in a specific character or pattern of behaviour being expressed which leads to spiritual, emotional, moral, or intellectual improvement.

Discipline can apply to many if not all aspects of life; it is secular, philosophical and religious and from a Christian perspective its linguistic root cannot be ignored. Our English word 'discipline' is from the old French word *'descepline'* which in turn is from the Latin *'disciplina'* or *'discipulus'* or *'disciple'*. 'Come follow me' says Jesus and in so doing, as disciples of Christ, we have freely chosen to live a life of obedience and discipline to his Gospel teaching.

If Lent is patterned on Jesus's retreat into the desert, then as Christ's disciples, in obedience to him, are called to do the same. To follow Jesus into a place and create space and time to open ourselves up to God, to discover those things that hinder our relationship with God. However, whilst Lent might involve reflecting on our human neediness and confronting our sin, it is not meant to be dark and gloomy. Remember that the word 'lent' means springtime, so whilst Lent is a time of preparation for the suffering of the crucifixion, it should be a time of growth, renewal, and abundance of grace. Remember, we walk through Lent with our eyes firmly fixed on Easter.

As in previous years, there is a wide range of activities planned at St Oswald's including study and prayer resources, Lenten mid-day reflections and during Holy Week a prayer walk. More information about these events can be found elsewhere in the magazine (page 9) and I commend them to you and invite you to create some space this Lent to enable you to grow as a discipline of Christ.

May the blessing of our indwelling God rest upon you and journey with you throughout this holy season of Lent.

Harvey



Oswestry Christian Bookshop

www.ocbooks.co.uk

Warmly invites you to visit our shop & browse our wide selection of Christian literature & media including:

Bibles
Books (for adults & children)
Cards
Music
DVDs
Gifts
Gift Vouchers

Our extensive selection of stock also includes second hand books.

Lower Brook Street, SY11 2HG 01691661936
email: info@ocbooks.co.uk

Rothera's Retreat

Our lovely coastal house is now available for breaks all year round.



Great location – short walk to beach, restaurants, shops, Tal-y-Llyn Steam Railway, Cambrian Coastline station (Welshpool-Machynlleth-Aberdovey- Tywyn-Barmouth-Harlech-Pwllheli)
3 bedrooms.

Kay & Brian Rothera
(Tower Captain) To book your stay please call us on 657778

Pete Kirkham & Son Garden Services

Grass cutting Hedge Trimming
Garden Maintenance Fencing
Log Splitting

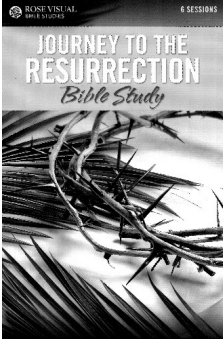
Family run business providing a
professional reliable service

Pete - 07789586767
Ryan - 07767873700



LENT 2025 AT ST. OSWALDS

STUDY GROUPS

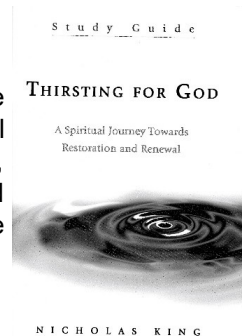


This year we are using '*Journey to the Resurrection*' a course of 6 sessions travelling with Jesus from the wilderness through the pain of abandonment to the glory of hope.

Groups will be meeting on Tuesday evenings, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, and Thursday evenings. Please sign up using the sheets in church or phone the church office.

PERSONAL STUDY

For those who prefer to journey alone, we are recommending '*Thirsting for God*'. It is a spiritual journey towards restoration and renewal using prayer, New Testament texts with a commentary, and reflective questions. Copies are available from the Church Office.



PRAYER RESOURCES

Resources to help you pray through Lent will be available in St. George's chapel for you to use either in church or at home on your own or in small groups. We are also using Lent 2025 to begin weaving our prayer tapestry so do pop in and have a look and add your prayer alongside those of others.

WEDNESDAY REFLECTIONS AND LITANY

Beginning on March 12th, a series of short reflections on the theme of 'journeying'. Each reflection starts at 12 noon and concludes with a short litany. The Wednesday Lent Study Group then follows with participants encouraged to bring their lunch as we study together.

www.cantiones.org.uk

Cantiones
Choir

Mozart

Coronation Mass

Vesperae solennes de confessore

Exsultate, Jubilate

Natasha Hendrickse-Welsh (Soprano)

Joe Martin (Tenor)

Conducted by Tony Coupe

Accompanied by Stephen Owens

Saturday
12th April 2025
at 3.30pm

Christ Church
Oswestry
SY11 1LF

Tickets £15 / Under 18s FREE
Online at ticketsource.co.uk/cantioneschoir
or on the door.

making
music



ELECTORAL ROLL

A brand new Electoral Roll is required every six years throughout the Church of England and 2025 is the year for the new Roll. It must be brought up to date before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 19th May 2025.

An individual new Electoral Roll form will be required from everyone – even if you have only been on the current Electoral Roll for a couple of months. Please note that couples require separate forms.

You may be aware that the Government introduced new legislation in May 2018 regarding personal privacy. The new GDPR laws require personal data to be protected. Your personal privacy is important to St Oswald's and, by signing up to the new Electoral Roll, you will only be contacted regarding Church matters. Your data will be kept within the Church and not be passed on to a Third Party.

The new Electoral Roll (without telephone numbers) will be on display on the table by the south door from late April.

Could you check your entry on the new Roll and make sure all the information is accurate. If you are not on the current Electoral Roll and are in any doubt as to whether you are eligible (eligibility details are on the application form), please have a word with me.

The New Electoral Roll will be removed to include any late entries on 14th May in readiness for the APCM.

Maureen Crosby
Electoral Roll Officer

MOTHERS' UNION FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Mrs Kay Cole was the speaker for our February meeting. She gave us a very interesting illustrated talk about her experiences both before and after setting up her nursing home in Oswestry. We were amazed and amused by some of her many experiences.

Our next meeting will take place in the Parish centre at 2.15 pm on Thursday 13th March.

Pam Musson

Somewhere over the rainbow

If you had been Noah, would you have built an ark? I wouldn't, but that would have been on grounds of Health and Safety. I never got past '*More effort required*' on my woodwork reports. Any ark of mine would have sunk faster than the Titanic. But competence aside, would you have built the ark? What about the neighbours? What about the planning permission? And the mess?

But suppose if God said to YOU: *I'm going to tear up the blueprint and start again. I'm going to flood the wickedness out of creation. Build an ark, quick.*

It's not such a daft thought. Look around and the world today. It is still a wicked kind of place. How many died in the refugee camps this morning? How many blown up? How many drunks went through A & E last night? How many people tortured, somewhere, for something by someone? A good flood might just fix it all.

So don't laugh at the story of Noah; just ponder on why it is still business as usual when it comes to wickedness. The Bible takes the problem of evil very seriously, and it does not gloss over the consequences. Noah is a story about crime and punishment; it recognizes human wickedness. and says you won't get away with it. Evil brings retribution. Just when you think you have got your free lunch, along comes the just dessert. Sometimes, in our desire to be kind and tolerant we lose sight of this truth. *Concentrate on the rainbow* we say, but the storm comes first.

The gospel never tolerates the exploitation of the poor, the torture of the helpless and abandonment of the needy.

Jesus set out on his ministry to do battle with evil - and evil was sometimes personal, sometimes corporate, always a denial of the goodness of creation, whether it was straightforward human wickedness, or the distortion of creation in suffering and hardship. Jesus saw himself as reclaiming on our behalf the goodness of creation and putting humankind back where it belonged, at the pinnacle of creation and the stewards of the world's resources.

We still have not made a very good job of it. Even water, the image which runs literally through the scriptures, is a resource which we cannot manage properly as our lakes pollute and our rivers dry up. If the world is warming too fast, it is because of our own greed. If the refugees are dying all over the world it is because we have allowed it to happen. If the poor are still waiting for the good news, it is because we have been silent. Jesus set out on an emergency mission to transform our thinking and to

reclaim our humanity, and he had three short years in which to do it. Hopefully, we have a little longer. Hopefully we can grasp the rainbow, be true to our baptism and become the free and loving beings he died for.

In the bible there is one place of real glory and only one way in which humankind is set free, and that is the way of the cross. Jesus called it his baptism: the only way in which God can bring us home and set us free. Death and glory on a cross in order to show that there were no limits to the love of the creator for creation. It is in that death alone that we can be convinced that evil has had its day and glory lies in forgiveness and repentance. There is not another way, because the reality of evil is such that it can only be overcome with love, and there is no love greater than the love which lays down its life for its friends. *You are my friends*, said Jesus, *therefore I lay down my life for you*.

Jesus said he came to call sinners to repentance, but he was unbelievably harsh on the sinners who said that they were guiltless. And that's not good news for most of us.

The Bible declares its disappointment in humankind: *More effort required* comes in more than our woodwork reports. It begins by stating that we have neglected our duty to care for God's creation, leaving it vulnerable to chance, disaster, and evil.

Deliver us from evil - indeed. Jesus saw his ministry as a mighty battle against all kinds of forces in the world, beyond the world of our everyday experience.

He saw evil in the disorder of our everyday lives - the crippling pain of mental illness, the debilitating effect of physical illness, the destructive power of guilt and hatred, the powerlessness of the blind and the despair of the deaf. For Jesus these were the signs that creation had moved away from its maker. He saw these things as evidence of an evil which needed to be defeated. He never saw it as a criminal mark of someone's past, but an opportunity to transform someone's life so that they could again recognize a healing power which would restore the hope, the goodness and the glory of God's creation. He wanted the rainbow to be seen again, the sign of God's covenant with the people he loves, representing our passage through the waters of death into new life, glory coming out of the flood.

Jesus did not use the rainbow image. He picked on baptism as the picture of our world made new: going into the river and coming safely through to the other side. His baptism deeply influenced him and marked a turning point in his ministry. A sign that death was not the winner any longer: a sign that evil did not have the last word.

A sign that God was still with us even when we had wandered: *Brought to safety through the water* as the author of 1 Peter put it.

So, what can we do to start to make that sacrifice count for something? Jesus set it all out at the beginning, and Lent is as good a time as any to grasp the truth.

Repent, and believe the gospel -- the good news. And come and follow Him.

Repent? not a popular word; it suggests admitting that you are wrong, it implies a non-aggressive way of living with other people, it involves treating the world and its creatures as fellow-citizens. but it is the only way of putting things right and making sure that evil and wickedness are defeated, and the rainbow shines again.

Here are some deceptively simple thoughts from St John Chrysostom, a fourth century bishop of Constantinople who endured more than his fair share of abuse and ill-treatment. But he was one of God's great servants. He offers five ways of repentance - the perfect start to Lent's reflections. They are five ways to save a wicked world.

Here then are the five highroads to repentance, first acknowledging one's sins, second forgiving the sins of others, third prayer, fourth almsgiving, fifth humility. Do not be idle then, but day by day set out along these roads. The going is not difficult, and poverty is no excuse for staying at home. Even if you are very poor you can still set aside anger, carry yourself humbly, persevere in prayer and acknowledge your sins. ...then we may go in a cloud of glory to meet Christ the King of Glory.

Brian

LETTER FROM KATJA KUTTENBERGER

Hello everyone,

Happy New Year to you all! How are you? I hope that you are all doing well and have had a wonderful Christmas and a good start to the New Year.

I am great but am still missing the weekly Sunday Services at St Oswalds! During my time in China so far I learned that a church community like St Oswalds is as rare as hen's teeth. In my university town of Tianjin we do have a Catholic church with up to 5 services per day. However, in terms of a sense of community, warmth and devotion it cannot get close to St Oswalds, even a little.

Thus, instead of visiting the church services in Tianjin, I discovered my love for the church's youth group, which is held every Sunday. It is Chinese and international students mixed together and we talk about God, pray for each other, and learn more about the Holy Spirit. After our activities, we often have lunch together, which is always a highlight of my week.

At university, I really like my teachers, our amazing facilities, and, of course, the delicious food! On campus, there are four canteens, each one with two or more floors, where even the most picky eater will definitely find something they like! My favourite place is our new library, which it is cozy and warm, and the atmosphere of everyone studying makes it easy for me to be productive myself!

In terms of my university studies, I successfully finished my first semester where I studied Chinese Language. Next Semester I will study the Foundation Program, which is designed for international students aiming at studying for a bachelor's degree in China and where we will be taught Economics, Maths, and Business in Chinese. I am already excited and cannot wait for my next Semester in China! In addition, this September I am hoping to start studying for my bachelor's degree at a Chinese University.

Apart from studying I had the privilege to visit some amazing places in Beijing like the Summer Palace, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, and the Temple of Heaven. Also, I visited the Beijing Zoo where I had the unique opportunity to see pandas in real life!

On 16th January I came back to Germany for the holidays. It was amazing to see my parents, friends, and family again and enjoy time with them. Furthermore, I was finally able to refine my car driving skills again which have become a bit rusty since I don't drive a car in China, hahahah.

How is everything in St Oswalds? I hope that you are all doing great and that all is well.

St Oswalds always holds a special part in my heart and I cannot wait to hopefully return this summer. When I see other churches or church communities I am always reminded of how privileged I have been to have been part of a church and church community as warm, welcoming, and wonderful as St Oswalds because it is truly one of a kind and one that cannot be found somewhere else.

Please all take care and God be with you.

Katja Kuttenger

A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE – 260

FINDING OUT ABOUT OUR CHURCH’S HISTORY, PART 2

In February’s magazine, I commenced a short series of articles discussing the range of material available for someone seeking to learn more about St Oswald’s and its history, material that I have used at different times over the past twenty years when preparing these monthly articles. Last month, my focus was the written histories of Oswestry, including Price’s *History* (1815), Edwards’ history known as *Some account of the ancient and present state of Oswestry* (1819), William Cathrall’s *History of Oswestry* (1855), and Isaac Watkin’s *Oswestry, with an account of its old houses, shops etc.* (1920). This month, we will move on to look at other books, booklets, and journal articles, which help us to find out about, and to understand our church’s history.

Clearly, an excellent starting point for anyone in that position is provided by the new church guidebook, published last summer – it is a mine of information on many aspects of the church’s history and the features and the fittings to be seen in the building. It is the latest guidebook to St Oswald’s: I have others from 1966, 1987 and 1992. The earliest of the three, from 1966, must have been reprinted several times as my copy dates from the decimal age, showing the price 20p! In addition, I have inherited a copy of the *Illustrated souvenir of the Old Parish Church* printed and published by T. Owen & Son, of ‘The Library’, Oswestry – now the premises of the British Red Cross charity shop on Queen’s Corner. This is undated, but seems to be from the first decade of the 20th century: readers are advised that “most of the views herein may be had as Pictorial Post Cards”.

As an aside, Mr Owen the printer was the author of *Personal reminiscences of Oswestry fifty years ago*, published in 1904, which includes anecdotes on a wide range of topics, of different shop premises, of local ‘characters’, including numerous relating to the parish church. As an example, chosen at random, he wrote of the former vicar, the Rev. Thomas Salwey, who was an absentee vicar for many years due to his ill-health. Mr Owen recalled how the vicar “used to keep up the connection with his flock by occasional pastoral letters, and sometimes by poetical effusions, for he was an amateur poet of some distinction”.

Other local historians, active in the fourth quarter of the 19th century, wrote at length on the parish church. Askew Roberts, editor of the *Advertiser* and founder of its ‘Bye-Gones’ column¹, contributed important articles to

¹ He is commemorated by the clock above the restaurant ‘Prezzo’ in Church St.

the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society* on the history of the 'Old Church' (1880) and on the monuments in the churchyard (1883), and was doubtless the author of the *Advertiser's* detailed description of St Oswald's at the time of its re-opening in 1874. And Stanley Leighton, Oswestry's MP from 1876 until his death in 1901², prepared a list of the monumental inscriptions to be seen in the church prior to its restoration, published in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* (1874).

Also, in terms of local source material, much is to be gained from consulting the *Advertiser*, established in 1849, whose columns (particularly in earlier times) can provide us with very detailed descriptions of events, including special services, and other matters relating to the church. The 'paper had space, and resources, to report in detail on public meetings in the town, including for example discussions relating to the church restorations in the 1870s. Oswestry Library has digital copies of the *Advertiser*, right back to its foundation. As noted above, the *Advertiser* had a weekly 'Bye-Gones' column, from 1871 to 1939, devoted to correspondence on local historical matters, which includes much useful material relating to church history. And our church magazines – some of which were collected onto a disk by the Shropshire Family History Society – are another source of information about the day to day life of the church.

Moving away from purely local material, I should mention material covering a wider area. The 12-volume *Antiquities of Shropshire*, published between 1854 and 1860, the work of the Rev. R.W. Eyton, rector of St Andrew's, Ryton (near Shifnal), is a valuable source of information on the early history of our church³. Another clergyman, the Rev. D.H.S. Cranage, curate of Little Wenlock and then of Much Wenlock, later the Dean of Norwich, was responsible for the 10-volume *Architectural account of the churches of Shropshire*, published between 1894 and 1912⁴. His writings provide a detailed account of St Oswald's, both its history and its architecture, up to and including the carved wooden reredos in the Lady Chapel, "a memorial to Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., and ... erected in 1902 by his wife, children, and sisters". Cranage was especially taken with the church tower, "a deeply interesting building", and he describes it in detail, inside and out, noting the "remains of three fine arched squinches" which supported the former steeple, and the blocked up lower parts of the spiral staircase in the tower's south-western corner.

²His own gravestone can be seen in the churchyard, close to the Broad Walk

³See in particular Volume X, p335-353, relating to the parish church, St Nicholas' chapel within Oswestry Castle, and the medieval hospital of St John

⁴Volume IX, p809-817. See also my article in the parish magazine for January 2019

Finally, for now, I should mention the Shropshire volume in the series known as 'The buildings of England', by Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, published in 1958. St Oswald's is covered in just under a page, including details for the Lych Gate and the Broad Walk with its wrought iron gates. Pevsner described the restoration of 1872/74 by G.E. Street as "not one of [his] masterpieces". In common with many of the Pevsner guides, the Shropshire volume was revised, and published in a longer form, by Pevsner and John Newman, in 2006. This time the parish church merited one and a half pages, including details relating to the Victorian fittings and stained glass, all omitted from the earlier edition. The War Memorial in the north transept is noted, as is the octagonal Parish Centre, and the 18th century triptych featuring Moses and Aaron, now in the Lady Chapel, is described as "exceptionally fine".

To be continued next month

John Pryce-Jones

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

Last year I made an appeal for certain items that the Church required, I am extremely grateful for the response.

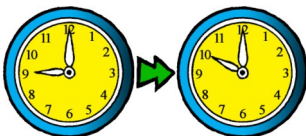
A Ciborium was given in memory of Mair Bowen from Bill and family.

A set of green vestments and green Altar panels for the Lady chapel together with a restored red frontal and a new purple frontal, also two new white High Altar clothes given in memory of Vera and Walter Wastoney by Christine and Peter. The restoration and work done on the panels and frontals was done by Christine.

The Church still needs a set of white vestments which are not, I might add, cheap. If anyone would like to donate in memory of a loved one please contact either me or the Vicar.

Thank you all for the love and support that you give to St.Oswalds Parish Church to the Glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mike Jones



**CLOCKS GO FORWARD
ON 30 MARCH**



RAIN MAN by SHAUN GAGG

Discover Shaun Gagg: Artistry Redefined

Step into the world of extraordinary artistry with Shaun Gagg's latest creation: a stunning life-size sculpture that's bound to leave you mesmerized. Imagine a figure meticulously crafted from individual nuts—each hand-picked and perfectly placed to bring this piece to life.

Life-Sized: Height 192cm Base 51x51cm Weight 52kg

info@turnerfinearts.com

www.turnerfinearts.com

Also on Facebook, Instagram & TikTok

TURNER
- FINE ARTS -

MUSIC NOTES - MARCH 2025

WHY SING

Last month I looked at the overall benefits that come from singing. This time I want to look at choirs and church choirs in particular.

Research done at Oxford University reveals that group singing not only helps forge social bonds, it also does so particularly quickly, acting as an excellent icebreaker. Singing is effective for bonding large groups, making it an ideal behaviour to improve our broader social networks.

Music making exercises the brain as well as the body, but singing is particularly beneficial for improving breathing, posture and muscle tension. Participating in music has been shown to be effective in pain relief, too, probably due to the release of neurochemicals such as β -endorphin (a natural painkiller responsible for the “high” experienced after intense exercise).

There’s also some evidence to suggest that music can play a role in sustaining a healthy immune system, by reducing the stress hormone cortisol and boosting the Immunoglobulin A antibody.

Regular choir members report that learning new music is stimulating and helps their memory. The satisfaction of performing together, is likely to be associated with activation of the brain’s reward system, including the dopamine pathway, which keeps people coming back for more.

So, singing in a choir helps to improve our sense of happiness and wellbeing. but what makes a church choir like ours extra special?

Well, in most choirs you will work for a period of time to learn the music and then perform it in a concert.

St. Oswald’s Choir is different in that it is producing new music to performance standard week after week. The choir member therefore, soon develops the ability to learn quickly and make the most of his/her time. In my experience in training choristers I have found that these skills affect all other aspects of the chorister’s life. The skills they develop in learning music quickly spill over into all aspects of their learning and most young people do well. During my choir training career several of our choristers have gone on to study music, some as choral scholars at Oxford and Cambridge, and most have gone on to some form of higher education.

If you would like to join us or if you know of a young person who would benefit from joining St. Oswald's Choir, please do get in touch with me: -
By telephone on 07779 917724 or email at michaeldonkin44@gmail.com

We are looking for young people from 8 years of age upwards but particularly between 11 and 13 years. We will also welcome adult soprano voices that can blend with the treble sound of the Choir and have vacancies in other voice parts.

JOOLS AND AOIFE BRENNAN

Jools, having attained his Bachelor's Degree from Chester university is now back in the Choir until the end of the summer when he will leave to study for a Masters Degree at Queens University, Belfast.

Aoife sang in the choir from the age of 7 until 16 when she moved to Shrewsbury College to study for her A levels. Aoife is hugely talented musically having a beautiful clear soprano voice and also playing a number of instruments. Her chosen career path is to join the Royal Marines in their prestigious band and I am delighted to report that, following a rigorous assessment programme she has passed all the physical elements and been offered a place from September to study Voice, Oboe and Cymbals. In fact, they asked Aoife to join in May but she wanted to finish her education before moving on to this exciting new element of her life.

Since leaving the Choir, Jools and Aoife have been regular returnees at holiday times such as Christmas and Easter and I hope that we shall still see something of them, albeit perhaps less often. I believe that Aoife may return soon to sing the high soprano part in Allegri's 'Miserere' at the Scholars & Gentlemen concert on Palm Sunday.

Huge congratulations to both of them and we wish them every success for the future.

JOSEPHINE SANDS

Our Organist, Jo, will be away for the next three months and, during that time, with the exception of Easter Sunday, we will be reducing Choral Evensongs to one per month which will take place at 6.00pm on the first Sunday of each month.

Mike Donkin
Director of Music

Services at S. Oswald's

March 2	08:00	Holy Communion
<i>Next before Lent</i>	10:30	Parish Eucharist with sung setting
	18:30	Choral Evensong
March 9	10:30	Parish Eucharist with sung setting
<i>Lent 1</i>		
March 16	08:00	Holy Communion
<i>Lent 2</i>	10:30	Parish Eucharist with sung setting
	18:30	Evening Prayer
March 23	10:30	Parish Eucharist with sung setting
<i>Lent 3</i>	17:30	Reflective Space
March 30	10:30	Parish Eucharist <i>with the giving of flowers</i>
<i>Lent 4</i>	15:00	High Sheriff Service
<i>Mothering Sunday</i>		

Wednesday 5—Ash Wednesday: 19:00 Sung Eucharist
with Imposition of Ashes

Every Thursday 10.30 Holy Communion (BCP)

MORNING PRAYER is streamed online through the church Facebook page at 9 o'clock on Wednesday and Friday. Sunday worship is on the YouTube page.

Enquires for Baptisms, Marriages etc should be made to the Parish Office. Please email the Parish Administrator (stoswald.office@gmail.com) for an appointment.

Services at Rhydycroesau

<i>First Sunday</i>	09:30	All Age Service
March 2		
<i>Lent</i>	09:30	Holy Communion
March 9		
<i>Lent 3</i>	09:30	Holy Communion
March 23		

March 5 - Ash Wednesday - Holy Communion at 11:00

Parish Church of St. Oswald, King & Martyr
MUSIC LIST - MARCH 2025

Sunday 2nd March

Sunday next before Lent

10.30 Parish Eucharist

Setting: Archer - St. Albans Service

Anthem: O nata lux - Klimek

18.30 Choral Evensong

Introit: O nata lux - Tallis

Canticles: Dyson in F

Responses: Morley

Anthem: Christus factus est - Anerio

Wednesday 5th March

Ash Wednesday

19.00 Solemn Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes

Setting: Harris in F

Kyries: Plainsong - Cunctipotens Genitor Deus

Anthems: at the Ashing: Miserere mei Deus - Lassus

at Communion: Inter vestibulum - Perti

Sunday 9th March

Lent 1

10.30 Parish Eucharist

Setting: Mathias - Communion Service in C

Kyries: Plainsong - Salve

Anthem: To thee O Lord do I lift up my soul - Rachmaninov

Sunday 16th March

Lent 2

10.30 Parish Eucharist

Setting: Thorne - Mass of St. Thomas

Kyries: Plainsong - Orbis Factor

Anthem: O pray for the peace of Jerusalem - Howells

18.30 Said Evening Prayer

(No Choir)

Sunday 23rd March

Lent 3

10.30 Parish Eucharist

Setting: Thorne - Mass of St. Thomas

Anthem: Ubi caritas - Maurice Duruflé

17.30 Reflective Service

(No Choir)

/Continued overleaf

Music List Cont....

Sunday 30th March

Lent 4 (Mothering Sunday)

10.30 Parish Communion for Mothering Sunday (St. Oswald's Singers)

Setting: Metrical to Hymn Tunes

Anthem:: Jesus, good above all other

15.00 The High Sheriff's Service

Please be seated by 14.40

Organ Music from 14.30

Anthems: Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace - S. S. Wesley

Teach me O Lord, the way of thy statutes - Byrd

The Call - Vaughan Williams

**THE HIGH SHERIFF'S SERVICE
SUNDAY, 30TH MARCH**

The High Sheriff's service will be in the afternoon starting at 3pm. People are most welcome to attend or stand and watch the parade from Oswestry School beforehand if they prefer. The parade will include high court judges, magistrates and various invited guests, including the Lord Lieutenant who will be representing the King.

**CHURCH SPRING CLEAN
SATURDAY 12TH APRIL 9.30AM—3.00PM**

As many people as possible are needed to give St Oswald's its annual spring clean in time for Easter. Please come along with brushes, mops, vacuum cleaners, etc. etc. so we can clean those places which are not done on a weekly basis. We welcome newcomers to St Oswald's, as well as our regular helpers, to assist with this annual task.



A list of areas to be cleaned will be available in church and it would be appreciated if you could please indicate which area you have cleaned so that cleaning isn't duplicated.

Natasha Bell and Muriel Jones

CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2025



Saturday 1	<i>All Day</i> Organ Tuning 0900—1000 Orthodox Divine Liturgy
Monday 3	1000 Clergy Eucharist and Meeting 1430 Ladies Group—Parish Centre
Tuesday 4	1030—1230 Place of Welcome - Parish Centre
Wednesday 5	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre
Friday 7	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre 1500 World Day of Prayer for the Cook Islands. Service at Christ Church URC, Arthur Street, Oswestry
Saturday 8	1930 Shropshire Chamber Orchestra Concert in aid of the Brain Tumour Charity—in Church
Monday 10	1930 St Oswald's Book Club reading 'A Splash of Words Believing in Poetry' by Mark Oakley—Parish Centre
Tuesday 11	1030—1230 Place of Welcome - Parish Centre
Wednesday 12	0830—0940 Oswestry School Assembly 1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre 1200 Reflections and Litany—see page 9
Thursday 13	1415—1600 Mothers' Union Fellowship Group
Friday 14	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre
Tuesday 18	1030—1230 Place of Welcome - Parish Centre
Wednesday 19	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre 1200 Reflections and Litany—see page 9
Friday 21	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre
Monday 24	1930 St Oswald's Book Club reading 'A Splash of Words Believing in Poetry' by Mark Oakley—Parish Centre
Tuesday 25	1030—1230 Place of Welcome - Parish Centre
Wednesday 26	0830—0940 Oswestry School Assembly 1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre 1200 Reflections and Litany—see page 9
Friday 28	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre

SUNDAY MARCH 30





Give your oven a little TLC with

*Clean
&
Gleam*
OVENS



Professional
Oven Cleaning Services covering
Oswestry & surrounding areas. Call Jennifer Scott on:

07866 472083 or **07791 655559**

 [cleanandgleamovens](https://www.facebook.com/cleanandgleamovens)  cleanandgleamovens@gmail.com

coverage  care

NEW FAIRHOLME
Shrewsbury Road
Oswestry
SY11 2RT

We are a Nursing Home providing individualised care for people with Nursing needs and those requiring specialist Dementia care.

Phone 01691 684970 for more details or call in for a visit

ST. OSWALD'S LADIES GROUP

It is not everyday that the Parish Centre is visited by a Civil War Royalist from the time of the Siege of Oswestry. Such was our amazement when Justin Soper arrived. Clad in a red tunic coat and breeches with red ribbons on them, sporting a fine tall black hat and wig. He assured us that his laced boots would fit either foot! He also carried a very long replica sword and had a very large metal helmet.



No wonder he needed to park in the Church car park to avoid the police picking him up for carrying offensive weapons!

We knew we were in for a treat as he brought the whole battle for Oswestry alive, as seen through the involvement of ordinary people of the town, where the battle moved from the capturing of the Parish Church, through the gate of the town walls and eventually the taking of the castle.

Justin is a keen amateur historian and re-enactor and has specialised in bringing local and national military history to life for over twenty five years. It was a very entertaining afternoon.

The next meeting will be our Annual General Meeting on Monday, 3rd March, at 2.30 p.m. in the Parish Centre when the Revd. Jassica will join us for an informal Eucharist.

Glenda Evison

THE WARNING OF LOVE'S PARADOX

The crisis come, long ago, yet near now,
came beyond from the upper kingdom,
beyond even our stretched, troubled prophets
and it was good news wrapped in paradox,
love without warning and with warning,
for it can come no otherwise from above,
arriving with inbuilt red light message.

So the Son came opening the darkness
and nothing could, did remain the same,

try as some might try, the light remains,
haunting all well-devised escape plans;
pathway to the Servant's redeeming unrest,
sanctifying the Dove-planted stones' high risk:
Those who must build living Truth's temple.



**The Specialist for All your
Trophy Requirements and
Engraving**

**PLUS
KEY CUTTING**

ENGRAVING PLUS

**11 Albion Hill, Oswestry,
Shropshire
Telephone: Oswestry 654893
Fax 01691 670419**

**WOODLAND RESIDENTIAL
CARE HOME LTD.**

**Trefonen Road, Morda,
Oswestry SY10 9NX**

Come and visit us

**A welcoming, caring, stimulating
environment where residents
feel safe, relaxed and at home.**

**Woodland staff are fully
trained and dedicated to
providing care and support
wherever needed**

Tel: 01691 656963

www.marchesschool.co.uk

Come and see where we belong

My daughter is a huge fan of the TV show ‘Death in Paradise’ – which means that I end up watching an awful lot of episodes. The plot doesn’t change a lot – each one boiling down to the detective having to work out ‘The How? The Why? And the Who?’ That is: How the murder was committed, why the victim was killed and, of course, who did it.

I’ve been reflecting over the last few months, since arriving in Lichfield Diocese, on how this formula applies equally well to the process of developing a diocesan strategy – although the ordering is different.

We know the ‘Who’ from the outset: Jesus Christ; and we know the ‘Why’, too. At baptism we promise, amongst other things, to ‘Come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life’. Coming to Christ means following Him as a disciple, critically bringing other people into relationship with Him, serving those around us. Our diocesan strategy simply helps us to answer the ‘How’. How are we, together as a diocesan family, going to be best able to fulfil our calling as disciples, best able to follow Jesus Christ, best able to bring other people into relationship with Him, and best able to serve those around us in this season.

And the emphasis on this season, is important. Our strategy is not something that has been written in the last six months. It is the next stage of a process. Making our priorities Developing Discipleship, Encouraging Vocation and Inspiring Evangelism, we embarked on Shaping for Mission from which emerged the principles and goals of our Strategic Framework. The ‘How’ that we are now answering is about achieving these goals, overcoming the challenges that we learnt about from parish responses to the framework, and realising our vision of a diocese that is purposeful about evangelism, engaging creatively with local communities, becoming more diverse and growing younger.

In ‘Death in Paradise’ the puzzle is finally solved by some wildly improbable coincidence – perhaps a throwaway remark that suddenly allows the penny to drop. Fortunately, we don’t need to rely on such wild improbabilities, so long as our strategy is underpinned and sustained by prayer (of course, they still may happen, such is the adventure on which we are embarking...).

As we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, we pray that the two million people in our diocese encounter a church that is confident in the

gospel, knows and loves its communities, and is excited to find you, O God already at work in your world. We pray for a church that reflects the richness and variety of those communities. We pray for a church that partners with others in seeking the common good, working for justice as a people of hope.



Revd Canon Nick Smeeton
 (nick.smeeton@lichfield.anglican.org)
 joined Lichfield Diocese last September with instructions to play a pivotal role in developing our strategy around the goals set out in the Strategic Framework and achieving our vision.

COFFEE ROTA FOR MARCH

2	Hazel Pryce	Dilys Lloyd	Jane Mayne
9	Val Hamer	Glenda Evison	KayCole/Fiona Pearson
16	Ann Sagar	Dilys Lloyd	Olwen Phillips
23	Mary Jones	Natasha Bell	Sally Wright
30	Jane Mayne	Chris Abram	Jean Lawrence



01691 653980

www.hoboflorist.co.uk

Griffin Courtyard, Oswestry, England, SY11 2NL





TIME FOR FROGS!

March is the month for frog hunting, they can be seen and heard in ponds around the country with the male frogs the first to move to ponds to wait for the females to arrive. The males call to attract them and once the females have arrived the male will cling onto the female, wrapping around her with his fore limbs, using special 'nuptial pads' for extra grip. The female lays her spawn into the pond, the eggs of which are then immediately fertilised by the male. In March a glance into a pond may reward you with views of male and female frogs as well as developing frogspawn.

What has this got to do with churchyards and cemeteries? Very few burial grounds have ponds and they are rarely suitable places to install one, apart perhaps from a mini-pond in a Belfast sink or similar. They are however important places for amphibians generally, including frogs. Frogs move to ponds to spawn in the spring but spend much of the rest of their time on land and burial grounds provide excellent habitat for them. They can travel up to 500m away from a pond and will live terrestrially, feeding on slugs, snails and worms as well as catching flies or small moths with their sticky tongues. Frogs will hunt for food in grassland, garden areas, woodland and amongst grass tussocks and scrub. Many burial grounds contain some or all of these habitats in close proximity to each other, a mosaic of different places providing food and shelter depending on the time of year and the weather. Frogs have damp permeable skin and so cannot tolerate many of the chemicals that are used in gardens and farmland. Churchyards and cemeteries tend to be chemical free which also means they can be full of delicious invertebrates. The colour of frogs can be affected by their surroundings and you might find red or even yellow frogs in some places.



So, you will not find frogs in your local churchyard or cemetery in March, but look in garden ponds surrounding a burial ground and you may find a great many who come to the pond to breed then return for most of the year. Churchyards and cemeteries contain lots of frog-sized spaces, cracks and crevices in the ground, monuments such as chest tombs with gaps and holes or spaces beneath the roots of old trees. Many of these will be used by frogs for overwintering as are churchyard walls, particularly drystone ones. You can help frogs, as well as other

amphibians, by making more habitat for them. How about having some areas of summer meadow or tussocky, rough places round the back and out of sight. Could you pile up some deadwood in a shaded area. A compost heap is also a favourite. Both of these will gently rot down providing excellent shelter with a larder attached!

Harriet Carty,

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk,
www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code diomem22

SAMARITANS

Whatever you're going through, we'll go through it with you

Phone **116 123** calls are free

Shropshire

Chamber

Orchestra

THE
BRAIN
TUMOUR
CHARITY

TEAM
CLEO
FUND

Charity Concert

Sibelius – Andante Festivo

Bach – Violin Concerto in E

(Soloist: Alison Loram)

Barber – Adagio for Strings

Tchaikovsky – Serenade for Strings

Bedwyn Phillips, conductor

Jane Park, leader

Sat 8-Mar 19:30 St. Oswald Church, Oswestry

Sun 9-Mar 15:00 Trinity Church, Meole Brace

No tickets! – £ pay what you feel

SCO is run by volunteers and our musicians give their time for free. We want our concerts to be available to everyone but need help to continue what we do. Pay what you feel on the day – your donations will support the orchestra and all remaining proceeds will go to charity. Thank you for your support!

Telephone enquiries 07415 234866

Logo © Yvonne Applby

R.J. CHRISTIAN Ltd

PRACTICAL JEWELLERS

Established 1906



JEWELLERY SALES AND
REPAIRS

**21 BAILEY STREET
OSWESTRY, SY11 1PX**

Tel: Oswestry 652091

Email:

r.j.christian@btconnect.com

As frosty mornings and stormy weather surround us, I am reminded of God's faithfulness through the seasons. January has been a month of scheduling activities, preparing for the term, and sharing the gospel through assemblies, lessons and CU's. Schools have been keen to book activities with me, and God has been at work to ensure that all of my schools have been able to book the dates requested.

What Happened in February

Two prayer spaces took place this month focusing on praying for peace in the world, world hunger, thankfulness, our feelings, and hopes for the future.

Assemblies continue this month and include themes such as, making wise choices, courage, happiness, peace, honesty and fairness.

Diary of a Disciple workshops will begin at the end of the month. Diary of a Disciple allows children to discover more about the life of Jesus through the gospel of Luke. Pupils will take part in reading, art, quizzes and drama as they consider who Jesus is and his importance. At the end of the workshop each child will take home a mini copy of the Scripture Union Diary of a Disciple book.

Thank you for your faithful support of the project.

Blessings

Jane Webber

Things to Pray For

- Prayer spaces taking place this month.
- Diary of a Disciple workshops starting this month.
- That my assemblies will have an impact on both staff and pupils

Would you like to advertise your business?

A Quarter Page (9cm high x 6cm wide)
would cost you just £25 per year

Really good value

email: stoswald.office@gmail.com Tel: 652861

GARNER PUGH & SINCLAIR

Chartered Accountants

Partners

Paul Evison, F.C.A.

Jonathan Hughes, F.C.A.

Philip Evison, F.C.A.

Heather Kirby, F.C.C.A.



3 Belgrave Place,
19 Salop Road,
Oswestry,
SY11 2NR.

Tel: 01691 652044

Fax: 01691 670712

admin@gpands.co.uk

Wills, Property Protection, Powers of Attorney

Wills £150

Lasting Powers of
Attorney £150

For Free info Call Paul Humphreys on:

Tel. 01691 652233

www.Asset-Wealth-Preservation.co.uk



Allun Jones



Telephone: 01978 820026
Mobile: 07989 921630



Email: cantab.electrical@btinternet.com
Cantab, Rhos y Madoc, Ruabon, Wrexham, LL14 6LP

**All aspects of electrical work, Domestic, Commercial, Industrial and
Agricultural Installations.**

**Inspections and Testing, Emergency Lighting Installation,
Inspection and Testing, Fault Diagnosis,
Maintenance Service, Alterations, Additions and Improvements,
Security Lighting.**

Part P Registered - Certificates issued.

Free Quotations.

March brings us Lent and Mothering Sunday. Lent is a time of spiritual self-assessment as we prepare for Easter. It is a time to turn to God, and to grow closer to Him. Mothering Sunday reminds us of not only the mothers that have loved and raised us, but of Mother Church, who has spiritually loved and nurtured us throughout our Christian pilgrimage. How many words can you find on these themes in this month's Word Search?

Lent
 spiritual
 easter
 preparation
 fasting
 prayer
 desert
 selfdenial
 repentance
 seeking
 finding
 growing



mothers
 love
 care
 nurture
 learning
 teaching
 disciples
 worldwide
 flowers
 thankyou
 nursing
 family

Solution on page 39

BONUS BALL

Congratulations to the January winners of the weekly Lotto Bonus Ball draw who have each received £29. The winners were:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ball Number</u>	<u>Winner</u>
4Jan	28	Paul Crosby
11Jan	57	Lindsay Clarke
18Jan	46	Rachel Lee
25Jan	50	Martyn Bentley

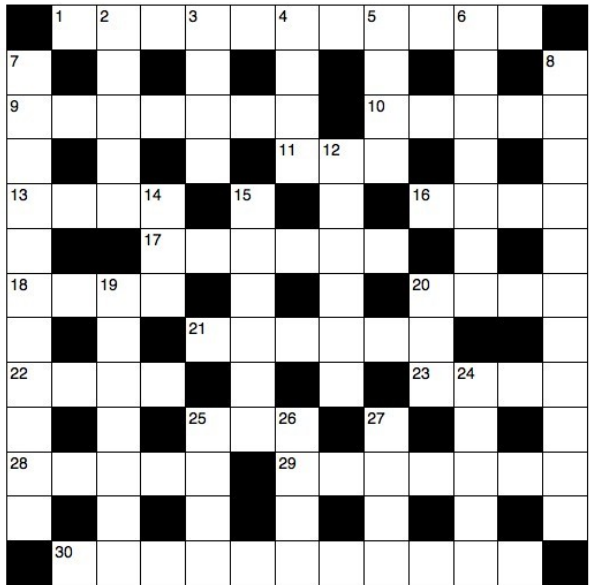
As the Bonus Ball year draws to a close at the end of February may I remind members that payment for your Bonus Ball number(s) for either 12 months (£52), 6 months (£26) to the end of August or just 3 months to the end of May will be due at the beginning of March.

I know of one number which will be becoming available at the beginning of March so if you would like to join the St Oswald Bonus Ball please let me know. (Tel: 658606)

Paul Crosby

Across

- 1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)
- 9 'You will not — me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)
- 10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)
- 11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)
- 13 Mede (anag.) (4)
- 16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)
- 17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)
- 18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)
- 20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The — of God Incarnate (4)
- 21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you — — and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)
- 22 'You — me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)
- 23 Edit (anag.) (4)
- 25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)
- 28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5)
- 29 'When Mordecai learned of — that had been — , he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)
- 30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)



Down

- 2 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —; ask him"' (John 9:23)(2,3)
- 3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4
- 4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)
- 5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)
- 6 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)
- 7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)

- 8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (Ephesians 1:18) (11)
- 12 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)
- 14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)
- 15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)
- 19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)
- 20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)
- 24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — — ' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)
- 25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)
- 26 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)
- 27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)

	4			1				8
7	6	2	9		4			
	8	5	3	2	7		9	
6				4			1	
4	2						8	7
	9			5				2
	7		1	9	2	8	3	
			4		3	9	6	5
9				6			2	

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

Sudoku

PUZ?LES

**Solutions on
page 39**

Medium

	5				2	8		
			6	1	5	9		
	4		8					3
3								7
1					7		5	2
		9	3	7	1			
		6	5				4	

© 2008 KrazyDad.com



Oswestry Tourist Information Centre

Oswestry Town Market Hall

Bailey Head SY11 2PZ

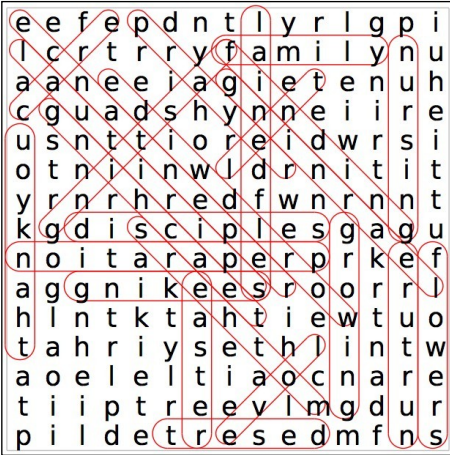
Open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday

10am to 3pm

M: 0753 699 2588

VisitOswestry.co.uk





Easy

Medium

3	4	9	5	1	6	2	7	8
7	6	2	9	8	4	1	5	3
1	8	5	3	2	7	4	9	6
6	5	7	2	4	8	3	1	9
4	2	1	6	3	9	5	8	7
8	9	3	7	5	1	6	4	2
5	7	6	1	9	2	8	3	4
2	1	8	4	7	3	9	6	5
9	3	4	8	6	5	7	2	1

6	1	4	9	8	3	7	2	5
9	5	3	7	4	2	8	1	6
8	7	2	6	1	5	9	3	4
2	4	7	8	5	6	1	9	3
3	6	5	1	2	9	4	8	7
1	9	8	4	3	7	6	5	2
4	2	9	3	7	1	5	6	8
7	3	6	5	9	8	2	4	1
5	8	1	2	6	4	3	7	9

PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR NEXT MONTH

Material required in the Office SUNDAY, 16 MARCH

Make-up day for working party, and publication: Tuesday, 25 March

PLEASE COULD ALL ORGANISATIONS AND GROUPS
IN THE CHURCHES TRY TO SEND IN SOME NEWS - EVEN IF
YOU'VE NOT BEEN IN THE HABIT OF DOING SO.

Why not nominate a Correspondent? Email dianedawson15@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook at 'St Oswalds Parish Church Oswestry'

REGISTERS



As God has lent them to us, so we say farewell and give back in HOLY DYING:

S Oswald's

January 27

Thomas Denzil Ellis, aged 86

January 30

Geraint Owen Pritchard, aged 87

February 14

Herbert Peter Starbuck, aged 88

Christchurch, Rhydycroesau

February 6

Ray Lewis



We are a group of volunteers running advice sessions in Oswestry Library, to assist the general public with Family & Local History. Our sessions are free and include access to Ancestry.com, Parish Records, Local Maps, Photographs and copies of the Advertiser 1849 to date. Family & Local Historians available:

Monday 10:00-12:00

Friday 13:30-16:00

No appointments necessary

CONTACTS - ST OSWALD'S

BELLRINGERS	Captain: Mr Brian Rothera Secretary: Ms Jan Snowball,	657778 671152 07732712484
CARETAKER	Mr Matt Wilson	07377 087595
CHURCH CLEANING CO-ORDINATOR	Natasha Bell	653783
CHURCH FLOWERS	Glenda Chris.	653315 653316
ELECTORAL ROLL	Mrs Maureen Crosby	658606
HOME COMMUNION	Revd Keith Musson	656212
LADIES GROUP	Miss June Williams	652544
LEGACY ADVISOR	Mr Michael Limbrey	654081
MOTHERS' UNION	Mrs Pam Musson	656212
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR	Ms Carron Boulton	652861
PARISH CENTRE Chairman Booking Secretary	Mr Alan Neale Ms Carron Boulton Email: stoswald.office@gmail.com	07901 543287 652861
PARISH NEWS: Editor Advertising 652861	Mrs Diane Dawson Email dianedawson15@gmail.com Email: stoswald.office@gmail.com	
PARISH RECORDER & GIFT AID SECRETARY	Mrs Alison Vincent Email: alisonvincent43@btinternet.com	07541 056235
PCC LAY CHAIRMAN	Mr DP Evison	653315
PLACE OF WELCOME	Mrs Elaine Leek E-mail leek1@btinternet.com	778024
SACRISTAN	Mr Michael Jones	653598
UNDER 5's PLAYGROUP	Manager: Ms Sigourney Merrony-Potton Email: stoswalds.u5s@gmail.com	
WEBSITE: WEBSITE SPIDER	www.stoswaldsoswestry.org.uk Anne Pilsbury, email: annepilsbury@gmail.com	

Oswestry Parish Church exists to propagate and nurture the love of God through the teachings of Jesus Christ thereby serving the needs of the whole community and enriching everybody's lives, through worship and prayer.

Derwas of Oswestry

IRONMONGERS ~ MACHINERY AGENTS ~ COOKING & HEATING
APPLIANCES

ROFT STREET, OSWESTRY, SY11 2ET

Telephone/Fax: 01691-654676

Rayburn – Aga – Stanley Cooker Sales
(Installations arranged)

Flue piping supplied to suit all fuels
Gas ~ Oil ~ Solid Fuels

Main Agents for:
STIHL & EFCO GARDEN MACHINERY
Trade & D.I.Y.
CUSTOMER PARKING



ALLENBY DOUGLAS

OUTSTANDING CARE

39-41 Church Street, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 2SZ

**Offering bespoke care packages,
maximising choice and quality**

We hold tight to traditional family values ensuring our carefully selected, well trained staff enjoy helping both clients and their families feel protected, safe and valued. We specialise in delivering short and long term care in Oswestry and surrounding areas but all packages are bespoke to the individual. Driven by a commitment to ensure all aspects of service reflect the value of being at home.

If you want more information about our care services or about employment opportunities please call into our town office
(Opposite Park Gates)

Open Monday - Friday 09:00-17:00
call 01691 650067

For further details and an application form

Inspected and rated

Outstanding ★

 **Care Quality
Commission**



Allumroll Garage Doors

Contact us 01691 674222

07967 672053

sales@allumroll.com



www.allumroll.com



5 YEAR
GUARANTEE

HÖRMANN



David Davies & Sons

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

ESTABLISHED 1840



A caring, compassionate
and discreet service
from a family business
since 1840



1 Upper Church Street
Oswestry • SY11 2AA

Oswestry **01691 653116** (24 hrs)
www.daviddaviesandsons.co.uk