



July 2026

# PARISH MAGAZINE

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Reverend Adrian Bailey Tel: 238744  
Father Phil Hughes

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Mrs Lindsay Clarke  
Miss Sally Wright  
Mrs Catherine Lefebvre

**Churchwardens**

S Oswald's:	Miss June Williams	Tel: 652544
	Mrs Muriel Jones	Tel: 653598
	Mr John Abram MBE TD	Tel: 653316
Christchurch:	Mrs Elizabeth Stanley	Tel: 676450
	Rosemary Davies	Tel: 07813757498

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	Hon Treasurer: Mr Paul Evison	Tel: 653315
Christchurch:	Hon Secretary:	
	Hon Treasurer:	

**Director of Music**

S Oswald's: Mrs Samantha Lewis-Widnall  
Email: [samanthalewiswidnall@gmail.com](mailto:samanthalewiswidnall@gmail.com)

**Organist:**

St Oswald's: Josephine Sands email: [joasands@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:stoswald.office@gmail.com)

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## **Our Pastoral Newsletter this month is written by Fr Phil Hughes**

Of the many significant festival dates during July, including the Feasts of St Thomas the Apostle (July 3rd), St Mary Magdalene (July 22nd), and St James the Apostle (July 25th), we give thanks for, and celebrate the achievements of William Wilberforce (July 30th) - a Social Reformer. Of all the causes for which he fought, he is remembered best for his crusade against slavery.

After many years of effort, the trade in slaves was made illegal in the British Empire (1807), and William Wilberforce lived to see the complete abolition of slavery, just before his death, in 1833.

How I wish that this was the end of the story and that William's efforts, together with the efforts of many others, had been fully upheld.

Sadly, in 2026, here in the United Kingdom we have "Cuckooing".

"Cuckooing" - is a form of modern slavery. Unfortunately, many into the thousands have become victims, as criminals take over the homes of vulnerable individuals, and use their homes for illegal activities. It has been discovered in recent times that this is often linked to exploitation, drug trafficking, and prostitution, where the house becomes a pop-up brothel.

It can be an organized crime group or a ruthless individual who simply takes control of a vulnerable person's home, through manipulation, coercion or deceit. "Cuckooing", is a term derived from the behaviour of Cuckoo birds, who lay their eggs in the nests of other birds, effectively taking over their space.

How does "Cuckooing" work?

Vulnerable people are targeted, people with addiction issues, the disabled, people suffering with mental health problems. Once their home has been taken over, the victim is often subjected to emotional, psychological, and physical abuse. They are controlled in every way, and are isolated by being kept in one room of their own home. "Cuckooing" represents a growing concern within the realm of modern slavery.

We have also been made aware of individual cases over the years, where people have been exploited and treated as slaves. More and more of these cases are coming to light.

With everything going on in the World, from the shocking scenes in the Holy Land and the wider middle east, to the brave peoples of Ukraine standing up to Russia. The plight of the peoples of the Sudan, Myanmar and Yemen, just to name a few.

Then the situation in our own United Kingdom, where if we are not careful, we will be heading for civil war. Two families have recently asked for calm, for no violence, and yet we have seen for ourselves the violent behaviour in Southampton and the horrific scenes in Belfast.

Reflecting on this Pastoral Letter, I have been thinking about all our young people who appear to have become slaves to the internet. I am deeply saddened by the scant disregard for people, for the defiance and selfishness of some individuals. It sometimes feels like the Government has lost the ability to govern, and because of recent events that those representing law and order are making too many mistakes.

We are not to fall into the trap of becoming depressed, and as Christians, we must focus on that message of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to "Love one another" (St John's Gospel-Chapter 15). Jesus preached - Righteousness, Peace and Joy! Forgiveness and Healing will lead us all into God's Kingdom.

The message of Christianity - the message of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is not just about individual Salvation, but about the Renewal and Transformation of all creation.

Importantly, Jesus did not just speak His message, He lived it. His actions were powerful demonstrations of His teachings. He taught us about God's Love, and the nature of His Kingdom.

Forgiveness is key: Jesus taught us to forgive others. This message of Forgiveness and Reconciliation was radical in a culture often marked by revenge and retribution.

Humility is key: Central to the teachings of Jesus was the theme of Humility and Service. Jesus modelled this Himself by washing the feet of His disciples; and ultimately by giving His life on the Cross. This counter-cultural message challenged the worldly notions of power and status.

Inclusion is key: Jesus reached out to the marginalized—tax collectors, sinners, Samaritans, Women - showing that God's Love and

Salvation were for all people. This radical, inclusivity challenged the social and religious boundaries of the day.

Remember the words and actions of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: "This is My Commandment, that you love one another, as I have Loved you"

From the Collect Prayer—William Wilberforce (July 30th)

God our deliverer, who sent Your Son Jesus Christ to set  
Your people free from the slavery of sin:  
grant that as Your servant William Wilberforce  
toiled against the sin of slavery,  
so may we bring Compassion to all  
and work for the freedom of all the children of God.  
Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord – AMEN

NB! Regarding our Police Force, both locally and nationally, I have every confidence. We should not let the mistakes or actions of one or two take away the incredible effort of everyone else who, in an increasingly hostile society, give their all to keep us safe and maintain law and order.

I was a Police Chaplain for 16 years serving with Sussex Police, the Metropolitan Police, and finally Area Chaplain—North Tyneside-Northumbria Police.

Father Phil

### IRENE GULL

After many years of counting Church money Irene Gull has finally decided to hang up her calculator. On behalf of everyone in the Church we would like to thank her for all the work that she has put in, giving up so much of her own time.



Well done thou good and faithful servant.

The Churchwardens

## BONUS BALL

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The National Lottery, which generates the Bonus Ball number that we use every week, from mid-June have started using two separate machines to generate two sets of winning numbers and hence two separate Bonus Ball numbers. **The Churchwardens have agreed that the St Oswald's Bonus Ball draw will use only the number from the first machine (known as Round 1).**

Congratulations to the May winners of the weekly Lotto Bonus Ball draw who will each receive £29. The winners were:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ball Number</u>	<u>Winner</u>
2 May	19	Bill Bowen RIP
9 May	5	Bill Vine
16 May	20	Carron Boulton
23 May	35	Rebekah Lee
30 May	33	Hillary Bull

The Bonus Ball year started at the beginning of March. The cost of taking part is £13/quarter which is collected either annually, half yearly or quarterly.

If you would like to join the St Oswald Bonus Ball, please let me know.

Paul Crosby  
658606



### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated to Christian Aid week. The sum raised was £1183 excluding gift aid.

This was a great effort.

Thank you again for all for your support

Judi Neale

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## Next winter's forecast is "WARM"!!

I am pleased to report that the diocese has granted us a Faculty (permission) which allows us to replace the church boilers.



The 5 old boilers (pictured) have at last given up! We have limped on with them for several years but replacement parts are no longer available and when they were working, they were not efficient.

The new system includes 4 new, gas fired boilers, as there is not a suitable renewable energy alternative.

The main heating system (within Victorian cast iron pipe work) will remain the same, as any replacement would be enormously disruptive as well as being hugely expensive.

The work involves the installation of not only the boilers but also the control systems. This should all take about 3 weeks to complete (commencing 22nd June) with minimal disruption of church services and activities with the Parish Centre being unaffected.

As you can imagine, this comes at a price!

The cost is approximately £40k, a sum previously budgeted for in the church accounts.

We are actively researching the possibility of available grants to ease this expense. While I am sure we would all love to spend this money promoting God's word, the reality is that we have a duty to maintain our wonderful building.

Sadly, the price of achieving this important work has contributed to David's present poor health. As chairman of our committee, he has worked tirelessly to achieve this and we all thank him for his expertise, and wish him a speedy recovery back to full health.

Hopefully next month I can report that the new system is fully operational. We look forward to a heating system which provides cost effective comfort for all who attend for the next 20 plus years and helps to preserve our building and fabric.

*Alan Neale*  
(on behalf of the Building and Fabric committee)

## BELL RINGING NEWS

It's been an exciting few weeks for the Oswestry Bellringers. After unavoidable delays in manufacturing, we were finally able to go and collect the training bells that we are installing alongside our existing ring of eight. Peter Woollam very kindly offered to drive down into deepest darkest Somerset (Holcombe) with me as passenger to collect the training bells in his trailer. Each training bell weighs 3 cwt but fortunately can be split into three parts!

After a long day we were met back at the tower by 3 able helpers to lift these parts up into the clock room. Additional strengthening to the clock room floor has been recommended by the Diocese Bell Advisor so 5x10ft lengths of 3 inch x 3 inch oak beams were ordered from North Shropshire Timber to enable this. Work started on this process in early June and we hope to complete it and have the training bells fully operational by the end of the month, with an official opening on St Oswald's Day the 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

We are very grateful to all the organisations that have helped us with funds - Oswestry Town Council, Whittington Parish Council, Griffiths Tool Hire, Veolia and most recently the Rotary Club of Oswestry and Cambrian. Jeanne Spinks and Brian Rothera were very pleased to attend a presentation evening at the Guildhall where we heard about other projects that had received support from the Rotary.

We have continued to ring for Sunday service at Whittington on the first Sunday of the month and rang to open the Whittington Music Festival. We returned to Whittington to ring a special Eighth Peal in memory of Martin Fisher who had been a patron of the festival over many years. Other Quarter Peals have also been rung at Oswestry for Reflective Space and Evening Prayers, with several "firsts" for Matthew Leak and Jan's 100th Quarter Peal, a fantastic achievement.

### **Shropshire Association Oswestry, [Shropshire](#)**

St Oswald King and Martyr  
Sunday, 12 April 2026 in 48m (13–3–19 in F)  
**1260 Grandsire Triples**

- 1 Jan Snowball
- 2 Cordelia Warr
- 3 Anthony J Freemont
- 4 Chris W Hoare
- 5 Peter Neil

6 William A M Barter  
7 Brian J Rothera (C)  
8 Matthew T Leak  
For Evening Prayer.  
100th quarter - 1 First as cover.

Richard and Frances Major wish to be associated with this performance.

### **Breaking News!!**

Oswestry entered two teams in the Shropshire Association Striking Competition, each a mixture new and experienced ringers. A total of twelve teams entered from across Shropshire, each team ringing a test piece 5 minutes long, with an experienced judge blind marking the ringing. Oswestry won the call change cup, coming second overall!!!



Brian, Matt, Jeanne, Bill (the judge), Richard, Jenny and Frances

*Brian Rothera*

### **STRAWBERRY TEA (WITH MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT)**

Thank you to everyone who supported the Strawberry Tea on 13th June.



The sum of £260 was raised for the Parish Centre account.

*The Pudding Club*



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## WHALLEY'S WAY



## PILGRIMAGE 2026

The week's weather could only be described as wet! We experienced rain, wind, hail, thunder and only the occasional bit of sunshine and blue sky, however it was certainly much better for purpose than a heatwave.

The terrain travelled across was a mixture of moorland, wetland, footpaths [both well marked and non-existent], muddy and boggy fields with long grass, very steep inclines approx. 1 in 3 both upwards and downwards, cycle paths, the occasional pavement and road as well as forests; in other words, just about everything on offer! We went to visit 5 churches of which 3 were closed, 1 Cathedral, 2 stone crosses and the grave of an itinerant preacher who died in 1709.

We walked a total of 42.75 miles [more than planned, but navigational detours were expected], 1 fall apiece, 1 blister and 4 aching legs!

What we learnt:-

- 1 Have faith that all will be well, and it helps to listen to the lessons learnt by those who have travelled the route before you, both physically and metaphorically.
- 2 Resilience and determination [needed in the face of biblical weather, up the steepest of hills and over empty moorland].
- 3 The importance of companionship, encouragement and laughter when facing challenges.
- 4 Realising our bodies and minds are stronger than we imagined.
- 5 Never underestimate the value in chatting to people you meet – every contact leaves a trace.
- 6 You are NEVER alone.....

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SO KINDLY AND GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED AND SPONSORED ME.**

A more detailed itinerary is available if anyone would like a copy, please just ask.

Sally Wright

## **A SPECIAL THANK YOU**

*(A precis of an email received by Chris Abram on 27<sup>th</sup> May)*

In early May we were visited by the writer Merryn Glover who is researching the life of St. Winifred and the mediaeval pilgrims routes that arose in her honour for a forthcoming book.

*(As most of you will be aware St. Winifred is one of the four female Saints depicted on the carved reredos in our Lady Chapel.)*

Merryn visited on a Sunday morning and joined us in worship at our 10.30 Service. She stayed for coffee afterwards and has since written to say how much she appreciated the welcome she received from our church community - she found the service very moving and felt blessed to share time with us.

After visiting Maserfield and St. Oswald's Well she returned to St. Winifred's Way and her Well at Woolston before continuing on the route to Holywell.

*Merryn says, "It will take me some time to write this book and it won't be published till 2028 (!) but I will keep you posted when it is. Hopefully I can hold events in the Shrewsbury, Oswestry area for any who are interested. Equally, if you'd like to follow the journey between now and then, I write a monthly newsletter called The Shared Way and you'd be very welcome to sign up."*

*Kind thanks again,*

Merryn

### **Merryn Glover - Writer, Speaker, Facilitator**

Sign up for news and a free short story at <https://merryinglover.com>

Book: The Hidden Fires: - "A Cairngorms Journey with Nan Shepherd"

Novels: "Of Stone and Sky" and "A House Called Askival"

## **MOTHERS' UNION FELLOWSHIP GROUP**

Our next meeting will be at 2.15pm on Thursday, 9th July in the Parish Centre.

Pam Musson

## ST. OSWALD'S LADIES GROUP

For our June meeting our members met at the Dobbies Garden Centre for afternoon tea.

There was a good selection of freshly made sandwiches, scones, cakes and of course plenty of cups of tea which was greatly enjoyed by us all.



June Williams, our Chairman, thanked Glenda Evison and Ann Sagar for organising the afternoon.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, July 6th at 2.30 p.m. in the Parish Centre when we welcome Alan Lewis who will speak to us about his own experiences of metal detecting. There will be no meeting in August.

We are always pleased to welcome new members to our very friendly Group. We meet in the Parish Centre on the first Monday in the month (except Bank Holidays when it is the second Monday) at 2.30 p.m. If you are interested and would like further information please speak to me in church or telephone 01691657903.

*Ann Sagar*  
Hon. Secretary

## CAN YOU HELP TO FIND A LIVING DESCENDANT OF THIS FAMILY?

Ian Bates (*son of the late Dorothy Mary Griffiths of Victoria Road, Oswestry*) is searching for a living descendant of the BROSTER family who had 9 children (*6 boys and 3 girls*) and were living at 22 Stewart Road, Oswestry in the early 1900's.

Their ninth child and youngest son, Corporal Percy BROSTER died in 1916. He is listed on the memorial to those who fell in WW1 above the altar in St. George's Chapel.

It would seem that only two members of the Broster family remained in Oswestry after their marriage – the eldest daughter Sarah Emily who married a WOODFIN and one son Bertie BROSTER, a postman who lived at 38 Jennings Road with his wife Catherine and their only child, a daughter Kathleen Jane. Kathleen married a JONES and moved to Cheshire. Bertie died in 1948 aged 64 and his wife Catherine in 1968 aged 82. The WOODFIN family remained in evidence in Oswestry until the death of Hilda WOODFIN in 1981 at the age of 78.

**If you know anything about the BROSTER or WOODFIN families or think you know of a living descendant please contact the Church Administrator by email - [stoswald.office@gmail.com](mailto:stoswald.office@gmail.com)**



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## SINGING PRAISES

Another month has flown by, and we're deep into the season of Trinity. We had a truly wonderful time with our kids' singing workshop, which welcomed 18 children. We explored a variety of genres and even incorporated some beautiful sign language elements. Eight of these talented young singers then joined us for the Sunday morning service, and I'm sure, like me, you were all moved by their performance. We're already planning a workshop next term, and we've also been invited to do a workshop for our community at the local library. We will most likely be doing an adult singing workshop also in September, so keep an eye out for that.

By the time I'm writing this, I'm looking forward to going to the Scholars and Gentlemen concert of madrigals this Saturday, June 20th. I'm pre-emptively saying well done to all those involved and thank you for everything you do in fundraising for the church.

## ORGAN RECITAL

I also want to bring attention to an organ recital by Jamie Rogers, the organist and Assistant Director of Music of Canterbury Cathedral. He will be giving a recital as part of our yearly concert in memory of our past organist, Veronica Donkin. It will take place on July 25th at 6 p.m. All proceeds will go to the organ and music fund of the church, so please do come and support both Jamie and us.

I really do appreciate that this concert is later than normal. Due to me being new to the role, some elements outside of the church calendar slipped away from me this time. So, forgive me for being a little late, but I can tell you now it will definitely be worth the wait. I hope to see many of you there - he's a phenomenal musician and person! More to come on learning about Jamie on our social media page and programme.



Thank you all for your continued commitment and support. I can't wait to see what next month will bring, and I look forward to sharing more music and joy with all of you

*Samantha Lewis-Widnall*  
Director of Music  
St Oswald's Parish Church, Oswestry

## Services at S. Oswald's

July 5                      08:00 Holy Communion  
*Trinity 5*                    10:30 Parish Eucharist with sung setting  
                                  18:00 Choral Evensong

July 12                     10:30 Parish Eucharist with sung setting  
*Trinity 6*                    18:00 Evening Prayer  
*Sea Sunday*

July 19                     08:00 Holy Communion  
*Trinity 7*                    10:30 Parish Eucharist with sung setting  
                                  18:00 Evening Prayer

July 26                     10:30 Parish Eucharist with sung setting  
*Trinity 8*                    18:00 Reflective Space

**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](mailto:stoswald.office@gmail.com)) for an appointment.

## Services at Rhydycroesau

*First Sunday*              09:30 All Age Service  
July 5

*Second Sunday*          09:30 Holy Communion  
July 12

*Fourth Sunday*          09:30 Holy Communion  
July 26



## Parish Church of St. Oswald, King & Martyr

### MUSIC LIST - JULY 2026

#### **Sunday 5th July**

#### **Trinity 5**

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Setting: Stopford - St. Patrick's Eucharist

Anthem: Steal away - Trad

6.00pm Choral Evensong

Introit: Hail gladdening light -- Stainer

Responses: Sumsion

Setting: Sumsion in A

Anthem: Evening Hymn - Balfour Gardiner

#### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July**

#### **Trinity 6 (Sea Sunday)**

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Setting: Mathias - Communion Service in C

Anthem: They that go down to the sea in ships—Sumsion

#### **Sunday 19th July**

#### **Trinity 7 (St. Oswald's Singers)**

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Setting: Shephard - Addington

Anthem: Lead me Lord - Wesley

#### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

#### **Trinity 8 (St. Oswald's Singers)**

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Setting: Shephard - Addington

Anthem: O worship the Lord - J. Travers

### **PATRONAL FESTIVAL - SUNDAY AUGUST 2**



Everyone is invited to a Bring and Share lunch in the Parish Centre from 12.30pm. Please indicate on the sheet at the back of church if you are able to attend and what food you can contribute.

If you wish, you are very welcome to bring a bottle to share or consume yourself.

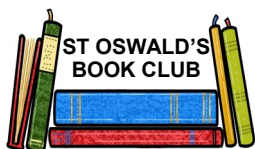
Please come and enjoy one another's company. We look forward to an enjoyable time together. ALL are welcome.

# CALENDAR FOR JULY 2026



## 7AM—7PM WORK ON THE CHURCH HEATING UNTIL JULY 8

Wednesday 1	0930— 1115 Woodside School visit
	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre
	1900 <i>Praying for Our World</i> — Reading Area
Friday 3	1400— 1600 Oswestry School
Saturday 4	1000 Quarter Peal—Worcester Ringers
Monday 6	1000 Clergy Eucharist and Meeting
	1430 Ladies Group—Parish Centre
Tuesday 7	1030— 1230 Place of Welcome - Parish Centre
Wednesday 8	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre
Thursday 9	1415 Mothers' Union Fellowship Group
Tuesday 14	1030— 1230 Place of Welcome - Parish Centre
Wednesday 15	1000 Under 5's Playgroup—Parish Centre
Tuesday 21	1030— 1230 Place of Welcome - Parish Centre
Saturday 25	1800 Veronica Donkin Organ Recital by Jamie Rogers, Organist and Assistant Director of Music at Canterbury Cathedral
Tuesday 28	1030— 1230 Place of Welcome - Parish Centre



Please check St Oswald's website and weekly pew sheet for information on dates and books. All are welcome to join us for coffee and cake and lively discussion!

### **PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR NEXT MONTH**

Material required SUNDAY, JULY 12

Make-up day for working party, and publication: Tuesday, July 21

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

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## A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE – 276. ANOTHER CHURCH MONUMENT – THE LLOYDS OF GLOUCESTER

Regular readers of this column will know that, over the years, I have returned to the Lloyd family on a number of occasions, focussing particularly on the Lloyds of Llanforda and Llwynymaen. We have looked at the font, dated 1662, presented to the church by Edward Lloyd of Llanforda. We have looked at the memorials, some decorated with the double headed eagle, emblematic of the family. And previously we had looked back to the early years of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, to disputes between the then vicar, the churchwardens and the lord's steward Edward Lloyd of Llwynymaen.

Work currently underway towards the restoration of Llwyd Mansion, to preserve this important 15<sup>th</sup> century building for the future, and to give it a new purpose, has shone fresh light on its history, including its name which, it turns out is comparatively new, from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, and on the double headed eagle that is displayed, in relief, on its Cross Street frontage.

Over the years, historians have claimed that this emblem, here on this building, indicates its links to the Lloyds of Llanforda, or the Lloyds of Llwynymaen, or the Lloyds of Drenewydd. All had the right to use the spreadeagle, as all were branches of the same family tree – with separate Llanforda and Llwynymaen branches established in the early years of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and the Drenewydd branch a further offshoot of the Llwynymaen line developing at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. As all three branches tended to stick to a limited number of Christian names, especially Edward, John and Richard<sup>1</sup>, it can be difficult to know, in some histories and old documents, which Edward Lloyd is being discussed. And of course Lloyd is not an unusual surname: there are many other Lloyds which crop up on Oswestry's history, or in our parish registers or church documents, who have no link to these spreadeagle-bearing Lloyds.

All of which brings us to the topic for this month's article. Entering the church through the south porch, you will see a number of impressive wall-mounted monuments, affixed to the wall of the church tower. One of these, above the shelves, and to the left of a buttress, commemorates John Lloyd, citizen of Gloucester, and his wife Rebecca. Unhelpfully for us, the memorial is sited well above eye level, and is written wholly in Latin<sup>2</sup>. The ledger stone, thankfully in English, which formerly marked the

---

<sup>1</sup> An exception was Marmaduke Lloyd (1627-1671), part of the Drenewydd line

<sup>2</sup> A full transcription, though not a translation can be found in Askew Roberts, 'Oswestry Old Church monuments', *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society*, VI (1883), p140

graves of John and Rebecca Lloyd in the south chancel was moved up into the church tower during the restorations of 1872/74, and is one of the stones fixed to the tower wall. Both memorials indicate that John Lloyd died in 1726, and that Rebecca died in 1744 – details confirmed in our parish registers, which add that the couple had lived in Cross Street<sup>3</sup>.

Both the mural monument and the gravestone stress that they were 'of Gloucestershire' though it seems clear that they were living in Oswestry at the time of their deaths, and that Rebecca had lived hereabouts for at least twenty years. Recently though I have been looking at records held at the National Library of Wales, from the Powis Castle archives<sup>4</sup>, which included a long list, street by street, of local inhabitants, and at the top of the list for Cross Street was 'Mrs Loyd of Gloster'. The coincidence of this find with other research that I am embarked upon, relating to Llwyd Mansion, gave me the push that I needed to look into the Gloucester Lloyds, to find out why they were here in Oswestry, to ascertain if they had any previous links to the area.

Looking at the mural monument, and using my old Latin dictionary, I see that John Lloyd, formerly of Gloucester, is described as a gentleman, descended from ancient stock in the county of Shropshire, and his widow Rebecca, from Gloucestershire. Using these details, their ages at death providing approximate birth dates, I embarked upon a search, using the family history tools Ancestry and Find My Past, for possible births, marriages and deaths, and wills, and the online catalogues of archives up and down the country – England and Wales – to see what I could find.

Quickly I was able to find details of their marriage, on January 12<sup>th</sup> 1702 (modern 1703), at Cirencester, Mr John Lloyd of Gloucester and Rebecca Freeman of Cirencester. Likewise, I found John Lloyd's will on *Ancestry*, dated May 1724 and proved in November 1726; in this document he is described as 'of Whittington'. His wife and executrix Rebecca was the main beneficiary of the will, bequeathed "all my farms and lands and tenements ... in the parish of Whittington but, apart from small bequests to cousins Henry Window, a lawyer, and to Elizabeth Crich, the will sheds no other light on our Mr & Mrs Lloyd.

I had more joy, however, looking for other documentary records of John Lloyd of Gloucester, finding references in the records held at the National Library of Wales, in the Aston Hall and Peniarth collections. One

---

<sup>3</sup> John Lloyd, esquire, was buried on September 17<sup>th</sup> 1726, aged 55, and 'Madam Rebeccah Lloyd' on May 4<sup>th</sup> 1744, aged 64

<sup>4</sup> National Library of Wales, Powis Castle Estate Records, MA 1774, being manorial court ('court leet') papers of 1728

document, from 1702, refers to property in Whittington, and in Shrewsbury, “which were the inheritance of John Lloyd, gent, grandfather of ‘our’ John Lloyd. Other documents, from 1653 and 1664, indicate that this earlier John Lloyd lived in Havering, Essex. I found his will, dated 1654, and proved in 1661, on *Ancestry*, referring to property in Whittington, and in Shrewsbury, and also read, in the pages of *Bye-Gones*<sup>5</sup>, details of the grant of arms, in 1627, to “John Lloyd nowe of London, Collector for the Farmers in his Majesties Custome-house, ymployed for his integrity by the said Farmers in matters of great trust and credytt, being the sonne of John Lloyd of Whittington, gentleman”.

The arms granted to John Lloyd, Collector in the king’s Custom House in London, were based upon the double headed eagle of his father John Lloyd – of Drenewydd. So, despite links to Havering, to the city of London, and to Gloucestershire, John Lloyd (d. 1726) had his roots here on the Welsh border.

John Pryce-Jones

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<sup>5</sup> *Bye-Gones relating to Wales and the border counties*, 1878/79, p230 (June 25<sup>th</sup> 1879)



As staff and pupils complete their final few weeks of the academic year, let us pray that all within our local schools will complete the year well. Pray for those who are anxious about the end of term, for those who are in need of rest, and for families as they prepare to have their children at home during the summer.

### What's Happening in July

- **Assemblies** this month will focus on themes such as perseverance, thankfulness, trust, and joy.
- **The Christian Unions** will be focusing on Christian Characteristics and how we can reflect the fruit of the spirit in our lives.
- **It's Your Move** transition to secondary schools. This workshop allows pupils to explore their thoughts and feelings about moving school, along with lots of helpful tips and hints on how to make the move a positive one. As part of the workshop, pupils will receive the It's Your Move guide book produced by Scripture Union. This book allows pupils to explore different aspects of moving school and contains lots of helpful advice for a positive transition.
- **Planning for next year.** As normal activities in schools start to come to an end, I will be seeking God's guidance while planning for the new academic year.

### Please pray for

- It's your move workshops. Pray for those who are anxious about the move to secondary school.
- Safety for pupils and staff as they spend more time doing outside activities.
- Planning of activities for the new year.

Regards

*Jane Webber*

Representing all the Churches in all the Schools in Oswestry and Ellesmere District

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## TAKING A LOOK AT HOVERFLIES

Why not take time out on a sunny, calm July day and sit down in your local churchyard, chapel yard or cemetery next to a flowering plant such as hogweed, yarrow or knapweed. After a while you may notice that there is a wealth of variety amongst the various bee-like insects who are visiting the flowers. Whilst bees meander from flower to flower at a fairly constant speed, you'll also spot another group of insects, similarly banded in yellow and black, which dart quickly and then hover, staying quite still, like a miniature hummingbird. These are hoverflies and there are an amazing 280 different species in the UK, found in a wide range of habitats.

Hoverflies often look quite like bees or wasps, with stripey, sometimes furry bodies. They do not sting however but this mimicry discourages predators as the yellow and black stripes spell danger! Look closely and you'll see two large eyes and a single pair of wings, characteristics of flies (bees and wasps have two pairs of wings). The hoverfly beats these wings up and down several hundred times per second to stay stationary.

Hoverflies are a true friend to the gardener, the adults are important pollinators and nearly half of our hoverfly larvae feed on aphids and other plant sap-suckers. Others eat fungi, yeasts, micro-organism and general detritus found in the soil, in deadwood and in stagnant water. They are key decomposers and recyclers. Many gardeners encourage hoverflies by planting suitable flowers for them. Open flowers such as alyssums, yarrows, daisies and marjoram will all provide a good source of nectar. Many of the wildflowers found in churchyards are great for hoverflies too, do you have cow parsley, chervil or wild carrot (or any of the umbel family), how about daisies, yarrow, dandelions and hawkweeds? Hoverflies have mouthparts that dab at the flowers rather like a sponge so choose flat, open flowers.

Hoverflies are an example of an insect group which is often overlooked, easily passed off as a bee until you look more closely. They are an important part of our ecosystem however and, like butterflies, are sensitive indicators of environmental change. As well letting some grassland grow long so the wildflowers can bloom, how about planting suitable flowers if you have beds or planters? Creating a deadwood pile in a shady spot is great for hoverflies as well as so many other species and leaving some leaf litter and woody debris under tree canopies supports pupae or, in some cases, overwintering adults, ready to emerge in the spring.

So have a look for hoverflies this summer and, if you are patient, photograph them hovering and feeding. This can help to identify what you have seen.

All the best,

Harriet Carty,

*Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor*, [harriet@cfga.org.uk](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk),  
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### ALL IN THE MONTH OF JULY

#### It was:

175 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1851 that the Window Tax was abolished in England and Wales. The tax was introduced in 1696 and was based on the number of windows in a house. It led to many windows being bricked up. It was replaced by a tax on inhabited buildings.

90 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1936 that the speaking clock telephone service was launched in the UK.

30 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1996 that candidates taking the British driving test also had to pass a written exam for the first time.

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*By the Revd Roy Shaw, a retired but active priest in the diocese of York, where he is a spiritual director.*

## **KEEP ON KEEPING ON**

In the church year, we've now come to that long season - it seems to go on forever - variously called 'Trinity' or 'Ordinary time'. Each of those labels tells us something about the approximately six months between Pentecost and Advent Sunday. 'Trinity' reminds us that with Pentecost, God has made himself known to us in all his fullness (or at least as much as we can bear) as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. 'Ordinary time' tells us that this is the season where, now armed with the insights and power of the Holy Spirit, we can revisit the life of Jesus with new eyes, new heart, see new things in the faith, see new opportunities to serve God.

This is the time when those words of Jesus (John 15 v15) 'I have made known to you everything I have learned from the Father' come into play. It may seem a long season, it may feel like the drudgery of 'Keep on keeping on' without the excitement of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost to lift our spirits, but it is ordinary time charged with the knowledge that we have everything we need in the resources of God. The love of the Father, the words and works of the Son, the power of the Spirit will energise us as we 'keep on keeping on' through this long season.

This long season up to the end of November is a reminder that working out our love for God in our community is probably more about perspiration than inspiration. Few are called to be heroes of the faith, but all are called to faithfulness, and somehow or other, with the transforming power of the Spirit, we are all able to keep on keeping on, doing little things with great love.

Here's a lovely prayer I learned from our son's godmother which captures some of the mindset of the Trinity season/Ordinary time; it may help you 'keep on keeping on' through the months ahead;

Let not our soul be busy inns that have not room for thee and thine, but quiet homes of prayer and praise where thou mayest find fit company; where the needful cares of life are wisely ordered and put away, and wide sweet space is kept for thee.

Amen to that. Ordinary - but challenging!

*Parish Pump July 2026*

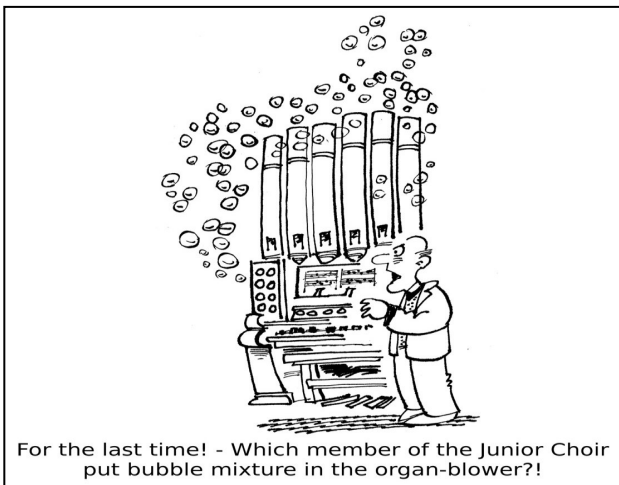
It was 250 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1776, that the US Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Second Continental Congress. The original signed parchment still exists, behind bullet-proof glass at the National Archives in Washington.

An original draft of the Declaration was made by Thomas Jefferson, and was amended by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams. It runs for only 1,320 words. The Declaration included the phrase: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

July  
Fourth  
Declaration  
Independence  
Second  
Continental  
Congress  
Washington  
Draft  
Thomas  
Jefferson  
Benjamin  
Franklin

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

John  
Adams  
Truths  
Created  
Equal  
Creator  
Inalienable  
Rights  
Life  
Liberty  
Pursuit  
Happiness



**PUZ?LES**

**Solution on  
page 35**

**Across**

- 1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)
- 3 'Shall we go up again — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)
- 8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)
- 9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' ( Luke 14:27) (8)
- 11 Resentment (Ephesians 4:31)(10)
- 14 In Cain(anag.)(6)
- 15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—' (Psalm 139:6) (6)
- 17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5)(10)
- 20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church (8)
- 21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)
- 22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)
- 23 'As the — pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)

1		2			3	4		5		6		7
	■		■	■	■		■		■		■	
8				■	9							
	■		■	10			■		■		■	
11										■	■	■
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14						■	15					
	■		■		■		16		■		■	
17	■	■	■	17								
18	■	19	■		■		■		■		■	
20								■	21			
	■		■		■		■	■	■		■	
22								■	23			

**Down**

- 1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)
- 2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)
- 4 'We three kings of — are' (6)
- 5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)
- 6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)
- 7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)
- 10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John10:22)(10)
- 12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)
- 13 Forebear(James2:21)(8)

16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha(6)

18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis25:34)(4)

19 Rear(anag.)(4)

## Sudoku

			6			2	3		<b>Easy</b>
9					8	6		5	
	6	3				9	1		
				4	7	1	8	9	
1			8		5			3	
2	7	8	1	9					
	9	6				4	7		
8		1	9					6	
	5	7			6				

2		5				8			<b>Medium</b>
			6	5	3				
9							6		
			4		6			1	
3								4	
7			2		9				
	2							9	
			5	7	4				
		4				6		5	

**PUZ?LES**

**Solutions  
on page 35**

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**Easy**

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

**Medium**

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

**SMILE-LINES.....  
APPROPRIATE BABY NAMES**

- Lawyer's daughter: **Sue**
- Thief's son: **Rob**
- Lawyer's son: **Will**
- Fisherman's daughter: **Annette**
- Meteorologist's daughter: **Haley**
- Steam shovel operator's son: **Doug**
- Hairdresser's son: **Bob**
- Gourmet chef's son: **Herb**
- Justice of the Peace's daughter: **Mary**
- Sound stage technician's son: **Mike**
- Hot dog vendor's son: **Frank**

- Gambler's daughter: **Bette**
- Gambler's son: **Chip**
- Exercise guru's son: **Jim**
- Astronomer's daughter: **Skye**
- Cattle thief's son: **Russell**
- Painter's son: **Art**
- Iron worker's son: **Rusty**
- TV star's daughter: **Emmy**
- Movie star's son: **Oscar**
- Barber's son: **Harry**

# REGISTERS



**We welcome in HOLY BAPTISM**

S Oswald's

June 14

Jude Robert Norfolk

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

S Oswald's

June 4

George Walter Evans, aged 93

June 15

Evelyn Anne Wright, aged 95

Louisa Jane Critchell, aged 77



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