

# **St Oswald : Lower Peover Parish Magazine**



**March 2021**  
**50p**



# **Full details of services at St Oswald's and St Lawrence's can be found on the website [peoverchurches.org.uk](http://peoverchurches.org.uk)**

## **Occasional Offices**

Weddings: Please contact Fr Murray Aldridge-Collins Tel: 01565 723624

Funerals and Burials: Please contact Mrs Ann Barlow. Tel: 01565 722989

Baptisms: Please contact one of the church wardens – details below

## **Church Officers:**

**Vicar:** Fr Murray Aldridge-Collins

The Vicarage, Crown Lane, Lower Peover. Tel: 01565 723624

## **Reader**

Mrs Ann Barlow, 23 Trouthall Lane, Plumley, Knutsford. WA16 0UN. Tel: 01565 722989

## **Churchwardens**

Mr Rodney Fowler, Tithe House, Chelford Road, Knutsford, WA16 8LY.

Tel: 01565 634112. [rodneyfowler@talktalk.net](mailto:rodneyfowler@talktalk.net)

Mr Keith Phillips, 49 Bailey Court, Alsager, Stoke on Trent, ST7 2YH.

Tel: 01270 878259. [kphil61@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kphil61@hotmail.co.uk)

**Hon Secretary of PCC:** Mrs Felicity Wilshaw, 46 Holly Tree Road, Plumley, Knutsford. WA16 0UJ. Tel: 01565 722527

**Hon Treasurer of PCC:** Mr Colin Gidman, Heron's Way, 13 Malt Kiln Road, Plumley, Knutsford. WA16 0TS. Tel: 01565 722313

**Organist:** Mr David Tredwell. Tel: 01565 634340

**Lower Peover C of E Primary School Head:** Mrs Sharon Dean Tel 01625 383292

**Magazine Editor:** Lynda Boag-Munroe Tel: 01477 534291

[lyndaboagmunroe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lyndaboagmunroe@yahoo.co.uk)

**Weekly Bulletin:** Carl Douglas: Tel: 01625 861613

Dear Friends,

Of all the seasons of the year springtime is probably my favourite.

As I have walked around the parish over the past weeks since I last wrote to you, I have been amazed at how quickly the natural world around us has been changing.

In a time of challenge, I have really begun to appreciate the beauty of this place. I have loved seeing the new green shoots, the spring flowers, especially the bright yellows of the daffodils, all the buds appearing on the trees and I've even bottle fed a lamb – all of which speak of our amazing creation and our amazing Creator. The rhythm of the seasons is wonderful and inspirational – even when we can feel rather down-in-the-dumps after a prolonged period long dark nights and for many the battle with the winter blues.

We have just had the first Sunday in Lent: our annual opportunity to nurture new life in our own lives; to look for God's spring-time in us; to focus on Jesus' amazing life and sacrificial love; to take some time to think and pray in response to the challenges we face; and to recognise God in the midst of everything we are going through.

Some of us may also be giving up something for Lent too, some chocolate, some their evening sherry, for me I'm giving up jellybeans! It is all part of refocusing ourselves and preparing for the transforming wonder that is to come at Easter.

The Bible teaches us that God so loved the world that He gave Himself, His love, His service, His sacrifice. At the very heart of God is generosity and kindness – something that we have all seen a little of reflected in the large and small acts kindness of others during this current lockdown.

So, if we see Lent as a time to be more aware of Gods loving heart and reaffirm our belief that God wants to transform this world, as he guides us out of the pandemic, turns winter into spring and leads us into the wonder of Easter then, instead of Lent being a rather glum season; it is like the daffodils I have been spotting on my walks around our villages, which can only put a little spring in our steps and a little hope in our hearts.

Keep going Peover, spring is here and there is most definitely light at the end of the tunnel!

May God bless you and bring us all a little spring joy during this season of Lent, see you all for Easter! Fr Murray

WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

I wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.  
  
Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the milky way,  
They stretched in never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.  
  
The waves beside them danced; but they  
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:  
A poet could not but be gay,  
In such a jocund company:  
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought:  
  
For oft, when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the daffodils.

Stay blessed with that hope and love,

Fr Murray

## **In our prayers...**

At all our services we ask God's blessing on those known to us who are ill or infirm, particularly those with whom we have close connections as members of the congregation. If you would like to be named in our prayers of intercessions because you are undergoing treatment or know of someone who has requested prayer please contact Fr Murray or our Reader, Ann.

## **Parish register**

We give thanks for the lives of

John William Bull  
Jean Murgatroyd  
Barbara Ashley

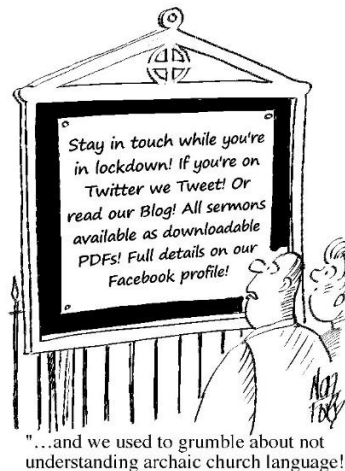
May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

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## **Peover Benefice website**

While in-person services have been temporarily paused Fr Murray and Ann will be recording Sunday services. These can be accessed from the website along with the Order of Service and a reflection for the day. Please check the website regularly for any changes to ongoing activities particularly at this time of uncertainty. Ann also sends out a regular email with updates. If you would like to be added to the mailing list please email Ann ([hannbarlow@btopenworld.com](mailto:hannbarlow@btopenworld.com)).

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"...and we used to grumble about not understanding archaic church language!"

## **Daily Hope phone line**

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line is free and available 24 hours a day on 0880 804 8044.

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## **Children's Church**

Children's Church is now taking place on the third Sunday of the month at 9.30am. During lockdown it is taking place over Zoom and the next time we meet will be on 21<sup>st</sup> March. All-age services are currently suspended but Ann is sending out activity sheets for the children by email every week. If you would like to receive the activity sheets for your children, a Zoom invitation for Children's Church or to be kept updated on activities for families please email Ann

([hannbarlow@btopenworld.com](mailto:hannbarlow@btopenworld.com)) to be added to the mailing list.

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Dear God,

In this month, when we especially think about mothers, we thank you for the families and friends you have given us. You know how hard it has been to have been separated over these past months, how much we have missed and longed for their hugs, their physical presence and fellowship.

As we hold on to the hope of overcoming the pandemic, help us to be strengthened by the power of the love we receive – and to strengthen others by the love we give. May we know that, wherever we are, whatever our circumstances, we and our loved ones are held safe and connected by your unfailing love for us, revealed in Jesus and from whom nothing, no pandemic, no man-made turmoil, absolutely nothing and no-one can separate us, when we put our trust in Him.

Thank you, Father, that we belong to your family. Thank you for the love and security we have in you.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

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## **Winners of the January 100 Club**

No. 79 - Pamela Shepheard - £70

No. 102 - Harry Kennedy - £30

## FINANCE

As you may be aware, a substantial part of our income is received through collections at our regular services. Given the current circumstances we will not be able to receive such donations so we would be grateful if you would consider making your usual contribution by cheque or by standing order.

**For more information contact the treasurer  
Colin Gidman on 01565 722313**

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### **Income and Expenditure**

Income:	January 2021	£1,516.50
Expenditure:	January 2021	£5,268.53

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### **Import dates in March**

#### **1 March – St David’s Day**

We do know that David – or Dafydd – of Pembrokeshire was a monk and bishop of the 6th century. In the 12th century he was made patron of Wales, and he has the honour of being the only Welsh saint to be canonised and culted in the Western Church. Tradition has it that he was austere with himself, and generous with others – living on water and vegetables (leeks, perhaps?!) and devoting himself to works of mercy. He was much loved.

#### **14 March – Mothering Sunday**

The fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known as Mothering Sunday. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church. During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as ‘live-in’ servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families, which is how ‘Mothering Sunday’ got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed, and in many ways now resembles the American Mother's Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.

### **17 March – St Patrick's Day**

St Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. Patrick was born the son of a town councillor in the west of England, between the Severn and the Clyde. As a young man he was captured by Irish pirates, kidnapped to Ireland, and reduced to slavery. He was made to tend his master's herds.

Desolate and despairing, Patrick turned to prayer. He found God was there for him, even in such desperate circumstances. After six lonely years he was told in a dream he would soon go to his own country. He either escaped or was freed, made his way to a port 200 miles away and eventually persuaded some sailors to take him with them away from Ireland. Patrick landed on English soil at last, and returned to his family. But he was much changed. He had enjoyed his life of plenty before; now he wanted to devote the rest of his life to Christ. Patrick received some form of training for the priesthood, but not the higher education he really wanted.

But by 435, well-educated or not, Patrick was badly needed so the Pope sent Patrick back to the land of his slavery. He set up his see at Armagh and worked principally in the north. He urged the Irish to greater spirituality, set up a school, and made several missionary journeys. Patrick's writings are the first literature certainly identified from the British Church. They reveal sincere simplicity and a deep pastoral care. He wanted to abolish paganism, idolatry, and was ready for imprisonment or death in the following of Christ.

Patrick remains the most popular of the Irish saints. The principal cathedral of New York is dedicated to him, as, of course, is the Anglican cathedral of Dublin.

### **19 March – St Joseph's Day**

Why should St Joseph's day be in March? Surely, he belongs to Advent and Christmas, at Mary's side in millions of nativity scenes around the world.

In any case, as the foster-father of Christ and husband of Mary, Joseph played a major part in the story of the coming of Jesus Christ. All that we know about him for sure is in the gospels. Read especially Matthew 1 – 2. He was of Davidic descent, but his trade as a carpenter shows that he was not at all wealthy.



Joseph’s gentleness and decency towards Mary, and his willingness to do God’s will when it was revealed to him, portray him as a kind and godly person. Joseph is the patron saint of fathers of families, and he makes an excellent example. He comes across as a protecting, loyal, thoughtful, self-controlled person, full of integrity, and willing to work hard.

Joseph is also the patron saint of all who desire a holy death. Thus, countless churches, hospitals and religious congregations are dedicated to Joseph.

**PALM SUNDAY - Jesus at the gates of Jerusalem**

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, when the Church remembers how Jesus arrived at the gates of Jerusalem just a few days before the Passover was due to be held. He was the Messiah come to His own people in their capital city, and yet He came in humility, riding on a young donkey, not in triumph, riding on a war-horse.

As Jesus entered the city, the crowds gave Him a rapturous welcome, throwing palm fronds into His path. They knew His reputation as a healer, and welcomed Him. But sadly, the welcome was short-lived and shallow, for Jerusalem would soon reject her Messiah, and put Him to death. On this day churches worldwide will distribute little crosses made from palm fronds in memory of Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem.

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## **Reflected Faith: with all your soul, strength and mind**

I believe there were two key elements to gathered worship. The first is that there should be **a *welcome for everyone***.

The second I would like to propose is that gathered worship is absolutely concentrated on *enabling and allowing our hearts and souls to be closer to the God whom we are worshipping*.

In other words, whatever takes place, whatever words or music or readings, preaching, with or without Communion, whatever it is – is all intentionally allowing us to be closer to God.

It sounds very high and mighty doesn't it! To put it in simpler language: When I was ordained a deacon, my Training Incumbent told me that if I did not know what I was doing or where I should be standing etc at any part of the service, to *just stay still*. The aim was, at its worst, for me not to get between people and God. At its best, it was for me to help enable the gap to be closed.

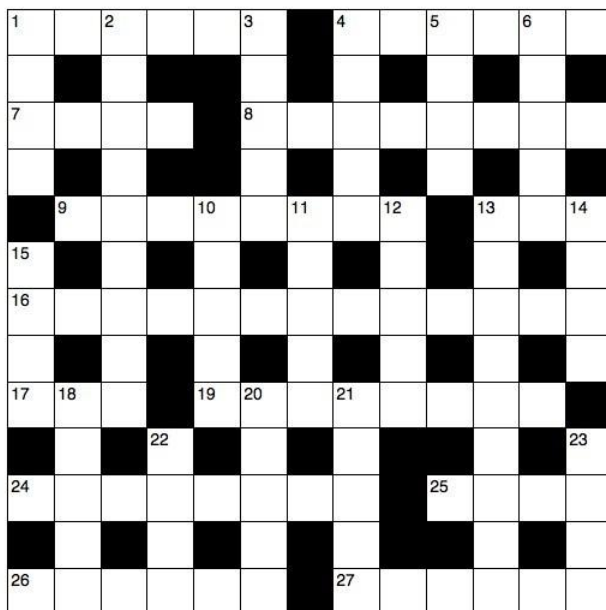
I recall my very first service as a brand-new Deacon in a new part of the country and in a very different church from my previous experiences. The service was one I was completely unfamiliar with, so the Vicar said, "It is easy, just do what I do. If I stand, you stand, and so on. Just follow me."

Well, I did. There were hymns, a chant from the choir, congregational anthems, Bible readings, intercessions, prayers and finally a money collection. I had followed the Vicar in every step, up and down to the altar, standing and sitting. It seemed to go on a long time!

As he stood for what I thought was the final blessing, I rose with him and started to follow. But he stopped at the base of the pulpit and whispered, "I'm going to give the sermon - you may sit!"

Whether you physically go to a gathered service in church or are watching/participating online, have a look around you. Is this worship drawing you in to God's love? Is it encouraging you to explore deeper what His love and grace means in your daily life?

What is the attitude of those who are leading in any way, and that of the people around you? But most of all – what is *our* attitude?



## Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)  
 4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)  
 7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)  
 8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1) (8)  
 9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 2:5) (8)  
 13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this (Luke 8:16) (3)  
 16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)  
 17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)  
 19 Where the Gaderene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)  
 24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)  
 25 The Venerable — , eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)  
 26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)  
 27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

## Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)  
 2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)  
 3 Gospel leaflet (5)  
 4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)  
 5 Tugs (anag) (4)

- 6 To put forth (5)  
10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)  
11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)  
12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel'  
(Genesis 25:26) (5)  
13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha's request  
(2 Kings 6:18) (9)  
14 "Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times that you know me"  
(Luke 22:34) (4)  
15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)  
18 'When I — , I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)  
20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)  
21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)  
22 Does (anag) (4)  
23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)
- 



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**Knutsford Floral Design Club has suspended  
all club meetings and events until further notice.**

For more information telephone Lynda on 01477 534291

## Together

In the year nineteen seventy-one they heard the church bells ring  
That wedding day was so much fun! They promised they would cling  
Together they would always stay till death will come to part their way.

In the year nineteen eighty-one for ten years they'd been wed  
Two daughters and a strapping son and still they often said,  
Together they would always stay till death will come to part their way.

In the year nineteen ninety-one their children nearly grown!  
Yes, troubles go and troubles come but they had always shown  
Together they would always stay till death will come to part their way.

In the year two thousand and one their lifelong odyssey  
Had brought to them their first grandson but everyone could see  
Together they would always stay till death will come to part their way.

In the year twenty-eleven retirement came at last  
Grandchildren – now they counted seven the family grows fast!  
Together they would always stay till death will come to part their way.

In the year twenty twenty-one their Golden Wedding day.  
But celebrations? There were none. A Care home said that they  
Together couldn't always stay for Covid came come to part their way.

By Nigel Beeton

*(Nigel Beeton is a recently retired senior radiologist, and this poem comes out of time spent at the hospital in January, helping colleagues.)*

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## Definitions from church life

- HYMN:** A song of praise usually sung in a key two octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.
- PEW:** A medieval torture device still found in some churches.
- SIDESMEN:** The only people in the parish who do not know the seating capacity of a pew.

The Vicarage  
My dear Nephew Darren

**On how to survive a weekend away with the young people**

I think your idea for both our Confirmation groups getting together for a weekend away – socially distanced, of course - was excellent and our meeting last week drew most of the plans together. We did not take any minutes, so let me record the decisions I believe we made.

Since all of us have to sleep far apart at the centre, I am prepared to spend the nights at a local hotel. By chance, I have found that there is a four star one only a few miles away, so I have booked myself in.

As the dining area in the youth centre may be cramped, I am also willing to have dinner each evening at the hotel, thereby creating more space for the rest of you. An additional sadness is that, since breakfast at the hotel is not served until 8am, I will not be able to join you either for your pre-breakfast dip in the nearby stream. It would be grossly unfair to expect you to pack lunch for me, so I will arrange for the hotel to provide me with a picnic hamper for one which I can have while you all enjoy your cheese and pickle sandwiches.

I think it will be an excellent learning experience if you prepare all the teaching sessions yourself, but be assured that I will always be on hand to give the advice of experience. That large armchair near the fire in the common room seems to be the best place for me to sit, so I can keep an eye on proceedings, while I take on the responsibilities for stoking the fire. This reminds me; do make sure that the young people are encouraged to saw enough logs each morning for me to fulfil my obligations.

Naturally, my arthritis will prevent me being able to accompany you on your afternoon hikes, but I will cheerfully park my car wherever you leave the minibus, to provide a second vehicle in case of emergencies. I do not mind in the least waiting all those long hours until you get back; I have already found an attractive tea shop in the village.

I am fully aware that not sleeping or dining at the centre, not being responsible for preparing the teaching, nor being involved on the walks will mean that my contributions will be ever so slightly limited, but these are sacrifices I gladly make in order to give you further experience in your ministerial career.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

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## **Please join the ‘St Oswald’s Lower Peover 100 Club’**

Dating from 1269, St Oswald’s church has been central to the village of Lower Peover for centuries. Throughout that time, it has been the spiritual home of many people, and not just those living in the village itself.

It still fulfils that role today, a peaceful haven in an ever busier and complicated world. As a Grade 1 listed building, it enjoys a setting of particular importance, and the assumption is that it always will be. But escalating costs mean that we can no longer take that for granted. Buildings such as St Oswald’s are hugely expensive to maintain and ever-increasing running costs need to be found.

**It is a sobering thought that our Parish Share (the money we pay to Chester Diocese for our church and a vicar) is £51,395. That is £988 each week.** That is before any lighting, heating, maintenance etc. is taken into consideration, and, contrary to what many people still think, the State does not pay towards a church’s upkeep.

We launched the 100 Club in May 2008 and membership currently stands at 71, although it has been as high as 106. The club currently raises about £2,500 each year (after prizes) and really does make a huge difference to our resources. So far it has raised over £25,000 for the running costs of our church. **And all for the minimal cost of £1 per week to members!**

The 100 Club works in this way:

We collect £1 a week from each member per number held, which can be paid either as an annual fee of £52, or £13 per quarter, by standing order. Members are allocated individual numbers and each month two numbers are drawn. The first receives a prize of £70, the second receives £30. The remainder of the proceeds go to the church. You may individually hold more than one number and indeed, past winners have often had multiple holdings. It really is as simple as that!

The 100 Club is designed to appeal to regular churchgoers and those people who may not be able to worship regularly with us, but who also think it is important that the church remains open as an important part of village life.

We really would like to get our membership back up to at least 100 and hope that if you are reading this you may feel able to help – all for £1 per week! Please do join the 100 Club by completing the membership form at the back of this magazine or online at our website, and simply post it back to me.

Likewise, if you have any queries or questions about the 100 Club, please call me, Keith Phillips on 01270 878259 or mobile 07973 900032.  
Email [kphil61@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kphil61@hotmail.co.uk)

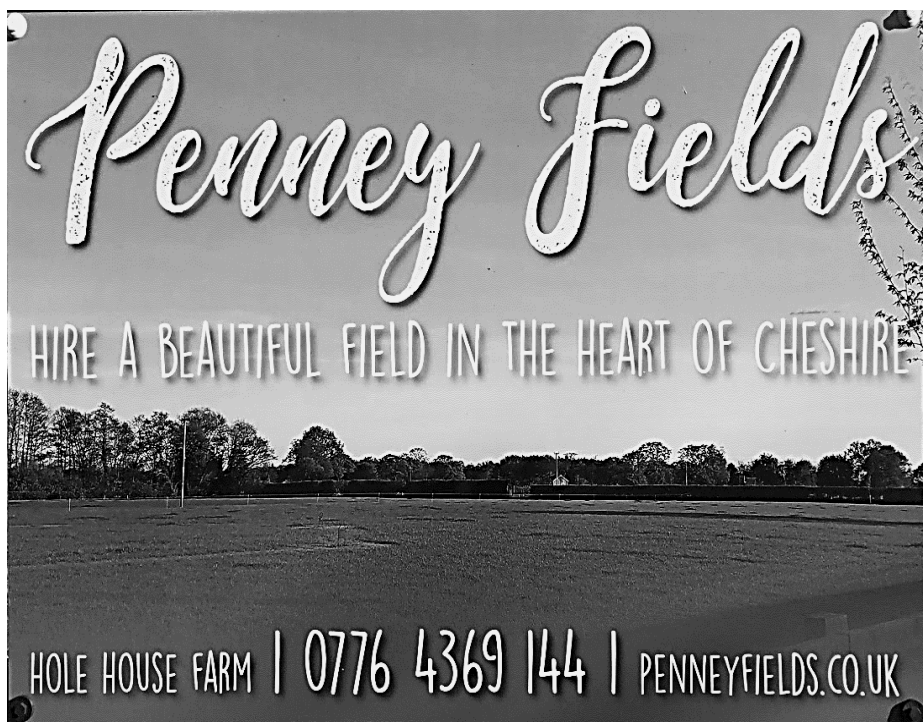
Many congratulations to all our winners – and our thanks to all members who are currently supporting the 100 Club. Stay safe and thank you.

**Keith Phillips – Churchwarden**

(Lottery Registration No. 08/LO/77)

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## **Information for the Magazine**

If you would like to put an article in  
the magazine,

maybe to congratulate  
someone for an achievement  
or to share a big birthday

with others,

please contact me on

01477 534291

or

[lyndaboagmunroe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lyndaboagmunroe@yahoo.co.uk)

## **Crossword Answers**

**ACROSS:** 1, Planet. 4, Rugged. 7, True. 8, Augustus. 9, Attitude. 13, Bed.  
16, Participation. 17, War. 19, Hillside. 24, Baldhead. 25, Bede. 26, Census.  
27, Arisen.

**DOWN:** 1, Path. 2, Adulterer. 3, Tract. 4, Rigid. 5, Gust. 6, Exude. 10, Irish.  
11, Uriel.  
12, Esau's. 13, Blindness. 14, Deny. 15, Spew. 18, Awake. 20, Ideas. 21, Lydia.  
22, Odes. 23, Lean.

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**Lower Peover WI – meets on the first Wednesday in the month  
In Lower Peover School at 7.30pm**

For information contact Sally Geake LP 722489

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**Plumley WI meets on the first Monday of the month  
at 7.30pm in Plumley Village Hall**

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## Lower Peover Church Website

News and events can be found on our website [www.peoverchurches.com](http://www.peoverchurches.com)



Smartphone users can access the site by scanning the QR code You can also find a full calendar of events on <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/lower-or-nether-peover-st-oswald/> If you have any items which you would like included on the website or the online calendar contact Ann on [hannbarlow@btopenworld.com](mailto:hannbarlow@btopenworld.com)

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The deadline for the next issue of the magazine is Friday 19 March 2021

## I wish to join the 'St Oswald's Lower Peover 100 Club'

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....Post code .....Tel

No.....

I would like to buy ..... number(s) at a cost of £1 per week.

\*I enclose a cheque, made payable to 'St Oswald's Church Lottery Fund' for £52 per number for a full year, or \* I have completed that attached Standing Order and will pay at the rate of £13 per number each quarter.

\*Delete as appropriate

Signed ..... Date .....

Please return this page and the Standing Order instruction below to:

Keith Phillips, (St. Oswald's 100 Club)  
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[28]

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LOWER PEOVER

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To: Lower Peover Church

Please enter the following name in the Remembrance Book:

.....

Age: .....

Date of Death.....

Fee £30.00 Enclosed

Signed.....

Date.....

Name and Address.....

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Telephone No. ....

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