

St Oswald's : Lower Peover

Parish Magazine



November 2022

50p



Full details of services at St Oswald's and St Lawrence's can be found on the website peoverchurches.org.uk

Occasional Offices

Weddings: Please contact Norman Withenshaw: 07771 651888

Funerals and Burials: Please contact Mrs Pam Adlington or Norman Withenshaw

Baptisms: Please contact Keith Phillips Tel: 01270 878259

Church Officers:

Vicar:

Fr Murray Aldridge-Collins

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

Churchwardens:

There is a vacancy for two churchwardens

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

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

Services at St Oswald's

St Oswald's is now open every day for individual prayer

First Sunday of the month 11am - All Age Worship

Second, third and fourth Sundays of the month 11am – Morning service

Third Sunday of the month 9.30am - Children's Church (except in August)

Fifth Sunday of the month 10.00am - Benefice service (alternately at St Oswald's and St Lawrence's)

St Oswald's is now open every day for individual prayer

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 prayers please contact one of the churchwardens.

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

6th November - Wedding Flowers

13th November - Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday flowers to the end of the month

4th December - Ellie Beharrell

If anyone wishes to put flowers in church, there are always vases on the Remembrance Book Table. I do a rota only for the pedestals.

Edwina Oldham - Flower Rota Organiser

E.mail: - edwina@lowerpeover.plus.com - Tel: 01565 631441

Dear friends,

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away; change and decay in all around I see; O thou who changest not, abide with me.

These words, from the hymn 'Abide with me', seem very appropriate at the moment, don't they? So much has changed since our last magazine. The nights are drawing in; trees are looking decidedly more autumnal; I am having to navigate all the falling acorns, Pickles the vicarage dog needs more baths after rolling around in the wet fields, there is a distinct nip in the air in the early morning; a new Prime Minister has been appointed and resigned; and, of course, we have a new King, King Charles III.

For some it has all been quite unsettling.

Change can be challenging— even changes we know are coming can often knock us sideways. But I think that it is the changes that take us by surprise that are often the hardest to deal with. As a parish we have unexpectedly, suddenly lost several loved members of the congregation recently and I have found myself moved to tears as we gathered with their families and friends to remember them.

November of course is that month when we *remember* isn't it? We remember those who gave their lives for our freedom and our nation, and we also remember all those we have loved yet see no more. Bereavement is notoriously the hardest change for us to accept as everything seems so final, so definitive, so filled with emotion. With the death of Queen Elizabeth, we have experienced the loss of someone who gave us tremendous stability when everything else was changing. Loss and change is hard. The challenge for us all is to remember the good things too.

One thing the hymn 'Abide with me' does, is to remind us all of the constancy of God and his abundant love. The God who created the earth and the heavens, who threw the stars into space, and loved you and me into being, he is the same God today, as he was yesterday, and will remain the same in all the days that are to come. Our God is steadfast and faithful, always with us even when we might find it hard to see or feel him. As Jesus reminds us, he will be us to the end of time. There is therefore, no matter the struggle, or the darkness, always hope and there is always love.

So as the evenings draw in, and we possibly find ourselves being unsettled by things going on around us, at home and away, or as we are challenged to remember our losses during what has been a difficult year, may we never lose sight of the hope that our faith brings to us. Remembering, that very soon advent will be upon us, our long evenings will be lit with small twinkling lights, messages of peace and the goodwill

will ring out on our radios and God's promise of loving hope reflected in the eyes of a new born babe will, I pray, begin to bring us all a little comfort, joy and some much-needed peace.

Every Blessing
Fr Murray

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Income and Expenditure for

SEPTEMBER

Gift Aid	£2090.95
General collection	£ 347.41
Card Reader	£ 345.62
Donations	£ 485.00
Total income	£3268.98
Expenditure	£5122.16

CALENDAR OF SERVICES AT St OSWALD'S LOWER PEOVER
BCP-Book of Common Prayer CW-Common worship

Midweek Holy Communion services continue on Wednesdays at 10.00am

Wednesday 2nd November: All Souls

6.30pm Service of Light /Commemoration of the faithful departed

Saturday 5th November

12noon - Wedding

Sunday 6th November: 3rd Sunday before Advent

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

11am All age service

Saturday 12th November

12noon - Burial of ashes

Sunday 13th November: 2nd Sunday before Advent. Remembrance Sunday

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.50am Outdoor Observance followed by Service of Remembrance

11.00am Children's church

Thursday 17th November

2pm - Wedding

Sunday 20th November: Sunday before Advent

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

11am Holy Communion (CW) and Children's church

Saturday 26th November

12noon - Wedding

Sunday 27th November: Advent Sunday

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

11am Holy Communion (CW) and Children's church

Sunday 4th December: 2nd Sunday of Advent - Gift service

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

11am All age service

Please note that services may change so please check the website

From the Registers

Baptisms:

Phoenix Picket
Phoebe Garner
Cody Daly
Violet Lane

Weddings:

Claire Hollis and Lawrence Searl

Funerals:

John Gough

Knutsford Floral Design Club

Knutsford Floral Design Club meets every third Wednesday in the month at 1.30pm for 2pm in Plumley Village Hall (except June - the second Wednesday, August – no meeting, and December when we hold our Christmas lunch)

We have a floral demonstration by qualified demonstrators,
followed by tea and biscuits.

Visitors are very welcome for a small fee of £8

For more information telephone Lynda on 01477 534291

Lower Peover Church Website

News and events can be found on our website www.peoverchurches.com



Smartphone users can access the site by scanning the QR code

find a full calendar of events on <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/lower-or-nether-peover-st-oswald/>

You can also



We would like to invite you and your friends

To our Christmas Goodies Sale

at

The Little House Montessori School

The Cobbles, Lower Peover WA16 9PZ

on

Tuesday November 15th

from

3pm – 7pm

Masses of lovely gifts unique to The Little House

Raffle

**Pots of bulbs, homemade mincemeat, chocolate cakes,
chutneys, and our very special Little House Chocolate
Christmas Puddings**

Please invite your friends

**£4 entry fee for adults to include a glass of Champagne and
entry into our draw for a Hamper**

The charity we are supporting this year is

CARING FOR LIFE

The Rectory - St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

On the challenge of hitting 11 o'clock precisely....

It is a great shame that your church does not have chandeliers – although in your low-ceilinged converted cinema, any chandelier more than a few feet tall would also be embedded in your floor carpeting. However, I find that there is nothing like watching the standard bearers on Remembrance Sunday parading up the aisle with their flags and getting them caught up in our brass candelabra.

One year, the procession ground to a halt while a bearer fought to retrieve his flag, and was obliged to leave it flying in the centre of the church while he presented me with an empty pole. I always feel obliged to tell parishioners that, since all the candelabra will inevitably be sent spinning, not to stare at them, or they may leave the church hypnotised. On the other hand, Miss Simpson generally leaves the church looking like that.

Major Hastings always arrives bejewelled with so many medals that every time he kneels for prayer, it sounds as if he is taking the collection. Their weight increases his stoop by at least ten degrees, to the point where some feel we should support him with a personal flying buttress.

Since the trumpeter playing the Last Post can be of varying quality, your idea of broadcasting it from London into your church is inspired. However, your worries about whether your radio will be good enough need not trouble you. If you tell your congregation that they are about to hear the broadcast silence and you then simply not switch the thing on, no one will be able to tell the slightest difference whether the silence is being broadcast or not. In fact, they will even congratulate you on hitting 11am at exactly the right moment.

I always use subterfuge; I have the church clock disconnected and then when we reach the time for silence, irrespective of the true time, I get a churchwarden to toll the bell eleven times. This way, I have apparently come to the exact moment without a hitch for the last 30 years.

You will also find that preaching about warfare and of man's inhumanity to man will give you greater insights into the working of your church council. The only difference is that on committees – sadly – the use of machine guns is rather frowned on.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Wonder and Worship

“I was travelling, and out early in the morning. At first there was a vast fog; but, by the time that I was seven or eight miles from home, towards the coast, the sun broke out into a delicate warm day. We were then on a large heath or common, and I could discern, as the mist began to break away, great numbers of swallows (*hirundines rusticae*) clustering on the stunted shrubs and bushes, as if they had roosted there all night. As soon as the air became clear and pleasant they all were on the wing at once, and, by a placid and easy flight, proceeded on southward towards the sea”.

How many church leaders today have time to enjoy their surroundings? Gilbert White was a vicar who became famous for his observations about the flora and fauna of his parish. His letters about the local wildlife through the seasons were so beautifully written that they are still in print today, more than 200 years after they were first published as *The Natural History and Antiquities of Selbourne*.

White is a great example of someone who saw science and faith in harmony. He writes that he hopes his readers will be inspired to “pay a more ready attention to the wonders of the Creation”. His stories are often so vivid that he gets away with packing in quite a bit of scientific detail, painting a more accurate picture of the wonderful events he observed as he travelled around the countryside. White’s book is one of the classics of nature writing, and there is even an apocryphal story online that this is one of the most printed books in the country, after the Bible and Shakespeare.

White may have been one of those people with a capacity for endless activity, or perhaps he took rather more care over natural history than his vocation. Either way, I do think that anyone, from the parish priest to the youngest member of the congregation, could learn from his appreciation of creation. It is well worth spending ten minutes every now and again staring into a bush, pond or tree - especially in winter when it is easy to hurry indoors and put the kettle on. Experiencing wildlife first-hand is wonderful fuel for our worship of God and care for His creation. As Psalm 111 says, “Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them” (NIV).

White’s book can be downloaded for free at <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1408>

A Sunday School teacher asked her children: “And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?” One little girl replied helpfully: “Because people are sleeping.”

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

In September, Children's Church began its new format. We are now meeting in church at 11am and staying for the notices/first hymn/confession and then going to the Little House for our activities. We have had lots of fun learning about Jesus and listened to his stories, singing, praying and doing crafts. We also started with remembering our Queen who died in September and praying for our new King-Charles III.

Numbers have fluctuated from three in the first week to about fifteen on Harvest Festival Sunday and it is very encouraging to see these children attending with their parents who are always welcome.

We return to church for Holy Communion or a blessing. It has been really good that Father Murray has been giving the children a lovely blessing altogether. Before the last hymn Father Murray asks the children and leaders to talk about and show what they have been doing and at Harvest we sang a song with actions which I believe the congregation enjoyed. I know that Father Murray did.

At the All- age service the children and families have been involved in leading the family prayers and we hope to be able to sing again or do some drama at Christmas. It is lovely to see these young families joining in our services and they need our welcome and encouragement.

However, we do need more volunteers to help us!! A DBS check will be necessary but this is not difficult. Leaders and volunteers would work on a rota basis. If you are interested in being a helper or just want to find out more information or if you want your child to join in please contact:

Rosie on 07916129153, Rebekah on 07879854335 or Felicity on 07980178455

Dates for September 2002

4th September - All age service 11am in church.

23rd October, 13th, 20th 27th November - Children's church 11am -beginning in church.

13th November may be slightly different with the Remembrance Sunday service so please look at the website or check emails from the leaders.

6th November - All age service 11am in church.

4th December - Gift service - All age service 11am in church.

More details later.

Felicity Wilshaw

Food Basket for Hope Central

As a church we appreciate that a lot of people are struggling at this time. So, what can we do practically to help?

From Sunday 6th November, a basket will be placed in Church on a weekly basis for non-perishable food donations. This will be taken each Monday for distribution by Hope Central, a local Christian Charity.

Hope Central is an Ecumenical project based in St John's Church Knutsford and covers North East Cheshire, so our donations will be distributed locally. It is a Christian charity committed to bringing hope and relieving poverty in Cheshire East.

At Hope Central we recognise that everyone needs a helping hand at some point and we want to provide support to anyone in need. We do this because we believe in a heavenly Father who loves everyone unconditionally, and we want to express that love in practical ways by supplying food to people in difficult circumstances and helping people address underlying reasons that contribute to their distress.

As well as the usual staple tins and packet foods which are so necessary, why not put a few extra goodies in for Christmas. We all need treats.

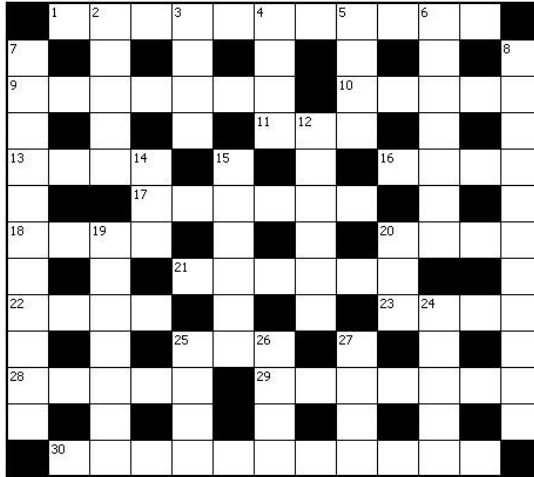
Hope Central was established in 2019, supported by three churches: VineLife Wilmslow, St Chad's Handforth and St John's Knutsford.

As well as meeting people's immediate need for food, we also want to support people to get back on their feet, so as well as providing a Foodbank we offer a Job Club, Money Course, Life Skills Course, Fresh Start Course, Debt Centre, Hope Centres and Refugee support.

All the staff and volunteers working with Hope Central are passionate about seeing lives changed for the better. As Christians we believe in a Heavenly Father who loves everyone unconditionally and we want to express that love in practical ways, especially to people who find themselves in difficult circumstances. Everyone needs a helping hand at times. So please donate.

Thank you. A link for further information is attached below.

hopecentral.org.uk



Across

- 1 and 20 Down ‘Lord of all _, Lord of all _, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy’ (11,3)
- 9 Moses’ question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: ‘Why are you _ your fellow Hebrew?’ (Exodus 2:13) (7)
- 10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline _ (2,3)
- 11 ‘At even _ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay’ (3)
- 13 A descendant of Gad (x Numbers 26:16) (4)
- 16 ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but _ for the gift my Father promised’ (Acts 1:4) (4)
- 17 Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6)
- 18 Peter’s response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: ‘We must _ God rather than men!’ (Acts 5:29) (4)
- 20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, _ Eareckson Tada (4)
- 21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)
- 22 ‘Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat _ _’ (Matthew 13:2) (2,2)
- 23 Infectious tropical disease (4)
- 25 Tree (3)
- 28 ‘No fear of me should _ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you’ (Job 33:7) (5)
- 29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7)
- 30 Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church’s calendar (11)

Down

- 2 'O Jerusalem _ how _ I have longed to gather your children together'
Matthew 23:37) (5)
- 3 Way out (4)
- 4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)
- 5 Done (anag.) (4)
- 6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)
- 7 Concerning the study of God (11)
- 8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11)
- 12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)
- 14 Frozen (3)
- 15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)
- 19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)
- 20 See 1 Across
- 24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)
- 25 Time (anag.) (4)
- 26 Lists choice of meals (4)
- 27 'For the wages of sin is death, but the _ of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus
our Lord'(Romans 6:23) (4)

We Remember

The Somme, Dunkirk and Passchendaele
Cause us to think of times of war,
When men and boys went bravely out
They fought, some died and returned no more.

They gave their all that we should live,
We never should forget such cost,
Remembering with thankful hearts
Our freedom gained as lives were lost.

Another Man gave up His life,
Another war, another fight,
With all mankind held fast in chains
As darkness fell as black as night.

The cost was high, a sinless life
To break the chains and set us free,
The Lamb of God on Calvary's cross
Paid that price for you, for me. *By Megan Carter*

The Two Minutes Silence

In the month when we think about those who have given their lives in war, the Two Minutes Silence is a significant act of remembrance. The silence provides an opportunity to remember those who have suffered in war and how we can work for a peaceful world. However, we can also find ourselves thinking about lunch or whether we have switched off our phone?

Victor Frankl, a victim of Auschwitz, suggested that the most intolerable of all human conditions is not imprisonment or hunger, but lack of meaning. The two minutes of silence enables us to connect with Jesus' message, which offers true meaning to our lives and world. He spoke of giving ourselves in love for each other and the world, 'Love your enemies and pray for those that persecute you' (Matthew 5:44). He also demonstrated such love in sacrificing His own life, 'Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends' (John 15:13). When observing the silence, let us use it to reflect on this sacrificial love, as we call to mind those who have laid down their lives.

In our busy lives, where so much clamours for our attention, silence gives us an opportunity to reflect on our priorities and rediscover true meaning in our lives. This is not just for Remembrance Sunday, as Jesus often withdrew to find silence to seek God (eg: Luke 5:16). Let us use silence in our lives as space to seek God's will and offer ourselves to Him, just as those who gave themselves in conflict through the years.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'

30 years since the C of E said 'yes' to women priests

30 years ago, on 11th November 1992, the Church of England voted to allow women to become priests. The first women were ordained in March 1994.

Grandad's Typewriter

My Grandad had a typewriter, Imperial, I think
Used to command his empire with black typewriter ink.

He wrote his lengthy letters on subjects to him dear
Then sealed them, stamped them, sent them to places far and near.

He was quite heavy fingered those keys he'd really pound
The house's very timbers vibrated with the sound.

It went on for long hours and we'd hear everything
And at the end of every line a little bell would ring!

He sent them to the mission field and to our poor MP
He sent them off to strangers and to his family.

So then he'd watch the postman and how his wrath would burn
If his poor correspondents replied not by return!

I never thought I'd miss it but, looking back, I do;
A sound, like many others, that wove my childhood through.

What sounds today, I wonder that do not bring us bliss,
Will soon be just a memory that we might really miss?

By Nigel Beeton

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Hopefulness. 9, Hitting. 10, du Pre. 11, Ere. 13, Ozni. 16, Wait.
17, Climbs. 18, Obey. 20, Joni. 21, Cuckoo. 22, In it. 23, Yaws. 25, Elm. 28, Alarm.
29, Epistle. 30, Whitsuntide.

DOWN: 2, Often. 3, Exit. 4, Urge. 5, Node. 6, Soprano. 7, Theological.
8, Westminster. 12, Rebuke. 14, Icy. 15, Ritual. 19, Epitaph. 20, Joy. 24, Acted.
25, Emit. 26, Menu. 27, Gift.

Suffering from truth decay? Brush up on your Bible

**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**

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

**Over Peover WI meets on the last Thursday of each month
at 7.30pm in Over Peover Village Hall.
Contact June Leach – 07500 250969**

A prayer of remembering and looking forward

Loving Father,

Here we are in November, the month of short days and mist and remembering. And this year we have so much to remember. The year our Servant Queen left us and came to be with you, the King of Kings she had served so faithfully. Remembering celebration and sadness Lord, as we thank you for Queen Elizabeth, but looking forward too as we prepare for Advent.

As we work towards Christmas, yes, we remember your coming as a baby in Jesus, but even more reassuring in these difficult times we can hold on to your promise that You will come back again as our glorious King, when there will be no more death or mourning, crying or pain – when You will make all things new, when all shall be well! Come Lord Jesus! Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

A rather long-winded preacher was dealing with the Old Testament prophets, one by one. “And now,” he propounded, “we reach Isaiah. Where shall I put Isaiah?” At that, a little man in the front row stood up. “He can have my seat. I am going home!”

The poppies of Remembrance

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.

Sometimes people think of church as being like a giant helicopter. They don't want to get too close in case they get sucked into the rotas.

Milton Jones

There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.

Albert Einstein



*...love the new notice board, Vicar...
...just not quite so sure about the wording...*

Chicken rules

One day a new chicken was introduced to the farm. The duck, who was in charge, showed the new chicken around. “This is where you go to get fed, this is the water trough and that is the coop. Chickens hang out near the fence, us ducks near the pond and the geese near the gate. We are friendly, but we keep to our own. Oh, and whatever you do, DO NOT cross that road. You’ll never hear the end of it.”

Don’t cross the line

There is a line on the ocean where you lose a day after crossing it. There is also a line on all busy roads, where you can lose a lot more if you cross it.

Annual Charity

The PCC has agreed that charitable giving in the coming year will be in support of the Farming Community Network. Retiring collections will be invited at relevant services throughout the year. This charity is particularly important in our rural community and we are encouraged to give generously.

Safeguarding

St Oswald's and St Lawrence's take their duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding. The Parish Safeguarding Officer for St Oswald's is Tracey Wallace. If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues concerning a safeguarding matter within the parish please contact Tracey in confidence on 07724 840753 or by email at ktwallace@hotmail.co.uk

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

Daring students

“I’m tired of this routine existence,” said one university student to his friend. “Let’s do something extraordinary, startling, magnificent; something that will make our brains whirl and our hearts leap.”

“Okay,” said his friend. And so, they studied.

Prison quartet

While I was a guest preacher in a rural church, they announced that their prison quartet would be singing at the evening service.

I was not aware there was a prison in the vicinity, and so looked forward to hearing them. That evening I was puzzled when four members of the church sheepishly approached the stage.

Then the choir master introduced them. “This is our prison quartet,” he said with a grin, “always behind a few bars, and looking in vain for the key.”

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 - 01270 878259 or 07973 900032. Email 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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In Jesus name, Amen

By Daphne Kitching

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

Name

Address

.....

.....Post codeTel

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)
49 Bailey Court, Alsager, Stoke on Trent. ST7 2YH.

STANDING ORDER

To: The Manager

Bank	
Address	
Sort Code	/ /
Account Number	
Account Name	

Please pay to the account of **St Oswald's Church Lottery Fund** at **Lloyds TSB, PO Box 1002, BX1 1LT.** Sort Code **30-90-16.** Account Number **00018000**

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LOWER PEOVER

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.....

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Date of Death.....

Fee £30.00 Enclosed

Signed.....

Date.....

Name and Address.....

.....

.....

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