

HODNET Parish News February 2023



Published as a free Church fellowship outreach and delivered each month to every household in the communities of Hodnet, Hopton, Kenstone, Little Bolas, Lostford, Marchamley, Peplow & Wollerton.

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Views and opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Panel, which reserves the right, at its absolute discretion, to amend, edit. abbreviate, précis or refuse to publish any submitted contribution. Contributions, including photographs, are submitted at the contributor's own risk and are not necessarily returnable.

CANDLEMAS BELLS FROM THE DIOCESE



Many snowdrops found in churchyards and monastic sites have been planted as a symbol of purity and hope.

The first known cultivation of snowdrops in the UK was recorded in 1597 and, while it is thought that pilgrims originally brought this beautiful flower to our shores, it was the Victorians who enthusiastically planted them in churchyards and cemeteries.

Snowdrops go by over 30 different local names including Dew Drops, Eve's Tear and February Fair-maids. They are also known as Candlemas Bells.

In the Middle Ages Candlemas (held on the 2nd of February) was the day when everyone in the parish brought their candles to church to be blessed by the priest. This was to ward off evil spirits. After a procession and the blessing, the candles were lit and set before the statue of the Virgin Mary. The snowdrop was the flower gathered to decorate the church at that time, so took on the name of that ancient tradition.

Snowdrops were used as a cure for headaches in the past, although the bulbs are poisonous. Today a compound from the bulb has been used to develop a dementia treatment.

The sight of snowdrops is often viewed as a welcome herald of spring. As they bloom so early, they do not rely on insects to pollinate them and tend to spread by bulb division. Insects which emerge early, particularly queen bumblebees, may find them a welcome source of food. Many churchyards have a good show of snowdrops and these early pollen sources can help insects that emerge unseasonably early in the spring due to changing weather patterns. Try to use any flower beds or pots you have to provide pollen and nectar from February through to the October.

All the best,

Harriet Carty

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor

PRAYER

Creator God, you made us in your image. May we discern you in all that we see and serve you in all that we do. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

FROM THE REGISTERS

Burial: Karen Jane Langston

Cremation: Christine Anne Almond

Burial of Ashes: Tim Robertson



EDITORIAL

We wonder how many readers made a New Year's resolution and if so, whether it has survived January?! It seems an additional challenge that we take up these resolutions at the least hospitable time of year. With lighter, warmer (fingers crossed) days ahead we hope that you are looking forward to getting out and participating in the many community activities that take place in our beautiful parish.

As we attended the most recent Lyon Hall Quiz, we looked around the room and recognised many people who sit on the numerous local committees that strive to ensure our community remains vibrant, connected, supported and active. If you would like to be involved, these committees are always looking for new blood. Contact details can be found throughout this magazine or on www.hodnet.org website.

To contribute an article, please contact us at **editorhodnetparish@gmail.com** with any offerings! **Our cut off date for March's issue is Friday 17**th **February 2023.**

CORONATION CELEBRATION PLANNING

The Parish Council has started to plan a community celebration to mark the coronation of King Charles III. This will take place on the Recreation Ground in Hodnet on Monday 8th May 2023. All community groups are being invited to have a presence at this event in the form of a table top stall or activity. As for previous milestones celebrated in this way, it is hoped that the many community groups will come together and ensure this is an event to remember. To this end the next planning meeting will take place at 7pm on Monday 6th February in The Lyon Hall. If you are unable to attend please contact Steve Freeman, Hodnet Parish Chair on 07540 138097.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 4th March - Community Café 12 noon - 2pm - Wollerton Village Room Tuesday 7th March - Hodnet Footpath Group Public Walk (Around Fauls)
Saturday 25th March - Achoired Taste - concert in St Luke's
Saturday 6th May - Marchamley Community Club - Coronation Celebration
Saturday 6th May - Wollerton Village Room - Red, White & Blue Drinks Party - 6pm Monday 8th May - Hodnet Parish Coronation Celebration- Recreation Ground
Saturday 27th - Monday 29th May - St Luke's Flower Festival

If you wish to continue receiving this magazine please would you contribute towards the production costs? Each issue costs approximately 50p to produce but if you are able to contribute more this would help the church stay open.

Account name: St Luke's Church Hodnet & Chapel of the Epiphany Peplow PCC; Sort Code: (Nat West) 01-05-48 Account Number: 02425599. Reference: Magazine.

CHURCH SERVICES

ST LUKE'S CHURCH, HODNET

February

Sunday 5th 11.00am Morning Prayer

Sunday 12th 11.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 19th 11.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 26th 11.00am Morning Prayer

March

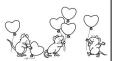
Sunday 5th 11.00am Morning Prayer

CHAPEL OF THE EPIPHANY, PEPLOW

February

Sunday 12th 6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 26th 11.00am Holy Communion



CHURCH CONTACTS

Hodnet Churchwardens Janice Parker 01630 685531

Tim Preston 01630 685315

SAINTS' AND SIGNIFICANT DAYS

2nd February Candlemas

5th February Agatha

12th February Julian the Hospitaller

14th February Cyril and Methodius, Valentine

19th February Conrad

21st February Shrove Tuesday

22rd February Ash Wednesday

26th February Porphyry

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN ST LUKE'S



An opportunity to bring your craft project to church and enjoy the company, conversation and

refreshments.

Chair Practice Ioin us on Wednesday 1st & 15th February 7.00pm - 8.00pm. at St Luke's





Bellringing Practice **Weekly Fridays** 7.00pm - 8.00pm.

If you are interested contact Bell Tower Captain John Powell on 01630 685325.

Chat and Coffee Stop

Will resume in March with the warmer weather.

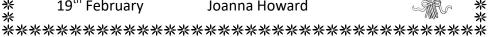
All welcome - including men!



FLOWER ROTA - ST LUKE'S CHURCH

5th February Liz Bradley

19th February Joanna Howard



ST LUKE'S CHURCHYARD

Polite request - would anyone putting Christmas wreaths or similar on graves please ensure they are removed by the end of January as it makes mowing the grass very difficult if they are left in place.



ROYAL MAIL STAMP SWAP OUT SCHEME



Royal Mail has added barcodes to their regular stamps (picture and special stamps remain valid). From 31st January 2023, regular stamps without a barcode are no longer valid. Stamps featuring the profile of her late Majesty The Queen on a plain coloured background can be exchanged for new barcoded versions through

the Stamp Swap Out Scheme. Visit www.royalmail.com/sending/barcoded-stamps for instructions on how to download the relevant application form or collect a form from the Customer Service Point at Market Drayton delivery office on Queen Street, TF9 1BJ. Alternatively, call the Customer Experience Team on 03457 740740.

ST LUKE'S ORGAN RESTORATION UPDATE

After a Christmas and New Year break things are now moving apace with the organ restoration. Most of the pipework for the Great Organ (left of the window) is now in place - all nicely cleaned, 'rounded out', with nice new shiny tuning slides. A lot of these pipes had been damaged over many years of tuning but they are now standing nice and upright and they all work!

By the time you read this, all of the 'flue' pipes will be back in the organ, on both sides - some 900 pipes in all. The organ is now making proper organ sounds and we can get a tune out of it!

We still have work to do on the console (where it's played) and the reed stops (trumpet, oboe and clarinet) are still being attended too.



Some of the great pipework back in situ.

One example of a damaged pipe - a very small pipe that had to be cleaned, rounded out and then fitted with a new tuning slide.





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HODNET SCOUT & GUIDE HQ COMMITTEE

The current Chair and Treasurer of the Headquarters Committee have been in post for too long and are ready to relinquish their roles. The committee meets a couple of times a year to oversee the management of the building. If you have a few hours which you would be willing to spend in this worthwhile manner please come to the next meeting on 8th February 2023 at 7.30pm. No association with either Scouting or Guiding is required.



HODNET SOCIAL CLUB

Prize Bingo - now moved to 8pm on first Wednesday of the month. See their Facebook page or contact Angela Heath on 07815 126101.

Opening times: Monday - Thursday 7.00pm - 11.00pm

Friday 6.00pm - midnight Saturday 5.00pm - 11.00pm Sunday 2.00pm - 7.00pm

LYON HALL, HODNET - EVENTS

Yoga Class - 7.30pm on Monday evenings in the Lyon Hall, Hodnet. Contact Kate Bowman on 07764 892888 for more information.

Ring craft dog training - 1pm - 3pm on Thursday afternoons. Contact Anne Mann on 01630 653570 for more information.

Women's Institute - 7.30pm on second Thursday of the month. Contact Vicki Cadwell on 01630 656507 or 07947 121006 for more information.

To book the Lyon Hall contact Francis Bennett on 01630 685213.

HODNET FOOTBALL CLUB

Fixtures: See dates for your diary - page 23. Keep an eye on the club's Facebook page for more information.

Results:

26th November - Allscott Heath 3 - 1 Hodnet

10th December - Hodnet v Madeley Sports - postponed

17th December - Hodnet v Broseley - postponed

7th January - Hodnet v Gobowen Celtic - postponed

14th January - Church Stretton v Hodnet - postponed



KIDS' CORNER



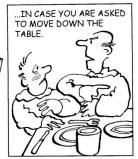




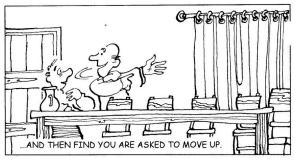
On one occasion jesus told the story about some party invitations















MOUSE MAKES



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MARCHAMLEY BOOK CLUB

Marchamley Book Club will meet on Thursday 9th February at 7.30pm in Marchamley Community Club. Our book choice for discussion is:

The Guilty Couple by C L Taylor

What would you do if your husband framed you for murder? Five years ago, Olivia Sutherland was convicted of plotting to murder her husband. Now she's finally free, Olivia has three goals. Repair her relationship with her daughter. Clear her name. And bring down her husband - the man who framed her. Just how far is she willing to go to get what she wants?

Please come along and join us for the book discussion or just a general chat and a drink. We look forward to seeing you!

MARCHAMLEY COMMUNITY CLUB

February events open to both non-members and members:

Saturday 4th - Live music night - 8pm - £5 per ticket payable on the door.

Local folk duo Retro will be playing and singing a mixture of folk, ballads and country music. A delicious buffet supper will be served in the interval.

Saturday 18th - Prize Bingo - doors open 7pm for eyes down at 7.30pm.

Saturday 25th - Quiz Night - doors open 7pm for prompt 7.30pm start. Teams of up to 6 per table at £5 per person.

No pre-booking required this time, just turn up on the night and pay on the door. The bar is well-stocked and there will be complementary nibbles. If you haven't got a full team, no problem as there will be a team you can join on the night.

Marchamley Club is open to members every Friday from 7pm-11pm.

Membership is £3 per year. Why not drop in and see what we offer any Friday evening.

See our Facebook page: What's on At Marchamley Community Club.

WOLLERTON TENNIS CLUB



Club night is Tuesday from 6.30pm. All abilities welcome to come and join us for a friendly game of tennis. New members are always welcome and can join at any time. Courts can be used for private games. Please telephone Gill on 07814 409268 or Linda on 01630 685432.

WOLLERTON VILLAGE ROOM NEWS



Our regular **Book Club** meetings are on the **second Tuesday** of the month starting at 7pm in the Village Room. We look forward to discussing *Which Way Tree by Elizabeth Crook* on Tuesday 7th February.

CHANGE TO DAY & TIME Weather permitting, our next Wollerton Wander will take place on Wednesday 1st February at **10.30am** followed by a cuppa and a chat in the Village Room. Please come along and support the group - no booking required. £1 per person.



Quiz Night - Saturday 4th February. 7pm for 7.30pm. Teams of 4 - £3 per person. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Don't worry if you are coming solo or in a pair - we will ensure you can join forces with a team on the night.



Continue to Learn to Crochet Workshop - Monday 27th February at 6.30pm. A beginners workshop and follow on from November's session. £1 only.

Community Café - Saturday 4th March. 12 noon - 2pm. (To be confirmed). A warm space event where people can just turn up for a bowl of homemade soup with a roll for a small charge. We will also be accepting donations for Market Drayton foodbank.

To join our mailing list or book any event pop an email to: wollertonvr@gmail.com

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Bookings

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PUZZLE PAGE

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A LITTLE PIECE OF HISTORY

Eggs for Soldiers

An interesting minute found when looking at Wollerton United Reformed Church record book, which is a highly detailed account of Church life.

On Sundays Feb 6th and 13th 1916, and days between, collections of eggs were received for transmission to wounded soldiers in the Hospitals at Shrewsbury. There were contributed, and duly forwarded, 461 eggs. (Market price 7 a 1/-)

For younger readers, in what we oldies call 'old money' that is one shilling, or 12 pennies which became 5 pence on decimalisation. So the 38 dozen eggs were valued at 65 shillings, or 3 pounds 5 shillings. Or 1 shilling and 8 pence a dozen, so about 8 new pence.

The majority of parishioners at the time, those who were not away fighting in the Great War, were working in agriculture, earning about 1 pound 5 shillings per week. Most families would keep a few backyard hens to supplement their diet, so the collection would have been relatively easy.

Many thanks to Michael Morgan for the loan of this most interesting book.

SMILE LINES

Giving up for Lent

At the end of the pre-Lent sermon, the vicar suggested, as an example to the rest of the community, that the congregation should worship in an unheated church for the whole of Lent. As they made their way into the chill Sunday air the vicar addressed one member of the congregation, asking what she had decided to give up for Lent. "Church," she replied firmly.

Sick

During a church service my young niece had to go outside, as she did not feel well. She returned a few minutes later and admitted: "I have been a little sick. But it doesn't matter, there's a box at the door marked 'for the sick'."

In a sack

Seen in a church magazine: "Bring your old newspapers (and your neighbours), put them in a sack and tie them if possible."

Wages

Advert for a new minister: 'Wages not high, but retirement benefits out of this world.'

Ladies

Notice in a church hall where a sale of second-hand clothes was in progress: 'Ladies may have a fit upstairs.'

Judgement?

This true story concerns the visit of a visiting preacher to a little village chapel... 'He was a few minutes into his sermon when, without warning, about twenty square feet of thick and decayed Victorian plaster fell from high on one wall and crashed into a group of empty pews below. As the dense fog of dust began to settle, and it became clear no one was injured, the minister prepared to resume his sermon. Then he paused, and looked heavenward and in a slightly pained voice, asked: "Was it something I said?"'

Don't die

The vicar announced: "I am sure that you will not wish to overwork our visiting priest while I am on holiday, and will keep funerals to a minimum."

Little Teapot

Our new curate had young children and they insisted he choose for his screensaver a picture of a dancing teapot, playing the children's song 'I'm a Little Teapot'. When the earnest young HR officer for the diocese came to call, she sent back a message to the bishop: "The curate may be suffering from an identity disorder."

Answer to prayer

A small boy badly wanted a baby brother, so his dad suggested he pray every night for one. The boy prayed earnestly, night after night, but his prayers seemingly weren't answered. So after a few weeks, he didn't bother to ask anymore.

Some months later, his dad said they were going to see Mum in the hospital and he was going to get a big surprise. When they got to the room, the little boy saw his mother holding two babies. The little boy stood still for a moment, and then cautiously observed: "It's a good thing I stopped praying when I did."

Miscellaneous observations on life...

Marriage licence - the only permit taken out after the hunt is over.

Some people cause happiness wherever they go. Others, whenever they go.

It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try to overtake them.

Advert in newspaper: Home computer, as new, Never been figured out.

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

Is it true that you never really learn to swear until you teach a loved one to drive?

WATCHING THE WILDLIFE - SPRING IS ON ITS WAY

On sunny days our thoughts are probably turning towards spring. The small, perfectly formed but tightly furled leaves on trees and other plants were visible towards the end of 2022 and it's always encouraging to know they were there, ready to grow and burst open this spring.



In several places, the hazel catkins have been looking good for a while now, even though February is regarded as the month when you'll first notice them. These cheery 'tails' shaking in the breeze and almost glimmering in the sunlight are always welcome portents of spring. The appearance too of snowdrops and primroses cheer us as they emerge, renewing interest in where we see them.

The end of last year and the start of this year have once again been good opportunities to see some of last year's birds' nests. They may not have been in use for months but they are

visible in the trees, although soon the new year's leaves will hide them. It's a small thing to draw attention to but is awesome in the true sense of the word. The nests we can see have withstood the strong winds and rains buffeting them throughout autumn and winter. Whilst others may have collapsed and disappeared, lost in the detritus in verges and



roadsides, these have survived, proving themselves to be sturdy and well-built. Spotting them in positions which we might regard as inadvisable gives even more cause to marvel that a bird laid her eggs and successfully reared her young in such a risky position. Many of the nests we can see are likely to be reinforced, remodelled and used again this year, and once again hidden behind leaves.

If you took part in last month's RSPB's Garden Birdwatch you'll have a good idea of the birds visiting your garden and, with our encouragement of appropriate food and drinking water for them, let's hope they'll have a successful breeding season this year.



As you too may have noticed, there is a resurgence of molehills appearing along roadside verges and in fields. Moles are active both day and night. Research has revealed that they 'work' approximately a 4-hour shift, then sleep for around 4 hours and then 'work' again, digging and seeking worms and other soil-dwelling invertebrates to eat. As they live solitary lives,

unless it is the breeding season when moles are seeking mates, molehills are generally the work of a single mole. If they are tracking across your lawn, it can be hard to comprehend how one mole can make so many molehills and is difficult to see the mole as simply 'part of the biodiversity of the garden' as advocated by the RHS. (Royal Horticultural Society*) This month is generally the start of the moles' breeding season, which runs from February to June and females will be making their underground burrows, preparatory to having three or four young.

The increasing hours of daylight are much more noticeable this month and makes going for a walk easier. In mild weather, keep a look out for early activity of frogs, toads and newts, and of course, enjoy your wildlife watching, whether on a walk or from your windows.

*The RHS does offer suggestions for ways of deterring and controlling moles. https://www.rhs.org.uk/biodiversity/moles

'Wildlife Watcher'

COOKERY CORNER - EASY PANCAKES

Prep: 5 mins Cook: 20 mins Easy Makes 8 large pancakes

Use this easy mix to make sweet or savoury pancakes. There's enough batter to make a main course and dessert for a family of four.

Ingredients:

175g plain flour 3 large eggs 450ml milk Pinch of salt

Sunflower oil for frying



Method:

Step 1 Weigh the flour in a large jug or bowl. Crack in the eggs, add half the

milk and a pinch of salt. Whisk to a smooth, thick batter. Add the remaining milk and whisk again. Set aside for at least 30 minutes.

Step 2 Heat a large non-stick frying pan. Add a drizzle of oil, then wipe out the

excess with kitchen paper. When the pan is hot, add enough batter to just cover the surface, swirling it and pouring any excess back into the bowl. The pancake should be as thin as possible. When the edges are peeling away from the sides of the pan, shake it to see if the pancake easily releases and is browning on the underside. If not, cook a little longer. Flip and cook the other side for a minute or two. Serve, or keep

warm in a low oven.

Topping suggestions: Smoked salmon with cream cheese

Maple syrup and bacon

Broccoli and cheese sauce

Nutella and banana Sugar and lemon

Fresh fruit/fruit compote

Jam and whipped cream

Nuts Ice cream Peanut butter

Caramel/toffee sauce

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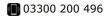
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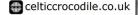


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Hodnet Women's Institute

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Do you want to listen to interesting speakers?

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We are recruiting new members to have a great time and we would be delighted to welcome you





MJ Roberts Tree Care and Landscaping

All types of trees carefully felled, pruned and topped. Hedges, trees and shrubs trimmed and shaped. Fences erected, patios and paths cleaned. Seasoned hardwood logs.

01948 841435/07732 160935

1	Craft Group - 10am - 12 noon - St Luke's Church. Wollerton Wander - 10.30am - Wollerton Village Room
	Mobile Library - 45 Wood Lane 11.10 - 11.40am Bus Stop; Marchamley Bus Stop 11.50 - 12.05pm. Choir Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church. Bingo 8pm - Hodnet Social Club
2	Mobile Library - Castle Hill Layby 10.30 - 10.45am.
3	Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church.
4	Hodnet FC v Ludlow FC (Home) 3pm - Hodnet Social Club Quiz Night - 7pm for 7.30pm - Wollerton Village Room Retro Folk Band - 8pm - Marchamley Community Club
5	Morning Prayer - 11.00am - St Luke's Church
6	Parish Coronation Celebration Planning Meeting 7pm - Lyon Hall
7	Hodnet Footpath Group - 10am - Hodnet to Wollerton and back via Espley Wollerton Village Room Book Club 7pm
8	Craft Group 10am - 12 noon - St Luke's Church. Hodnet Scout & Guide HQ Committee Meeting - 7.30pm - Hodnet HQ, Hearne Lane
9	Hodnet Women's Institute 7.30pm - Lyon Hall Marchamley Book Club 7.30pm - Marchamley Club
10	Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
11	Hodnet FC v Dawley Town (Away) 3pm - Doseley Road Playing Field
12	Holy Communion - 11.00am - St Luke's Church, Hodnet. Evensong - 6.30pm - The Chapel of the Epiphany
13	Craft & Sewing Evening - 6.30 - 8.30pm - Wollerton Village Room
14	
15	Craft Group 10am - 12noon - St Luke's Church Mobile Library - 45 Wood Lane 11.10 - 11.40am Bus Stop; Marchamley Bus Stop 11.50 - 12.05pm. Choir Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
16	Mobile Library - Castle Hill Layby 10.30 - 10.45am. Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm - Lyon Hall
17	Pre-loved Children's Clothes & Toy Sale - 1.30 - 3pm & 3.30 - 4pm - Lyon Hall Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church.
18	Prize Bingo - 7pm for 7.30pm start - Marchamley Community Club
19	Holy Communion - 11.00am - St Luke's Church, Hodnet.
20	
21	
22	Craft Group 10am - 12noon - St Luke's Church
23	
24	Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
25	Hodnet FC v Broseley FC (Away) - 3pm - Birch Meadow Playing Fields Quiz Night - 7pm for prompt 7.30pm start - Marchamley Community Club
26	Morning Prayer - 11am - St Luke's Church, Hodnet Holy Communion - 11am - The Chapel of the Epiphany, Peplow
27	Craft & Sewing Evening (Crochet Special) - 6.30 - 8.30pm - Wollerton Village Room
28	



raising funds to support the Flower
Festival later in the year

A superb repertoire for young and old, performed by A Choired Taste

Donations towards the purchase of flowers for the festival

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