

HODNET *Parish News* ***October 2025***

Harvest Thanks

**Our special service of
thanksgiving will be on Sunday 5th
October at 11am in St Luke's
Church, Hodnet.**

**If you are able, please bring
non-perishable food donations to
St Luke's for distribution to
the local Foodbank in Market
Drayton (please ensure use-by
dates extend to 2026)**



If you like receiving this magazine are you able to 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**

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the October magazine, as summer draws to a close it's lovely to see that there are lots of activities to enjoy in the next few months.

I am delighted to welcome another person to the editorial team! Sharon Donald will be co-editing each month. Sharon would especially like to hear from you if you have something to include in the magazine, and if you don't feel up to producing copy she would be happy to write or edit it with you. Do you have a charity you support that you would like to promote or a community sports team you enjoy and would like to tell us about? Or a recipe to share? If so, do please get in touch with Sharon using the email details below!

For all enquiries please contact us at editorhodnetparish@gmail.com with any offerings! **Our cut-off date for November's issue is Wednesday 15th October 2025.**
Susie, co-editor.

ADDITIONAL MAGAZINE DELIVERERS WANTED!

There is a dedicated team of deliverers for the 685 parish magazines that are delivered each month. I personally deliver nearly 180 magazines, mostly to the more rural areas of the parish which requires a vehicle to be able to deliver the magazines. I have reviewed these areas and have now split them into smaller patches, which I hope means several willing parishioners may come forward to help as I prepare to leave the parish. So the following are the list of areas and the number of magazines which require delivering: could anyone out there assist? The magazines need to be delivered in the last week of the month - hopefully each new patch shouldn't take more than about 45 minutes to deliver. Please email editorhodnetparish@gmail.com Claire

Mickley - 10 magazines	Lostford - 17	Hopton & Kenstone - 26
A53 - 20	Rural Marchamley - 20	Marchamley Wood - 15
Wood Lane, Wollerton - 25	Little Bolas/A442 - 31	Radmoor - 26

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

Saturday 1st - Paint & Sip Evening - Marchamley Community Club

Friday 14th - Fish and Chip Quiz Night - Lyon Hall

Saturday 15th - Film Night - Marchamley Community Club

Saturday 29th - Christmas Fair - Lyon Hall

Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th Christmas wreath workshop - Wollerton Village Room

December

Monday 1st - Christmas decoration workshop - Wollerton Village Room

Friday 12th - Christmas party with live music - Marchamley Community Club

Wednesday 17th - Carols under the tree - Hodnet

Sunday 21st - Carol Service - Hodnet 5.30pm

Wednesday 24th - Crib Service - Hodnet 3pm

SAINTS' AND SIGNIFICANT DAYS

5 th October	Placid and Maurus
12 th October	Wilfrid
19 th October	Frideswide
26 th October	Evaristus

FROM THE REGISTERS



We welcome into God's family

Mia Smith


Entered into eternal rest
John Aled Griffiths



CHURCH CONTACTS

Hodnet Churchwardens: Janice Parker - 01630 685531
 Tim Preston - 01630 685315

FLOWER ROTA - ST LUKE'S CHURCH

	5 th October	Sue Lea
	19 th October	Liz Bradley

PRAYER



Faithful creator, whose mercy never fails. Deepen our faithfulness to you, and to your living word. Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

CHURCH SERVICES: OCTOBER

ST LUKE'S CHURCH

Wednesday 1 st	9.30am	Northumbria Community Morning Prayer
Sunday 5 th	11.00am	Harvest Festival
Sunday 12 th	11.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 15 th	9.30am	Northumbria Community Morning Prayer
Sunday 19 th	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 26 th	NO SERVICE AT HODNET	
Sunday 26 th	4pm Benefice Service at St Swithun's Church, Cheswardine. <i>This will be Rev. Becky Richard's final service</i>	

CHAPEL OF THE EPIPHANY, PEPLOW

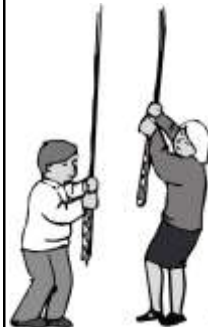
Sunday 12 th	6.30pm	Harvest service
<i>Gifts for the Food Bank would be greatly appreciated</i>		
Friday 24 th	6.30pm	Harvest Supper
<i>Tickets are £12 each available from Gill 078144 09268</i>		
Sunday 26 th	11.00am	Holy Communion

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN ST LUKE'S



Church
Choir

We are always looking for new members - if you are interested come along and speak to us after a Sunday Service.



Bellringing
Practice

Weekly Fridays
7.00pm - 8.00pm.

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

CHURCH HUMOUR



"Delivery for whoever ordered the trendy alternative to a basket of groceries..."

HARVEST LUNCH

Sunday 5th October at 1pm in the Lyon Hall

£10 per person, please bring your own drinks. If you would like to attend please contact one of the Hodnet Church Wardens.

All welcome!



Mulberry Bush Studio



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01948 841076

HODNET SOCIAL CLUB

Club Opening Times: Monday - Thursday 7.00pm - 11.00pm
Friday 6.00pm - midnight Saturday 5.00pm - 11.00pm Sunday 2.00pm - 7.00pm



Wednesday 1st October - 8pm - Prize Bingo

Saturday 4th October - Quiz Night from 8pm -

£5 per team of 5.



See our Facebook page or contact Angela Heath on 07815 126101.

UPDATE ON OUR INTERREGNUM

In the Church of England, an interregnum is the name given to a period of time when a parish is without a priest. You may have read in the August parish news that Rev Becky is leaving our United Benefice at the end of October to move up to rural Cumbria. She will be licensed into her new role there on 1st December and the formal process for replacing her as Team Rector cannot begin until after that date. The Diocesan wheels of administration roll slowly and the best case scenario will give us someone in post by September 2026 earliest.

Meanwhile there is a vacant 0.5 post of a Team Vicar in the Benefice which we very much hope to advertise this month. The current plan is that this person will live in Hodnet Rectory and will work primarily with families and children across the Benefice, particularly in its four primary schools. (Hodnet and Peplow parish is now part of the United Benefice comprising Cheswardine, Childs Ercall, Hales, Hinstock, Hodnet with Peplow, Sambrook and Stoke on Tern.)

Alongside the Team Vicar post, the Benefice will advertise another 0.5 post –funded by the Benefice rather than the Diocese – for a Schools Pioneer working exclusively with children and schools. It is hoped that the two 0.5 posts will make the vacancies far more interesting to a younger candidate, or perhaps a couple sharing the two posts. There are many couples wishing to marry in church and parents wanting their children christened. The future of the church lies with these young people so we need to work with our families and children to ensure our beautiful churches are part of their lives.

From the Church Treasurer

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.

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.

CLERGY LETTER



As I contemplate leaving at the end of this month, I can only thank you for your understanding and encouragement to us on the next stage of life's journey. Many have understood the pull of family, "Family comes first!" but the churches (people) of this Benefice have also become our family. It seemed appropriate that my final message should be on the topic of **family**; the people among whom we hope to be most truly ourselves, loved and accepted (warts and all), secure and supported. I appreciate this is not always the case.

Of all the choices God made when he sent his Son to earth, he did not choose wealth or status, but he chose devoted human parents in Joseph and Mary. He chose family. Jesus had brothers and sisters amongst whom he grew up in the small town of Nazareth. When his teaching and healings began to draw the crowds and fan opposition, they come to collect him, for they supposed him to be "out of his mind." They send a messenger into the house where he is preaching to announce their arrival. Imagine their shock and hurt when Jesus responds, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother." (Mark 3:33-35)

Thus, he was creating a much wider and more inclusive family into whom he could welcome the lonely and the social 'misfits'. You see family is great until you are on the outside looking-in.

Some years ago, I took the funeral of a local farmer's wife. Her family recalled that there was always a place at her table for whoever was working on or visiting the farm that day. Families should be 'close,' but 'open at the edges', or as the prayer in the marriage ceremony states, 'May the hospitality of our home bring refreshment and joy to ALL around us, may our love overflow to neighbours in need and embrace those in distress.'



I pray that for all your homes, for it is the basis of building caring communities, but especially for the eight churches across this Benefice who seek to offer a welcome to anyone in good times and bad; to demonstrate the sensitivity and generosity of God. In the words of our Benefice Prayer, 'Give us such generous hearts that our church becomes a taste of heaven where everyone you send us finds their loving home in the community of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.'

'May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace.' Amen

Rev Becky Richards

HODNET AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB



Hodnet and District Garden Club held their September meeting when Ross Underwood, Head Gardener at Dorothy Clive Gardens, hosted a Gardeners' Question Time for us. He answered questions about mossy lawns, what plants best suit difficult shady areas, the best winter salad crops to grow and how to best offset the effects of hot, dry summers and cold, wet winters. 27 members and guests attended and we finished the evening off in the usual manner with a cuppa, a slice of cake and a good natter. Our next meeting, the final one of 2025, will be on Tuesday 21st October when Peter Dunhill will be giving us a talk about "Commoners' gardens". If you would like to attend or would like any further information about the garden club, please feel free to ring Dave Smither on 01630 685966.

LYON HALL, HODNET EVENTS

NEW - Chair Yoga - Every Monday 5pm - 6pm.

Yoga Class - Every Monday 6.15pm - 7.15pm and 7.30pm - 8.30pm. Please contact Harriet Devaney on 07908 717337.

Qigong - Every Tuesday 10am - 11am. Contact Sue on sue@suepics.co.uk.

Tern Valley Vintage Machinery Trust - First Tuesday of the month 7.30 for 8pm start.

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

Women's Institute - Second Thursday of the month 7.30pm. Contact details: hodnetwi@gmail.com or 07772 729764.

Hodnet and District Garden Club - Third Tuesday of the month 7.30pm. Contact details: David Smither on 01630 685966.

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

HODNET FOOTPATH GROUP



Our next first Tuesday walk, on 7th October, will be out of Parish. We will explore the paths around Grinshill and climb to its summit.

Meet at Corbet Wood car park for 10 am start - take the A49 towards Shrewsbury. At Preston Brockhurst, turn right at the sharp bend signposted Clive. Then take the 1st left for Corbet Wood car park.

This is an easy/moderate walk along well defined paths with gentle inclines. It is approximately 2 miles and 1.5 hours. The tracks we will be walking were used to carry stone for many of Shrewsbury's historic buildings. The top of Grinshill is not a great height but provides an excellent panoramic view to Clee Hills and Welsh mountains. Everyone is welcome including dogs. Sturdy footwear is recommended. Any queries, please contact David Wilson 07970 304169.

FLU VACCINATIONS

**Book your flu vaccination now at
Hodnet Medical Centre.**

Appointments available from 1st October 2025

Eligible patients will receive a text message (if a mobile number has been provided) with a link to book your appointment. The link is active for 7 days.

The sooner you have your vaccination the sooner you are protected.

Eligible groups for the 2025 to 2026 season:

- aged 2 and 3 years on 31 August 2025
- eligible school aged children (Reception to Year 11) (**To be vaccinated at school**)
- those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups
- pregnant women
- all those aged 65 years and over
- those in long-stay residential care homes
- carers in receipt of carer's allowance or main carer of an older or disabled person
- Household contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- frontline health and social care staff

See the '[Green Book Influenza chapter 19](#)' online for full details on eligible groups.

Hodnet Medical Centre will not be offering covid booster vaccinations.

Did you know GP practices have to buy your flu vaccine nearly a year in advance? Please try to support your practice by having your vaccine with them because they've already bought it for you.



HODNET WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our 110 years of the WI event, held at our September meeting was an evening of celebration, party games, fun and laughter. The activities and games embodied the values of the WI - teamwork, friendship and just having a great time as a group. After learning so many interesting new and obscure facts about the WI, we all enjoyed a very tasty bring and share buffet (thank you everyone) and a huge thank you to Root Food – Jennie & Jenny for the amazing 110 year of the WI celebration cake - which looked and tasted stunning.



Celebrating 110 years of The WI



Looking forward, we will be joined by the Biscuit Lady at our October meeting on Thursday 9th. Why not come along? New members are always very welcome.



MARCHAMLEY BOOK CLUB



Our meeting will be on Thursday 16th October, 7.30pm in Marchamley Community Club when we will discuss 'Wild Swans – three daughters of China' by Jung Chang.

Please come and join us for a chat and a drink. Everyone will be warmly welcomed.

MARCHAMLEY COMMUNITY CLUB

Saturday 4th October – Race Night! Doors open 7pm for start of the first race at 7.30pm. FREE ENTRY. £3 tote betting. For sponsorship of a race ahead of the night - £20 to name the race and your name on the list of sponsors – text/WhatsApp Alice on 07585 807759.

Saturday 18th October – Indian Food Night. These evenings are always very popular so get your name down early! £20 pp for a 3-course meal and entertainment. Doors open 7pm. Tickets must be pre-paid by Mon 13th Oct latest. Call into the club any Friday evening or email marchamleycommunityclub@yahoo.com

Advance notice: Saturday 1st November, 7pm – Paint & Sip Evening.

Think you can't paint? You will be impressed by your efforts to paint a picture of a beautiful owl at this class where a professional artist provides all the art supplies and step-by-step instruction while you work with a relaxing drink. No experience is necessary and you take your finished artwork home at the end. Prior booking essential by 25th October, £25 pp. Call into the club or email address above.

The Club is open every Friday night for members – only £5 per annum

Paul Hopwood
 07882399183
bankhousegardens@gmail.com



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Bank House Gardens

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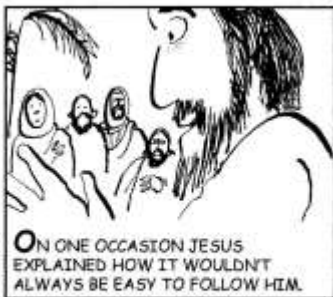
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KIDS' CORNER

The tale of
the
Tower
Builder



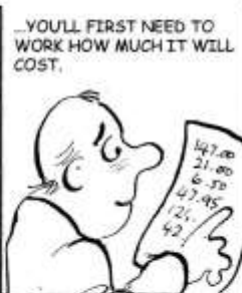
JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ON ONE OCCASION JESUS EXPLAINED HOW IT WOULDN'T ALWAYS BE EASY TO FOLLOW HIM.



JESUS BEGAN, IF ONE OF YOU PLANS TO BUILD A TOWER...



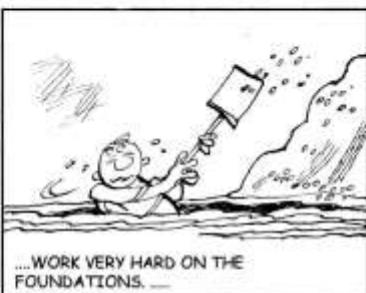
...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL COST.



IF YOU DON'T DO THE SUMS...



...YOU MIGHT MAKE A START, ...



...WORK VERY HARD ON THE FOUNDATIONS. ...



...THEN START TO LAY THE BRICKS...



...BUT SUDDENLY RUN OUT OF MONEY!!

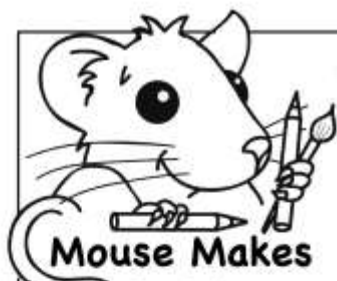


THEN PEOPLE WILL LAUGH AT YOU!



WE NEED TO REALISE THAT ALTHOUGH FOLLOWING JESUS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO, IT'S ALSO A GREAT CHALLENGE.

MOUSE MAKES



Mouse Makes

This is **Psalm 150**,
a song of praise to God,
it tells us why and how
to worship God.
*How do you praise and
worship God?*

Praise God in His Temple,
Praise Him in His mighty heavens,
Praise Him for His acts of power,
Praise Him for his surpassing greatness.

Praise Him
with the sounding trumpet,
Praise Him
with the harp and lyre,
Praise Him
with tambourine and dancing,
Praise Him
with the clash of cymbals,
Praise Him
with the resounding cymbals.
Let everything that has breath
PRAISE THE LORD!



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

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WOLLERTON BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB



If you are interested in joining our friendly club then please get in touch. We have an active programme of indoor short-mat Bowls (winter) and outdoor Crown Green Bowls (summer). Our focus is on enjoyment plus the game is accessible for most ages and abilities. Come and build friendships, while maintaining your mental and physical well-being. In addition, the club has an active social calendar based in our clubhouse. To arrange a visit just email or give us a call.

Upcoming Events (membership not required to attend these events):

- **The (Jolly Early) Christmas Fayre - Saturday 25th October - 10.30am - 3pm**

Another date for your diary: join us for a variety of craft and other stalls plus refreshments (such as cakes and drinks). If you are interested in having a stall (£10) please contact Carol on gcmjgreen@gmail.com

- **Quiz 'n' Chips - Friday 7th November - 7pm ready for 7.30pm start.**

Come and pit your little grey cells against our quizmaster. A fun evening for the entire family plus fish 'n' chips for those who wish to partake. Expected cost £2 to enter the quiz and £12 for fish 'n' chips.

Weekly Members' Activities include:

- **Snooker/Pool/Darts/Table Football - Wednesdays from 7pm from 9th October**
- **Short-mat Bowls from 13th October - Monday evenings and Thursday afternoons.**

The Club is a "Members Club" - it is run by its members for its members. Non-members are welcome to attend but please contact the club in advance. Social (£10 pa), bowling (£35 pa) and trial membership options are available. Please call Bob on 07906 661520 or email wollertonbowls@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page - see the QR code.



Supporting Social Prescribing in the Community - <https://shropshire-directory.co.uk/>

WOLLERTON TENNIS CLUB



NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Our club session on a Tuesday evening at 6pm has resumed.
All welcome. Telephone Gill on 07814 409268.

WOLLERTON VILLAGE ROOM NEWS

We are hosting some great new workshops and crafting activities over the coming months.



Sew an **Advent Calendar**, Sew a lined **Christmas stocking**, Make **Simple Christmas Pyjama Bottoms Workshop** and **Sewing a Simple Applique Christmas Decoration**. Date are to be decided so please follow our social media or email us to be kept up to date.

Christmas Wreath Making - 29th & 30th November 11-1pm & 2-4pm both days. This is a very popular event and sells out every year, so please get in touch to secure your place! £25 per person.

Craft and Sewing Evening - First Monday of the month. Our next one will be on **Monday 6th October - 7-9pm**. Bring along your own project. £1 per person.

The Village Band will next practise on **Saturday 4th October 10am - 11.15am**. It was lovely to welcome some new members over the summer. With Christmas fast approaching, we will be starting to prepare for carols at the Tiddy and will be delighted if anyone else would like to join us Aged 16+. All instruments welcome! If you can play a scale, come along! For further information give Paul a call on 01630 638793.



Craft Group meets in the Village Room every Wednesday morning 10am - 12 noon.

Please do come and join us and enjoy convivial chat and refreshments. Bring your own project, or just come for the company. £1 per person.



Our next **Wollerton Wander** will take place on **Wednesday 1st**

October at 10.30am followed by a cuppa and a chat in the Village Room.

Come along and enjoy the fresh air and company. No booking required. £1 per person.



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 *When The Dust Settles* by Lucy Easthope on **Tuesday 14th October** and collecting our next book *Himself* by Jess Kidd. £5 annual membership due this month and £1 per book.

Further details of all events can be found on our social media pages.

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

Follow us on:

Facebook



Instagram



HODNET EXTRAVAGANZA DONATIONS



The churchwarden and treasurer of St Luke's Church, Hodnet were invited to attend the meeting of the Tern Valley Vintage Machinery Trust on 2nd September and were delighted to accept an extremely generous cheque donation from the committee and organisers of the annual Hodnet Village Extravaganza. Donations had been made on the day by selling raffle tickets and general collections, and all stall holders had paid for their stand. The event was free to attend for the general public and it was a wonderful example of communities coming together to be part of a great day of entertainment.

If you were there on the day, you may have seen the incredible display by James Hesbrook of his models painstakingly made with matchsticks. One in particular – a model of St Luke's Church which Mr Hesbrook said took him eight months to make – was donated to St Luke's Church also on 2nd September. It is a most beautiful model complete with 'stained glass' windows and will be placed in the church for all visitors to see. The Parochial Church Council thanks Mr Hesbrook for his amazing model which has been made from thousands of matchsticks. If you want to find out how many, then there will be a competition to guess the answer in the next few months – keep reading the Parish News for details!





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PUZZLE PAGE - SUDOKU

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	2							9
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		4				6		5

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Hawkstone Hall
SPA TREATMENTS

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COOKERY CORNER : DORSET APPLE CAKE

Ingredients:

115g unsalted butter diced and chilled, plus extra for the tin
225g self-raising flour
2 tsp ground cinnamon
115g light brown sugar
1 large egg beaten
6-8 tbsp milk
225g Bramley or Granny Smith apples peeled, cored and diced
100g sultanas
2 tbsp demerara sugar (optional)

Method:

Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Butter and line a deep 20cm cake tin with baking parchment.

Mix the flour and cinnamon together in a large bowl. Add the butter and rub into the flour using your fingers, until it resembles fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the light brown sugar. Beat in the egg followed by 6-8 tbsp of milk – add it gradually until you have a smooth, thick batter.

Add the apples and sultanas and mix to combine. Scrape the batter into the prepared tin and gently level out. Sprinkle over the demerara sugar, if using, and bake for 30-40 mins or until golden and a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean.

Allow to cool in the tin for 15 mins and then carefully turn out onto a wire rack to cool further. Best served still warm with a little custard.



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SMILE LINES

Not any more

Two young tourists went into a Quaker Guest house in Lakeland. As they were strangers, the warden approached them and asked, "Are you Friends?" The answer came back politely, "Oh no, not now, we are married."

Wear out

Three little boys were bragging about how tough they were. "I'm so tough," said the first boy, "that I can wear out a pair of shoes in a week."

"Well," said the second little boy, "I'm so tough, I can wear out a pair of jeans in a day."

"That's nothing," said the third boy. "When my parents take me to see my grandma and grandpa, I can wear them out in just one hour."

If you understand it...

When you get to the point where you really understand your computer, it's probably obsolete.

Ten

Asked to name one of the Ten Commandments, one little girl replied: "Do not admit adultery."

Cheap at the price

A little boy was pestering his parents for a baby brother or sister. They kept telling him 'maybe one day, but we can't afford one yet.' Then one Sunday the little boy dragged his parents over to the noticeboard at the back of church. It was advertising a coming sale at the church and announced: 'Children: free'.

Who is God?

During a youth service, the minister asked if anyone could tell her who God is. One youngster waved a hand, and ventured: "Isn't God the man who saves the King?"

Listening

While visiting a cathedral recently, I couldn't hear the service over the chatter of the two people sitting in front of me. Finally, I tapped one of them on the shoulder. "Excuse me," I said, "I can't hear." The reply was swift and indignant. "I should hope not! This is a private conversation."



WILDLIFE WATCHER : THE A WORD

The evenings and mornings have a definitely chilly feeling now. The air smells fresher, cooler and slightly damp, and the morning dew sparkles on the lawn like the diamonds they resemble and which moved such poets as Robert Graves to turn to verse.

It might be autumn, with the temperatures having a definite dip from the year's record breaking highs, but there's still plenty of activity in our gardens.

Familiar creatures make their appearances and remind us that spiders seem to come out of nowhere and populate our homes in autumn, crane flies too will come in.

Craneflies, often called Daddy Longlegs, only live for around 2 weeks, which gives them time to mate and lay their eggs in our lawns. The larvae (leatherjackets) live in the ground for most of the year. Whilst they can provide a veritable feast for hedgehogs, foxes, badgers and birds such as starlings, they can wreak havoc in the lawn due to eating plant roots and decaying material in the soil, to say nothing of the holes made by the creatures digging them up.

Toadstools too have been springing up, unbidden. Whilst their appearance is quite normal, they are considered unsightly on our lawns. However, toadstools are actually a sign of healthy soil, as such fungi thrive on decaying organic material.

The other afternoon I was turning over some ground when I spotted a beautiful beetle with an almost purple metallic sheen to its thick outer casing, its carapace. I looked it up once back inside and now know this Violet Ground Beetle is apparently found throughout mainland UK in a wide variety of habitats: woodland, parkland, moorland, overgrown grassland and apparently even our garden.

It isn't just farmers, gardeners and all growers who were pleased to finally have some rain in September. After a shower, a small frog climbed up out of a grating near our back door and paused, you could imagine it too was pleased to just feel the rain after such a prolonged dry spell.

An adult toad took advantage of a break in between the heavy downpours a couple of weeks later to cross our lawn, and stopped stock still whilst I passed. Perhaps it was intent on digging itself down into the soil under some shrubs or was heading to a pond to spend the winter hidden in the mud at the bottom, hopefully to emerge next spring. Knowing the temperatures will drop further as winter arrives, there is concern for that toad and indeed all other amphibians if this toad is representative of their current health. This one looked worryingly thin, and obviously hasn't had the summer and early autumn it should have had, eating and fattening up ready to hibernate. Hopefully the rain will mean its food is easier to hunt now and it can make up for at least some of the time it should have been feasting.

If you watch the moon's phases, and saw the Blood Moon in September, then 7th October is the next full moon. As this one is closest to the autumn equinox it is called the Harvest Moon, and will be at its fullest at 04.47am on the 7th.

Enjoy our world and our wildlife.

- 'Wildlife Watcher'

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- 1 St Luke's Church, Hodnet 9.30am Northumbria Community Morning Prayer
Craft Group 10am - 12 noon - Wollerton Village Room Wollerton Wander - 10.30am - Wollerton Village Room
Choir Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church Prize Bingo - 8pm - Hodnet Social Club
- 2
- 3 Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
- 4 Village Band - 10am - 11.15am - Wollerton Village Room Quiz Night - 8pm - Hodnet Social Club
7pm Race Night - Marchamley Community Club
- 5 Harvest Festival - 11am - St Luke's Church, Hodnet Harvest Lunch 1pm Lyon Hall
- 6 Over 55s Cuppa & Chat with Live Music 1pm to 3pm, The Meadow Community Centre, Hodnet
Sewing Evening - 7pm - 9pm - Wollerton Village Room
- 7 Hodnet Footpath Group - Meet at 10am at Corbet Wood carpark
Tern Valley Vintage Machinery Club - 7.30pm - Lyon Hall
- 8 Mobile Library - 45 Wood Lane 11.10 - 11.40am Bus Stop; Marchamley Bus Stop 11.50 - 12.05pm
Craft Group 10am - 12 noon - Wollerton Village Room Choir Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
- 9 Mobile Library - Castle Hill Layby, Hodnet 10.30 - 10.45am, Home Farm, Peplow 1.15 - 1.35pm, Mount Cottages,
Peplow 1.45 - 2.10pm
Hodnet WI - 7.30pm - Lyon Hall, Hodnet
- 10 Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
- 11 Cheese and Wine Evening - 7.30pm - Lyon Hall
- 12 Holy Communion - 11am - St Luke's Church. Hodnet Harvest Service - 6.30pm - Chapel of the Epiphany, Peplow
- 13
- 14 Hodnet Seniors Lunch Club contact Margaret Taylor on 01630654994
Book Club - 7pm - Wollerton Village Room
- 15 St Luke's Church, Hodnet 9.30am Northumbria Community Morning Prayer
Craft Group 10am - 12 noon - Wollerton Village Room Choir Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
- 16 Marchamley Book Club 7.30 pm - Marchamley Community Club
- 17 Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
- 18 Indian Food Night - 7pm - Marchamley Community Club
- 19 Morning Prayer - 11am - St Luke's Church. Hodnet
- 20
- 21 Hodnet & District Garden Club - 7.30pm - Lyon Hall, Hodnet
- 22 Mobile Library - 45 Wood Lane 11.10 - 11.40am Bus Stop; Marchamley Bus Stop 11.50 - 12.05pm
Craft Group 10am - 12 noon - Wollerton Village Room Choir Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
- 23 Mobile Library - Castle Hill Layby, Hodnet 10.30 - 10.45am Home Farm, Peplow 1.15 - 1.35pm,
Mount Cottages, Peplow 1.45 - 2.10pm
- 24 Harvest Supper - 6.30pm - Chapel of the Epiphany, Peplow
Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
- 25 Th e (Jolly Early) Christmas Fayre - 10.30am to 3pm - Wollerton Bowls & Social Club
- 26 4pm Benefice Service at St Swithun's Church, Cheswardine.
Holy Communion - 11am - Chapel of the Epiphany, Peplow
- 27
- 28 Morning Coffee and Chat - contact Margaret Taylor on 01630 654994
- 29 Craft Group 10am - 12 noon - Wollerton Village Room Choir Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church
- 30
- 31 Bellringing Practice 7 - 8pm - St Luke's Church



Together Everyone Achieves More

Headteacher: Mrs P Lyall.
Shrewsbury Street, Hodnet, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 3NS Tel:01630 68530
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Hodnet Primary School



Open morning

Will your child be starting school in September 2026?

If so, please come along to our open morning to see our wonderful school. You will meet our Reception staff team and see how all children can thrive at Hodnet Primary School.

Wednesday 8th October and Wednesday 26th November 2025

10am – 11am (Tours at 10:15am)

We look forward to meeting you!



Children will be eligible to start school in September 2026 if they were born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022

