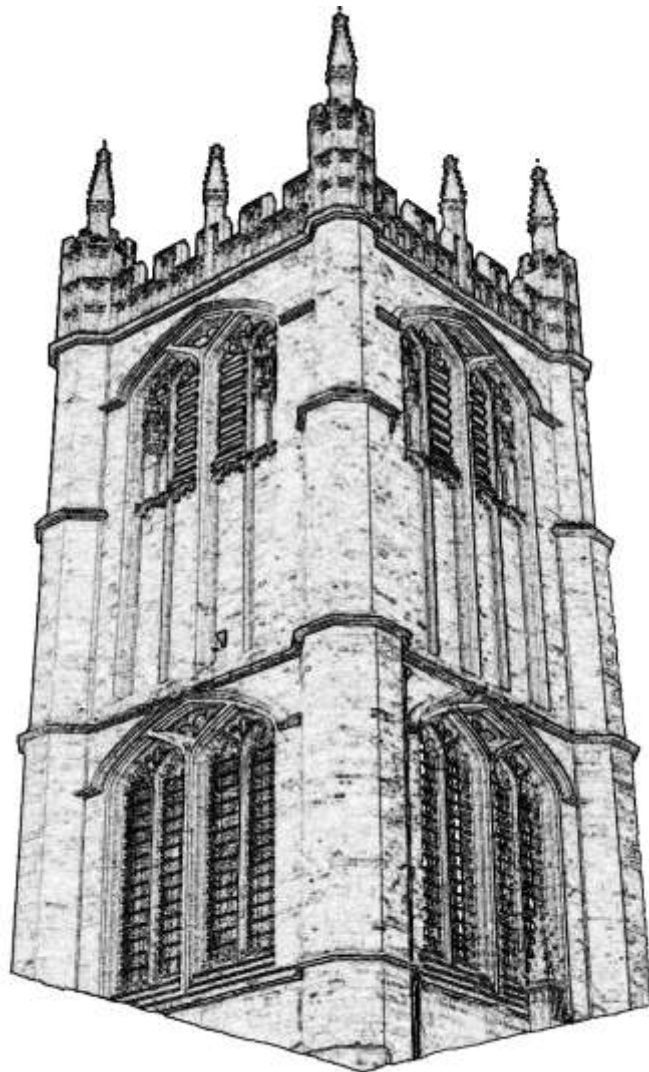


THE PARISHES OF LUDLOW & LUDFORD

# LUDLOW TOWER

*Parish Magazine*

*August 2010*



*Bringing you the latest news.....*

*(Contributions to offset the cost of printing this magazine are gratefully received)*

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(Wednesday's we are now closed to the public)

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Team Rector Designate The Venerable Colin Williams (Thursday) 872001

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Assistant Minister Revd Prebendary Ann Barge (Tuesday) 877307

Curate Revd John Beesley (Tuesday) 874383

### NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

St Laurence	8 am	Holy Communion bcp
	9.30 am	Parish Communion
		2nd Sunday Choral Communion
	11.30 am	2nd and 4th Sunday Choral Matins
	3.30 pm	1st and 3rd Sundays Choral Evensong
		(No 3rd service on the 5th Sunday of the month)
St John	9.30 am	Holy Communion with Hymns
St Giles	11.15 am	Holy Communion
		1st Sunday Family Service
		Last Sunday Godly Play

Thank you to all our contributors.

COPY FOR THE SEPTEMBER TOWER TO THE OFFICE PLEASE BY  
Wednesday 18 August 2010

Please send articles by email to [office@stlaurences.org.uk](mailto:office@stlaurences.org.uk)

Please send information about events and  
subjects that you would like to appear.

What we do not know, we cannot pass on!

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## CLERGY LETTER

Having celebrated Trinity Sunday at the end of May, we are now in that period of just over five months known as the Sundays after Trinity or “Ordinary Time” – a period with no significant festivals to celebrate at all. Having crammed Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost into the preceding six months having this relatively empty period could be seen (depending on your point of view) as either an anti-climax or a bit of a relief.

Personally I rather like it, not least because it gives us a chance to step aside from the mad rush of celebrations marking events in the life of Christ and to concentrate a bit more on his actions and his teaching. One of the things which has struck me in reading these accounts is the number of times we hear (often merely in passing) of journeys made by Jesus and his followers.

Probably a result of having spent over 30 years of my life in the education system I tend to think of the summer as the time to go on journeys. With modern technology we can now travel further and more quickly than ever before. At the same time I wonder if we have slightly lost sight of the benefits of journeys themselves, seeing them merely as something we have to get through before we reach our destination and really begin the holiday.

For Jesus and his followers, journeys were inevitably rather slower and, I suspect, more important - providing opportunities for chat and allowing them time to get to know each other better, to talk in more depth about what it was that Jesus was doing and teaching. In a similar way as I travelled in the Hebrides earlier this year I was struck again by the way complete strangers become quite chatty when sitting on the ferry, sharing experiences and advice about the places to be enjoyed in a way they almost certainly wouldn't do under other circumstances.

The summer provides many opportunities for journeys: on holiday, to summer events around our parishes, on walks in the country or even just the chance for a more leisurely walk to the shops or to see a neighbour. Perhaps we might try to see these journeys as opportunities to get to know our fellow travellers better, to talk to the people we meet on the way, to share their joys and their sorrows - for in so doing we can fulfil an important part of our calling as Christians. To take some words from the hymn “**Brother, Sister, let me serve you**”: *We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.*

*John Beesley*

## REFLECTIONS FROM OUR TEAM RECTOR DESIGNATE

It seemed a good idea at the time. I had arrived in Ludlow on Wednesday. I had sold my Swiss car, with its steering wheel on the 'wrong' side. My new car was due to arrive on Friday. Ian (Barge) offered to let me have the use of his car for most of the interim. I gladly agreed.

The keys were handed over in the Castle Car Park. Ian headed off. I sat in the car and made ready to drive away. The difficulty immediately became apparent. I couldn't get the car into reverse. The more I tried, the more Ian's car inched close and closer towards the car in front. The headlights were almost touching. Finally, for the sake of the well being of both cars, I decided that discretion was better part of valour. I turned off the engine and resigned myself to the fact that I was going nowhere fast.

Actually, I have always had difficulty with reversing cars. I passed my driving test in the days before reverse parking was an obligatory part of the procedure. Had it been so in those days, my car would still be carrying 'L' plates. Somehow the part of my brain that should tell me in which direction to turn the wheel in order to reverse into a space doesn't seem to function at crucial moments. That also gave me difficulties when trying to reverse into St. Giles' Vicarage driveway, but that is another story for another day.

Maybe it is as well that a priest who has come to take charge of a parish, which in so many ways is looking to go places, has difficulties in operating in reverse gear. For reverse is the gear that can too often be the default gear for the Church as a whole. At times when society around us seems puzzling or even downright threatening, it is much easier, much more reassuring, to head backwards to what we have found comforting and safe in the past, be it forms of worship, the layout of buildings, or styles of ministry. Of course there is a case to be argued that in some, or all, of these from time to time, forward gears have been operated with too much vigour and without due respect for those for whom too bumpy a ride simply makes them question whether they want to be part of the journey as a whole.

But there is no question about it. The parishes in which the Good News of Our Lord Jesus Christ is proclaimed most effectively are by and large those in which there has been a self-denying ordinance in relation to the application of reverse gear, and instead a firm application of the gears that take them forward. This has been true even if it has meant leaving behind what has been loved and

familiar; even when it has meant people abandoning the long lingering glance into the windscreen mirror to remind themselves of what is being left behind.

In the years to come we will share a journey together. I don't know where that journey will take us. It will be challenging. It will be enriching. And to be all of that and more, it must be a journey forward. Jesus the Lord of the Church has so much that he wishes us to achieve together. To achieve that we must be willing to journey faithfully onwards, trusting him to lead us even when the way forward is not clear, relying on him to respond to our faithfulness by giving us the gifts and skills, and the vision that we need for the journey.

One of the Collects that we use in Common Worship sums up these reflections well

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Colin Williams*

## FROM THE BISHOP

Like many with school age children, we shall be taking time in August to enjoy some holidays. I think that most of us look forward to a well-earned break and a change of pace. Often after a very busy period or a sustained schedule of work, a chance to live life a bit differently is welcomed. Much of the refreshment that holidays bring is as a result of the difference, be it change of scene or circumstance.

I don't know whether you have ever asked where the concept of a holiday came from or how it arose. Its popular form as we now have it evolved during the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the right to paid leave or holiday is a relatively new idea. The word "holiday" comes from the Old English word *hāigdæg*. In its more ancient form it finds its roots in religious observance and the way in which 'Holy Days' were times set apart, with a distinctive pace, pattern and rhythm. While the word originally referred only to special religious days, now it embraces any special day of rest or relaxation, as opposed to normal days off work or school. If in the past the emphasis was towards our needs as spiritual beings the emphasis now veers towards every other aspect of our wellbeing.

In our world of variety and choice there are many ways to spend time and holidays. For some the preference is for a holiday at home, for others an activity holiday, organised tour or cruise and for yet others a relishing of time spent at the pool side or beach with a nice glass of your favourite tippie and a good book. Whatever you do this month I trust that it will be a bit of a break and a time of refreshment. God gives us all good things to enjoy so in whatever you do spare a thought as to where and why holidays began. Building in some spiritual refreshment can turn a good holiday in a great one. So why not make this year break great.

*+Alistair*

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

These intentions are used at public worship in the Ludlow Team Ministry during the week and you are invited to use them as subjects for your own prayers on the appointed days.

AUGUST 2010

- 1 Our Team and its parishes
- 2 All who read lessons and lead prayers in our churches
- 3 All those on holiday; those unable to take a holiday
- 4 All parish priests
- 5 The homeless and those who sleep rough
- 6 That we may reflect Christ's glory in the world
- 7 Tourists visiting this country from abroad
- 8 Our Team and its parishes
- 9 The work of the Mothers' Union
- 10 All involved with the life of St Laurence's, Ludlow
- 11 The government and people of Chad
- 12 All young people throughout the world
- 13 Areas of social deprivation in our country
- 14 The work of Citizens Advice
- 15 Thanksgiving for the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 16 Better access to clean water for all the world's people
- 17 All who are denied the right to vote in our world
- 18 All engaged in efforts to spread the faith
- 19 Our Rural Dean and Deanery Synod Lay Co-Chair
- 20 The Salvation Army and its work
- 21 All who help to maintain our churchyards
- 22 Our Team and its parishes
- 23 The Skillbuilders Project – helping people gain new skills

- 24 That we may hold fast to the faith of the apostles
- 25 The government and people of Uruguay
- 26 The work of Oxfam
- 27 All parents
- 28 Teachers of the faith
- 29 Our Team and its parishes
- 30 All service personnel injured in Afghanistan
- 31 Spiritual writers

## SUNDAY READINGS FROM THE BIBLE

<p>1 August The Ninth Sunday after Trinity Proper 13 Green</p>	<p>Ecclesiastes 1.2, 12-14; 2.18-23 Psalm 49. 1-12 (49. 1-9) Colossians 3: 1-11 Luke 12: 13-21</p>
<p>8 August The Tenth Sunday after Trinity Proper 14 Green</p>	<p>Genesis 15. 1-6 Psalm 33. 12-end [33. 12-21] Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16 Luke 12: 32-40</p>
<p>15 August The Blessed Virgin Mary White</p>	<p>Isaiah 61: 10-end or Revelation 11:19 – 12:6, 10 Psalm 45: 10-end Galatians 4: 4-7 Luke 1: 46-55</p>
<p>22 August The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity Proper 16 Green</p>	<p>Isaiah 58. 96-end Psalm 103. 1-8 Hebrews 12: 18-29 Luke 13: 10-17</p>
<p>29 August The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity Proper 17 Green</p>	<p>Proverbs 25. 6-7 Psalm 112 Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16 Luke 14: 1, 7-14</p>



## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Ministry of Cleaning needs you...**

Holy Dusters are recruiting, if you can help please contact  
Joe Brennan, the Verger at St Laurence

**‘Cleanliness is next to Godliness’**

## CHURCHWARDENS’ CORNER

*The Times They Are a-Changin' (Bob Dylan)*

With the licensing of Colin as our new Team Rector Designate we move into a new era for the Parish of Ludlow. This is just the latest, very welcome, example of change that we are experiencing. Yet for most of us, change can be challenging if not threatening. We all know what we like and feel comfortable with it. It is that sense of the unknown that causes unease.

Over the past two or three years, whilst we have been churchwardens, a great deal has changed in the Parish. So much has been done towards conserving the fabric of St Laurence's, inside and out, and our choral tradition has been greatly enhanced. At the same time necessary repairs have been undertaken at St John's. A strong infrastructure has been put in place for the Parish to enable the clergy to focus more on their pastoral work. A re-invigorated Link scheme is now in operating as a vital ingredient of our pastoral mission. We have an excellent team of vergers and administrative staff; and there is so much more. Sometimes, as churchwardens, we feel that there is still so much that needs to be done. At such times we find it helpful to look back three years and then we see how far we have all, together, travelled as a Parish!

Of course, change relates not only to the introduction of things new. It can also involve re-instating elements from our past. One vivid example of this is the Summer Fête which for the last two years has been held in St Laurence's, re-creating the medieval market-place that was a central feature in days of old. This year's fête, like last year's was a huge success, attracting a complete cross-section of people from near and far and engendering a lovely atmosphere. It was a great team effort, so may we as churchwardens add our own thanks to all those involved in planning and running the event.

Whenever there is change occurring, there is a very particular need to communicate effectively. Those of us who are closely involved in the planning and implementation of change sometimes forget that because we know what is happening, so will everyone else around us. Not true! We *must* spell out clearly what is happening and why it is happening. This we try to do, for example making use of the Tower to explain what is happening in relation to the Vision Project, one of the major changes over these coming years. However, we must do better. Over the coming months you will find more articles discussing possible changes, explaining the underlying motivation and seeking your views. Yes, your views really are important to us.

Whilst the Tower (including its electronic version) is a vital vehicle for communication, it cannot displace the one-to-one conversation. If you have any concerns as to what is happening, or have heard rumours that sound rather disturbing (a not unheard of phenomenon here in Ludlow!), then please *do* come and talk to us. We are here to listen to your concerns and to hear your views. We shall do our best to provide the information that you need to enable to play your part as a member of the Ludlow Parish.

*Anna Branston and Ewart Carson*

## NOTES FROM THE ORGAN LOFT

Easter and Holy Week only seems like a few weeks ago, yet as I write, the choir is preparing our last services before our annual break. I haven't been able to write for a few months, so I hope this little article can bring you up to speed.

The choir has continued to perform to a consistently high standard, both the juniors and adults attending three times a week, a huge but very rewarding commitment by all involved. Of particular note were the services through Holy Week and the Easter liturgies when the choir really excelled themselves; for me, the most enjoyable part is the singing of the psalms week in week out, which they do to a very high standard.

Since Easter plainchant matins has been replaced by full choral matins. This means that every week the choir sings at the 9.30 am Parish Eucharist as well as either Matins or Evensong, the only parish church choir to do so in the diocese. It has been very pleasing to see the congregation steadily grow for the choral offices. A particular feature is the numbers of tourists who wander into the church and sit and listen to the service. We now expect around 30 people at these services, a real opportunity for us to reach out to our visitors. These choral offices are a real jewel of the Anglican Communion.

Over the past academic year we have benefited from the generosity of a few individuals who have donated sets of music. In total over the past three years we have been able to purchase 78 sets of music. You may ask, why so much music? Well, we perform on average four or five pieces a week, 44 weeks of the year. There is still more to add to our repertoire; if you would like to donate some music please do come and discuss this with me. The cost starts at around £50.

I have been very keen to commission a new mass setting for use at the parish Eucharist, and I am pleased to say that Steve Dunachie has composed such a setting for us. It is dedicated to the memory of Joel Lawrence. We shall be using this setting during advent. With three settings now in the congregation's repertoire, this will enable us to enjoy some variety reflecting the liturgical seasons.

**St Laurence's Minifest** - For some time we had planned to restart a series of lunchtime concerts during the Ludlow Festival and so the minifest was born. During the 2010 festival we promoted a series of five lunchtime concerts as well as a main evening concert. These concerts were well attended and the income from them covered the hire cost of the Steinway, which was resident during the festival, as well as artists fees and other costs. Most importantly it enabled more people to enjoy music, especially with the low cost ticket prices, and it meant that the church was a hive of activity. Thanks go to Brian Thomas who single handedly stewarded the series!

Organ - Since the major restoration of the organ in 2006 the Special Music Projects (SMP) team of Jane Allsop and Tom Caulcott have continued to raise funds for the completion of works to our fine organ. A new set of toe pistons is currently being produced for us. These will complement the new keyboards installed in 2008. The toe pistons are used by the organist whilst his/her hands are busy; they select combinations of stops at the press of one button. The preset combinations are remembered by the computer which is within the console of the organ. If you look carefully during recitals you will see the stops seemingly coming out of their own accord, but they are really being prompted by our thumbs or toes. These new toe pistons are hand made in spun brass, and mounted on a specially constructed piece of curved timber so that the player can reach them with the greatest of ease. We are grateful for all the work that the SMP team does to enable these works to take place and make our organ one of the finest in the country.

We welcome a new junior chorister Molly Fawkes, and wish her the best in her probationary period. It is with sadness, though with pride and gratitude that we valedict our head and deputy head chorister Lauren and Matthew. Both have given dedicated service over the past few years. Matthew's voice has broken and he will continue to help with the chorister's training on Monday evening, as will

Lauren who will continue to sing with the choir, but now with the title choral scholar.

*Shaun Ward, Director of Music*

## MOTHERS UNION NEWS

St Mary's Priory Church, Abergavenny, was chosen as the M.U. outing for this year. It was a very wise choice, and both the journey and destination were most enjoyable. We had coffee in the Tithe Barn, recently restored, before going upstairs to view the tapestry. The tapestry was 24 ft x 6 ft, designed by Susan Martin and worked by some sixty stitchers in the Lewis Chapel of St Mary's Priory Church. It depicts the local history of the past thousand years, to celebrate the millennium. It was started in 1999 and completed, after nearly five-and-a-half, in 2006.

After a walk up to the market we returned to enjoy the peace and historical interest of the ancient church. It was founded in 1087 as a Priory by Hamelin de Ballou, the Norman overlord of northern Gwent, supporting a prior and twelve monks. It was in use as their parish church in 1536 when the dissolution of the monasteries came into effect. The townsfolk persuaded Henry VIII to let them continue to worship there. The interior of the church has the Royal arms of Queen Anne, dated 1709, a symbol of King Henry VIII's supremacy over the Church of England.

One of the most interesting treasures in the church represents the family tree of King David's father, Jesse, carved from one solid piece of oak forming the base of an altar piece.

In the Herbert Chapel there are nine more tombs, dated 1348-1648. The stained glass windows were modern 1920-1950, with the East window donated by the widow and two sons of Brigadier General Randle Barnett Baker, who died at the Battle of the Somme in 1918.

*Betsy Corbett*

## FABRIC AND CONSERVATION

Much work has been going on behind the scenes to progress works on the fabric of our historic building and its furnishings. May saw the return of two of our paintings, both of organists, one in oil and one in water colour; these have been cleaned, the torn canvas repaired and conserved. They can be viewed by the organ case.

We have now secured the funding for approximately £70k of work on the following: Repairs to stone masonry of the chancel clerestory windows, Repairs to the Stained Glass Phase 2, Repairs to the Parvis Room Ceiling, Repairs to

Monuments Phase 1, Repairs to the chancel Reredos, Conservation of the Royal Arms and Ten Commandments Board, Installation of Roped Access System on the Roof, Repairs to the flashing and stone masonry nave south aisle clerestory, Repairs to the west door plinth, Repairs to the parapet gutter nave north clerestory, Repairs to the north aisle three stained glass roundels. We now await the faculty permissions for these works to proceed

We are also in the process of submitting a major application for works to stone masonry and replacement of the Lady Chapel and St John's Chapel roofs.

During the early months on 2010 you will have seen Kieran Elliot conservator, examining and compiling a report on the 100 funeral monuments within the church. Grants from the Church Buildings Council, The Conservation Trust and a generous benefactor from our congregation have funded this substantial report. Previously I have been involved with similar projects in other churches and the restoration of one large alabaster monument, which cost approximately £45k. I'm pleased to report that in total we need to spend £20k on the conservation of the monuments, and there is an immediate need to spend £7k to secure the most fragile ones. This is much less than we had anticipated. The fabric committee will now begin the process of securing funding for this important project.

You may also know that we have a collection of historic textiles, most of which are fine examples of 19<sup>th</sup> century embroidery: altar frontals, a burse and the parish banner. Some of these are in a truly perilous state and so the PCC decided that until such time as these items could be fully conserved their use should be restricted, thereby reducing the risk of any further deterioration. I have been researching the provenance of these items, and have identified many of the designers of the fine silk fabric, including those by Sir Ninian Comper, this in turn helps to date each piece. The first of our altar frontals dates from the 1860 restoration and shows Christ in Majesty, an all seasons frontal, most likely the work of a European convent. Other frontals followed and may have been the work of locally skilled ladies; of particular note is the vine frontal, which seems to be a copy of a design from Canterbury Cathedral. In total these important parts of our heritage need some £20k of restoration work. A specialist conservator who trained at the Royal School of Needlework, and is based in Hereford would undertake the extensive work. We currently have no sources of funding for this and the Team Rector and Churchwardens would be pleased to discuss the sponsorship of any part of this work with individuals.

*Shuan Ward, Clerk of Works*

## FAVOURITE HYMN

Having had the privilege of serving at the Lord's Table at Holy Communion during the past twenty years, eight of those as Head Server at St. Laurence's, my favourite hymn is the Communion hymn

*“Just as I am without one plea  
But that thy blood was shed for me,  
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.”*

There is a lovely story about Charlotte Elliott, who wrote the words. She was born in Clapham in 1789 when the South London suburb was becoming the centre of the Evangelical Revival with the famous Clapham Sect. As a young girl Charlotte had little time for religious matters, although she considered herself a Christian. Her special talent was composing humorous verse to entertain her family and friends.

However, at the age of 32, her life changed when she became ill with one of those long lingering illnesses that often afflicted women at that time.

A year later she met Dr Cesar Malan, a Swiss Evangelist when he came to stay at the family home in Clapham. One day Charlotte was rather upset when he asked her if she really considered herself to be a Christian. His comment led Charlotte to examine her life and her beliefs, and eventually she asked Dr Malan 'how she should come to God?'. He replied 'come just as you are'.

During the following ten years Charlotte became a committed Evangelist and used her writing skills to compose literally hundreds of hymns and carols that were published on broadsheets. By this time the Elliott family had moved to Brighton where her father built St Mary's Chapel, which later came under the charge of Charlotte's brother Harry. Harry was enthusiastic about education and began a fund-raising campaign for a school for 'the daughters of poor clergymen'. To further this goal, the Elliot family held a bazaar. On the chosen day they went off to do their chosen jobs, all except Charlotte who was still sick and unable to contribute. She felt frustrated at her uselessness and began to have doubts about her faith.

Charlotte continued to battle with her fears and perhaps her thoughts returned to the words of Dr Malan spoken when she was much younger. Whatever the reason, she was filled with a spirit of acceptance of her lot and she wrote the beautiful lines of "Just as I am". Of the many hymns that Charlotte

wrote this is probably the best known and despite her illness she continued to bring praise to the people. Charlotte died in 1870, aged 81 years.

I have heard the hymn myself sung to different tunes, but by my favourite is “Saffron Walden” by Arthur H. Brown (1830-1926). In this setting the words have given hope and comfort to so many people, especially at the most holy part of our Christian worship, the Holy Communion.

*Eric Noble*

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### BAPTISMS

27.6.10	Megan Joy Law	St John
4.7.10	Emily Channon	St John

### WEDDINGS/BLESSINGS

26.6.10	Lorna Ashbridge & Paul Irving	St Giles
10.7.10	Kimberley Phillips & Lee Cordery	St Giles

### FUNERALS

22.6.10	Patrick Wilkes	St John
24.6.10	Betty Morgan	H/Crem
25.6.10	Ada Merchant	St Giles
28.6.10	Anthony Millington	St John
30.6.10	Dave Martin	St Laurence
1.7.10	Stephen Morris	St Giles
2.7.10	Derek Allcock	H/Crem
5.7.10	William Hughes	St Giles
6.7.10	Barry Hughes	St John
13.7.10	Margaret Huxley	St Giles

## NEW HOURS FOR THE PARISHES' OFFICE

With our new Team Rector's arrival and the need to assign him centrally located office space, Number 2 College Street has become quite cosy, indeed. The smaller meeting room has become an office, and the main office does double-duty as the only meeting room. As one can imagine, it has been somewhat difficult to find the quiet time necessary for focusing on detailed tasks such as completing the Registers or doing accounts.

The Parishes' Office has, therefore, changed its hours and remains closed on Wednesdays. In order to off-set any inconvenience this may cause parishioners, committees and the public, the regular open hours of 10 am to 12 noon have been extended until 12.30 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

We hope you will understand the need to create some dedicated quiet work time. You should nonetheless feel free to leave a telephone message or send an e-mail on Wednesdays, and you will receive a response within 24 hours.

*Susan Goble, Parishes' Administrator*

## ST LAURENCE'S SHOP

The Shop has had another bumper month with plenty of new stock arriving, including some exquisite figurines reminiscent of Lladro, new music CD's and some lovely olive wood products. Do take time to peruse the new offerings.

## NOTES ON THE FETE

A huge thank you to all the helpers who so willingly came forward to make the day such a success. I think that everyone who took part, either as a helper or a visitor, really enjoyed themselves.

We had many amazing gifts, given so freely from tradespeople in the town, and I think it only right that we should thank them. Amongst them are --

Ludlow Food Centre, Spar, Somerfield(Co-op), Boots, Brown and Francis, Hallmark Cards, The Fudge Shop, Ricketts, Deli on the **Square, The Mousetrap, Mark's Cheese Stall, Farmers, Price and Sons,** Waltons, Woods Brewery, Ludlow Brewery, Hobsons Brewery, Myriad Organics, De Greys, Andrew Francis (butcher), Holland and Barrett, Countrywide, Ludlow Nut Company and Tuffins.

Meal vouchers were also received from The Feathers, The Cliffe Hotel, Charlton Arms, Fishmore Hall and The Clive.

*It goes without saying that we are extremely grateful for the gifts, produce and merchandise brought by the congregation and the wider community*

It would be nice to think, that when we next do our shopping, we can remember the above contributors.

*Brian Thomas and the team*

# FUNDRAISING PROJECTS

## The Cow-Pat Fundraising Game- 2nd October 2010

What happens?

A friendly farmer is willing to let people watch as a cow is let out into field.



Of course what happens is that the cow eventually drops a pat. We have no control over exactly where or when this happens. Our thanks go to the Earl of Plymouth Estates and their Farm Manager, for their help and co-operation.

How does this raise money?

An imaginary grid is set out within a field of known dimensions. Raffle tickets are sold and each ticket relates to a square in the grid. You've guessed, the winning ticket is the one where ...

How is it fair if your ticket is number 1?

Sold ticket numbers are entered onto a computer and it sorts them into a random order. The resulting list of numbers is made into a shape which matches the shape of the field. Ticket number 1, 101 or 1001 may finish up on the outer edge of the grid or in the middle of the rectangle, or anywhere else for that matter, so everyone starts off with an equal chance.

When and where are they on sale?

As you know we have had tickets on sale for 2 months in St Laurence's Church from 10.00 am to 5.30 pm every day. People are also able to take away books to sell to families and friends. Tickets cost £1 each, or £5 for a book of 5 tickets, or £10 for 10 tickets. Just follow the instructions on the Cow Pat Game display.

What is it for?

St Laurence's congregation needs to raise funds for day-to-day maintenance of our wonderful church.

We want congregations and visitors today, and in future generations, to enjoy the peace and tranquility of this place that we treasure; to feel and share in its spirituality; and to be able to appreciate its fine architecture, stained glass, monuments and carvings.

Please note that the deadline for the return of ticket stubs in Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

Tickets will not be sold after this date.

On behalf of St Laurence's PCC, thank you to all who join in raising money in this unusual way.

*E Nixon on behalf of St Laurence's Church PCC*

Dear Editor,

### Background noise

Those of us who have a "hearing deficit" frequently find it difficult to cope with unnecessary background music or other noise. There is currently a campaign to stop this practice which I wholeheartedly support. If any of you would like to register an objection to background music and noise, you will find guidance on the RNID website.

Unfortunately, we get so used to this background to our lives that we inappropriately begin to treat some occasions as simply background when it shouldn't be so. Some of us have become concerned about the habit at the end of a church service, to treat the Organ Voluntary as background music. We tend to talk and move around while it is being played. I think this is unfortunate. If it is necessary for some to leave before the Voluntary then they should leave quickly and quietly.

Our services will gain much if they end reflectively accompanied by the Voluntary. I wonder if others feel the same. Our great treasury of Voluntaries should not be devalued, especially when they are played so skilfully by our organists on such a magnificent instrument.

Yours sincerely,  
John G Haslam

## NEWS FROM ST JOHN

### St. JOHN'S MIDWEEK

At the meeting on Wednesday 23rd June, John French stirred our thinking on "Christian Dilemmas" under a number of headings:

'Order and Chaos', 'What can we pray for?', 'Christian Unity', 'Church Authority' and more! Lively discussion developed with the welcome participation of some members of St. Laurence's Congregation as well as St. John's people.

### August Meetings

Wednesday 11th August:

To be arranged – for details contact Don Millington on 01584 878 547.

Wednesday 25th August, 7.30 pm:

'Anglicans and Methodists – Where have we got to, and

where do we want to be?' - a look at what has happened since the Anglican – Methodist Covenant was signed in 2003. We are very fortunate that the discussion will be led by the Revd. Dr. Neil Richardson, who was President of the Methodist Conference in 2003 and a signatory to the Covenant.

The intent of these meetings is to provide opportunities to explore and discuss aspects of our church life and our personal faith. The meetings take place in St. John's Church, Gravel Hill, Ludlow and open to everyone. Attend some or all, whichever are of interest. The starting time is 7.30pm, with an intention to end with tea/coffee and to finish by 9.30pm. For further information contact Don Millington on 01584 878 547 or Sheila French on 01584 876 142. Suggestions of topics for subsequent meetings are very welcome.

## NEWS FROM ST GILES

As I write, our long awaited Brass Rubbings Exhibition has just been dismantled and we are awaiting the collection of the mounting boards freely loaned to us by Jewson's of Leominster. This was a very kind gesture and we are grateful to them.

Following the conservation of our Foxe Brasses at St. Giles' the very generous offer by Jonathan Moor of creating a Brass Rubbing Exhibition was welcomed and created great interest. This followed a lecture which he gave on the Foxe family in June.

Our visitor's book gives an insight into the reactions of those who came to this specialised exhibition. Festival visitors and some who had come expressly from a considerable distance very much enjoyed the chance to see some outstanding brass rubbings from Jonathan's vast collection of 1500 made over many years, displayed in the peaceful setting of St. Giles' Church.

We were told many times that the exhibition and the rubbings were of the highest quality. At the weekend Morisca in their period costume gave us contemporary music, William Lack, conservator and restorer of our brasses, conducted a Brass Rubbing Workshop in the Garden Rooms and strawberry and cream teas were served in the sunny churchyard.

Visitors and indeed the stewards loved the quiet meditative atmosphere of the church during all this time.

Many fascinating conversations were stimulated by the exhibition, and experts in different very specialised fields gave a glimpse of their knowledge. Our welcome leaflet explained... 'Faith and worship and the imitation of Christ have been at the heart of all that has gone on here in past centuries. It is the same today' ....and ended with .. 'May God bless you as you go on your way'

Our thanks are due to all those who have given so much to make this unusual occasion such a happy one.

Now, along with all our sister churches we are looking forward to welcoming Colin Williams on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

*Daphne Jepps*



## NEWS FROM THE CONSERVATION TRUST FOR ST LAURENCE, LUDLOW

### THE FLOWERS THAT BLOOM IN THE SPRING, TRA LA!

Over 30 local singers will be rehearsing for three nights to ensure a rousing chorus accompanies the audience at the Gilbert and Sullivan Sing-Along in St Laurence's Church on Saturday 4 September.

The Conservation Trust for St Laurence, Ludlow, is staging this fund-raising event, and plans are under way to involve the audience as much as possible.

“People will leave feeling that they've done more singing than listening”, said organiser, Trustee Hugh Wood. “We've decided to select from just two operas, so that our Master of Ceremonies, Michael Evans, can easily recount the story of each one as the evening progresses. We've chosen HMS Pinafore and Mikado because these are two of the best known and will be the easy to sing along to.”

Soloists include Joe Brennan and Katherine Bromley, both vergers at St Laurence's, Mitesh Khatri from the Conservatoire, Ellie Peberdy and Allan Grainger from Tenbury Operatic Society, and Hugh and Doris Wood.

“We are hoping to fill the church”, said Conservation Trust Chairman, Bill Lloyd-Kitchen. “The emphasis really will be on audience participation, and – although most people know the tunes, we will provide the words so everyone can join in! We will not be handing out music sheets, but some people may wish to bring their own scores. To involve the audience as much as possible, we'll include not only choruses like “We sail the ocean blue”, and solos which have chorus accompaniment, like “I am the monarch of the sea”, but also solos which the audience will know well, such as “On a tree by a willow, a little tom tit”..

Tickets cost £10 per person, and are available from the St Laurence's Shop, and the VIC in Castle Square. Or email Rosemary Wood on [rosemary.wood3@virgin.net](mailto:rosemary.wood3@virgin.net) or phone 01584 877771 to reserve your ticket.

**CONSERVATION TRUST CHRISTMAS CARDS  
ORDER NOW, SAVE MONEY AND HELP TO CONSERVE ST  
LAURENCE'S!**

Conservation Trust Christmas cards will be on sale in St Laurence's Shop from mid-September, and will feature a stunning winter image of St Laurence's, taken by local photographer Gareth Thomas. Entitled 'Hoarfrost', the cards measure 7" x 5", contain the words 'Best Wishes', and cost £3.50 for packs of 5. However, if you place an order now, these are available at a special, discounted, price of £2.50

But you must send us your order and cheque/cash by 15 September 2010

We will contact you in late-September, and ask you to collect your cards from the St Laurence's Shop. We envisage a 'sell-out', and cards will be sold on a strictly 'first-come, first-served' basis. Advance order forms containing a copy of the photograph are available from the Stewards' Desk in St Laurence, or email [rosemary.wood3@virgin.net](mailto:rosemary.wood3@virgin.net) to receive an illustrated order form.



## GREATER CHURCHES GROUP

As you will know we are part of the Greater Churches Group, a network of 27 large churches across England. Over the last few years I've served as a lay member of the standing committee and I thought it might be of interest to tell you about some of the work we are engaged with. Since 2008 we have welcomed new members including St Chad's Shrewsbury and Halifax Parish Church. After much thought and prayer we are proposing to change the name of the group to the Greater Churches Network; this better reflects our purpose as a group to help each other.

We are currently planning our next conference which will be held in Malvern in 2011. The conference will focus on change management, a subject close to all our hearts. As well as this, we are planning an appearance at the Fresh Expression conference, when we will be making a presentation about the special ministry of greater churches and cathedrals.

*Shaun Ward*



## An Appreciation of Ludlow College

It seemed almost natural that Ludlow College would be my next step to higher education. This did not mean that I excluded all other options causing me

to attend the open days of surrounding colleges. It wasn't until I first stepped into the refectory that my reason for finally choosing Ludlow became so unbelievably obvious – the people. Many colleges pride themselves on their size and their mass number of students. However, if it was this that connoted success, Ludlow would not be in the top 10% of all sixth forms. It is a community more than it is a college where the people merge without resistance and accept all. Even on my very first day this was apparent – everyone *knew* everyone. And although coming from a small high school I was able to relate to the friendliness that encapsulated the place, I was never expecting college to be like that. This atmosphere has never once diminished throughout my first year at Ludlow and I strongly believe that this continual high has, if not added to my success, then definitely made the experience a lot more pleasant.

However, I do not feel that the pleasant nature only centres around the students – it extends over the teachers and all other staff. In the majority of cases, Ludlow College has been blessed with driven, charismatic teachers who have a passion for their subject. This is reflected in both results and students' opinions. I'm a strong believer that a driven teacher creates driven students thus creating success – all no stranger to Ludlow College. Classes however, are in stark contrast to those at High School; they are more adult - not only in students referring to their tutors by their first names making the situation much more sophisticated, but the work is at such a different level. And it was this that frightened me – I was worried that I would be incapable of making the transition from GCSE to A level. Though in reality I had very little to worry about, as it took such a small period of time that I was unaware of its occurrence; most of this is I owe to my teachers who pushed me and helped me get to exactly where it was I wanted to be.

On enrolling into Ludlow, I already had a strong inkling of the path I wanted my future to take and therefore the subjects I wanted to do. Despite this, things changed; although my career aspiration has never varied, I ended up taking maths as suggested by the college – a subject I was dying to be rid of. And surprisingly, it has increased in my rating making it now one of my favourite courses. I'm glad I explored some of the subjects I had never expected to take - Ludlow College offers some fantastic, and a seemingly large variety of, courses. Many of these are not entirely academic with BTEC qualifications, key skills and health and social care being offered also - Ludlow College really has something for everyone. It aids those with a career in mind, pushing them forwards allowing them to reach their goal and helps those who are a little unsure to mould and create the path they want to take.

My first year at Ludlow College has been so much more than I had ever anticipated: not only has my knowledge increased but so has my maturity. I'm a

better and more experienced student who is soaring towards their goal. And with the firm foundation of Ludlow College behind me, it'll only be a matter of time until I get there.

“Opportunity is missed by most people  
Because it is dressed in overalls  
and looks like work.”  
- Thomas A Edison

*Hannah Stoneley  
President of the Ludlow College Student Council*



## A-Z of Churchyard Conservation

T is for Toads

There are two kinds of toads native to Britain. These are the Common Toad (*Bufo bufo*) and the rarer Natterjack Toad (*Bufo calamita*). The two species can be easily distinguished by the presence of a prominent yellow line down the back of the Natterjack Toad.

Toads differ from frogs - they have dry, warty looking skin, crawl rather than jump and lay their eggs in a string rather than a bunch. Often found in the dry stone walls around churchyards, toads will hunt after dusk for slugs, snails and earthworms. They sleep during the day and hibernate in the winter under rocks and stones or in a hole in the ground.

*For more information contact The Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust,  
01733 558960, [www.arc-trust.org](http://www.arc-trust.org)*

***Caring for God's Acre, the conservation charity for churchyards and burial grounds, 01568 611154, [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)***



## FORTHCOMING

Shropshire Historic Churches Trust  
SPONSORED RIDE AND STRIDE  
SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2010

This year's event in Shropshire is the *nineteenth*. For information on the event or if you wish to participate, please refer to the website or contact Linda Savage (01588 673571). [www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk](http://www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk)

# BISYOC

Intercultural Youth Orchestral Exchange

*Young people from 10 countries come together for 10 days of rehearsing and cultural activities.*

CONCERTS to celebrate 10 YEARS

*Sunday 1 August, 7.30pm*

BISYOC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, £10

*Orchestral programme includes J Strauss Die Fledermaus Overture; Mahler Symphony No 1; Mozart Concerto for Flute and Harp K299; John Hymas Fanfare celebrating 10 years of BISYOC*

Tickets from:	Supporting:
Ludlow Information Centre 01584 875053	St Laurence's Church, Ludlow
Gill's Gifts, Leominster 01568 611588	St Michael's Church, Discoed
Presteigne Post Office	Megan Baker House
Peter Gibbons 01544 260551 <i>(enquiries / tickets)</i>	Friends of Ludlow Hospital

[www.bisyoc.com](http://www.bisyoc.com)



CHRISTIAN AID

COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 12 August 2010

10 am – 12 noon

At the Historic Feathers Hotel

*Any cakes and bring & buy gifts would be most welcome*

*contact Claire Wilcox 01584 877199*

The Christian Aid coffee morning will be held at "The Feathers" between 10 o'clock and 12 midday, on Thursday August 12th. We hope you will all be able to attend. I have the tickets (£2 ) which I will very happily sell you. There will be a raffle and a cake stall, as well as a bring and buy table.

The total for this year's Christian Aid Week now stands at around £8260. This is a very good result, as it beats last year's total by £600.

Even so, we can never become complacent - we must continue to work hard to raise the money that it is so desperately needed for the projects that Christian Aid is involved in overseas.

Please help - and enjoy this coffee morning.

*Claire Wilcox (01 584-877199)*



## The Link Scheme

A leaflet has been produced explaining what this scheme entails. It is proposed to give it to newcomers and visitors if they are interested, as part of our welcome to them. It has been included in the Tower magazine inform readers about it and explain its purpose. Our thanks to Helen Coleman for producing it.

*Jen Pollard, Fay Carson and Mary Williams. (Co-ordinators)*



## Wanted

Secure storage facility in Ludlow area  
for c21ft motorcaravan

Offers and/or suggestions to:

Barry Forrester  
Tel: 01584 878872  
Email: [forrester@saintalbans.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:forrester@saintalbans.fsnet.co.uk)



## NEWS FROM HEREFORD DIOCESE

**A rare opportunity to see the medieval Great Hall of the Bishop's Palace and the lovely riverside gardens, and to view a large exhibition or original art**

Sunday 22 August

*Palace Art-fest* preview evening and exhibition; Great Hall, Bishop's Palace and the Palace garden. Please contact the Perpetual Trust office (01432 374261; [perpetual.trust@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:perpetual.trust@herefordcathedral.org)) for an invitation. 5 pm

Monday 23 – Monday 30 August

*Palace Art-fest*: over 40 artists exhibiting a wide selection of paintings & sculpture. The Great Hall and garden, The Bishop's Palace. Free entry. 10 am–5 pm (Sunday 11 am–4 pm)

## HEREFORD CATHEDRAL PERPETUAL TRUST

Date: Monday 2 August to Monday 23 August - The Doctors of the Church

*A series of lectures by the Dr Maureen Palmer*

2 August: Jerome

9 August: Ambrose

16 August: Augustine of Hippo

23 August: Gregory the Great

Time: Monday mornings at 10.30am to 12noon, beginning with coffee in the Cathedral Cafe from 10.00am

Venue: Cathedral Library

Fee: £5 per session (£18 for all four)

BOOKING ESSENTIAL: Places limited to 25

Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust, 5 College Cloisters, Hereford HR1 2NG.

01432 374261. Fax 01432 374242 perpetual.trust@herefordcathedral.org

[www.herefordcathedral.org](http://www.herefordcathedral.org)

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010 at Wormbridge Church

An invitation to view the Church Register dating back to 1611 and the Herefordshire FHS Survey of memorial inscriptions inside and outside the church, with index and map. Afternoon teas from 2-5pm.



## AUGUST

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>
1	Sun	9.30 am	Ninth Sunday after Trinity Parish Eucharist with the Derby Singers – <i>St Laurence</i>
		3pm	Baptism Daniel & Bethany Burmingham – <i>St John</i>
		7.30 pm	BISYOC Symphony Orchestra Concert – <i>St Laurence</i>
		7.30 pm	Derby Singers Evensong – <i>Bromfield</i>
2	Mon	5.30 pm	Derby Singers Evensong – <i>St Laurence</i>
3	Tues	2pm	CTAL Service Four Rivers
		5.30 pm	Derby Singers Evensong – <i>St Laurence</i>
5	Thurs	5.30 pm	Derby Singers Evensong – <i>St Laurence</i>
		7.30 pm	Derby Singers Concert – <i>Bromfield</i>
6	Fri	5.30 pm	Derby Singers Evensong – <i>St Laurence</i>

7	Sat	12 noon 12.30 pm 1.30 pm 3 pm 4 pm	Wedding Jones & Hereford – <i>St Laurence</i> Wedding Sherbourne/Miles – <i>Onibury</i> Wedding Postens / Davies – <i>St Giles</i> Wedding Ingram/Fletcher – <i>Bromfield</i> Blessing Gray / Foy – <i>St Giles</i>
8	Sun		Tenth Sunday after Trinity Traidcraft Stall in Church after morning service – <i>Ashford Carbonel</i>
14	Sat	3 pm 4.30 pm	Baptism Grace & Zara Pritchard – <i>Stanton Lacy</i> Wedding Harvey & Dodd – <i>St Laurence</i>
15	Sun	11.15 am  2 pm 3 pm 6.30 pm	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity ( <i>The Blessed Virgin Mary</i> ) Joint Service for the Ashford Group – <i>St Mary's, Bitterley</i> Baptism Freya Shroeder – <i>St John</i> Baptism Kelsey Grogan – <i>St Giles</i> Taize Service – <i>Ashford Carbonel</i>
21	Sat	1 pm	Wedding Locke & Beckwith – <i>St John's</i>
22	Sun	3 pm 3 pm	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity Baptism Finley Hiles – <i>St Laurence</i> Baptism Keisha Preece - <i>Middleton</i>
27	Fri	12 noon  7.30 pm	<i>Churches Together Lunch &amp; Discussion – The Green Room, Methodist Church, contact Jen Pollard 877834</i> Baptism Preparation Evening
29	Sun	9.30 am  3 pm	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity Joint Service for the Ashford Group – <i>St Mary Magdalene's, Ashford Carbonel</i> Baptism Rhys Woodcock – <i>St John</i>
30	Mon		Bank Holiday

## CONTACT US.....

### THE PARISH OF ST LAURENCE, WITH ST JOHN

Churchwardens	Dr Ewart Carson, Fairfield, Linney	879155
	Ms Anna Branston, Wootton House, Livesey Rd	876958
PCC Secretary	Mrs Maureen Stinton, 28 Friars Garden	873445
Electoral Roll	Mrs Claire Wilcox, 4 Lower Broad Street	877199

### ST LAURENCE'S, LUDLOW

8am Sidesmen's Rota	Mr & Mrs R Bums, 8 Poyner Road	872419
Children's Church	Mrs Katherine Bromley	874259
Communion Rota	Mrs Fay Carson, Fairfield, Linney	879155
Conservation Trust	Mrs Helen Coleman	875113
Director of Music	Mr Shaun Ward, Parishes' Office	872073
Flowers – church	Anna Branston	876958
Flowers – wedding	Louise Griffithes	872073
Gift Aid Secretary	c/o Parishes' Office	872073
Sacristan	Mrs Antonia O'Kennedy, 17 Friars Garden	877309
Servers Secretary	Mr Paul Suthern	711491
Stewarding	Mrs Pam Latchford, 3 Poyner Road	874990
St Laurence Shop	Mrs Di Corston, 13 Whitbatch Close	873778
Tower Captain	Mr Tony Greatrex	01568 780764
Tower Floodlighting	Forms at St Laurence Shop	
Treasurer	Mr Don Beattie, Parishes' Office	872073
Verger	Mr Joe Brennan, Parishes' Office	872073

### ST JOHN'S, LUDLOW

Deputy Wardens	Mr Bill Eastwell, Briar Cottage, 5, Julian Road	874044
	Mr Don Craft, White Gates, St Julian Ave	874323
Treasurer	Peter Phelps, Hill Crest, Gravel Hill	873179
Secretary	John French, 4, Coach House Fields, Livesey Road	876142
Organist SJL/SGL	Mr Edmund Rowsell, Braeside, Overton Road	873537

### ST GILES' LUDFORD

Churchwardens	Mrs Pam Farquhar, 19, Temeside Estate, Ludlow	873887
	Mrs Jean Guilbert, 5, Temeside Estte, Ludlow	873489
Treasurer	Mr John Nash, The Old Gate House, Ludlow	879029
Secretary	Mrs Daphne Jepps, Eagle Cottages, Orleton	01568780517
Minutes Secretary	Mrs Karen Unwin, 8 Corver Street, Ludlow	872987
Electoral Roll	Mr B Heatley, St Julians, Park Road, Ludford	877424
Flowers	Mrs G Nash, The Old Gate House, Ludlow	879029
Wedding Flowers	Mrs H Meyrick, 24 Mary Elizabeth Rd, Ludlow	873813

### LUDLOW TEAM MINISTRY

Bible Reading F'ship	Mrs Joan Bowker, 3 Clayton Close, Knowbury	891549
Mothers' Union Br. Leader	Mrs Shelagh Jenkyns, Sarum House, 9 Bromley Road	874105