

S. PHILIP & S. JAMES CHURCH

MORTON



PARISH MAGAZINE

Embracing with open minds; worship, faith, hope and prayer'



April 2024

Price. £1

**All Services at 11.am (unless otherwise stated)
1st Sunday of the month. Meet and Eat 10 am-12 noon-Pant
During the Vacancy Holy Communion will be dependant om the availability
of a Priest
April will be on 28th
All other Sunday Service will be Morning Prayer**

**Enquiries for
Holy Baptisms, Holy Matrimony, Banns of Marriage
Helen Parish at the Church office
Tel: 01691 590025**

**e:mail bordergroupadmin@hotmail.co.uk
Funerals, Pastoral or Confidential Matters n
Contact:**

Please contact either of the Churchwardens

Churchwardens

(Key holder)

Mrs E J Lawrence BEM

St Mary's, Sweeney Mountain,

Oswestry SY10 9EX Tel: 07713 083002

(Key holder)

Lin Hughes,

3 Pottery Cottages, Trefonen

Oswestry Tel

Treasurer to the PCC

Prof Martyn Jones

Old Vicarage,

Morton

Secretary to the PCC

Position Vacant

Gift Aid Secretary

Electoral Roll Officer

Organist: Mrs J. Brown. Woodcote, Knockin, Oswestry.

Tel. 01691 682270

**Bryn Offa C of E Primary School: Bryn Offa School, Rockwell Lane, Pant,
Oswestry SY10 9QR Tel: 01691 830621**

E J Lawrence

Julie Craig

***Please forward all items for inclusion in the magazine to:
Elizabeth Lawrence St. Mary's, Sweeney Mountain, Oswestry SY10 9EX or
Tel: 07713 083002. Electronic versions preferred***

Pastoral letter for April from Linda Gladmam Our Benefice Lay Reader

At the end of last year, the word 'adventure' just kept coming into my head. It seemed that God was encouraging me to see the future as an adventure. I personally found this helpful as it enabled me to have a more positive, less fearful attitude towards the things I was facing. So often it's about our attitude, isn't it? I'm sure we have all heard it said that what's important is not what happens to you in life but how you react to it.

The word 'adventure' has a positive vibe about it. The Oxford English Dictionary defines it as 'an unusual and exciting experience' and 'a daring enterprise'. Also defined as 'a hazardous activity' which is a bit more scary! It makes me think of Enid Blyton's Famous Five books which I read avidly as a child. The five always seemed to embrace adventures rather than run away from them. I will always remember a good friend saying to me, when she knew she was getting close to the end of her life, 'I'm looking forward to my next adventure' which was, I thought, an absolutely lovely way of viewing life after death.

Little did I know, whilst the word adventure was dancing around in my mind, that Rev Kathy had been contemplating her own adventure for a number of months and would be telling us about it only a few weeks later. We send her our very best wishes for her new life and work in Australia and thank her for her huge commitment to our benefice over the last ten years.

As for us in the benefice, we are embarking on our own new adventure where the way ahead is not clear and we don't know where we will end up. But isn't that how life is? Full of twists and turns, challenges, joys, the unexpected, the wanted and the very much unwanted... difficult to navigate at times...

Jesus said that He had come to give life in all its fullness. It seems to me that to live life fully means taking risks at times and embracing the sense of adventure in life but sometimes, because of our circumstances, it is very difficult to have a positive attitude. However, if we trust that the Lord is walking right beside us, as He promised, then we know we aren't facing things on our own. He is right there with us and will guide and strengthen us.

Seeing the future as an 'adventure' to be embraced has helped me personally. I share this with you in case it helps you too to embrace all life

brings us, the pain as well as the joy, and to live life more fully as our God intends. May God be with Rev Kathy and with us all as we step forward into new adventures.

Linda Gladman

So Many Thanks.

In the last few weeks so many of our PCC members, congregation, Choir and friends of Morton have contributed in so many different ways. Flowers, Cleaning, singing, cooking and baking, leading services and so much more. Without this help the church would be the poorer. So, a huge thankyou to all who have contributed in any way with Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter Sunday, Revd Kathy's Farewell.

From The Registers

Funeral: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord'

Internment of Cremated remains in the Churchyard, service conducted
by Revd Kathy Trimby

Thursday 21st March 2024

Geraldine Hardman

Service at St Philip & St James Church, Morton. Conducted by
Rev'd Kathy Trimby on Wednesday 27th March.

Mary Williams

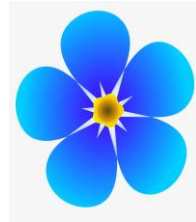
followed by burial in the Churchyard

<u>April</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>Old</u> <u>Testament</u>	<u>New</u> <u>Testament</u>	<u>Gospel</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>
7 th 1st Sunday after Easter	Meet and Eat Pant Memorial Hall 10 am til 12 noon			
14 th 3 rd Sunday of Easter	Acts 3: 12-19 Bryan Lawrence		Luke 24: 36b-48	Dave Hinton
21 st Mark the Evangelist	Acts 15: 35- end Julie Craig	Ephesians 4: 7-16	Mark 13: 5- 13	Julie Craig
28 th St Philip & St James	Isaiah 30: vv 15-21 Sharon Kynaston	Ephesian 1: vv 3-10	John 14: 1- 14	Sharon Kynaston
May 5th	Meet and Eat Pant Memorial Hall 10 am til 12 noon			

Cleaning for April: Mary Jones

SOFA Club -April

Last month we said our goodbyes to the Revd Kathy, she was given a small gift by the members, a forget-me-not brooch and the obligatory cake (Butterfly Buns), made by Margaret from Llanyblodwel. Now as we move forward with SOFA Club, we look to our commitment. This year we will endeavour to grow our



small group with perhaps more involvement from across the Benefice, and to have a dementia champion in each church. From the very beginning we have had a group of committed members and others who have joined along the way. Dementia is all around us and takes on many different forms. Our group is just waiting to walk with anyone in our villages who is living with dementia or caring for someone, which in itself is extremely demanding and just a couple of hours with others, who have or are experiencing or have experienced the same, means you are not alone. We meet around every twice a month, all the dates are published in the parish magazines. Our activities vary from a chat of life's experiences, craft when we escape to only think about just what we are doing at that moment. We have had virtual outings, the last one to the sea-side complete with fish and chips and a sing-song. There is usually a Christian message tucked in somewhere, sometimes



just the knowledge that you are loved, valued and cared about is enough. If you would like to know more, please contact Lizzie (Churchwarden Morton) 07713083002. Alternatively, just come along.

Just one meeting in April 18th at 2.30 -4.pm, Llanymynech Church Hall.



Congratulations to Tony and Shelia Parry who have very recently celebrated their Diamond wedding Anniversary.

Morton Forest Church Service – Palm Sunday

There was a very good attendance for the service on Sunday 24th March.

With various activities included throughout the service, the meaning of Palm Sunday was brought to life.

Due to the uncertainty of the weather, it was decided that the majority of the service would be held inside and this did not disappoint.

The readings were read by the Stott family. Dad, David, Edward and Anwyn. The children did exceptionally well with their readings.

Crosses were made and a comparison made with the suffering of Jesus by the use of sand paper. We then ventured outside and with the assistance of some well-oiled secateurs, small leaves were collected along with fallen foliage to use to wave and shout at the arrival of Jesus (Vicar Kathy carrying a small donkey as a token) at the gate of the church and progressed to the door of the church.



A donkey derby was thoroughly entered into with full gusto by old and young alike, with a circular course around the church having to be completed by two laps of the circuit whilst riding some very adaptive species of donkey.

Two younger members of the congregation

race to the line in the Donkey Derby

The service concluded with the blessing and then refreshments of tea and coffee were enjoyed in the unity of the Lord. Excellent palm shaped shortbread biscuits which had been generously provided by Janet which were enhanced with a decorative icing (plenty of E's) by the children and those of a sweet toothed.



Meetings of PANT WI at Pant Memorial Hall at 7.15 pm
Next Meeting
Thursday 2nd May

MORTON CHURCH 150 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the March draw of the Morton Church 150 Club.

First Prize. Mr B Thomas

Second Prize. Mary Jones

Third Prize. Mr L Griffiths

There are still some vacancies if you would like to take a number and become a member of the 150 Club at Morton

QUIZ for April Magazine

Football Anagrams

1. Hant Nice Red Teams
2. Hip Twin Cows
3. Her Sister Married drink

4. Travis or her
5. Alex can wear read

6. A Maniac match so all die
7. Trump a Rotten shot
8. Spit hit tackler
9. Normal kick
10. Lager grass gown

Answers to February Quiz

1. Judy Garland
2. Bletchley Park
3. First UK Motorway
4. Neil Armstrong
5. First baby born by IVF
6. Berlin Wall
7. March 12th 1994
8. Military Wives
9. Lionesses
10. Forth Road Bridge

NEWS FROM PANT MEMORIAL HALL APRIL 2024

The hall committee met on 29th February to check over our finances and approve the funds for the forthcoming year. As always, there are things to sort out – but the charity is in a robust state and all our governance and procedures are in good order.

The committee were saddened to hear of the death of long-standing committee member Rosalie Kynaston. Rosalie's tireless work as fundraiser and treasurer was instrumental in the 1981 rebuild of the hall, and she continued as a valued committee member for the next forty years. We pay tribute to Rosalie and all those who have worked

so hard for the community, and we hope to continue to make them proud.

If you'd like to join us in providing our affordable, accessible and modern community venue – your chance is this month! We've moved the AGM to April to give us a lighter evening, so please join us on **Thursday 11th April at 7pm in the hall for the Annual General Meeting of Pant Memorial Institute**. The meeting usually takes less than an hour – we present our accounts and a SHORT review of the last year. All trustees resign at the start of the meeting, we then hold the election for new trustees with the 'electorate' being all those present. Everyone is welcome to the AGM, regardless of whether you are standing for election. Come along and support us – we have a great hall and a financially stable charity but we need people to run it.

More details about being a trustee are in the box below – we look forward to seeing you on 11th April.

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU: Some of our current trustees would like to step down after many years of service. This decision will be much easier if they have successors, plus 'many hands make light work'. Without enough trustees, the future of the hall could be in jeopardy – we've seen other halls have that problem and we don't want it to happen at Pant.

Being a trustee is a great way to get involved in the community and shape the future of the hall. We're a lively friendly bunch from a variety of backgrounds, and we welcome new ideas and new faces. Time commitment is three meetings a year, plus the AGM, and occasional input to discussions and events as you wish; we are all volunteers! Unlike some other halls, there is no cleaning, gardening or 'opening up' rota - we pay a cleaner and a gardener and hirers let themselves in with loaned keys.

Please don't leave it all to 'someone else'! With over 500 followers on our facebook page plus the circulation of this magazine, there has to be someone (or several someones) out there. Please tap out that email to secretary@pantmemorialhall.org.uk , pick up the phone to 07913 565708 or leave us a note in the postbox and we'll get back to you for a chat. Lots of information on the 'get involved' tab on our website.

To contact us:

Bookings: email bookings@pantmemorialhall.org.uk or call/whatsapp 07913 565708. Please look on the website first (if you have internet access) to check timeslots and information.

Website: <https://pantmemorialhall.org.uk/> or scan this image into your phone:



All other enquiries (including prospective committee members): secretary@pantmemorialhall.org.uk

You can also follow us on facebook @pantmemorialhall, or even leave us a note in the postbox.

The hall is run entirely by volunteers - we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group

It's not too late to help with our Bird Survey, and Save our Curlews

The first Curlews returning to the area to breed were heard in early March. Have you been lucky enough to see or hear any yet? If so, please let us know.



Our area extends from Oswestry in the north to Kinnerley in the south, and eastward from the Welsh border to Ruyton-XI-Towns.

The survey only involves three 3-hour visits,

between the beginning of April and mid-June, simple instructions and a map to record your observations are provided, and there will be a training session if you want to come.

Our bird survey is the first stage of the *Save our Curlews* project, as it locates the pairs of Curlews to focus the efforts of the nest-finders. Surveyors are not expected to look for nests.

For more information, please see the Tanat to Perry pages on the Community Wildlife Groups website

<https://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/tanat-to-perry-wildlife-group/>

If you want to help, please email me: leo@leosmith.org.uk

Leo Smith

Something to look for as the weather begins to warm up. Maybe be someone would like to join me in this? If so speak to Lizzie



Seeking Slowworms



There's often a secret to

be found within a churchyard or cemetery, slowworms may be living there, rarely seen by visitors as they tend to hide within the vegetation and don't emerge to bask in the sun like other reptiles. Slowworms are not particularly slow and they are not worms, neither are they snakes. They are actually lizards without legs and, when warmed up and active can be pretty nippy! Slowworms hunt in hidden places such as compost heaps, thick vegetation at the base of a wall or hedge and within piles of logs or stones. They catch slower

moving prey like slugs and can 'drop' their tails to escape predators, a characteristic of all lizards.

May is a good time to look for them and the easiest way to do this is to put out some pieces of old roofing material, about 50cm square. You can use corrugated tin, but this can have sharp edges, onduline is better and a supplier may give you some offcuts for free. Following a conversation with those who manage the site, place a few of these squares in areas that catch the morning sun and are away from paths, perhaps in rougher vegetation such as tussocky grass. Slowworms will go under the squares to warm up in the mornings before going out to hunt and may be there at any time of day in colder weather.

Check the squares about once a week, lifting one side carefully and looking underneath. Try and check between 8:00 and 10:00am for best results as this is when the animals are warming up. You may be rewarded by a slowworm and also many other creatures such as worms, beetles or woodlice. Why not take a quick picture as the square is lifted, before too much scurries or slithers off! It may take animals a while to find the squares so be patient, having more squares gives a better chance of seeing slowworms.

Churchyards and cemeteries are havens for reptiles and also amphibians such as frogs, toads and newts and we're collecting information to better understand just how important they are for these animals. Please take a photo using the iNaturalist app or let us know what you've seen via email if you don't use iNaturalist. You can keep checking for slowworms from April or May through to September. Why not include a peep under the square as part of a Churches Count on Nature event during Love Your Burial Ground week - 8th and 16th June.



This was the day the seed for the Australia adventure was sown. When Kathy met Bishop Sonia Roulston. They have been friends since both were in their very early 20's, but not met in person since that time. That changed in July 2022, when Bishop Sonia was in the United Kingdom for the Lambeth Conference. They talked and chatted for nearly Four hours, lots of catch-up. As the months went by the seed as quietly germinating away. Then in the autumn of 2023 it flowered, and the post in Mount Vincent, Kurri Kurri & Weston was offered to Kathy. Now it's time for the flower to grow and flourish

Kathy has always been keen on sowing seeds, we have sown Mustard seeds more than once, Veg seeds at SOFA Club, Wild flower seeds in the memory garden. Planted trees as part of the Queen's Green Canopy at the time of the late Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Anniversary. Planted flowers in the Easter Garden. All this from someone who say's she is not good at gardening. We should count ourselves very lucky for the last ten years we have had a good teacher, friend, confident and so much more. We join together and wish her a safe journey. I am led to believe Ted and Morty will also be traveling South shortly but only for a vacation. Let's hope they send us the odd post card.



Pant Memorial Hall

SUNDAY MEET AND EAT.

Sunday 2nd May 10 00 -12 noon.



**Tea, Coffee & fruit juice. Toast, Teacakes
& Jam**



Short act of worship and Reflection.

For more information contact Lizzie Lawrence on 07713083002