



PARISH MAGAZINE

Committed to Growth, Rooted in Jesus; Fruitful in Mission

and Service.



September 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

September is the 15th

All other Services will be Morning Prayer

Enquiries for

Holy Baptisms, Holy Matrimony, Banns of Marriage

Helen Parish Benefice Administrator

e:mail bordergroupadmin@hotmail.co.uk

Funerals, Pastoral or Confidential Matters

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 07973550568

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*

Benefice Friends

At the beginning of August there always seems to have many blank days on the calendar and so we look as though we have so much time ahead that there is no need to plan anything for holidays. Loads of time to visit friends and family. We will sort that later. Perhaps looking for a long rest might be good we won't have to put that date down. Usually catching up with those household chores and an overgrown garden are needed but that can be sorted anytime so we leave that until later in the month.

Then all of a sudden, our Summer is racing by us and there never seems to be any day with time to breathe! So where does our time go?

Already in August there are young people awaiting their examination results for which they have worked hard in order to take up a place in a university or college or other further certificated work placement.

We must think of those very young people who are starting school for the first time and the teachers who have the pleasure to meet the children and put any anxieties or shyness to rest. As well we should consider those who are leaving primary school and who may be looking eagerly to this step up to secondary school and have enjoyed the days, they trialed but some may be apprehensive so we hope that the changes will be smooth. There are always the smiles and welcome faces of the teachers and senior pupils waiting to welcome all children and offer support.

And all the while this hustle and bustle and changes there is God's nature quietly moving from summer time towards Autumn. The gathering of fruits and harvest is such a very busy time where good weather is crucial. Our green leaves changing to brown dry leaves silently tumbling to the ground resting on a rich carpet. Our farmers work throughout wind, heat and rain. So, when we complain about the weather let us reconsider how our farmers manage to keep up their spirits through nature's heat, drought, rain and floods. Let us pray for their patience and their forbearance.

So here we are hurtling towards September; Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness.

The gem of September has an interesting story It is both mystical and a sapphire moonstone.

It has been cherished for thousands of years symbolized through trust; nobility; sincerity; For centuries the sapphire adorned countless royalty robes

and clergy robes. The elite of ancient Greece and Rome believed that blue sapphires protected their owners from harm and enemy,

May September 2024 bring us all hope, happiness and fruitfulness after our happy August time.

Janet

<u>September</u> 2024	<u>Old</u> <u>Testament</u>	<u>New</u> <u>Testament</u>	<u>Gospel</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>
1st 14 th Sunday after Trinity	Meet and Eat Pant Memorial Hall 10 am til 12 noon			
8th 15 th Sunday after Trinity	Prov 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Rachel Frank		Mark 7: 24- end	Peter Frank
15th 16 th Sunday after Trinity	Proverbs 1:20-33 Julie Craig	Jas 3: 1-12	Mark 8: 27- end	Julie Craig
22nd 17 th Sunday after Trinity	Prov 31: 10- end Bryan Lawrence		Mark 9: 30- 37	Bryan Lawtence
29th	Forest Church 3 PM			
October 4th	Harvest Evensong 7PM			
6th	Harvest Meet and Eat Pant Memorial Hall 10 am til 12 noon			

From The Registers

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

Service at St Philip & St James Church, Morton. Conducted by Rev'd Harvey Gibbons on Wednesday 14th August. Followed by **Sylvia Anne Edwards.**

Flowers And Cleaning for September

Cleaning for the month- Pat Stephenson and Lin Hughes.

Flowers – 8th & 15- Isobel Lewis.

22nd & 29th – Lynda Jones.

Harvest Flowers and Gifts

As you will see elsewhere in the magazine, we have a number of harvest celebrations happening in our Church this year, there is something for everyone. Forest church, when we can celebrate the generosity of God and the world we live in and share. Then, a tradition Harvest evensong, when we very much hope our choir will attend. Our harvest will end with the Meet and Eat. We hope you will try and attend and support your church. All gifts this year will be given to the Oswestry Food Bank. Always at our major festivals and through the year our church is decorated in spectacular style by some very clever people. If it is possible please could you decorate your area, window with gifts we are able to send to the food bank, flowers, that will last over the harvest time and beyond into the month. The church with the open for decorating on Thursday 3rd October 09.30 til 5pm and Friday 4th from 09.30. A big thank you for your hard work. **Morton PCC.**

SOFA Club -September

In the coming months, if we are to remain as Dementia Friendly Churches, we have to complete a number of tasks for the year 2025, one of these tasks is to:



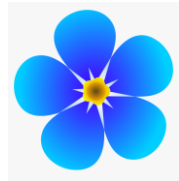
“In our regular magazine articles about dementia in the coming year, share something about people’s lived experience of dementia.”

As we travel this journey together, I will be using extracts from a book by Wendy Mitchell who was diagnosed with dementia at the age of 58, in the midst of a demanding career in the NHS. Also, others who have travelled this road, either living with dementia or cared for someone. This at times maybe a hard read, some will be funny, hopefully we will gain an insight of how to make our churches as dementia friendly as possible for the years to come. Sadly, Wendy died in February of this year she was aged 68. She said she first experienced symptoms at 57, when she came out of her office and "didn't have a clue where she was", and had to wait for the "fog to clear". Steve Milton FRSA, director of Innovations in Dementia, said: "Wendy was a person of true bravery. She had been fearless in sharing her experience in order that others may learn from it.

"We certainly did. She was a beacon, and so many people have told us over the years that her work has changed their view about dementia - and enabled them to live their lives that little bit less afraid. What more can one ask of a life?"

If you have anything you may wish to share to help others who are on this journey or would like to know more, please contact Lizzie (Churchwarden Morton) 07713083002

Alternatively, come along to a meeting in September 5th and 19th at 2.30 -4.pm, Llanymynech Church Hall.



We are seeking a new Rector – and much is happening

The four parishes of Llanyblodwel, Llanymynech, Morton and Trefonen together form the Border Benefice, and are part of the Diocese of Lichfield. We are led by a Rector. Following the Rev'd Kathy Trimby's departure for pastures new, the Diocese has decided that the Benefice should stay together and a new Rector be sought. We are therefore working our way through the proceedings laid down by the Church of England. This involves several formal meetings of the four parishes, two of which we have held and a third will be at the end of August. We are aiming to ensure that by the autumn we are in a position for an advert for the post to be placed. Realistically, it is unlikely that we shall have a new Rector before the new year. Meanwhile, all the parishes are working together; there are services in all the churches every Sunday; special services and events continue; the community cafés flourish - and lots of plans for celebrating harvest are in hand. The Benefice website: www.borderparishes.org.uk gives details. We look forward to seeing you join us. You will be very welcome

K Kimber

6 August 24

The background of the page is a watercolor illustration featuring various autumn-themed elements. At the top, there are purple and red leaves on the left and a large orange pumpkin on the right. The word 'HARVEST' is written in a large, brown, serif font across the top. Below it, the year '2024' is written in a smaller, brown, serif font. The text for the church events is centered in a black, sans-serif font. The bottom of the page features a large green pumpkin on the left and a yellow pumpkin with red berries on the right. The entire page is framed by a thin orange border.

HARVEST

2024

St Philip & St James Church Morton.

Sunday 29th September 3pm
Forest Harvest

Friday .4th October 7pm Harvest
Evensong

Sunday 6th October
Harvest Meet and Eat 11am

MORTON CHURCH 150 CLUB

Due to the magazine being a two-month issue we are pleased to announce the winners of the months July and August

July. First prize. Mr J Worden

Second prize. Mr J Mansell

Third prize. Mr A Kynaston

August. First prize. Mr A J Roberts

Second prize. Mr R Newell

Third prize. Mr J McKay

As we are now into our new financial year and all the subscriptions are in, we have many vacant numbers, we are very grateful to everyone who supports Morton Church by giving via the 150 club, but the balance at the end of the year, after the prize money has been paid does not cover even one electric bill or tank of heating oil. If we lose many more subscribers' we will be running at a loss. Please consider asking Family, Friends, Neighbours, who have an interest in the Parish of Morton Church to take out a subscription, it is only £12 a year with the chance of winning £30, £20, or £10 each month

On a happier note Jane and I are on holiday for the whole month of September, so we have drawn the numbers early

September winners. First prize. Mrs J M Collins

Second prize. Miss Chloe Wood

Third prize Mrs H Ward

Meetings of PANT WI at Pant Memorial Hall at 7.15 pm

Next Meeting October 3rd

***Fiona Mather – Sir Authur Conan-Doyal. The case of the Cottingley
Fairies***

Was this great author fooled by children?

Competition:	An 'ode to a fairy- 5 lines
Refreshments:	Joan, Mary
Vote of thanks:	Sandra H.

Morton Quiz

Questions

1. How many Gold medals did team GB win at the Olympic games 2024?
2. What date is cited as the starts of the Olympic games?
3. Who was the founder of the Paralympics?
4. What is the official motto for the Olympics?
5. What colours are the Olympic rings?
6. What are the five Official Olympic values?
7. Who wrote the music for "The Olympic Hymn"?
8. Who wrote the lyrics for "The Olympic Hymn"?
9. Which cities have hosted the Olympics 3 times?
10. How many countries boycotted the 1980 Olympic games in Russia?

July / August Answers

1. Steam free coffee machine 1938.
2. Printing press 1448.
3. Alexander Graham Bell 1876.
4. Thomas Edison 1879 – 1880.
5. Edwin Herbert Land 1948.
6. The Chinese.
7. Ruth Marianna Handler 1959.
8. Alexander Cummings in 1775.
9. Christopher Cockeral 1959.
10. Swimfins 1717, Franklin Stove 1741, Lightning Rod 1752, 24-hour 3-wheel clock 1757, Glass armonica 1762, Bifocals 1784, Long arm 1786.



Ladybirds: Tiny Heroes in Polka-Dot Armour

The ladybird, with its stylish and cheerful polka dot outfit, holds a special place in our hearts. Few other insects, apart from perhaps the butterfly, evoke as many positive emotions and superstitions as the

ladybird. Many cultures believe that ladybirds are a symbol of good luck and new beginnings. In fact, the belief that ladybirds are associated with positive qualities is nearly universal – from Slavic, European, and Asian cultures to Native Americans.

There are 46 different species of ladybirds in the UK and about 5,000 species worldwide. While some sport the classic red with black spots look, others come in shades of yellow, orange, or even black with red spots. All ladybirds are beetles and have a larval and adult form with the classic round and colourful ladybird being the adult whilst the larvae tend to be thin and black.

Many species of ladybird hatch from pupae in August or September so look out for a new generation of adults feeding up ready to overwinter. Ladybirds are voracious predators of aphids and other garden pests, serving as natural pest-control agents and helping to keep plants healthy. In fact, a single ladybird can devour up to 5,000 aphids and other plant-eating pests in its lifetime, making them invaluable allies to gardeners and farmers alike.

Despite their diminutive size, ladybirds are not without their challenges. Predators, parasites, and even rival ladybirds pose threats to their survival. Birds, spiders, and other insects prey on them. They do have defences against predators however, their bright red colour is a warning that they don't taste nice and when attacked they give off a yellow liquid which is rich in toxic alkaloids.

Churchyards and cemeteries can be great for ladybirds as they tend to be free of insecticides and full of food. There are lots of places where ladybirds can find a safe place to spend the winter, often in large clusters where they remain inactive until about March when they emerge to feed and breed. Monuments including chest tombs, gaps made by tree roots, wood piles, spaces beneath flaking bark, leaf litter, tussocky grass and drystone walls are full of potential places to overwinter.

With their rounded bodies and distinctive markings, ladybirds are easily recognisable. If you see a ladybird, take a photo, count its spots and make a note of both spot and background colours. The spot number indicates which species it is, not some people believe, how old it is. Please let us know what you find in your local churchyard or cemetery and enjoy hunting for these iconic creatures.

NEWS FROM PANT MEMORIAL HALL SEPTEMBER 2024

While we alternately get soaked or too hot in the new style British summer, committee thoughts are turning to the autumn bazaar. This year's showpiece event for the hall will be on **Saturday 5th October, approx 2pm to 4pm**. We turn the hall into a mini-shopping mall – as well as our own fundraising stalls, we will also have 12 stalls from local traders selling all sorts of crafts, gifts, snacks, information and more. We'll have our famous book stall, tombola, bric a brac plus chatting space and refreshments. The exclusive souvenir mice will also be making a repeat appearance.

Please think of us if you are having a summer clear out; we welcome donations of books (preferably novels and childrens books) bric a brac (everything except electricals, clothes and personalised items) and tombola prizes. **Donation drop off Friday 4th October, 5pm to 7pm**. And of course we very much hope to see lots of people at the event! Please bring cash for bargains at pocket-money prices.

Help wanted: we could do with some extra volunteers on the day to staff the hall stalls, serve tea/coffee and cake plus help set up and clear away. If you can help, please get in touch to bookings@pantmemorialhall.org.uk. You don't need to be part of the committee to volunteer with us.

We are also still in need of someone to be chair of trustees – we are currently operating with this position vacant which is not ideal for a charity. Please contact secretary@pantmemorialhall.org.uk if you are interested in this position. We have four evening committee meetings a year plus interim 'goings on' – it's not a huge time commitment and means that our modern, affordable and accessible community venue keeps going.

Meanwhile the hall is there to be used, for your family events, meetings, classes, sewing sessions, band rehearsals, dance practice or whatever fits in! Have a look at our website to find out more about our facilities – our little hall has a huge number of things to offer, all for a bargain £12.50 an hour.

All the above things only happen if we have enough trustees, please don't leave it all to others. Please get in touch to find out more, all the contact details are below.

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 Bird Survey, and Save our Curlews



Our bird survey has now finished, and the results will be analyzed shortly. The area extends from Oswestry in the north to Kinnerley in the south, and eastward from the Welsh border to

Ruyton-XI-Towns.

Preliminary results suggest only 5 - 6 pairs of Curlews returned to our area this year, 2 -3 less than 2023. Certainly, one pair has been lost from near Trefonen.

If you've seen or heard Curlews anytime since March 2024, please let us know. Don't assume we know about them. Surveys can miss some pairs, particularly if there are two close together.

We have also been looking for breeding Lapwing, Kestrel, Cuckoo and Red Kite since late March. If you've seen or heard any of these species, again, please don't assume we know about them. Please report all your observations, especially any Curlew ("the most important bird conservation priority in the UK") to Leo Smith 01694 720296, leo@leosmith.org.uk.

Also contact me if you would like to be kept informed of our activities, or would like to help with the survey next year.

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. Once a nest is found, it is protected with an electric fence, then when the chicks hatch they are fitted with a radio tag, and tracked to see what happens to them. Low chick survival rates are a major factor causing population decline, and we need to understand the causes to develop an effective conservation plan.

The Three Parishes (Weston Rhyn, St Martins and Gobowen) Community Wildlife Group also participated in the *Save our Curlews* project, managed by Shropshire Ornithological Society (SOS). In the two areas combined, seven nests were found, an excellent result, and much better than last year. Two of the nests were replacement clutches by pairs that had their first nest predated after finding, so nests of five pairs were protected. .In summary, six of the seven nests were lost, three to corvids, two to fox and one to Badger. Two chicks hatched from the remaining nest, but unfortunately, both these chicks were predated, one about two weeks old and the other about three weeks (no more than 25 days old).

Thanks a lot to the farmers and landowners who gave us permission to search their land, and put fences up.

You can find much more information about *Save our Curlews*, which has been operating since 2018, on the SOS website www.shropshirebirds.com/save-our-curlews/

Leo Smith

PANT AUTUMN BAZAAR 2024

The Pant pop-up shop and village get-together

Saturday 5th October, 2pm-4pm at Pant Memorial Hall.

Free entry

- A wide range of local trader stalls: crafts, food, cards, gifts and more!
- Plus fundraisers for the hall including bric-a-brac, bargain bookstall, tombola and the exclusive mice!
- Enjoy a chat over tea and cake, catch up with friends, see what's new at the hall!

Donations of bric-a-brac, tombola prizes and books most welcome. **Donation drop off Friday 4th October 5pm to 7pm, all contributions much appreciated.**

SAVE THE DATE AND SEE YOU THERE!

Pant Memorial Institute – run by volunteers for the community.
Registered charity 240435



Pant Memorial Hall

SUNDAY MEET AND EAT.

Sunday 6th October

10 00 -12 noon.



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



Short Harvest Thanksgiving.

Gifts for the food bank welcomed.

**For more information contact Lizzie Lawrence on
07713083002**



CAR BOOT SALE

Saturday 14th September

Llynclys Hall Farm

SY10 8AD

9am-12.00

Gates open 8am

Cars £5– Vans £10

Proceeds to

Morton Church