



Walbury
Beacon
Benefice

THE BEACON

You are the light
of the world.
(Matthew 5.14)

AUGUST
2021

A TEENAGER'S POINT OF VIEW *from Chloe Wells, age 14.*

Nature and how the world can help

All the time everywhere I go, my grandparents are talking about numerous hedgehogs and beautiful yellowhammers that they used to see before I was born. Every time, they say it I feel sad, sad that we never see them at least not like everyone used to, so why can't we? Why can't we bring them back? Why can't we let everyone see the wonders of our earth? It is very possible, but the whole world needs to act in time. Everyone can do their part. Anyone can take part but only if they have the dedication to step up for nature, only if they have the perseverance and only if they never give up.

In the Old Testament the Jews were told by our God to care for their environment and they did an amazing job so what happened? Why can't we do the same? What is the difference between now and then? Let's start to sort this out again.

Nature can thrive but it just needs our help.

Climate change

Climate change is predicted to cause horrible flooding in other countries and I don't think they should, why do they have to suffer?

Wildfires

California and Australia have been experiencing terrible wildfires which have ruined too many habitats and killed so many animals. So, let's all try and help out more to get the animals to safety or stop wildfires that we often cause

The impact on others

I think there is no point in making huge amounts of money in the short term. No point in ruining our world for our children and grandchildren to deal with when we can do it now.

Genesis

In Genesis God gave us a world to look after and I think we should look after that world again, make it better and to how it used to be. We have the knowledge and the tools.

Saints

Some saints have always been in tune with the environment and always got on well with the animal kingdom so why can't we all do the same. I think some people are still like this and we can care properly for the animals if we try and never lose positivity.

This next quote inspired me... It's animals' nature to roam their freedom, but their wilderness keeps shrinking they don't move because of the seasons anymore they move because they fear human contact, we cannot change their culture but we might be able to change their hatred. To survive in our world now they need trust, trust in us that we can change things around, so let's make this happen let's change things around. If we can respect their lives, I know they can respect ours.

Any intelligent species would never destroy their own environment they would protect it.



'I come in little things saith the Lord' *(photo by Chloe)*

We welcome views from the younger members of the Benefice

The [Young Christian Climate Network \(YCCN\) Relay](#) to COP26 has been taking place .

The walkers will be passing [through the Diocese of Oxford](#) again in mid-August Tring to Oxford to Banbury

A REFLECTION FROM REV'D TIM

I guess I'm no different to many of you in that over a period of many years now, I've collected lots of little books containing reflections of other peoples thoughts. They are the sort of books you can pick up, read for a couple of minutes and come away with a little nugget to chew on for a while. They can also be very helpful source of inspiration on those days when our own may be wanting. Those days do of course happen.

Among my own collection of such books are several from the former writer, artist and secretary of the Leprosy mission, Eddie Askew. Although I cannot now lay my hands on the piece, I recall of his referring to his granddaughter asking whether we can ever turn time backwards. At the time, Eddie had to dig a bit into why she was asking such a question. It turned out that she had been with friends earlier and sweets were being shared but had run out by the time they got to her. She had thought that, if we could rewind, she could help things to turn out differently and she might then get a sweet. What a lovely story and indeed thought to ponder.

For all of us, we might wish that we could rewind and enjoy a special moment all over again. Alternatively, that we could replay what we just said and tidy it up a bit, Maybe that we could influence a situation that's passed and achieve a different outcome.

But life is not like that. Instead, we have the opportunity to think on things that have

happened and allow those thoughts to influence how we deal with things in the future. Maybe there is a need within that thinking to apologise for something done or said. On the reverse side of the coin, that we are able to forgive.

Hindsight is a wonderful thing and I've now found how Eddie concluded his article So, this is his prayer for us ...

"Forgiving Lord, I offer you my failures and regrets. Knowing that I've tried my best, must be enough for me right now."

I hope you have you have a great summer with some books to share a lazy time or two.

With very best wishes. *Rev'd Tim*

COMMEMORATIONS THIS MONTH

5th August: St Oswald: lived from 604 until 5 August 642. Exiled as a child he became King of Northumbria from 634 until his death. He is credited with restoring Christianity to Northumbria by instigating and supporting the missionary efforts of Aidan of Lindisfarne. Oswald was a man of compassion. One of the best-known stories describes how one Easter, when he was about to dine with Bishop Aidan, a great crowd of the poor came begging alms. The king gave them not only the food but also the silver dish, to be broken up and distributed among them. Aidan was so moved by this generosity that he grasped the king's right hand and exclaimed, "May this hand never perish!" (And Bede tells us that it didn't, for in his day the king's hand, which had been severed in his last battle, was preserved in Bamburgh church!) (*Throne of kings stuff this....*)

13th August Octavia Hill. Octavia was a social reformer & founder member of the National Trust. She campaigned for social housing and for open spaces for people to access. The area has a faint link with Octavia in the Mabel Bowen, who lived at Titcombe and wrote a book on the history of Kintbury, worked with Octavia

14th August Maximilian Kolbe, franciscan friar who gave his life in place of another. He had the courage to stand against a corrupt and evil regime, was imprisoned and offered his life in exchange for that of a family man.

15th August is when the Ladywell at Speen is blessed.

John of Damascus in about 700AD said:

"Water is the most beautiful element and rich in usefulness and purifies from all filth and not only from filth of the body but from that of the soul, if it should have received the grace of the spirit." The church uses Holy Water. Water has a large role in both Old and New Testaments often as a place for human encounter with the Divine and for healing. In nearly all religions water is seen as the source of life. We use it for Baptism. The earliest known liturgy for Blessing water is from the 9th century.

The last time I attended the Blessing it was given by our own Rev'd Dr. Margaret Yates. Margaret and Nick have left Halfway and moved near their daughter and grandchildren at Woburn Sands. We give thanks for their work and service in our communities and churches.



The Ladywell



The Lloyd family of Enborne...*and beyond*
By Tessa Lock

On the chancel wall of St Michael & All Angels, Enborne, is a plaque to the memory of a former rector with a rather unusual Christian name. Nowes (or sometimes, confusingly Noyes) Lloyd had been born in Essex and baptised at Epping on 6th September 1719. He seems to have taken the traditional route to the priesthood for the time, having graduated with a BA from St John's College, Oxford in 1742 before being ordained into the priesthood by the Bishop of London at Whitehall on 9th June, 1745. However, Lloyd's vocation was to take him out of the city and into rural Wiltshire. By 1751, Nowes had become vicar of Bishopstone as well as Rector of the next door parish of Hinton Parva, near Swindon. The position of parish priest has never been a lucrative one, and this may be why the Rev Lloyd did not marry until 1763, when he was 43. His bride, ten years her husband's junior, however, may well have been used to a more affluent lifestyle than the vicarage could offer, since she was Martha Craven, the daughter of the Honourable Charles Craven of Hamstead Marshall, and his wife Elizabeth, Lady Craven. Martha's father had been the first Governor of South Carolina in what is now the U.S.

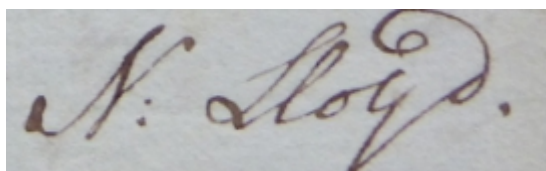
Martha's mother is reputed to have been something of a socialite and a very difficult person, with little time for Martha or her sisters, Mary and Jane. Consequently, Mary left home to make a very unhappy marriage with a horse dealer whilst Martha worked for a time as a seamstress at a school, using a false name to hide her identity before marrying Nowes. Martha Craven and Nowes Lloyd were married by licence at Bishopstone on 2nd June 1763. I do not know why the marriage was by licence rather than banns; there may have been a very simple reason although I wonder if Martha's difficult relationship with her mother might have caused the couple to arrange their marriage at short notice thereby requiring a licence rather than banns. We will probably never know. In the same year that Martha married Nowes, her sister Jane married Rev Thomas Fowle of Kintbury. Martha and Nowes began their married life at Bishopstone, where four children were born to them. The first child, also Martha, was baptised there on 16th November 1765, to be followed by Elizabeth on June 15th, 1767, Charles on December 21st, 1768 and Mary on May 20th 1771. The Rev Lloyd's relationship with what is now our benefice seems to have begun in 1764 when he became Domestic Chaplain to William Craven, 5th Baron Craven of Hamstead Marshall. Baron Craven was, of course, a relative of Martha Lloyd. These were the days when *who* you knew rather than *what* you knew could make a really big difference to your life.

In 1771, Nowes Lloyd became rector of Enborne whilst retaining his position at the other parishes, even though they were over thirty miles apart. This was not an unusual situation for the time, when it was quite common for a curate to undertake all the duties of the absent priest. Eventually, the Lloyd family moved to Enborne where Martha would be much closer to her sister Jane at Kintbury. Their mother, however, was by now also living in Kintbury, at Barton Court, with her second husband Jemmet Raymond. We can only wonder what Elizabeth Raymond's relationship with her daughters was like by this time. Sadly, there was an outbreak of smallpox in the Enborne area in 1775 and, whilst his sisters survived, Charles Lloyd, then only six, died. He was buried in the churchyard on 13th April of that year. Martha's mother, meanwhile, had died in 1771. As if to demonstrate the wealth and status of the Raymond family, an elaborate marble memorial was commissioned from the renowned sculptor, Peter Scheemakers, to be placed next to the altar in Kintbury church. A letter written by Nowes Lloyd to his brother-in-law, Rev Thomas Fowle, regarding arrangements with Scheemakers, is still in the church's possession. You might have seen Elizabeth Raymond, formerly Lady Craven, in Kintbury church. If you happen to be standing in a pew near the front and to the left hand side of the aisle, possibly singing a favourite hymn, and casually turn your head to the left – there, in her current position in the north transept will be Elizabeth, stonily staring back at you as if in disapproval of something, you know not what.

Nowes remained as rector of Enborne until his death on February 3rd, 1789. The previous year, his daughter Elizabeth had married her cousin from Kintbury, Fulwar Craven Fowle although Martha and Mary were still living at home. There was a need to vacate the Enborne rectory but fortunately for Rev Lloyd's widow and her daughters, a friend of the Fowles offered them his parsonage at Deane. The move to Deane proved to be quite significant for Martha Lloyd in particular as she became a close friend of the vicar's daughter, later living

with her, her sister and their mother in Bath. Martha's friend was creative and lively with a keen if sometimes wicked sense of humour. She loved walking, wrote long, detailed letters whenever she was away from her family and friends and, in particular, would entertain them all by reading to them the stories she had spent hours writing. In this way, Martha Lloyd, formerly of Enborne, became one of the first people to read what have become some of the best loved novels in the English language. Martha's close friend was none other than Jane Austen.

In 1797, the link between the Lloyds and the Austens became even stronger when Mary Lloyd became the second wife of the Jane Austen's widowed brother, James. When Jane Austen, along with her mother and sister Cassandra moved back to their native Hampshire, Martha went with them to share the cottage in Chawton, now the Jane Austen's House Museum. It says something of the position of women in the early nineteenth century that Martha Lloyd, grand daughter of Lady Craven with her elaborate and expensive monument in Kintbury church, had no home of her own except the one she shared with her friends. However, life had another surprise in store for the young woman from Enborne. After Jane Austen's death in 1817, Martha continued to live in the cottage at Chawton with Cassandra Austen. However, on 24th July 1828, she became Sir Francis Austen's second wife and therefore, Lady Austen. Today, the name of Martha Lloyd is well known to Jane Austen fans all over the world. A facsimile of her household book containing the recipes for dishes she cooked at Chawton, has been published and earlier this year saw the publication of *Jane Austen's Best Friend: The Life and Influence of Martha Lloyd* by [Zoe Wheddon](#) . So, while Janeites (as fans of Jane Austen are known) all over the world think of Martha Lloyd as Jane Austen's best friend, I will always think of her as *the young woman from Enborne.*



Noye's signature

Church Update

Covid situation

We have read the new information from the Government, and guidance from both the Diocese of Oxford and the Church of England.

We are moving with extreme caution – trying to enjoy the new freedoms, but more importantly to maintain the high standards of Covid-secure practice which have, so far, kept us all safe in our churches during the last 18 months. This is an evolving situation, such as we are becoming accustomed to, so please check the website –

www.walburybeaconbenefice.org.uk – regularly for information on our services and how we shall be managing them.

Recruitment process

Thank you all so much for your responses to the questions we posed to you around the topic of what you – the community – need from our new vicar, We have read them all, and

picked out several common themes which seem to be important both to churchgoers and others. We are trying to encapsulate them, and give them due significance in the recruitment information.

We have become especially aware of the value we all place on our festival and special occasion services, the welcome you receive when you come to them, and – resoundingly (pun intended) – the huge importance to everyone of our music. It was also good to hear how many people enjoy and appreciate our churchyards and the buildings, finding peace and comfort within them.

Looking forward, to a time when we will have a new vicar in place, we shall have to be careful that these hopes and expectations are not overwhelming. *Jenny*

SOME THOUGHTS FROM ENBORNE BY JOHN KING

We have been enjoying some beautiful weather, indeed too hot for some. Hopefully Tim and Jane are enjoying the sea breezes at Bracklesham Bay. These are not easy times for the Walbury Beacon Benefice. Fortunately the Leadership team have not just continued to provide us with some wonderful Services their Pastoral Care has been remarkable. Not only will we be looking for new clergy Leaders the compilation of the Benefice it self may well change. Here at Enborne we continue to struggle with advancing age and infirmity. Under Roger's leadership enlivened by the occasional poetic verse we continue to assist each other sharing news and thoughts about the future. Roger and I continue to enjoy worship in other churches. I love to go to West Woodhay. The Beacon keeps us in touch with the rest of the Benefice and with local affairs. Next month my official contact with Enborne school ends after almost half a century. One day I will write formally about those years but at the moment I think of the amazing teachers and children that I have met, I remember the good times and the bad but above all I remember how Enborne school has, in that time of much change in education, continued to provide Enborne children with a wonderful Christian education. Finally I want to share with you my thoughts on a brilliant book. Patrick Whitworth's *AND DID THOSE FEET* is the history of the development of the church in England over the course of the last 2000years. It is so well organised and written it is a joy to read. the fluency of Patrick's writing ensures that the complexity of of the story is never difficult to follow. For those of us who enjoy cricket we have a new competition to follow and the obituary of John Woodcock to read. Few of you will know that Penny and John were friends and we often talked about him and Longparish. (*Sadly the last person who knew me as a baby. P*) Hopefully the final months of Summer will provide the Benefice with clear thoughts about the future. (*John King*)

SUMMER HAIKU

Cottage garden flames
with red hot poker, stirring
noon serenity

Listen- as birdsong
with crickets' and bees' plainchant
sweet carolling makes

Sister Michaela. C.S.Cl

Anyone in the Benefice writing haiku?

Meet Claire Fuller

Best Selling Author of

Unsettled Ground

Set locally and nominated for Women's Prize for Fiction

&

Bitter Orange

Longlisted for International Dublin Literary Award



St Laurence's Church
West Woodhay

An interview, a reading and Q&A, with books for sale.

11th August
6.30pm

Tickets: £20 per head
Including a glass of wine

Please apply to the West Woodhay Estate Office for tickets

sharon@woodhay.com
01488 668238

50% of ticket sales will be for Church funds.

Services in Walbury Beacon Benefice for August 2021

Services are subject to change – please check with our website or Church Near You for confirmation of services near the day..

All our services are subject to the current government restrictions and will require social distancing, wearing of face masks, etc.

(Please see Jenny's item on "Covid situation" elsewhere in this issue.)

Sunday 1st August	Kintbury	Benefice Service - Holy Communion	9.45am
	Inkpen	Holy Communion	8.30am
Sunday 8th August	West Woodhay	Holy Communion	11.15am
	Inkpen	Holy Communion	9.45am
Sunday 15th August	Combe	Holy Communion	11.15am
	Inkpen	Compline	4.00pm
	Kintbury	Holy Communion	8.00am
	Enborne	Holy Communion	9.45am
Sunday 22nd August	West Woodhay	Holy Communion	11.15am
	Hamstead Marshall	Holy Communion	9.45am
	Inkpen	Holy Communion	9.45am
	Kintbury	Morning Prayer	9.45am
	West Woodhay	Compline	6.00pm
Sunday 30^t August	Kintbury	Holy Communion	9.45am

END THOUGHT and Contacts overleaf

END THOUGHT

He that plants trees loves others beside himself

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