



# Parish News

September 2021

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Dear Friends,

The past few weeks have been exciting ones for our parish in many ways, and the excitement isn't over yet.

Let me explain...

At the beginning of July, it was a delight for us to welcome Grace as she was ordained and began her curacy across our two parishes. Grace's welcome was soon followed by the licensing to our parishes of Revd Simon Cook, Area Dean of Bolton. Though being Area Dean is Simon's 'day job', he is a member of our staff team and as such, many readers will already have met him at one of our services. Together with Ian, Kenneth and Barrie, it is a great privilege (and a lot of fun!) for me to lead such a gifted and varied team. But there's more...

Christian ministry is far much more than a set of clergy, and we are greatly blessed in our parishes to have three Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs). ALMs are sponsored by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and undergo training to minister in a particular area of the church's life.

Evelyn Weston is an ALM with a specialism in administration and many of us know and have benefitted from Evelyn's seemingly endless gifts in this area. Following commissioning, ALMs are recommissioned every three years and Evelyn's recommissioning will take place in the cathedral on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm and all are welcome.

Canon Jill Pilling is an ALM with two specialisms – worship and mission and evangelism. Though ministering principally through schools and at St Philip's, we benefit from Jill's ministry across both parishes.

Ilona Hepburn has, with the PCC's recent unanimous approval, transferred her ministry as ALM from St John Wingates to Bolton Parish Church. Ilona's specialist areas are worship and children's work and she will be working with Rose-Marie Newport and the Sunday School team, particularly to develop our ministry amongst the older children.

I hope you can see why I'm so pleased and excited with the developments in our team, building on the excellent foundations that were already in place. But that's not the end of the story...

With such a large team it would be all too easy to assume that those with titles or specified roles will be the ones who do all that needs to be done. Far from it! We are blessed by having so many people in the life of the church who offer so much – often in quiet or unobtrusive ways, and what they – you – do contributes significantly to our life as a Christian community.

There is significant change ahead of us as we look to the formation of Mission Communities across the diocese and a closer working relationship with other churches. We have much to offer and much to learn and the blend of skills and talents that is already apparent amongst us will be needed. As part of the church you are also part of our future and, under God, I want to thank you for all that you do and ask that, with me, you will pray for our future and that we would each recognise our part in God's plan and that we would be obedient to our calling.

With every good wish.

Chris

## **HARVEST FESTIVAL 3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER**

Please bring your harvest gifts, which will be donated to Urban Outreach. A full list of the items they are needing is on page 11. This list also includes items for the Grub Tub which is always available at the west end of Church

### **HARVEST LUNCH**

Although the Harvest Lunch this year cannot be the usual Bring and Share Lunch, we are keen to keep the tradition going. Instead, we will serve a simple pastie and peas lunch in Church after the morning service. This will be offered alongside with the normal tea and coffee.

If you would like to come, please book in advance so that we do not run short of pasties. We will obviously need to charge in order to cover our costs.

There is a list at the back of church . Please sign up to enjoy our new style Harvest Lunch.

### **BBC RADIO 4 ANY QUESTIONS?**

Will be broadcast from Bolton Parish Church

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October.**

Tickets on line from Eventbrite or speak to one of the wardens.

You might even get the chance to ask a question!

## **Tuesday Group**

Following all the months when it was forbidden to meeting with others, the Tuesday group is delighted to resume its meetings again from September and to be able to invite whoever is able to come along. It is not a group that has a membership, as all are welcome - those wishing to become regulars and others who want to come to an occasional meeting that sounds interesting or to come and see what it is like!

Meetings are held in the Parish Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 2 p.m. (but perhaps with a slight slide in the timing if there has been a concert immediately before that).

We start by singing a hymn and saying a prayer before we have an activity. This is followed by the essential cup of tea and a biscuit! Sometimes, instead of the indoor meeting we make a visit locally.

Over the next few months, we are hoping to learn more of our Lecturer's journey in life, which has brought him to Bolton Parish Church; to have a discussion about books that we may have read during the pandemic, or which may have inspired us particularly through our lives; to be given ideas and confidence in constructing floral arrangements for Christmas; and in December to enjoy some Christmas music with mince pies.

The Tuesday group links with the Sunday School, the Flower Team or the Social Group for specific activities. The first one of these to be held for a long time will be a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 24 September ,10.30 - 12.30 in church, organised by the Flower Team.

Our meetings will be well publicised on the pew sheet, and we are looking forward to welcoming you!

### **A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Macmillan Coffee Morning**

**24<sup>th</sup> September in Church.**

**Please support the Tuesday Group and Flower Team**



## Music List

### September 2021

Vicar

Rev'd Canon Chris Bracegirdle  
BED, MA, PhD

Lecturer

Rev'd Ian Hepburn BSc, BA

Associate Priests

Rev'd Canon Professor Kenneth G. C. Newport  
BA, MA, MSt, DPhil, DD (Oxon)

Curate

Rev'd Barrie S. Gaskell

Rev'd Grace Hart BSc, BA

Area Dean of Bolton and Associate Priest

Rev'd Simon Cook MA

Director of Music:

Michael Pain MA, FRCO, LRAM, ARCM

Organ Scholar:

William Martin

Choral scholars:

Anna Charles, Thomas Martin

Hymns: Ancient & Modern, 2013

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September, Trinity 16

11.00 BCP – Shaw

Introit: *Venite*, vv 1-7

Hymns: 619 (omit \*), 702, 621  
447, 454  
652

#### Lord, Let Me Know Mine End – Maurice Greene

Alla Marcia – John Ireland

#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September, Trinity 17

11.00 CW – Thorne/Appleford

Hymns: 826, 323, 709  
451, 627  
707 (omit \*)

#### Praise to God in the Highest – Sidney Campbell

Toccata (Suite Gothique) – Léon Boëllmann

#### 18.30 Choral Evensong

Responses: Smith  
Canticles: Brewer in D  
Psalms: 120, 121  
Hymns: 807, 698, 304

#### O Lorde, the Maker of Al Thing – John Joubert

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September, Trinity 14

11.00 BCP – Shaw

Introit: *Venite*, vv 1-7

Hymns: 532 (omit \*), 742, 647  
455, 456  
584

#### Ave Verum Corpus – William Byrd

Theme and Variations

– Hendrik Andriessen

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September, Trinity 15

11.00 CW – Thorne/Appleford

Hymns: 823, 135, 103  
711, 459  
715

#### Praise to Thee, Lord Jesus – Heinrich Schütz

Prelude and Fugue in C major (BWV 545)  
– J. S. Bach

# **BOLTON PARISH CHURCH**

## **Tuesday Lunchtime Concerts 2021**

**1.15 – 1.50 p.m.**

### **Remaining Concerts:**

Tues 21 September

**REBEKAH OKPOTI – organ**

(St. Lawrence with St. Paul's, Longridge)

Tues 28 September

**MICHAEL PAIN – organ**

(Bolton Parish Church)

Tues 5 October

**JOHN POWELL – baritone**

with **Elin Rees** (piano)

ADMISSION FREE ♦ RETIRING COLLECTION

## **2021 CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **BOLTON PARISH CHURCH**

The Clergy and Wardens of Bolton Parish Church invite applications for CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS from September 2021, ideally from school-age pupils from years 11 to 13, although other applicants will also be considered.

The value of each scholarship will be £500 p.a., and the successful candidates will have the opportunity to sing in an expert adult choir, with a large cathedral-style repertoire.

For further details, and to apply, contact

Michael Pain, Director of Music, c/o Bolton Parish Church Office,  
Silverwell Street, Bolton BL1 1HX,

or email [michaelpain18@gmail.com](mailto:michaelpain18@gmail.com)

## **Flower News**

At the beginning of August, the design team for the Flower Festival, which will take place here in May 2022, held a meeting to discuss the ongoing preparations for the coming months. A Flower Demonstration is to be given by Paula Routledge in church on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 2 p.m. (tea and coffee available from 1 p.m.) Tickets will be £10 and available soon. This promises to be a splendid afternoon, and all are welcome.

On the first Sunday in August, an arrangement of garden flowers in shades of white and lilac was placed by the book of Remembrance in memory of our dear friend Shirley Mayhew's birthday.

Flowers on the altar during the first two weeks of August were white chrysanthemums and carnations. For the end of the month the arrangements were of white carnations. The nave pedestal arrangement was created using white hydrangeas and green chrysanthemums.

For the Civic funeral on 20<sup>th</sup> August, three pedestal arrangements were placed in church. Flowers included white delphiniums, lisianthus, chrysanthemums and carnations. Yellow roses which had been placed by the book of condolence were replaced with white roses for the funeral.

Our thoughts are already turning to Harvest, and Sunday school members are already in preparation for one of their wonderful displays.

Alison and Kath will be attending the AGM (twice postponed due to Covid!) of the Church of England Flower Arrangers' Association on 18<sup>th</sup> September in Birmingham Cathedral.

Members of the Tuesday Group and The Flower Team will be hosting a Macmillan coffee (and cake!) morning in church on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 10.30 - 12.30 to which all are welcome.

With grateful thanks for donations received during August. Any donations towards the cost of Harvest flowers and the weeks beyond will be warmly accepted by Kath, Alison or the wardens.

Flower Team



## Floral arrangements for the funeral of Councillor David Greenhalgh



*Left: Pedestal near  
the Lectern*

*Below: At west door  
showing the new  
west porch under  
construction*





Please use this list as a guide to what we need to help make up our food parcels.

Items highlighted with \* are what we need the most.  
For food safety / quality reasons, please don't donate any bakery products or items that require refrigeration or freezing.

Donated food can be dropped off at Unit 4(former Staples / Office Outlet) on Trinity RetailPark, off Bradford Street, Bolton BL2 1HY. Just drive down past Burger King and Arnold Clark Car Sales. The Hub is open 10.00am – 4.00pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; and 10.00am – 3.00pm on Wednesdays.

Thank you!

### Ambient / Long-Life Items

Tinned Soups (Any)  
\*Tinned Minced Beef  
\*Tinned Corned Beef  
\*Tinned Stewing Steak  
\*Tinned Meat Stews  
\*Tinned Chicken Stews  
\*Tinned meat or chicken curry  
Tinned Veg Curry  
\*Tinned Ham  
\*Tinned Meat Pies  
Tinned Fish (any)

Tinned Carrots  
\*Tinned Mushy Peas  
\*Tinned Garden Peas  
\*Tinned Processed Peas  
\*Tinned Mixed Vegetables  
\*Tinned Tomatoes  
\*Tinned Potatoes  
\*Instant Mash  
Dried Rice  
Microwave Rice  
Dried Pasta  
Cuppa Soup

Small cooking oils (max 200ml)  
Cooking Sauces (jars)  
Gravy granules and cubes  
Herbs & Spices (any)  
Salt & Pepper  
Tomato Puree  
Pickled beetroot, onions or cabbage  
Salad Cream  
Tomato Sauce  
Brown Sauce

Coffee Powder  
Instant Hot Chocolate  
Long Life Fruit Juice (1 ltr or similar)  
\*Cordial  
\*Long Life Milk

Tinned Sweet Pie Fillings  
Tinned Sponge Puddings  
\*Tinned Fruit (any)  
\* Instant Custard Powder  
Tinned Custard  
Rice Pudding  
Sugar  
Biscuits  
Baking Products  
Flour (Plain & Self Raising)  
Angel Delight  
Evaporated Milk  
Trifle Mixes  
Jellies

### Cleaning Equipment

\*Large food bags  
Antibacterial Spray  
Dish Cloths  
Bleach  
Toilet cleaner

### Toiletries

Shampoo and Conditioner  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes  
Toilet Rolls  
Baby Wipes  
\*Nappies (all sizes but especially size 4 upwards)

### Fresh Fruit and Veg

Apples and Oranges  
Carrots, greens and potatoes  
Salad items (not containing 'use by' dates)

*Thank you for your help and support*

**URBAN**  
**OUTREACH** (BOLTON)



# Floral Demonstration

## "Nature's Treasure"

By Paula Routledge BEM

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 2pm**

(doors open for tea & biscuits at 1.15 pm)

Tickets **£10.00** per person available from Eventbrite using this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-flower-demonstration-with-paula-routledge-tickets-16927222775>

or contact Margaret on 07806777269

Paula is a passionate  
horticulturalist and  
RHS Chelsea award-  
winning Florist,  
Gardening broadcaster  
and  
Area Demonstrator.



Bolton Parish Church, Silverwell Street, Bolton, BL1 1PS. Parking is available

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

Question: Do you know what these are?



Answer:

They are the bottoms cut off lemonade and soft drinks bottles and the Sunday School need lots of them for a project they are undertaking.

Can you help by cutting off the bottoms from empty plastic bottles and bringing them to church for the Sunday School. Rose Marie Newport has left a container at the back of church. Please help by saving as many as possible.

We await with interest the finished project.

### **Hand-bell Group**

New members are very welcome to join us – we meet in church (access via the south side door) on Wednesday evenings between 7 and 8.30pm. Please consult the pew sheet for any changes.

## **JOY RYNER AND JOAN HEYS**

We recently lost two longstanding members of our congregation, Joy Ryner and Joan Heys, whose deaths occurred within a few days of each other.

### **JOY RYNER**

Joy died peacefully at the Old Vicarage on 22 August. Her funeral took place privately followed by a memorial service in Bolton Parish Church on 8 September. Her son David spoke of his Mother's outlook and her approach to life, sharing an insight into her training as a teacher and her service with the Red Cross as a wartime nurse before joining her husband at their GP surgery in Farnworth.

Joy was passionate about culture and was an enthusiastic supporter of the musical life of Bolton Parish Church, supporting concerts and often helping with refreshments at midweek lunchtime concerts, as a member of the coffee team serving coffee after the morning service, at lent lunches and much more.

To her family, David, Alison and Elspeth, her grandchildren and great grandmother we extend our condolences. They have expressed their thanks for the many, many messages of support from those who knew Joy.

May she rest in peace.

### **JOAN HEYS**

A full tribute to Joan will appear next month.

### **The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**

#### **The Collect**

O Lord, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



## Songs of Praise

A selection of photographs from our recent Songs of Praise in the churchyard



Dogs welcome at  
Bolton Parish Church...

... but small dogs  
do get tired!





**Rev Ian Hepburn**

**Sermon 22 August**

John 6.56-69    Ephesians 6

When I was at University in Scotland studying Microbiology, we had a lecturer who came from Lanark. He was an expert in the clean-up of contaminated land, and he travelled widely, bringing back field samples from old Russian airbases and American printed circuit board factories. In fact, you never knew if he was going to turn up to the next lab session wearing a suit, or a set of overalls. He was a good sport too, joining in with the staff versus student football matches. However, his lectures weren't very popular. Not because he wasn't popular, or wasn't interesting, but because we couldn't understand him. His accent was so thick that only the fellas from Wishaw and Motherwell could understand him. And if his compatriots were struggling, we English didn't stand a chance.

The gospel of St John tells us that some of Jesus disciples were complaining about *his* teaching; not that his accent was too thick or that his lessons went on too long... but that what he said was too hard!

In the synoptic gospels, by the time we reach this point, we've seen quite a bit of opposition to Jesus already.

He had taken on those who had used the religious law to block any new expressions of God's grace. And he had taken to task the fanatics who wanted to make Jesus king and to raise an army to kick the Romans out of Palestine. To these, Jesus gave plenty of reminders that the moral code of the Old Testament still very much applied.

But the fourth gospel has a different layout and John gives us a different backdrop. Instead, these criticisms of Jesus arrive almost out of the blue.

Jesus had fed the 5,000, performed multiple healings, spread his good cheer at the wedding in Cana and spoken with good humour to the woman from Samaria. Therefore, we might be forgiven if we're left wondering what on earth people could object to in this.

John's gospel is clear – it isn't the difficult moral teaching this time or Jesus championing the cause of outsiders that seems to rub them up the



wrong way. Rather, it's his intimate relationship with God, calling him Father, and himself the Son and all the implications that would bring! That was too much for them to accept.

On their first day in the Ambulance Service, new recruits used to be given a Green File. As they progressed through training, they were given inserts for this file, flow charts of policies and procedures, what to do in the event of X, Y and Z, and up to date information about the medicines carried. Many of the vital bits of information were in that file, and even though they were committed to memory, most people still kept their file to hand on shift.

When we were given the opportunity to study one day a month for diplomas and degrees, on the first day at university, the tutor would tell us that the green file would soon be obsolete – that we'd need to take our clinical advice from other sources and that 'evidence-based practice' now ruled the waves. Well, I remember one guy in that lecture room hitting the roof. He just couldn't accept this new teaching, and I never saw him again on that course. Some of Jesus' followers found his teaching too hard, and they too walked away.

"What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?" Jesus said to them. The resurrection would bring a new dimension to his teaching, but for now, many rejected him.

"Do you also wish to go away?" Jesus asked the twelve. And, as usual, it was Peter who jumped right in.

*"Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life".* And as usual, Peter doesn't do sitting on the fence. He's rarely short of words himself, and he recognises, in Jesus, someone whose words have a different quality.

*It was just these kinds of words* that Charles Wesley would later describe as 'life and health and peace', and yet – as Peter and the rest of the disciples found on many occasions, and most of us, if we're honest, know very well – these '*words of eternal life*' are sometimes more than a little bewildering! When we feel like that, we're in good company!

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies!  
Who can explore His strange design?

There was a lecturer at theological college who liked to repeat to us, time and again, that whatever else we might like to put in our theological essays,

he never, ever wanted to see written in any of our work that the answer to any of the questions he had set was 'it's a mystery'!. That was the worst of all offences! Yet we know, and he would be the first to admit, that, for all the words we can write and say about God, we're never going to plumb the depths. He is "Immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine."

'To whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.'

Jesus' words, which the disciples saw could do things, change things and breathe life into things, inspired them to go to such great lengths to pass on the baton of good news so conscientiously, so that, hundreds of years later, another hymn writer, a man so single-minded in making his own fortune at the expense of others - the slave trader John Newton - would be stopped in his tracks by Jesus' words of eternal life, later renouncing his former ways and writing...

"How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!

It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear."

The comfort, healing and rest found in these 'Words of eternal life' have been described sometimes as *tokens of trust*, placed into our own hands for safe keeping and for us to share. Words particular people have been inspired and moved by.

Archbishop Thomas Cranmer was inspired to place those well-known Comfortable Words beginning with:

"Come unto me all that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you" in his prayer book, to ensure that everyone could be confident in God's gracious mercy before taking Holy Communion.

Peter's words, "You have the words of eternal life" are words of truth for all seasons, whether we're full of rejoicing or trudging through the valley of the shadow.

As the Spirit brings these words to life in us, may we continue to be strong in the Lord and the strength of his power, *encouraged* by the Spirit, our helper and teacher and guide, and trusting, like Peter, in the words of the collect, that God is always more ready to hear than we are to pray and to give, *immeasurably more* than either we desire or deserve.

**Amen**

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## Walsh's



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## **‘Sight Loss Friendly Church’ - a checklist**



*Bolton Parish Church is aiming to become a ‘Sight Loss Friendly Church’. The Torch Trust have lots of useful practical tips on their website, which focus just as much on attitude as on practical advice. The following is a summary of their advice.*

Attitude is the most important thing about being sight loss friendly.

Always ask people with sight loss what you can do to make them feel welcome.

Ask if the person needs assistance to find their way around, especially where the toilets are and the general layout of the building. You may have to guide someone to the toilet door, or to their seat.

Be specific when giving directions using the rights and lefts of the person you’re talking to, not your own.

Consider having an additional person allocated to guide people around if needed. It may be a good idea for these welcomers to check at the end of the service as refreshments are notoriously difficult.

If using hymn books and other printed materials, have large print (LP) or braille copies available, and ask which is the most appropriate. Emailing copies of materials beforehand can be a great option for some people.

### **During the service**

Let people know when to sit or stand (if they wish to and are able to).

When addressing the congregation use inclusive terms such as ‘If you are able’.

Remember that people with sight loss won’t see your facial expression, body language or other visual prompts. Describe visual incidents as they happen.

Telling people about upcoming church events can really make them feel included. As can sharing with them what’s going on around them at the time, especially if everyone starts laughing about a visual joke.

During refreshments, consider getting them a cup of tea, not forgetting to mention if there is somewhere nearby where they can safely put it down.

Don't leave them standing alone, but do invite them to join in your conversation.

A person with sight loss may need assistance to find their coat or belongings when they come to leave.

### **Printing Materials for people with sight loss**

Printed text should be in a bold, clear sans serif font such as Arial or Trebuchet, sized to suit the reader. We recommend four sizes of large print font which will help people with varying degrees of sight loss: 17 Point, 20 Point, 25 Point, 30 Point.

A good colour contrast is important, so black print on white or cream paper works best.

Making the print **bold** can help to make the words stand out and easier to read.

Try to keep everything left-justified so it is easy to find the start of a new line; indentations can cause confusion. Using blank lines (spacing) after the paragraphs clearly shows the paragraph divisions.

If using bullet points, use square ones as they help to line the text up across the page.

Think about reducing the content before reducing the font size. Don't try to squeeze too much information in.

Use solid lines; dotted lines are more difficult to see.

Use a neat, consistent, uncluttered layout and allow adequate spacing between lines of text, paragraphs and columns.

Printing over pictures or photos can make words difficult to read.

There are a small minority of people with sight loss who may use braille. For help or advice about braille, contact Torch on 01858 438260 or email [info@torchtrust.org](mailto:info@torchtrust.org)

### **Guiding on Steps, stairs and slopes**

Tell the person you are guiding that you are approaching steps or a slope and whether they go up or down.

If there is a handrail, they should be on the side of the rail if possible.

If you are shorter than the person you are guiding, any arm movements may not be as pronounced, so make sure that you take the first step on the same side as your guiding arm.

## **Let's talk about..... the Moon**

With Harvest and the autumn equinox looming, it might be interesting to look at what the moon is doing this month.

The Moon rises and sets every day, like the Sun. But the Sun always rises in the morning and sets in the evening; the Moon does it at a different time every day.

At New Moon, the Moon lies in the same direction as the Sun. But the Moon is orbiting around the Earth; every day, it moves eastwards (further left from the Sun) by about 12 degrees. This means that it increasingly lags behind the Sun, by about 50 minutes a day.

At New Moon, the Moon rises in the morning. It is at its highest in the middle of the day and sets in the evening, just like the Sun, although we are not able to see it.

Over the next few days, as the Moon grows to a crescent, it moves further left, and lags more and more behind the Sun. Soon we can see it in the evenings, still above the western horizon when the Sun has already set.

By First Quarter, the Moon is one-quarter of the way around its orbit (and half illuminated). It is now 90 degrees to the left of the Sun, and lags behind it by 6 hours. It rises in the middle of the day, is high at sunset, and sets in the middle of the night.

Over the next few days, as the Moon grows to a gibbous phase (more than half-illuminated), it continues to lag further behind, rising later each afternoon and setting later each night.

At Full Moon, the Moon is opposite to the Sun - 180 degrees away, and 12 hours behind it. The Moon rises as the Sun is setting. It is high at midnight and sets in the morning, at sunrise. Over the next few days, as it shrinks back to gibbous again, it rises later in the night.

By the Last Quarter, the Moon is 270 degrees to the left of the Sun - or 90 degrees to the right of it; and lags 18 hours behind the Sun - or is 6 hours ahead. It rises in the middle of the night, is high at dawn and sets in the middle of the day.

Over the next few days, as the Moon shrinks back down to a crescent, it rises later every night. Eventually we catch only a glimpse of it at

sunrise, coming over the horizon just before the Sun. And by New Moon, once again, we cannot see the Moon at all.



## **Harvest Moon**

In the Northern Hemisphere, we call the full moon closest to the autumn equinox the Harvest Moon.



In 2021, the Northern Hemisphere autumn equinox is on 22 September. The full moon falls two days earlier, on 20 September. Depending on the year, the full Harvest Moon can occur anywhere from two weeks before the autumn equinox to two weeks after. The Harvest Moon is either the last full moon of the summer season or the first full moon in autumn. This year, the September full moon is the fourth of the season's four full moons.

On average, the full moon rises around sunset, and rises about 50 minutes later each day. But when a full moon happens close to an autumn equinox, the moon on the following nights rises closer to the time of sunset. This can be seen in the table on the following page.

The difference between 50 minutes and 25 minutes might not seem like much. But it means that, in the nights after a full Harvest Moon, the moon will be seen ascending in the east relatively soon after sunset. The moon will rise during or near twilight on these nights, giving dusk-till-dawn moonlight for several nights in a row around the time of the Harvest Moon.

The shorter-than-usual lag time between moonrises around the full Harvest Moon means no long period of darkness between sunset and moonrise for days in succession.

In the days before tractor lights, the lamp of the Harvest Moon helped farmers gather their crops despite the diminishing daylight hours. As the sun's light faded in the west, the moon would soon rise in the east to illuminate the fields throughout the night.

## Moonrise, Moonset and Sunset in Bolton

Date	Moonrise	Moonset	Moonrise	Illumination	Sunset
<i>Sep</i>					
16	-	00.18	18.12	81.4%	19.21
17	-	01.36	18.42	89.4%	19.19
18	-	02.58	19.04	95.2%	19.17
19	-	04.21	19.21	*	19.14
20	-	05.42	19.34	98.7%	19.12
21	-	07.00	19.46	99.8%	19.09
22	-	08.15	19.57	98.7%	19.07
23	-	09.30	20.09	95.6%	19.04
24	-	10.43	20.23	90.6%	19.02
25	-	11.57	20.39	84.1%	18.59
26	-	13.09	21.01	76.4%	18.57
27	-	14.19	21.30	67.7%	18.54
28	-	15.22	22.09	58.3%	18.52
29	-	16.16	23.01	48.4%	18.50
30	-	16.59	-	38.5%	18.47
<i>Oct</i>					
1	00.06	17.31		28.8%	18.45
2	01.20	17.55		19.7%	18.42
3	02.41	18.13		11.8%	18.40
4	04.04	18.29		5.6%	18.37
5	05.29	18.43	-	1.5%	18.35
6	06.55	18.56	-	0.1%	18.33
7	08.24	19.11	-	1.7%	18.30
8	09.55	19.28	-	6.3%	18.28
9	11.27	19.51	-	13.5%	18.26
10	12.58	20.22	-	23.0%	18.23
11	14.20	21.07	-	33.9%	18.21
12	15.27	22.08	-	45.6%	18.19
13	16.15	23.23	-	57.2%	18.16
14	16.49	-	-	68.2%	18.14
15	-	0.44	17.12	78.0%	18.12

\* no figure — moon does not pass the meridian on this date



# **‘The Last Word’**

## **Canon Jill Pilling**

### **Do you come from Bolton?**

I was born and grew up in Kendal in the Lake District. My home church was Kendal Parish Church, where I was a server, crucifer, thurifer and assistant verger. I graduated with a BEd (Hons) at Chester University and secured my first teaching position in Farnworth. Bolton was close enough to travel back to Kendal but also, as an only child, it was far enough away to be independent.

### **Can you tell us about your teaching career?**

My academic interest is in the science field and I took Biology as my major subject for my degree. I initially looked at becoming a pathologist. I had a wonderful Head of Science and she gave me the opportunity in the sixth form to teach first year science, which I fell in love with. However, she also gave me the opportunity to teach the fifth-year boys, which led me into primary education!

I started my teaching career in Farnworth, appointed by our own Canon Chris! I moved to Bishop Bridgeman as a ‘B’ allowance in January 1993, was promoted to Deputy Head and in 2009 Headteacher of Bishop Bridgeman, a role I am most definitely called to do rather than chose to do. On 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016, Bishop Bridgeman and St James Church of England primary school in Farnworth converted to a Multi-academy Trust and I was appointed Chief Executive. On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018, St Maxentius Church of England primary school joined our Trust.

### **What will you be doing on Monday or on a typical Monday?**

As I am writing this, it is the summer holidays and on Monday, I will be in school planning for the roll out of Wiggle Worship across the Trust. Wiggle Worship is a innovative way of engaging our youngest children in worship and prayer. The answer to the question ‘What will you be doing on a typical Monday?’ is there is no typical Monday! The wonderful thing about working in schools is that however meticulously you plan, you never quite know what the day has in store! I have the huge privilege of still working with our children through the Ethos work, Ethos conferences, working with our Ethos leaders and Children’s Chaplains.

I am deeply passionate about the role of Church schools, and empowering our children to become leaders.

### **How long have you been coming to church?**

I have had a strong connection with BPC for over 30 years as a member of staff at Bishop Bridgeman. When I was Acting Head at Bishop Bridgeman, I felt it vital that, as the spiritual lead for the school, I worshiped in the community in which we served. I moved to St Philip's in 2008 and can honestly say it is the best thing I ever did. I most definitely had a prod from God to move and one of our foundation Governors at the time encouraged me to attend. May Milton-White was a wonderful lady and committed Governor. She met me outside one Sunday and I have worshipped there ever since. I remember saying to Revd Iddon that I would like to enjoy being in the congregation. That didn't last long: choir, PPC, Deanery Synod, Diocesan Synod and now church warden! Through the support and guidance of the people at St Philip's and BPC, and the clergy, both past and present, I took the step of training to be an ALM. A role I can carry out through school and church.

### **What's your favourite hobby?**

I don't have a great deal of down time, but when I do I love to retreat into my sewing room. I make patchwork quilts, cushion covers, bags, memory bears, rag dolls, teddy bear clothes, embroidery..... all sorts! My second creating love is knitting: socks, blankets etc.

### **What book are you reading at the moment?**

The books I am reading at the moment are the books on the reading list for the Christian Leadership Programme as I have joined the team responsible for planning and delivery of the course. A book that I like to re-read each summer is 'Hit the Ground Kneeling' by Stephen Cottrell. The book reminds me to take time out to reflect, think and pray. Stephen Cottrell looks at leadership in the light of the Christian faith.

## **What's your favourite hymn?**

A favourite hymn is a difficult one as I love to sing hymns, traditional and contemporary. I would say 'At the Name of Jesus'. This hymn reminds me of school and it is great hymn of praise.

## **Who inspires you?**

Having read Sir John Jones book 'The Magic Weaving Business', I have/had several magic weavers make a huge difference to the way my faith journey and life choices have progressed. I refer back to my Head of Science who was also my biology teacher. She was my first magic weaver. Miss Exton encouraged me, gently but firmly pushing me to achieve the very best that I could. Every summer from leaving school to 2017, we would write and meet for lunch. I thank God I was able to tell her she was one of the people that inspired me before she passed away in 2018. People who have been key to my faith journey, I have been fortunate to have encountered many, both clergy and lay. I must mention the children I have worked with over the years as they have taught me much about faith.

## **Is there a passage of scripture which you keep coming back to, which grabs you, or encourages you?**

Jeremiah 29 has been a source of comfort and helped me to trust that the roles, opportunities and direction I have taken in life are fulfilling the plans God has and given me the courage to keep going even at times when I am out of my comfort zone.

## **If you could visit any place in the world, where would that be?**

As a biologist, I would love to visit the rainforest or an African safari. Animals and plants are fascinating to study, anatomically and behaviourally.

## BOLTON PARISH CHURCH CONTACTS

Vicar:	Revd Canon Dr. Chris Bracegirdle vicar@boltonparishchurch.co.uk	01204 396298
Associate Priest:	Revd Canon Prof. Kenneth Newport	0161 764 4361
Associate Priest:	Revd Barrie Gaskell	07512782297
Lecturer:	Revd Ian Hepburn lecturer@boltonparishchurch.co.uk	01942 814045
Curate:	Revd Grace Hart	07840 236851
Area Dean of Bolton and Associate Priest:	Revd Simon Cook	
Authorised Lay Ministers:	Evelyn Weston	01204 594123
	Ilona Hepburn	01942 814045
Church Wardens:	Canon John Walsh OBE Evelyn Weston	01204 840188
Deputy Wardens:	Mr Graham C Burrows    Mr David Eckersley Mr Alan Forrester        Mr Andrew J Mitchell Mr David F Morlidge      Mr Trevor J Whillas Miss Esther Gelling	
PCC Secretary:	Mr Ian Darbyshire	
Treasurer:	Mr Andrew J Mitchell	01204 840633
Director of Music:	Mr Michael Pain michaelpain18@gmail.com	01204 491827
Administration	admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk	01204 522226

### ST PHILIP'S CONTACTS

Vicar:	Revd Canon Dr. Chris Bracegirdle vicar@boltonparishchurch.co.uk	01204 396298
Church Wardens:	Mrs Pauline Dewse	01204 772276
	Canon Jill Pilling	07977 933010