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Craig Newnes is a Consulting Critical Psychologist, psychotherapist and a past chair of the *British Psychological Society Psychotherapy Section*, a dad, musician, author and garden-er. He was, for over twenty five years the Director of Psychological Therapies in Shropshire's NHS Mental Health Services, an author and editor of numerous books and articles. He has won two Human Rights awards for speaking out on behalf of people oppressed by traditional psychiatry and psychology services. His latest books are *Inscription, Diagnosis and Deception in the Mental Health Industry: How Psy governs us all* (Palgrave) and *A Critical A-Z of Electroshock* (Real Press) – described as the “most profound examination of how psychology is based on nonsense and psychiatry just hurts people.” For those that know reality is better to be found in literature try his novels, *Tearagh't or Paris* (Real Press via Amazon). You can Google him.

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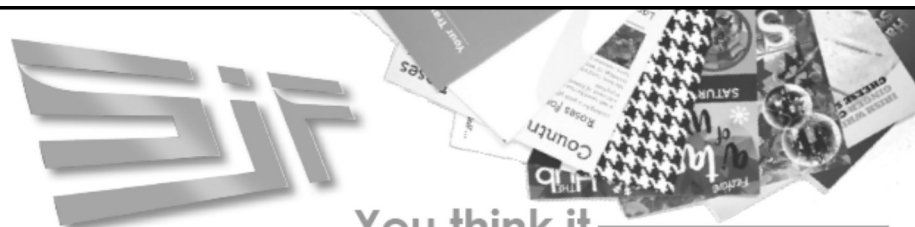


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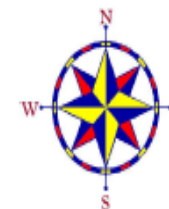
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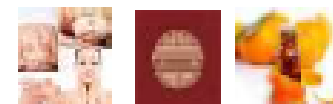
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St Peter's Myddle Church

St Peter's Walkers

Sunday 13th December. Meeting in the Bridgewater Car Park at 2.30pm (Covid-19 allowing)

Churchyard Tidy

Saturday 12th December from 10am-12.00 noon

Messenger Contacts & Copy

Editor – Danielle Brereton – Harmer Hill
editorthemessenger@gmail.com

All copy for the February issue must be sent over by:
• ***5pm on January 18th*** •

Please also find “The Messenger” on www.myddle.net

Sign up now for your Free E-Newsletter!

If you would like to receive the Myddle, Broughton and Harmer Hill Electronic Newsletter, directly to your inbox, all you have to do is send your name and email address to: contact@myddle.net

The E-Newsletter provides you with up-to-date information about what is going on in your parish and county, with links to the county planning portal, Gough Walks, useful contacts in the parish, from Doctors Surgeries to Bus timetables and the latest Covid-19 restrictions.

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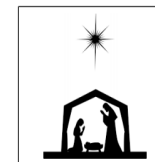
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Christmas Quiz 2020



In Aid of St Peter's Church Myddle

A variety of topical teasers for all.

FIRST PRIZE A LUXURY HAMPER

To take part in the quiz £2.00 per sheet, please contact any member of
the PCC or

Sara Luke Davies - sarajluke2503@gmail.com

Or Julia Millington 01939291467

There will be a lucky dip from ALL entries received by the closing date of 6th January 2021 Epiphany

Good Luck and Enjoy!

St Peter's Myddle Church Donations

The Parochial Church Council is most grateful for the following
donations received since the last issue of the Messenger was
published:

Donor	Fund	Amount
St Peter's Walkers	General Fund	£14.00
Anonymous	General Fund	£5.00

The Covid pandemic has had a dramatic effect on church funds. In
a normal year we are able to raise about £7,000 from church
collections and fund raising events. So far this year we have
managed to raise a little over £3,000. If you would like to help us
reduce this shortfall donations can be made at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stpeterschurchmyddle>
or by BACS transfer to: Account Name: Parochial Church Council
of Myddle Sort code: 20-77-85 Account Number: 00692832
or by cheque payable to Myddle PCC



HARMER HILL VILLAGE HALL

ZOOM



CHRISTMAS QUIZ

to be held on

FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER 2020

First half 7.30pm - 8.00pm

Comfort break & Picture Quiz

Second half 8.30pm - 9pm



Free to enter. You can compete as household or individually by sending your email address to:

lindasavage2011@btinternet.com by 4.00pm Friday 11th December.



Christmas Hats & Jumpers optional
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The Rural charity shops are managed by the Shropshire & West Midlands Agricultural Society and all funds raised go to the Charity Reg No 702372.

*Memories from Times Past -
In December's Church Messenger 1967*

Credit - Eleanor Owen's History Files

TO ALL OUR FARMER FRIENDS
AND TO ALL OUT FRIENDS WHO WORK
ON THE FARMS

* * * * *

Because of the risk of carrying infection I am deliberately not calling on you, for in the present situation I am sure callers are not welcome; but I do want you to know how much you are in our thoughts and prayers in this time of dreadful anxiety; and how deeply we sympathise with those of you who have seen your precious flocks and herds and other animals destroyed overnight. We know what it must mean for you, and we feel for you all more deeply than we can possibly say.

We commit you all to God's keeping.
May He comfort and support you all.

If I can help in any way do please let me know.

Your friend and Rector,

JOHN AYLING

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Adverts allow for us to have more pages & content.
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adsinmessenger@gmail.com

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Monthly cost:
Full page £12. Half £8. Quarter £6.

Adverts are always subject to space availability,
particularly for a short (1-2 month) duration.

A thank you from Linda Gregory to those
who donated money towards the Lone
Tommy statues.

Linda set up a Just Giving page on the
Facebook Group and raised enough money
to buy 3!



CHURCH CONTACT LIST

**The Parishes of Loppington (with Burlton) and Newtown,
Myddle and Broughton (Website: bmlnparishes.co.uk)**

Rector	Revd Adam Clayton	01939 291390
<u>MYDDLE, St Peter</u>		
Churchwardens	Mrs Julia Millington	01939 291467
	Mrs Chris Williams	01939 290813
	Mrs Margaret Parson	01939 290818
PCC Secretary	Mr Greg Miller	01939 290789
PCC Treasurer		
<u>BROUGHTON, St Mary</u>		
Lay Reader	Mr Bob Wellings	01939 210392
PCC Secretary	Mrs Pauline Oliver	01939 290643
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Elizabeth Howe	01939 291144
<u>LOPPINGTON, St Michael & All Angel</u>		
Churchwardens	Mr Mike Salt	01939 234348
	Mr Bob Parker	01939 236893
Asst. Churchwarden	Mrs Tracey Barton	01939 270839
PCC Treasurer	Mr Dick Barton	01939 270839
Gift Aid Treasurer	Mr Peter Butters	01939 236240
<u>NEWTOWN, King Charles the Martyr</u>		
Pastoral Care Minister	Mrs Margaret Fox	01939 233419
Churchwardens	Mr Tim Wastling	01939 235475
Sunday School Leader	Mrs Shirley Clorley	01939 232237
PCC Secretary	Mrs Heather Pitchford	01939 233089
PCC Treasurer	Mr David Howson	07970 787845
<u>BURLTON, St Anne</u>		
Trustee	Mrs Lesley Eyre	01939 270314
Gift Aid Treasurer	Mr Philip Benson	01939 270310

December/ January - It's your choice

The way we celebrate Christmas may be different this year, but we will celebrate. This has been happening for nigh on 2020 years because, thankfully, whatever we do, the Christmas story never changes; it lives on, it's history, His story, the story of Jesus' birth within the whole story of God.

At this time, we remember that God, our Almighty Creator, became a human being to show us something. Not just all those lessons from Jesus, such as how to behave towards each other, or that God's power can heal, or all about the wisdom of God.

Jesus taught us many things but by becoming a vulnerable baby and then a man in the world, God showed us how much he loves us. He showed that he loves each one of us truly, deeply and unquestionably, however privileged or disadvantaged we are.

To get the point across he was born to an unmarried mother (scandalous at that time) in squalid conditions, demonstrating that he can and wants to relate to the disadvantaged and vulnerable. – (He's been there, done that, got the t-shirt!) A mixture of local peasant people (the shepherds) and the seemingly wealthy intelligent (the magi/wise men) from faraway lands visited the new baby. – Extraordinary that such learned men travelled so many miles to bring incredibly valuable gifts to a baby born in a grubby barn with unmarried parents!

This reminds us that Jesus came for everyone. Nobody is excluded from his love. Not only was his birth experience shocking and all-inclusive, but we know that it was just the beginning of God's message of love towards us, and leads us on to Easter, when Jesus died (again in awful circumstances) and rose again, to break any divisions left between God and us. So, we are given a choice. We can decide that the Christmas story is just history, or we can believe that Christmas is really His story and choose to have an ongoing relationship with Jesus.



HARMER HILL VILLAGE HALL

We are sorry the hall may not be available for your needs at this moment in time but we will continue to monitor the situation and keep you informed whilst making safety our top priority.

contact details: 07835 969131 or email: harmerhill.vh@gmail.com

Harmer Hill Village Hall Monthly Tote Winners

Harmer Hill Village Hall runs a Tote, with a draw made each month.

The November draw winners are:

1st -	No 185	£25	Margaret Heath, Harmer Hill
2nd -	No 40	£20	Angela Walker, Shotton
3rd -	No 164	£15	Celia Clack, Lower Road

Yes Number 40 did win last month as well, – but that's the luck of the draw!

If you are interested in the tote you can contact:
Veronica Jones

(Harmer Hill Village Hall Tote contact – Tel 01939 291215)

Harmer Hill Presbyterian Church

A message from the Elders

Our Chapel has been closed since the first lockdown in March. Due to the vulnerability of most of our members we could not open once lockdown had finished. Then, just as we were reviewing whether we should reopen, another lockdown began, so we are still unable to open the Chapel for worship.

Even though the congregation are not meeting together physically, it has been evident that members have been thinking, praying and keeping in touch during this difficult time. We are all asking God to show us when the Chapel should be open again after the current lockdown.

As we face another lockdown and the numbers of Covid-19 sufferers continues to rise, many of us are afraid of what the future holds. By turning to God, we will always receive what we need. This truth is revealed in the following words of assurance.

Whenever angels appear in the Christmas Story they never fail to say, "Don't be afraid!" In fact, this happens four times during the events surrounding the birth of Jesus. Someone has counted the number of times we read, "Don't be afraid!" in the Bible. It amounts to 365. That is one for every day of the year. God does not want us to live in fear.

God wants us to know that we do not need to be afraid no matter what the circumstances because He is always with us in every situation.

As we look forward to Christmas, with our Chapel either open or closed, let us hold on to the words of the angels. "Don't be afraid!"

I have chosen Jesus. He's the best friend I've ever had, and I know that life with Jesus means eternal life. This Christmas choose Jesus. He loves you so much. You could start with this prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus,
I really want you in my life.
Please come and help me to know you.
Amen

I'm sorry I can't give any diary dates for Christmas Services until I know the December Covid-19 guidelines. You could look on the Church noticeboard.

***The Revd Adam Clayton
Rector of Myddle***

Harmer Hill & District W.I

Meetings will now be held virtually on Zoom until further notice, so feel free to join. All ladies welcome!
The next two meetings will be held on:

- ***Thursday 10th December at 7.30pm*** •
- ***Thursday 14th January at 7.30pm*** •

David Allen will be giving us a talk on 'The Making of the Wizard of Oz.' It would be lovely to welcome anyone from the surrounding villages, if you would like to join us (with a glass of your favourite tippie!) whilst staying in your own home. In January, 'Training to be a female secret agent during WW2' - a talk by Bernard O.

Please contact Jenny Walsh on 07714108507
for more information.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Carols on the Doorstep set to 'save' Christmas!

Shropshire is determined that Covid won't be the Grinch that steals Christmas

Carols on the Doorstep is set to unite the people of Shropshire and will take place on December 16, repeated on Christmas Eve, supported by BBC Radio Shropshire. Organisers are hoping the idea will catch on countrywide and raise money for a host of different charities. My Shrewsbury magazine has joined forces with Shropshire Festivals to organise the event. They are asking everyone to sing carols on their doorsteps to bring the county together in festive spirit.

BBC Radio Shropshire will broadcast a set list of carols and Christmas songs to help everyone keep in time – or streets can choose to organise their own live 'doorstep' music, all socially distanced of course.

"With our lights switch-on and carols in the square cancelled this year, along with all other 'in person' festive events, we wanted to create something for people to look forward to and to create a sense of togetherness without risking anyone's health," said Katy Rink, editor of My Shrewsbury magazine, who came up with the idea for Carols on the Doorstep. Katy Rink added:

"We are determined that Covid won't be the Grinch that steals Christmas. Everyone has tried so hard to stay positive over the past six months, but it feels like heads are beginning to dip, as we see a long winter ahead.

"We'd love to bring a blast of positivity to Shropshire with Carols on the Doorstep. Music in particular has been very hard hit by the virus – people are missing social connections, wellbeing and shared creativity of regular group playing and singing. We've seen all kinds of creative responses to this online. We hope that Carols on the Doorstep will keep music live this Christmas and bring joy to families and neighbours, in the same way that we enjoyed Clap for Carers.

Social distancing is obviously a key priority – but a trumpet at the end of the street can make a lot of noise!"

Christmas Tree Lights outside of St Peter's Church

While 2020 has been very different in so many ways, this year the Christmas tree lights will be on as usual, outside St Peter's Church.

The 'official' day for switch on has traditionally been the Sunday before Christmas at the Carol Service. They are on from then, each evening until Twelfth Night, so there is plenty of time to come and see the tree throughout the lead up to Christmas until January 5th 2021.

If you are able to help us to maintain this tradition you are invited to make a donation to keep the lights shining. Perhaps as a Christmas thank you message in the Parish, or to sponsor a light in memory of a loved one, as in previous years.

Envelopes will be available from Julia Clarke – 291349, or other members of PCC. If you prefer to make a direct Payment, details can be found elsewhere in this issue of the magazine or by contacting Greg Miller, PCC Treasurer.



St Mary's Church, Broughton

Is still open for small weddings and is known to be a charming, private, rural location for ceremonies. The church has a beautiful ceiling with exposed wooden beams and is surrounded by trees.

Flowers can be arranged for your day, on request to be put in the windows and around the church.

If you would like to see the church, please contact Pauline or Elizabeth, who would be happy to show you around and answer any questions.

During the pandemic, the usual fundraising activities have had to be suspended, so if anyone would be willing to donate any funds to help in the running and upkeep, please do get in touch.

Contact Pauline : 07745585287 or 01939290643
Contact Elizabeth: 07964 137758 or 01939 291144

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Correspondence

The Clerk always forwards to Members relevant items of correspondence he receives to enable prompt responses to be made where necessary. Since the last meeting there had been over forty items and this did not include a range of messages about Coronavirus or Council road works around the County.

External Audit

The report, which indicated that no concerns had been raised by the auditors about the management of the Council and its finances, had been forwarded to Members and was adopted.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for successfully seeing the Council through the audit.

Planning

A number of planning applications had been received, considered and responded to with no objections raised.

It was noted that there had been no appeal against the decision to refuse planning approval for the development at the Harmer Hill Reservoir. As a result the Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Council's planning department and request that an enforcement order be issued to ensure that the owner of the land took action to remove the partial development from the site.

Council Website

As always the full minutes from the meeting and other Council information can be found on the following site – www.myddleandbroughton-pc.gov.uk where you will also find details of your local Councillors.



My Shrewsbury is working with the award-winning events company Shropshire Festivals to help get the word out. Beth Heath, their aptly named 'Director of Fun' said:

"Obviously all of our major events have been cancelled this year, so it's brilliant to be able to do something to support our local community and spread a bit of Christmas joy! The charity sector has also struggled due to so many fundraising events being cancelled this year. The idea is that streets can choose to collect for their chosen charity, whilst in Shrewsbury, we'll be collecting for the Shrewsbury Food Hub to help combat the growing problem of food insecurity."

"Our key message is that Christmas is definitely not cancelled. Like everything else this year, it has had to diversify! We are asking everyone across the country to get on board and share the idea – and of course join with us on December 16 at 6pm and again at the same time on Christmas Eve."

A 'Save the Date' initial post for the event on Facebook has reached over 16,500 people. Carols on the Doorstep is sponsored by DM Recruitment and Morris Care, and supported by BBC Radio Shropshire. The Doorstep Carols website www.doorstepcarols.co.uk will have information on raising money for charity, resource packs for making music and artwork by Shrewsbury illustrator Saffron Russell.

To get involved, or volunteer to co-ordinate your street or neighbourhood, visit www.doorstepcarols.co.uk

Photo Caption

Katy Rink and her family get ready for carols on their doorstep

Media Enquiries

Claire Pocock

Shropshire ThinkTank

Claire@ShropshireFestivals.co.uk

T: 01952 432175



Shropshire Bus Project Report

In June 2019 the Shropshire Bus Project was launched with the aim of exploring ways in which bus services in Shropshire could be improved. Bus services have declined nationally in rural areas and a national organisation, the Foundation for Integrated Transport (FIT) was set up in 2014 to promote sustainable and transformational transport solutions. The Shropshire Project contacted Shropshire Council, town and parish councils and other organisations such as the Women's Institute to ask for comments and suggestions for improvements. Myddle, Broughton and Harmer Hill Parish residents sent in suggestions and these were passed on to the Project.

In 2020 six key recommendations were made to Shropshire Council.

They were:

- Increase the bus support budget from £2.8 million in 2018-19 to £6.39 million in 2021-22.
- Increase the diversity of operators and consider alternative ways of providing bus services.
- Invite bids from town and parish councils for specific improvements to bus services. This should include a commitment to county-wide timetables (printed and online).
- Adopt the "single ticket" model which would cover every trip and every operator across the county as a whole.
- Build a new bus station in Shrewsbury and improve the Park & Ride services in Shrewsbury and Ludlow.
- Shropshire Council should jointly fund (with the NHS) a fully electric bus, free to use from Shrewsbury Bus Station to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital (RSH). The RSH is the largest car trip generator in Shropshire and reducing car journeys would reduce congestion and air pollution in Shrewsbury as well as the need to build a £5 million multi-storey car park at RSH.

Some specific bus service improvements were costed but none of these related directly to this parish.

They were:

- The Meole Brace P&R service extended to Bayston Hill
- A bus- train connection linking Bishop's Castle to Craven Arms
- Reinstate the 141 Ludlow to Bridgnorth via Ditton Priors
- A direct service from Craven Arms to Princess Royal Hospital or a direct service from West Felton to RSH
- Connect Ellesmere with Wrexham and Whitchurch via a service from Overton.

The full report and more details of the Project are available on the website: www.shropshireruralbuses.org/

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Highways Issues

There was no reports of any action having been taken to deal with the issues raised at the last meeting and Members have become so angry about the lack of action that it was agreed that the Clerk should compile a list of all the issues that have been forwarded to Shropshire Council over the past four to five years, which had still not been actioned. When approved by the Chairman, the details would be sent to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer at Shropshire Council.

Play Areas

Members were advised of the receipt of the RoSPA report on both Play Areas indicating a few relatively minor problems which were being dealt with plans to re-paint the shelter on the Myddle site next spring.

Bus Service Review

Councillor Ms. J. Bienek gave a report on the findings arising from the recent survey of bus services in Shropshire, which had been undertaken in an effort to improve the service for the public, especially those living in rural areas.

A number of recommendations had been made, the main one being that Shropshire Council should increase its budget for bus services to £6.39 million from the current level of £2.8.million.

Other recommendations included diversification of operators; single ticket fares; improved park and ride facilities; a new bus station for Shrewsbury and a regular 10 minute electric bus service from central Shrewsbury to the hospital.

In the current financial crisis it seems unlikely that these recommendations will become a reality in the near future.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Council Meeting

Covid restrictions continue to prevent the Council holding meetings in the Village Halls as was the normal practice. Members are frustrated and disappointed by this and realise that it makes it difficult for local residents to meet with them and raise issues of concern or comment on Council activity. However you are reminded that you can speak to your local Councillors; contact the Parish Clerk who is happy to give you advice or where necessary bring it to the attention of all the Members or gain computer access to the meetings by asking the Chairman for the necessary code. Modern technology is a wonderful asset – sometimes!

The latest Council meeting was held on November 4th and one person who took advantage of accessing the meeting was Karyn Row from Harmer Hill. Karyn has recently set up a splendid Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Harmer Hill and was keen to secure Council support to develop a local Smart Water project, which is organised by the police. She gave an interesting presentation and supported it with a range of documents. Members have agreed to discuss it in detail at the January meeting and if you are interested have any comments please get in touch. In the meeting which followed Members considered and discussed a full range of issues including:

Street Lights

It was noted that all the lights owned by the Council had been converted to Led lighting units which reduces the use of electricity and maintenance costs. The invoice for the work had been settled and the money came from the Community Infrastructure Levy which is charged on new housing development. As a result there was no cost on your local rates.

www.myddleandbroughton-pc.gov.uk | 01743 236810

Chairman: Mr Colin Ruck | Westfield, Brookside, Myddle
colin@ruck.me.uk

Clerk: Mr Jack Wilson | 6 Primrose Drive, Shrewsbury, SY3 7TP
myddlebroughtonclerk@talktalk.net

Christmas Eve – Preparing for the Crib Service in St Peter's Church



Written by Carole Fisher, who now lives in North Wales

I carefully lifted the cardboard box from under the altar where it had been since last January. Placing it on the floor between the choir stalls I sat beside it. Gently I unwrapped each tissue parcel revealing the delicate porcelain figures. Shepherds, a donkey, Mary, Joseph, a beautiful angel with arched white wings and a boy carrying a lamb.

Oh! There you are; a pink skinned, blue eyed Baby Jesus with golden curls smiled back at me from the palm of my hand. Later that afternoon, during the crib service a much smaller pair of hands would carefully place Him in the manger. Whilst a group of enraptured children, heads draped in tea towels or adorned with tinsel halos would look on at the candle lit scene unfolding before them.

The familiar strains of Away in a Manger would ring out once again while proud parents and grandparents gazed on, bathed in nostalgia. Later we would hand out gingerbread and chocolate. Enveloped in the warm glow of Christ's coming families file out of church; "Have a happy Christmas", "Have a Good one!" they shout. Those of us remaining sweep up the bits of hay dropped along the aisle, leaving the church tidy for midnight mass.

In twelve days' time we would be wrapping Jesus in tissue paper again and placing Him in the box that will stay under the altar for another year. A man looks down from the wooden cross above the pulpit. How easy it is to lose our way between Bethlehem and Calvary.

*"And is it true? And is it true,
This most tremendous tale of all,
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue
A Baby in an ox's stall?*



*The Maker of the stars and sea
Become a Child on earth for me?* (from John Betjeman's poem "Christmas")

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Christmas Tree Barn opens following lockdown until 23rd December

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday- 10.00am - 5.00pm

Thursday & Friday 10.00am - 6.00pm

Weekends 9.00- 5.00pm

***DIRECTIONS:** Take the B5067 Baschurch Road from Shrewsbury.*

After approximately 3 miles, just past Leaton Church (on your right)

turn left off the road & follow the Christmas Tree Signs to the Barn.

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St Peter's Church 100+ Club

Did you know that £6 in 1993 had a purchasing power at the time that is equivalent to £12.30 today? The St Peter's Church 100+ Club began in 1993 with a ticket price of £6 and so it is clearly time to review the ticket price and of course the value of prizes.

Having considered the arrangements for what is now known as the 100+ Club the Parochial Church Council has decided to raise the ticket price for 2021 to £10 (an increase of 67%). For the quarterly draws

The 1st prize will be £50

(double the current prize of £25)

The 2nd prize will be £20

(a 33% increase on the current prize of £15)

The 3rd prize will be £15

(a 50% increase on the current prize of £10)

A bonus prize of £35 will be added for the Christmas draw for each additional 10 tickets that are sold above 100.

The Parochial Church Council hopes that current members of the 100+ Club will remain participants under the new ticket price.

Julia Clarke is the Club's organizer and she would be grateful if current participants would let her know whether they will participate in 2021. Similarly she would be glad to hear from anyone else who would like to join the Club in 2021.

She can be contacted on 01939 291349 (if no answer just leave a message on the answer phone) or by e-mail at juliaclarke234@hotmail.com.

Participants who would like to use online or telephone banking to pay for their ticket can make their payment to the Parochial Church Council's bank account, full details on page 17, specifying "100+ Club" in the reference field.