

Lawton Light!

Church Lawton Parish Magazine

September 2020

50p



Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

Mathew Ch 18 v 19-20

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Lawton Light!	Jane Baker	Tel:01270 876363
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**** Members of our team are very pleased to visit you in your home, to listen to you, talk with you, and pray with you. Nothing is too trivial, and nothing is beyond the reach of God's love and grace.**

All you have to do is pick up the telephone and call.

We will be delighted to hear from you, and respond to your need.

Rector's Letter...

Back to Normal?

Well, here we are – the church is open again and Sunday services are running; out on the streets the shops are open, and there have even been incentives paying us to go and eat out. You might be thinking that it's back to normal. Except we can see so many signs that this is NOT the old normal.

Despite the relaxing of restrictions, we know that COVID-19 has not gone away. The medical world is working hard on vaccines and other medical interventions to help those who contract the disease – and in the mean time we will need to wear our face-masks, wash our hands, be careful and stay some distance from those around us. Definitely not what we were used to.

Even in church things are not the way they used to be. We all wear masks and we cannot sing the hymns – and for Holy Communion we stand in line and are given only a wafer instead of bread and wine. At the front of church the Rector wears a visor at times, and there is a daunting array of computer equipment, cameras, phones, cables and microphones.

We see video clips for some readings, intercessions and sermons – and the words are displayed on the screen. We are trying to send our live church services out over the internet to people at home, so it may feel more like a television studio than a time of worship and encounter with God and each other.

My friends, I'm afraid that this is the new normal for the next year or so. We will need to get used to it, and we must not let these changes get in the way of living our lives, of being a member of our community, a part of our church, a Christian, a human being.

If you feel that you cannot yet come out to church then I hope you can stay in touch with us online and let us know how you are doing. Maybe you can invite some church friends to sit and chat in the garden?

If you are coming to a church service, please try to relax and remember that this is still an encounter with the Divine. We may not be able to sing, but we can express ourselves in other ways – lifting our hands in prayer, in raising our voices as we join in the liturgy, waving our arms in the peace and even clapping. If you love the band playing a hymn, appreciate the sermon or the

intercessions, maybe we should give a round of applause?

That may be a bit much for the reserved folks of Church Lawton, but we need to find a way to see through the changes and restrictions to the things that stay the same – to our God, to fellowship with one another, and to supporting each other in need.

I hope to see us all relax in church a bit more; to make more noise, even though we're streaming services; to have more response and more joy in the presence of God.

I'd love to have more people coming up to read a lesson, say prayers, or welcoming newcomers at the door. And it is still so good to catch up with familiar faces at the end of the services, even if they are wearing a mask.

Let us pray: Heavenly Father, when all around us is changing it can feel as though we are living on shifting sands. Help us to see through the way things appear and see the things that do not change; to know the presence of those we love, and the steadfast love of our God. Amen.

Steve

The Sound of Worship

As we gather for the service
Greeting, laughing, chatting we,
While a genius is working
Deep in electricity.

Checking all the wires are plugged
in,
Running gremlins down to
ground.

1,2,3 – that mike is working!
No more faults there to be found!

Have you seen that desk he/she
uses?
Sliders, switches, buttons, knobs;
Looks to me just like a flight deck-
Someone really knows their job!

While you listen, learn, and
worship
May a prayer of thanks be found
Then, perhaps a little feedback
For the one who does the sound.

By Nigel Beeton

The sound of our **WORSHIP**

Psalm 23 – a psalm for the pandemic

There are few psalms as personal and real as Psalm 23. It records David's experience of God as his Shepherd going through dark times. In the midst of the effects of a global pandemic, this psalm speaks to the fears that can overwhelm us.

He Knows Me: 'The Lord is my shepherd...' Just as a good shepherd knows every sheep in his flock, so God knows each one of us intimately.

He Provides for Me: 'He makes me lie down in green pastures...' Just as the shepherd knows the needs of his sheep, so God will provide what we need in our lives and circumstances.

He Guides Me: 'He guides me along the right paths...' Just as the shepherd leads the sheep to the best pastures, so God provides the best for us, as we listen and follow Him.

He Protects Me: 'Even though I walk through the darkest valley...' Just as the sheep have no need to fear danger when following the shepherd, so we live knowing God's presence and protection.

He Comforts Me: 'your rod and your staff, they comfort me.' As the

shepherd's rod defends the sheep, and the staff enables him to control the sheep, so God comforts us through His Word and discipline.

The final verses of the psalm (v5-6) offer the security of knowing that our lives are in His hands, even through death, as He leads us to the home we've been looking for all our lives.



Some years ago, a great actor was asked to recite Psalm 23, but asked one of the other guests to do the same. His remarkable rendition was followed by the other man, an older Christian speaking from the heart.

Afterwards the actor said: 'The difference between us is that I know the psalm, but he knows the shepherd.'

*Canon Paul Hardingham
considering a well loved psalm*



9.00am
Sunday 13th September
Messy Church Zoom Meet Up

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78696003951?
pwd=QWRKMURSL0tLUDRWVmfZaEdJaVZjdz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78696003951?pwd=QWRKMURSL0tLUDRWVmfZaEdJaVZjdz09)

Meeting ID: 786 9600 3951
Passcode: xmS4DU



Why is there so much water in the bible?

**Messy Church collectable bags available from the
beginning of September**



**If you would like a bag and want
to join us, call Jackie Moss on:
01782 771067**

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Nattering over a cup of coffee and eating home-made cake have been a feature of the Macmillan Coffee Mornings held at All Saints' over the last four years. Through your generosity, we have raised over two and a half thousand pounds for this great cause.

This year brings with it restrictions as to the way money can be raised. However, we are not going to be daunted by the situation we find ourselves in and are planning to hold a Coffee Morning on Saturday 26th September from 10.30a.m. to 12.30p.m.



It will look a little different from previous years. This will be an open air event and will be staged in the field by church to allow for social distancing. We will be selling cake to either eat outdoors or to take home. We hope we can also provide the much enjoyed

bacon baps and cheesy oatcakes coffee and tea, to help raise much needed funds too.

Being affected by cancer is challenging at any time, but it's even harder at a time when people are vulnerable and separated from their loved ones. Coronavirus means people living with cancer need our help more than ever.

An estimated quarter of a million people with cancer in the UK fall into the clinically vulnerable category for Coronavirus. At a time of increased need for emotional support, services like Macmillan's Support Line and online services are crucial.

From introducing new support services, delivered over the phone or online, to nurses being redeployed to the areas of greatest need within the NHS, Macmillan are doing everything they can to meet the growing demand on their services.

I hope you will feel able to support our fund raising efforts and look forward to seeing you on 26th September.

Margaret Cruyton



**Come join us at
All Saints' Church
Church Lawton**



For the World's Biggest Coffee Morning

**Saturday 26th September 2020
10.30a.m. to 12.30p.m.**



Don't like coffee?

**Don't worry we have tea, bacon butties,
toast and of course cakes!**

Social distancing guidelines will be in place

Sorry You're Leaving

Nobody likes saying goodbye to friends. Sadly, All Saints' is saying goodbye to Dr James Patterson and Dr Carol Henshall as they move to pastures new north of the border. They are returning to Carol's homeland of Scotland and in particular to Edinburgh.

It was in 1990 that James became one of our local GPs based in Smallwood and Rode Heath. He soon established himself as a valued doctor, winning the hearts of patients with his kind and caring manner and a desire to provide the best care for his patients from the NHS.

James enjoys the sport of football and combined this interest with his daytime work, becoming Club Doctor at Crewe Alexander Football Club. He regularly exchanges banter about the results of the local teams with members of our congregation. The move to Edinburgh means that he will be closer to another sporting passion, that of rugby. Murrayfield Stadium, near Edinburgh, has seen many battles between the six nations. Carol and James will be able to go and support their respective nations on the pitch, James, for Ireland and Carol, for Scotland.

James' move to Cheshire saw Carol take up the position of Consultant

Psychiatrist with Cheshire and Wirral Partnership National Health Service (NHS) Trust. She became a Senior Lecturer at Keele University from 1996 to 2008 and an Honorary Visiting Fellow at Staffordshire University. Her great interest and specialism is in perinatal health. She became a member of the Marcé Society, a scientific society devoted to mental illness related to childbearing and was its president from 2004 to 2006. During her time here, she has written a number of books and published reports, and has lectured internationally.

Being a doctor is referred to as the caring profession and it seems to me, that the desire to help and care for vulnerable people is integrated in both Carol and James daytime occupations and a deep faith in God. For many years they have served as members of All Saints' Church PCC, contributing advice and expertise. They have also been members of our Safeguarding Committee and I will miss their professional input and knowledge very much.

A few years ago, Carol trained as a Street Pastor and is part of the support team ministering in Congleton. She is passionate about caring for God's planet and the environment and writes a monthly article in our Parish magazine, guiding us in the ways of recycling and green

living. She has introduced us to Garden Bring and Buy Days, and Clothes Swaps.

James served for several years as Church Warden conscientiously and competently guiding our church forward, sharing his understanding and expertise in matters both pastoral and financial. He has been instrumental in the organisation of church events and could always be seen quietly beaver away in the background, setting things up or clearing them away, lighting candles at Carols by Candlelight, putting the Christmas tree up and decorating it, being a member of a churchyard working party. He regularly takes part in services, reading from the bible and leading our prayer time. Many will have seen his face on our streamed broadcasts in recent months.

Carol and James have been stalwart members of our congregation for a very long time and have contributed greatly to the life and work of our church. I want to thank them for all the contributions they have made both publicly and privately. We shall miss them very much. So, as they set off to Scotland for a new chapter in their life, our thoughts and prayers go with them and we wish them well for the future.

Margaret Cruxton

September sees St Michael and All Angels Day. Here are a few lines from an ancient Celtic poem about the archangel...



Saint Michael

Saint Michael, angel of the sea,
Lord of the horses he,
Saint Michael, of the angels king,
Of war, of shepherding;
On steed he flies across the skies;
The first-fruits of the harvest corn,
The first-fruits of the flock-lambs
born,
Are his, he meets the soul forlorn.

The saints and angels watch
o'erhead,
Their wings and prayers
o'erspread:
The righteous ones in heaven wait,
St Peter at the gate;
In might arrayed they shield and
aid;
Be with us e'er, archangel powers,
Be with us, angels, life's long
hours.

From the Church Registers

Funerals

We offer sympathy to the relatives of those who have died.

On 13th August John Rishworth Age 88 years

On 17th August Doreen Mason Age 88 years

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

(23rd Psalm)

Bible Readings for September Services

Date	Epistle	Gospel
6th September	Ezekiel 33.7-11	Matthew 18.15-20
13th September	Genesis 50.15-21	Matthew 18.21-35
20th September	Jonah 3.10 - 4.11	Matthew 20.1-16
27th September	Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-32	Matthew 21.23-32

Church Collections for July 2020

Week Beginning	5th July	£535.00
Week Beginning	12th July	£770.00
Week Beginning	19th July	£140.94
Week Beginning	26th July	£950.00

Our thanks to everyone who has helped us by giving faithfully and generously towards our costs of mission, ministry and maintenance.

Review

12 Rules for Christians Activists – a Toolkit for Massive Change

By Ellen Loudon, Canterbury Press, £12.99

If you've ever browsed the self-help sections of any bookshop, you'd be forgiven for thinking that all we need to do in order to have a better life is to work hard, take exercise and get thin.



Yet Christian activism calls us to a bigger vision of what life is for. This book presents 12 accessible and practical principles to encourage a new generation to create a movement for positive social change.

Each chapter combines clear theological insight with inspiring stories told by activists and practitioners, including Naomi Maynard (activist researcher), Richard Peers (spiritual director), Angus Ritchie (Director, Centre for Theology and Community), and Nadine Daniel (Church of England National Refugee Coordinator).

Laughlines etcetera...

Late

Being the office supervisor, I had to have a word with a new employee who never arrived at work on time. I explained that her tardiness was unacceptable and that other employees had noticed that she was walking in late every day.

After listening to my complaints, she agreed that this was a problem and even offered a solution. "Is there another door I could use?"

On dating app: 'Princess, having had sufficient experience with princes, seeks frog.'



The bishops had formed a 'support bubble' all on their own.

As Party Conference season begins and the US Presidential election draws closer:

Are politicians the oldest profession?

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest. Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," admitted the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But," the politician pointed out in triumph, "somebody had to have created the chaos in the first place!"

Decide

Politician to aide: "About their charge that I'm indecisive – do you think I should answer it, or let it go, or answer it in part, or what?"

Straightforward

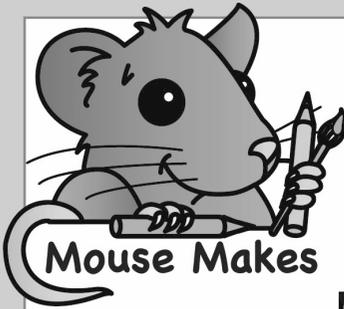
Admirer to political candidate: "Great speech sir! I really like the straightforward way you dodged the issues."

Crime

We pay a tremendous crime bill each year, but we do get a lot of crime for our money.

Career

Politics: the career of plundering and blundering. - Disraeli



The **Bible** is a collection of **books** that took over 2,000 years to write! The books were written by many different people, all helped and inspired by God. The Bible has books about:

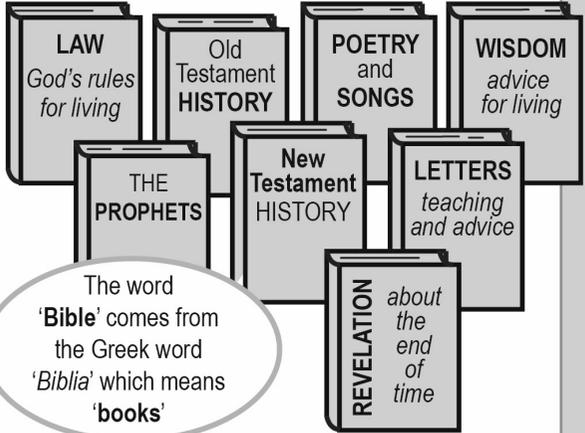
There are **66** books in the Bible. How many can you name?



BIBLE WORDS

The Bible words in **BOLD** type on this page are also hidden in the word search, can you find them?

P L B O W I K
 R I O S I L G
 O G O N S W O
 P H K E D O L
 H T S W O R D
 E R L T M D O
 T E A E G O D
 S V W S E E D
 L E T T E R S
 T L W A N L O
 H A M M E R N
 O T I E H I G
 N I R N I R S
 E O R T S A B
 Y N O R T I I
 F I R E O N B
 P O E T R Y L
 F O O D Y O E



The word 'Bible' comes from the Greek word 'Biblia' which means 'books'

God speaks to us today as we read the Bible. The Bible encourages us, corrects us and shows us how to live, it also describes itself as:



Mirror
James 1:23



Food
Hebrews 5:12- 6:1



Honey and Gold
Psalm 19:10



Light
Psalm 119:105



Rain
Isaiah 55:10-12



Seed
Mark 4:14



Living Word
Hebrews 4:12



Hammer
Jeremiah 23:29



Fire
Jeremiah 20:9



Sword
Ephesians 6:17

...but most of all The Bible teaches us about **God** and how we can be friends with Him.

Recycling & Green Living Tips



E-Waste: What Happens When We Fail to Recycle Electronics

Today, the average person owns three to four electronic devices. But what happens after these devices become obsolete and replaced?

The unfortunate reality is that a majority go into the bin, generating e-waste. It may be the easiest option at the time, but it can cause more harm than many realise. When disposed of with regular rubbish, e-waste is highly dangerous due to the toxic elements released.

Let's look at what happens when electronic devices are not properly recycled.

1. **Impact on the Soil:** After you throw out your e-waste, its next destination is often the landfill. E-waste can take thousands of years to decompose. During that time, it has a damaging and long-lasting effect on the environment. As electronics break down, they release toxic chemicals into the soil, contaminating plants and trees. Some of these chemicals include lead from circuit boards and lithium from batteries. They also have the potential to make their way

into human and animal food supplies.

2. **Groundwater Damage:** Improper disposal of e-waste can lead to toxins — including mercury, lead, and cadmium — flowing into the groundwater. Groundwater makes its way to streams, ponds, and lakes, which are sources of water for animals, plants, and humans. Contaminated water poses the risk of compromising the food chain and can contribute to numerous health risks including reproductive and developmental problems, cancer, and immune system damage.

3. **Air Pollution:** When e-waste isn't recycled, it's often burned in incinerators. Burning electronics may seem like a good solution to get rid of e-waste but it's actually harmful. Electronics are composed of plastics, glass, and metals, which produce dangerous emissions when burnt. Such emissions don't just pose direct damage to animals and humans, they also result in an increased rate of ozone depletion and greenhouse gases, contributing to global warming and climate change.

4. **Marine Pollution:** If your rubbish doesn't find itself in landfills or face the furnace, the ocean is another likely dumping area. Millions of tons of rubbish, including e-waste, goes into the ocean every year.

Electronics are non-biodegradable so marine dumping is not better than any other of the options. The result can be deadly to organisms, disturb biodiversity, and harm ecosystems. In some situations, the presence of e-waste and associated toxins can damage ecosystems to the point where recovery is questionable, if not impossible.

Besides taking care of the environment and minimizing health hazards, many reasons exist for electronics recycling. A few of them are:

- **Data security:** Proper electronics recycling takes care of the data on your computer or smartphone so it doesn't end up in the wrong hands.
- **Precious metals:** It's possible to melt down and reuse old devices to manufacture other products, thus saving the planet's resources.
- **Other users:** Your old electronic device is likely to function for another year or two. Help give a second life to your old device.

How to recycle some baby items

A small business in London is now able to recycle the following: Used dummies, dummy clips, teething rings and silicone bibs. They do not accept fabric items. You can post them to: La Romi, 55 Bendon Valley Unit B246, London SW18 4LZ.

They are unable to offer free shipping so they suggest you wait until you have several items to post.

Send your seeds

Since 2015 the Lemon Tree Trust has been supporting refugees and forced migrants in many countries. If you have seeds left over from the year's growing season you can send them. If you would like to donate seed directly, please email info@lemonstreet.org for the relevant UK postal address. Their gardeners in Kurdistan grow a range of edibles and ornamentals and are willing to try new things in addition to the crops they know and love.

Favourite edibles include courgette, broad beans, salad crops, radish, chard, tomatoes, sweetcorn, carrots, leafy herbs (parsley, coriander, etc), rocket.

Favourite ornamentals include snapdragons, violas, petunias, sunflowers, zinnias, lavender, geraniums, hollyhocks, mint, rosemary and thyme.

Any colourful annuals, biennials or perennials are welcome, as are pollinator plants: their gardeners in Domiz also keep bees. For more information on their work: see their website: lemontreustrust.org

Happy Recycling

Carol Henshaw



All Saints'
Church Lawton

Caring for the bereaved in Church Lawton

The Church of England in Church Lawton is launching a programme of additional support for people experiencing a family bereavement.

Bereaved families can still arrange Church of England funerals and in addition, families will be offered the opportunity to attend a memorial service at a time when we can freely meet again.

The Revd Steve Clapham, Vicar of All Saints' Church Lawton says: "If you or someone you know has been recently bereaved, the Church of England is here for you. Everyone is welcome to arrange a Church of England funeral, or to join us for a memorial service at a time when we can meet again. Perhaps more importantly, vicars are there if you just want someone to listen to your story and the memories of the loved one you've lost. Talk to us, we can help."

In normal times, Steve would discuss with a bereaved family exactly how they would like to say goodbye. He

would meet with them in person and discuss which music, Bible readings, and prayers they would like.

Much of this has not been able to happen because of restrictions limiting the length of a funeral. Social distancing measures have also reduced the number of people able to attend, and family members have been unable to hug and console each other, adding to their grief.

The Rt Revd Keith Sinclair Bishop of Birkenhead says "we are living through an incredibly difficult time but urges people to know that the Church is there for them, whatever they may have been through, wherever they are.

"We are living through a profound moment for our nation and the world, the effects of which will be felt for a long time to come.

"But the Church remains a constant Christian presence in every community and an anchor of hope for many. I would wish for everyone to know that the Church is here for you. Talk to us, we can help."

Contact Steve if you would like to talk to us about arranging a funeral or attending a memorial service, the Church is here for you if you simply want someone to listen to your story."

Talk to us we can help

All Saints' Church Lawton is open daily

The church is open daily 10 am to 4pm for private prayer, following the government and church of England guidelines



Church Prayer Meetings

Provisional dates

6th September 9.45am to 10.15 am

4th October 9.45am to 10.15 am

1st November 9.45am to 10.15 am

Prayer Chain

We also have a prayer chain to pray for you whatever your need.

If you would like us to pray for you or would like to know more about the prayer meeting or prayer chain please contact Ann

Kennerley—you can speak to her in church on a Sunday evening, or call her on Tel: 01782 782427

Prayers for the Month

Prayer of thanks to our Faithful Father

Faithful Father,

Thank you for your presence with us, all the time. Thank you for your goodness towards us, all the time. Thank you for the forgiveness you offer when we put our trust in Jesus and what He did on the cross, so that not even the most desperate circumstances can cut us off from you. Thank you for the on-going possibility of a new start with bright hope for each tomorrow.

Thank you, thank you Lord,
In Jesus' name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

concerning
spiritual
descionbles
protection
give
wisdom coming
decisions
light
praise truth
discernment



DailyHOPE

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Are you in need of some daily
hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone
line for you to ring to hear
comforting hymns, daily prayers
and reflections.

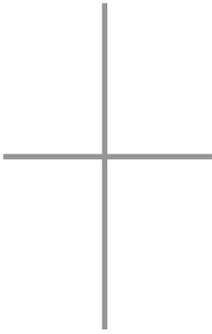
Services & Speakers Streaming From The Rectory, and Church September 2020

	8.30am	10.45am	7.00pm
	Trinity 13		
6 th		Holy Communion	Evening Prayer
		Steve Clapham	Steve Clapham
	Trinity 14		
13 th		Praise & Prayer	Evening Prayer
		Bev Boulton	Steve Clapham
	Trinity 15		
20 th	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer
	Steve Clapham	Steve Clapham	Steve Clapham
	Trinity 16		
27 th		Praise & Prayer	Evening Prayer
		Margaret Cruxton	Steve Clapham

Holy Communion at 10.45am

If you wish to participate from home in the streamed Holy Communion Service, please prepare a piece of bread and sip of wine or juice ready for the *Giving the Communion* part of the service.

Date	Reading	Prayers
6th September	Gill Marren	Bev Boulton
13th September	Kate Bell	Jane Baker
20th September	Jane Baker	Yvonne Banks
27th September	Steve Clapham	Gill Marren



All Saints' Church

Sharing the Love
of Jesus
in our community



All Saints'
Church Lawton

Life Goes On

Join us for Church Online

Every **Sunday** at **10.45am**
and **7pm** we are live
streaming our Sunday
worship services into your
homes through our church
Facebook page.



Do you need support?

Are you ill or self-isolating?

Can we support you especially with essentials like food shopping or collecting medicine? If so, please contact us by calling the Rector on 01270 876604 or email - rector@allsaintschurchlawton.co.uk.

Our **website** and **Facebook page** contain details of how to join others online for prayer, worship and conversation.

www.allsaintschurchlawton.co.uk
[facebook/churchlawton](https://facebook.com/churchlawton)

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Please send any material for inclusion in the September edition of Lawton Light! by 10th August

To Jane Baker 25 Dairylands Road,
Church Lawton, ST7 3EU

Telephone 01270 876363 or
email: editor@allsaintschurchlawton.co.uk

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