

I spent quite a lot of time in what is now the Cathedral of Salvador, Bahia in Brazil. The original Cathedral is nothing more than foundation stones. After the Jesuits were expelled from South America in the late 18th century the Jesuit Church in Salvador became the Cathedral. I can certainly see why this large though not vast Church lends itself well to being the Cathedral. The Jesuits were founded by Ignatius of Loyola and six other companions in the mid sixteenth century. They wished to bring renewal to the Church by teaching the faith and celebrating the sacraments in a vigorous and relevant way. This was because the whole of Europe was experiencing great social, political and religious change. The Reformation was raging throughout Europe and the Catholic Church was no longer guaranteed an unchallenged hegemony. In response the Catholic Church launched a movement which is referred to as the Counter Reformation. This movement aimed to engage with Protestantism while unashamedly defending the teaching of the Catholic Church and hopefully win back ground that had been lost.

It can be observed that this period of perceived turmoil generated a great flourishing of spirituality and religious culture. The Jesuits were at the forefront of this learning. Schools, colleges and universities were founded across Europe but also the Spanish and Portuguese empires. Baroque art was employed to communicate the Church's teaching to the faithful. The Protestant emphasis on scripture was engaged with and met with a series of spiritual exercises developed by Ignatius. What grew out of them is still practiced today and is known under the umbrella term of Ignatian Spirituality. Ignatius wanted people to have a real and present faith in Christ. Whilst Ignatius convalesced and had months of bed rest he mediated on a part of the Gospels each day. He found that by using his imagination he could place himself in the stories he found. Illness had afforded him time and leisure whether he liked it or not. He used the time to draw closer to Christ. He would imagine the sound of water if the gospel story was set by a shore or on a lake or at a well. He would try to conjure up feelings of heat or smells in his mind. In this way Ignatius found himself at Jesus' feet. Centuries rolled back in Ignatius' mind and the Christ of the Gospels was able to speak.

What stands out for me is that the Church and society has undergone change after change and that each change has brought with it losses and gains. The Reformation in Ignatius' time brought a divisiveness but also a fervour to seek Christ. People came to different conclusions on how best to seek him. But what cannot be denied is the great fruit that came from seeking him. We live in a period of great social, political and religious change. It might well be another period of great searching and spiritual growth.

DIARY FOR JUNE 2015

Thur.4th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
Sat. 6th 1.00pm Holy Matrimony at Alderley

Sun.7th First Sunday after Trinity
8.00am *Holy Communion at Birtles*
9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley
11.15am *Family Service at Birtles*
6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

Thur.11th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
Sat. 13th 2.00pm Holy Matrimony at Alderley

Sun.14th Second Sunday after Trinity
8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
9.45am Family Service at Alderley
10.30am *Holy Communion at Birtles*
6.30pm Holy Communion at Alderley

Thur.18th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun. 21st Third Sunday after Trinity
8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley
11.15am *Mattins at Birtles*
6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

Thur.25th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun. 28th Fourth Sunday in Trinity
8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
9.45am Mattins at Alderley with Sunday School
11.15am *Holy Communion at Birtles*
6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

July

Thur.2nd 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

July

Sun.5th

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am *Holy Communion at Birtles*

9.45am *Holy Communion at Alderley*

10.30am *Family Service at Birtles*

6.30pm *Evensong at Alderley*

COFFEE is available in the Parish Hall after the 9.45am Service.

At the end of the Morning Service coffee and biscuits are provided by a stalwart group of volunteers in the Parish Hall. Donations will be given to charity.

COLLECTION TOTALS

Week Ending	Gift Aid Envelopes	Non-Gift Aid & Misc Cash	Standing Orders	Total
Apr 5 th	444.00	117.45		561.45
Apr 12 th	297.00	78.05		375.05
Apr 19 th	339.00	97.00		436.00
Apr 26 th	209.00	38.25		247.25
TOTAL	1289.00	330.75	745.00	2364.75

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB

April draw winners

1st prize Mr P. Robinson

2nd prize Mrs M. Worthington

3rd prize Mrs E. Jackson

Congratulations to all the winners

NEXT MONTH'S FIRST PRIZE WILL BE IN EXCESS OF £40.

Your cheque or standing order gives you a chance of being the winner.

Forms can be found at the back of Church and in the Parish Hall Kitchen.

So far £ 500 has been handed over to St Mary's treasurer towards the day to day running costs of the Church.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We are planning a **Tea Party** on Wednesday June 10th at 3.00pm at Alderley Cottage. Hopefully we will be able to enjoy the garden!
It would be good to see some new faces? Do join us if you would like.

We are also planning a **Summer Lunch** outing on Wednesday August 5th.
Venue to be decided. If anyone has any ideas do let me know.

Coffee after the 9.45 service each week continues to go well. Thanks to everybody who chips in including the washing up helpers!!
The monies collected in our pot mounts up gently. This is an important addition to the Church's charitable giving.

The plans for the September Open Weekend, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th September are on the go. The willing few are getting older and we would be really grateful for some new blood. Please, is there anyone who could help with the Café. We will be working as usual in conjunction with Jenny.

All these activities do need willing hands.

Janet Adamson (01625 583320)

ST MARY'S WALKING GROUP

Saturday 4th July – 10.00am start prompt

The walk on the 4th July will be communicated via email closer to the date.

Anyone who would like to join in on this walk should contact Chris Sweetman

on 01565 889 057 for the details.



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10th – 16th MAY



Thank you to all Christian Aid Collectors Plant Growers and Supporters. Without all your contributions Christian Aid is the poorer.

Thank you too to all those who would normally help but are unable to this year due to injury or other commitments.

Thank you also to those who have Collected for Christian Aid for so many years, your work has been invaluable.

Fiona Ablett

ST MARY, ALDERLEY BELL RINGERS

The East Cheshire Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers held their annual 6 –Bell Striking Competition here at St.Mary on Saturday 25th April.

A TEAM OF RINGERS ENTERED FOR THE FIRST TIME, LEAD BY OUR Tower Captain Peter Robinson and with Melanie Cataquet, Robert Gorton, Mary Harwood, Lynn Smith and John Wilson came a very creditable third place out of eight teams.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Alderley Church Flower Fund

Afternoon Tea Party on the Church Paddock - Sunday 2nd August 2015

Afternoon Tea served at your table - 3.30pm – 5.00pm.
(sandwiches, homemade cakes, strawberries and cream)

(IF WET – IN PARISH HALL)

Please bring a plant for the 'bring and buy' plant stall.

Tickets : £10 per person which includes Afternoon Tea and entry to a prize draw.

Children free. Every ticket is numbered and entered into the draw.

1st Prize. Voucher for 2 persons (double or twin) for 2 nights B & B at the 5* Award winning 'Cleifiog' in Beaumaris - an historic townhouse on the seafront.

2nd Prize. Voucher for £25 Ivy Cottage Christmas Tree Farm and shop, Wilmslow.

3rd Prize. Voucher for £20 Steve Leyland Flowers, Grove Street, Wilmslow

Tickets: Michael Penlington 01625 530084 or Fiona Robinson 01625 860679

(Tickets available in mid—June)

NOEL LEE - BRIGADIER GENERAL 1868 - 1915

Noel Lee was an ordinary man with an extraordinary story. He was the first Territorial to be promoted to brigadier and commanded fellow citizen soldiers at Gallipoli in 1915.

Noel was born on the 23rd December 1868 in Altrincham. His father was Sir Joseph Lee, a well-to-do man in the textile trade and a director of Tootal, Broadhurst Lee. Noel was educated at Eton and was an excellent runner and oarsman. Upon leaving school he went into the family firm and was made to start his employment at the bottom of the rung, as a mill-hand. His father refused to allow him to join the Regular Army so instead he joined the Territorial force in the Manchester regiment. He was commissioned as a Lieutenant in 1886 and was promoted to Captain in 1890.

He married Lillian Tristrom in 1896 and soon afterwards they moved to Hea-wood Hall, Nether Alderley where they became regular attenders at St.Mary's Church and became very much involved in church life. By 1908, Colonel Lee was Rector's Warden and remained in that post until 1911. (He was promoted to Major in 1901, Lieutenant Colonel in 1906 and Colonel in 1907). Also in 1906 he was awarded the Volunteer Officers Decoration.

Here at St.Mary's, Mrs Lee founded the married Mother's group, was on the PCC and was involved with sick-visiting and the church flowers. They also donated the money to provide the choir stalls in the Chancel. They moved to Quarry Bank House in June 1911

Outbreak of WW1

On the 10th of September 1914 Lord Kitchener invited the Territorials to volunteer for service abroad. Following a training camp at Hollingworth Lake they left Southampton for Egypt where they spent several months of further training. They arrived in Gallipoli on 6th May 1915.

Noel Lee's Diary Entries

8th May – *"A lot of shelling comes our way".*

9th May – *"Very heavy bombardment of enemies position and small headway was made.*

13th May *'Continual sniping which sent a hail of bullets over my dug out.'*

16th May *"We are transferred to another part of the line. My new HQ are further back although we still seem to get salvos of shells but it is a good little dug out".*

18th May *"First shave for a week. Curly grey beard came off!*

21stMay *“Tremendous shelling all about us kept us confined to dug outs all morning. Clothes hung up to air but got rather holed”*.

24th May *“Empire Day – wonder what is going on at home. We live in our own little world here”*.

Logistical problems troubled the troops, the gunners being limited to firing no more than 3 rounds and on certain days 1 only. The food was monotonous and ill-suited to the climate. The rations consisted of bacon, bully-beef and army biscuits which proved very hard on the teeth! More men succumbed to sickness than injury

Over the next 10 days there was continuous fighting. On 3rd June at dawn the Battalions took up positions for attack on the main Turkish trench. Orders for attack were received. Artillery bombardment opened at 8.00am 4th June. This bombardment was heavier and longer than anything previously fired and the damage to Turkish trenches was negligible.

Promptly at 12,00 noon the leading wave of ‘Manchester’s’ went over the top for the first time and advanced steadily across No-Man’s Land. Within 5 minutes the ‘Manchester’s’ captured the Turkish front line. For the first hour or so things went well then without any warning disaster struck. Firstly, Noel Lee was wounded in the throat and jaw and secondly the Battalions failed to stop a spirited Turkish counter-attack and fell back. By 1.30 the situation was one of failure. Around 6.30pm the order was given to withdraw.

Noel Lee bravely took himself to the First Aid post where he had to be persuaded to lie on a stretcher. There he underwent an operation and then underwent a 4 day trip to the Blue Sisters hospital in Malta. On the 21st June he suffered a setback and died that morning.

As Noel Lee must have been the highest ranking Officer to die in Malta for a very long time he was given an impressive funeral. He is buried in the Pieta Military Cemetery in Malta. He was posthumously awarded a mention in Dispatches dated 22/9/1915.

Medals:

1914 Star

Victory Medal

The Lee family arranged for a brass plaque to be placed on the south wall at St. Mary’s in memory of Noel and his son in June 1918. (Faculty applied for on 12th April 1918.)

He and his son Noel Esmond are also remembered on the Styal, Cheshire memorial, the memorial plaque in Broughton House, Salford (now a retirement home for service men and women and also at Eton College.

Manchester 10K Run in aid of OASIS

Sunday 10th May dawned bright if a little breezy and the realisation slowly dawned that weeks of training were now just hours away from reaching their purpose of pitting myself against 40,000 other runners to complete the Manchester 10k run.

The sensation of being part of a crowd of 40,000 crammed into a few 100m of Portland Street all waiting to get going is a strange feeling but the mood and spirit was great and everyone very friendly. Looking around and reading the messages on peoples vests about their own personal reasons for running was very humbling, so many had lost loved ones, young and old and cancer figured highly as one of the many causes listed. The fact that so many people wanted to do something to help raise money for so many great causes is wonderful and without these events many charities would struggle to keep going. I paused and thought of my own father who had died the previous year and for whom I had run in memory of in 2014 (Lifeboats).

At 11.25 the gun went and the Elite runners including Heile Gebrselassie (his last race before retirement) started to great cheers and the ever circling helicopter full of media crews beaming pictures to the digital world followed them. Slowly but surely we began to edge forward toward our own start and at 11.55 we too were off! It took me nearly 10 minutes to get across the start line and a quick glance at the clock and away we went. Out we went through Trafford Park, down past the 'Theatre of Dreams' and around onto to Trafford Wharf, past the many bands, water stations and up past Imperial War museum we went. Through the shower for those who needs to cool off and on past my office and a wave to the some of our supporters. Finally we were turning for home and we could see the Hilton hotel looming large at the finish fine at the bottom of Deansgate. Past the 8k marker and then soon there was only 500m to go. Summoning a last great effort to get past a few more runners and try and make sure I was under my target of 50 minutes and into Deansgate and through the finish line. A wave for the TV cameras (apparently some of my work colleagues saw me finish on TV!) and then it was over for another year. My finish time of 49min 33sec was very satisfying; I was still able to get around in less than my age!

And so a huge thank- you to all my sponsors; with all your wonderful support whether from Church, work or family I hope to achieve my target of £1000. A big thank you to those who have already given me their sponsorship money and to everyone else, could you please either put yours in the box at the back of church or give it to me in person in the next couple of weeks? If you have any problems or questions please call me at home (01625 583120) or mobile (07803 023851). I know that Oasis desperately need this money to help with their major refurb.– your sponsorship is truly appreciated. Would I do it again, yes, of course, roll on next year!

Peter Reynolds, one of your ever grateful Wardens

OASIS



The below, is a list of items that the Oasis Centre like to give out in their packs, and are gratefully received as donations:

Our basic pack consists of:

Corned Beef

Tuna

Sardines

Rice

Pasta

Chicken Noodles

Chicken & Mushroom Pasta Sauce

Tinned Tomatoes

Instant Mash Potato

Variety Biscuits Pack

Bolognaise Sauce

Tinned Meals – Irish Stew, Minced Beef & Onions, Hot Pot, Meat Balls etc

Sugar

Tea

Milk

Oil

Our basic homeless pack consists of:

Pot Noodles

Pot Rice

Cup a Pasta

Cup a Rice

Tinned Meals – Irish Stew, Minced Beef & Onions, Hot Pot, Meat Balls etc

Breakfast Bars / Biscuits

Savoury Snacks (wrapped)

Chocolate Bars / Biscuits (wrapped)

Instant Drinks

Variety Biscuits Pack (wrapped)

Dried Fruit

The Magna Carta - 800 years on

This month marks the 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta – one of the most famous documents in the world, and one of the most misunderstood. Meaning ‘Great Charter’, it was signed at Runnymede, a water meadow probably designated for regular meetings, on the Thames between Windsor and Staines. Described sometimes as ‘a failed peace treaty’, it was agreed between the vastly unpopular Plantagenet King John (1199-1216) and a coalition of powerful barons who threatened his reign.

Although nearly a third of the text was deleted or substantially rewritten within ten years, and almost all the clauses have now been repealed, its 39th and 40th clauses gave all ‘free men’ the right to justice and a fair trial.

This and other Magna Carta core principles are echoed in the United States Bill of Rights (1791), described in 1946 by Eleanor Roosevelt as “a Magna Carta for all mankind”, and in many other constitutional documents around the world, as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the European Convention on Human Rights (1950).

Magna Carta is 4,000 words long and is now usually divided into 63 clauses, and opinions of it vary. Sir Edward Coke in the 17th century and many others have seen it as enshrining the basic rights of an English subject, and this is how it is normally viewed.

More recently, though, it has been pointed out that Magna Carta’s more prominent clauses “offered special legal protection for the Catholic Church and the aristocracy, advocated tax breaks for the wealthiest, freed the City of London from regulatory oversight, promised total freedom of immigration and placed the burden of infrastructure maintenance on local communities instead of government”.

In 1904, Edward Jenks published an article entitled "The Myth of Magna Carta", which also undermined traditionally accepted views. In 1930 the document was parodied by Sellar and Yeatman in *1066 and All That: "Magna Charter,"* they concluded, “was therefore the chief cause of Democracy in England, and thus a Good Thing for everyone (except the Common People)”.

However, for most of us, Magna Carta remains a foundation of English national identity. Lord Denning, the most celebrated English judge of the 20th century, described it in 1956 as "the greatest constitutional document of all times – the foundation of the freedom of the individual against the arbitrary authority of the despot”.

ROTA FOR JUNE 2015
SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
7th	9.45am	Mrs W. Liddle & Mrs G. Beeley	Mrs W. Liddle	JY
	6.30pm	Mr G. Barrie	Mr P Reynolds	PR
14 th	8.00am	Mr R. Akester (W) & Mrs B. Essayan	-	RA
	9.45am	Mr A. Claridge & Mrs H. Jabr	Sophie or George Vardon	JY
	6.30pm	-	Mr P. Reynolds	PR
21 st	8.00am	Mr P. Bean	-	PB
	9.45am	Mrs R. Dyas & Mr M. Stonehewer	Mrs J. Lee	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A. Robinson	Mrs F. Robinson	JY
28 th	8.00am	Mr H. Wright	-	HW
	9.45am	Mrs E. Fairhurst & Mrs E. Jackson	Mrs E. Jackson	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A Robinson	Mr P Reynolds	PR
July 5th				
	9.45am	Mrs W. Liddle & Mrs G. Beeley	Mrs W. Liddle	JY
	6.30pm	-	Mr P. Reynolds	PR

FROM THE REGISTERS

Christenings

May 17th Thomas Michael Staveley– Smith
May 31st Nina Rose Robinson

Holy Matrimony

May 3rd Jane Myers and Luke Grace
May 9th Charlotte Clare Slack and David John Hague
May 22nd Lindsey Ann Wall and Benjamin Russell Jenkins

FLOWER ROTA

June 7th Wedding
June 14th Wedding
June 21st
June 28th

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 18th June**
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