

This will be my last contribution to the parish magazine as I leave you all this month to take up my new position as Chaplain to the David Young Community Academy in Leeds. It has certainly been a formative seven years as your parish priest and has afforded me with many privileged experiences. I have thoroughly enjoyed my involvement with Nether Alderley Primary School. In fact the many kindnesses of both teachers and children have in no small way contributed to my seeking a position at a school. It is strange to think that I was once 47<sup>th</sup> Rector of Alderley and the last ever to have freehold. The first recorded Rector dates from around 1300AD and I certainly feel without a doubt that I have been ordained at a very interesting time in the life of the Church. I attended the consecration of the first woman Bishop in the Church of England in January this year and of course enjoyed my sabbatical to Brazil. Exciting and challenging times are ahead for both the parish and me. But the opportunities to thrive in ever changing circumstances are not to be overlooked. I absolutely relish the possibilities that God puts in front of us and pray we can have the grace to discern them.

I will remember with fondness the magical services throughout Advent and Christmas, the dangers of working with donkeys and the blessings of having such skilled handlers of them in our congregations. The many christenings, confirmations, weddings and funerals have in their own ways been a source of encouragement. It has been wonderful to be part of these special times in people's lives. The last rites and communion given to a parishioner on their death bed with all his five children around and one son playing make me a channel of your peace on a guitar was a real occasion of grace. There are so many occasions over the last seven years where the quiet yet powerful witness of parishioners has impacted on my own faith. The hospitality that has been afforded me by my parishioners has been greatly appreciated – your open tables and open hearts in reaching out to me have kept me fed body and soul. It is impossible to précis my time with you in this article and much will be left out. It was a highlight to say Mass in 2012 at St Peter's Basilica in Rome by Papal dispensation for our pilgrimage group. Soup and Study, the Birtles fete, Flower Fund Garden Parties, Harvest Festivals and Christmas Coffee Mornings recollect fond memories.

The difficulties of the last seven years cannot be glossed over, but one thing that must be said is that God is at work in the storm and the calm. The gospel reminds us of the huge task in being the good news of Jesus Christ to ourselves and others. The gospel also reminds us that we are earthen vessels. I wish you every blessing as you pray, reflect and discuss the way you will be that good news here in Alderley and Birtles. Please pray for me as I am tasked to bring the good news to the children and staff of the David Young Community Academy.

## DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2015

### **Sun.6th Fouteenth 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.10th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

### **Sun.13th Fifteenth 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.17th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sat. 19th 10.30—5.00pm Open Weekend

Sun 20th 11.30—5.00pm Open Weekend

### **Sun. 20th Sixteenth 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.24th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

### **Sun. 27th Seventeenth 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

## **October**

Thur.1st 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

### **Sun. 4th Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley  
9.45am Harvest Festival at Alderley  
11.15am *Harvest Festival 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

<b>Week Ending</b>	<b>Gift Aid Envelopes</b>	<b>Non-Gift Aid &amp; Misc Cash</b>	<b>Standing Orders</b>	<b>Total</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> July	241.00	91.10		332.10
12 <sup>th</sup> July	245.00	13.00		258.00
19 <sup>th</sup> July	398.50	98.15		496.65
26 <sup>th</sup> July	245.00	86.00		331.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1129.00</b>	<b>288.25</b>	<b>970.00</b>	<b>2387.25</b>



## **MOTHERS' UNION**



**HOLY COMMUNION**

**(officiant Revd. Peter Hunt)**

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September

2.00pm

## **NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB**

### **July draw winners**

1<sup>st</sup> prize      Noni Watkins  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize     Margaret Worthington  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize      Roslyn Dutch

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.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Sadly we had to postpone the Summer lunch last month due to many of us attending Daisy's funeral. She will be sadly missed.

Daisy had been with us for many get togethers over the last 15 years and we all enjoyed her cakes and scones.

We are going to go out for Lunch now on Monday October 12<sup>th</sup>. After much discussion we are going to the Wilmslow Garden Centre.

The Church Family History Weekend, September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> is getting nearer. I have had some offers of help in the café. It is up to us all to make a go of this, **Please let me know if YOU can help.** The café will be open 10.30am 'till 5 pm on the Saturday. And, after Church on Sunday until 5pm. Good to have a gossip with a tea towel and a tray!!

We have raised £145.12 for Charity in the last 3 months at Coffee after Church. We still need offers of help with this. If there is a Sunday with no coffee it is because no one is able to do it.

There is to be an Autumn Lunch at the home of David and Anne Robinson on Thursday September 24<sup>th</sup> 12.00pm.in aid of Oasis. Shortacre, Whitebarn Road, Alderley Edge. Join us with a friend .We are hoping to extend the interest in Oasis. Tickets £15.00, obtained from Janet Adamson 01625 583320 or Janice Sweetman 01625 889057.

**Janet Adamson (01625 583320)**

## ST MARY'S WALKING GROUP

**Saturday 9th October—10.00am start prompt.**

Meerbrook, Hillswood, Leek, and Abbey Green

**Starting Point:** Park on side of road in Meerbrook

**Map:**

**Grid ref:** SJ 989 607ST13

**Length:** 7 miles moderate.

**Further info:** Bring packed lunch.

**Contact:** Jamie Smith Tel 01625 585245  
mob 07791 60 40 99,



*St Marys Church, Alderley*  
*Jubilee Committee*

[alderleychurch.co.uk](http://alderleychurch.co.uk)

[facebook.com/stmarysaldlerley](https://facebook.com/stmarysaldlerley)

## **Harvest Festival**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

Popular Harvest Festival Service at 9.45am (followed by the Harvest Celebration Brunch) and 6.30pm

### **Harvest Celebration Brunch**

Bacon 'Barm', Continental – selection of cold meats, cheeses, fruits & breads, croissants, Danish pastries & preserves:

**Tickets:      £6.00 Adult**

**£4.00 Children (16 and under)**

## **Nigel Ogden's Organ Concert**

### **“The Organist Entertains”**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 7.30pm**

An evening of popular and light classical music played by Nigel Ogden, Presenter of BBC Radio 2's 'The Organist Entertains'

Refreshments will be served in the interval.

**Tickets:      £8.00**

Tickets available from either Mark Wilkinson, Sarah-Jane Wilkinson, Maureen Woolley, Sally Hilldrup, Gail Hodgett, Alison Boddington, Cordelia Robinson, Tracy Kelly or Juliana Maynard

Mr M Wilkinson, 74 Haslington Road, Ashway Park, Manchester, M22 5HU

**Tel No: 0161 437 6425**

**ST.MARY'S CHURCH**  
**THE PARISH OF NETHER ALDERLEY & GREAT WARFORD**  
SK10 4TW

[www.stmarysaldlerley.com](http://www.stmarysaldlerley.com)

[www.warfordhistory.co.uk](http://www.warfordhistory.co.uk)

# **FAMILY HISTORY WEEKEND**

**WITH**

## **LOCAL WORLD WAR 1 DISPLAY**

**AND**

## **'Gallipoli Remembered'**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015 10.30am – 5.00pm**

**&**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015 11.30am – 5.00pm**

St. Mary's 14<sup>th</sup> C church has a wealth of history!  
Guided tours available

Stanley Mausoleum also open

*Light Refreshments will be available throughout*

### **Family History Records**

Including St. Mary's BMD records and two very early census records of 1811 and 1821. The church has also digitally recorded the parish records dating back to 1629, which are available for sale.

For any further information, please email: [info@stmarysaldlerley.com](mailto:info@stmarysaldlerley.com)

Coffee will be available as usual after the service on Sunday 20th September.

At the same time please do take the opportunity to view the Nether Alderley World War 1 exhibition. There will also be a display by Great Warford.

## **Churches Together in Alderley**

### **Quiz Night with Fish and Chip Supper**

**Saturday October 10th at 7.00pm  
Tickets £10 (bring your own drinks)  
Tickets Terry Fones 01625820738**

***Proceeds Christian aid***

## **Harvest Festival Sunday 4th October**

### **Church Decoration**

Decoration of the Church will take place on Friday and Saturday. If you wish to help please contact me so I can arrange a schedule.

Gifts of fruit, vegetables, tinned and package food will be gratefully received in Church and will be donated to The Oasis Centre after the Harvest Services.

Michael Penlington 01625 530084

A letter from Eugenie Kenyon, to the War Office, written in 1916.

(sister of Captain William Kenyon, who appears on our WW1 memorial)

May 21<sup>st</sup> 1916

Homefield  
Alderley Edge

*To the Secretary of the War Office,*

*Dear Sir,*

*I am enclosing a letter which has been returned to me by the 'Returned Letter Section', who have advised me to send all enquiries regarding British subjects in enemy countries to the Secretary of the War Office.*

*Last December I got in touch with the American Ambassador in Constantinople, asking his help in getting information for me about my boy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Charles Lingard Davidson of the 13<sup>th</sup> Sherwood Forestrs (attached 7<sup>th</sup> Manchesters) who was reported 'missing' on the night of August 6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> at the Dardanelles.*

*I received a letter from him six months later to say "he could not get any information whatever after his enquiries at the Turkish Embassy.*

*I naturally felt I wanted to thank him for his trouble and my letter enclosed to you was the one I was sending him. Could you please tell me if it is worthwhile sending it and if so whom should I address it?*

*I expect Mr Davidson will be looked upon as being 'killed' by the War Office but I do not for one moment believe it. I have heard so many tales from men who were with him that night and they nearly all say different.*

*If Mr Davidson was killed, why did they not find his body when they eventually did take the Turkish trench they were trying for.*

*I have exhausted all possibilities of trying to get news. Even now though the Red Cross etc think there is no hope, I still live on waiting for some news of his safety.*

*A number of people have told me there is an officer, a prisoner in Turkish hands, who completely lost his memory and no one can tell me if there is any truth in this.*

*I do hope I have not troubled you unnecessarily with all this and would you please return my letter or tear it up if you think there is no need to send it but I feel it's as little I can do to thank him if he has done his best to get news of my dear boy.*

*I remain yours sincerely E L Kenyon.*

### **This letter is extraordinary in many ways.....**

Eugenie was clearly treating Charles Lingard Davidson almost as a member of her family. In the letter she refers to him as *'My dear boy'*.

By this date in the war, thousands were being killed, yet families at home in so many cases still had no idea how shocking the total human destruction was.

The words *'Missing in Action'*...covered up the terrible human loss.

Humans were simply being blown to pieces, leaving no trace at all. The family in Alderley Edge do not appear to have understood this.

As we know, thousands of men were lost:

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission hold the details of many but even their records sometimes fail to record/include anything about the individual.

In Charles Davidson's case, not only were his family in Australia desperately trying to get answers, but the wider associated family in England were clearly very determined in going to great lengths to find out what had happened.

This letter provides just a fascinating glimpse into the worrying times these families had to endure during the War.

## THE ARTIST IN THE WAR – AND THE WAR ARTIST

In the beautiful Berkshire village of Cookham, on the banks of the Thames, in the main street there is the Spencer Gallery, commemorating Cookham's most famous son, the artist Sir Stanley Spencer, who died in 1959.

He was a medical orderly in the Great War, though in Salonika, not France. In the Second World War he was made an official 'War Artist'. The young Spencer created many paintings capturing life at the front in the first of those wars, including a striking one entitled 'The Dressing Station', showing the horse drawn ambulances lining up (as at a modern A&E) to hand their patients over to the medics. That, and many other powerful evocations of life in the war zones, is part of the heritage of the Sandham Memorial Chapel, near Newbury.

The chapel was bought by the Sandham family to commemorate a son who was killed in the Great War. They commissioned Spencer to create a visionary array of murals capturing the life of the ordinary soldier (and his officers) to 'commemorate the forgotten dead'. Visitors might notice that amongst them all there is not a single weapon. These are men facing danger together, washing their clothes, cleaning their equipment and caring for the wounded – but not actually handling a gun or firing a shot. At the east end of the chapel is a main 'altar-piece', showing the risen Christ in the distance but all around him the resurrection of the soldiers who have been slain.

Resurrection was a great theme of Spencer's work. His most famous painting, 'Resurrection in Cookham Churchyard', shows parishioners emerging from their graves, to be welcomed by the figure of Jesus, standing in the porch of the church. Much of his best work reflected the life and people of Cookham, often acting out a biblical scene. The exceptions are his war paintings from both conflicts. Like many people who lived through the two World Wars, they were defining events in his life.

There are older people in Cookham today who remember him, a somewhat eccentric figure wheeling his pram converted into a portable art station, complete with easel and paints, as he toured the area in search of suitable subjects. He made much of his living as a fine portrait painter, but his great reputation rests on a remarkable range of paintings in a modern style which capture forever the spirit of an age that is now past.

**ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER 2015**  
**SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS**

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
6 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Mrs W.Liddle & Mr S. Welsh	Mrs W. Liddle	MP
	6.30pm	Mr M. Dyer	Mr M. Dyer	JY
13 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Mrs B. Essayan		RA
	9:45am	Mr A. Claridge & Mr G. Woolley	Sophie or George Vardon	JY
	6.30pm	Mrs J. Bean	Mr P. Bean	PB
20 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am			RA
	9.45am	Mr J. Stephenson & Mrs R. Dyas	Mrs C. Stephenson	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A. Robinson	Mr P. Reynolds	PR
27 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am			HW
	9.45am	Mrs G. Beeley & Mr M. Stonehewer	Mrs J. Lee	MP
	6.30pm	Mr G. Barrie	Mr M. Dyer	JY
Oct 4 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am			
	9.45am	Mrs W. Liddle & Mrs J. Martin	Mrs W. Liddle	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A Robinson	Mr P. Reynolds	PR
	9.45am			
	6.30am			

**FROM THE REGISTERS**

***Christenings***

Sat August 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel George Allen  
Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> August August Frederic John Robinson

***Holy Matrimony***

Fri 21st August Emma O'Brien and Curtis Hornby  
Sun 30<sup>th</sup> August Jenna Lawton and Dale Pollard

***Funerals***

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> August Bill Fishwick

**FLOWER ROTA**

Sept 6th Fiona Robison  
Sept 13th Fiona Robinson  
Sept 20th Open Weekend  
Sept 27th Wedding

**MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 17th September 2015**  
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Large format copies of the magazine are available.