

FROM THE REGISTERS

Christenings

Aug 7th Chris Sweatman
Aug 14th Darcie Rose Lea

Weddings

Aug 10th Joseph Cowling and Ruth Jones

FLOWER ROTA

Sep 4th Marie Stonehewer
Sep 11th Marie Stonehewer
Sep 18th Flower Team (Open Weekend)
Sep 25th Wedding (Saturday)

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 15th September 2016**
Please send all copy to:

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Subscriptions
& Distribution: Peter Bean: 01625 582073

Large format copies of the magazine are available.

Wardens Write

September 2016

There is something magical about the Olympics; I remember the wonderful “feel good” factor that seemed to permeate through GB during and immediately after ‘London 2012’ and I didn’t think it was possible that the Rio Olympics could deliver anything close to that this time. The reality is, it has been brilliant and I am sure there can be few people who cannot once again be amazed and impressed by the sheer dedication and passion of the athletes representing themselves and their countries. Team GB has again excelled and the medal tally had already surpassed even the most optimistic expectations with 5 days still to go!!

Of course the headlines are often about those who win the gold medals and break world records but I often find the most inspiring stories are about the people in the ‘lesser’ sports that we may only see and hear about in Olympic year. Their stories and particularly the stories of those behind them are what I find the most touching. What often comes out is how much they have given up just get to the Games and represent their country let alone win a medal and how much they rely on those around them and in particular their family. Whether they win or lose, gold medal or defeat in the first round, it is almost always their family that they go to first to share the great joy or seek consolation from the desperate disappointment that goes with top level sport.

Family is so important in providing help, support and love that the human spirit needs in both good times and bad. We are born into a family and for most of us we are very fortunate that they are caring, supportive and ‘there’ for us whatever might befall us. However, not all families are so fortunate, whether due to poverty, war, drugs etc. when our native family life breaks down for whatever reason, life can become very difficult and often lonely. This is where other families can help, whether it be one of our wonderful charitable organisations such as Oasis in Gorton or the support and welcome that can come from a family like St Mary’s.

Of course for many their Church is like a second family and there are many references in the Bible which show the importance of being part of a family. The great strength and confidence that can be gained can be at different levels but the greatest and deepest of these is Love which is at the very heart of the Christian message. In Corinthians we have the famous quote “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love” We can now begin to look forward to the formal induction of our new Rector, Jon Hale, on 11th November - let us start to prepare to welcome Jon into our family at St Mary’s.

Your Warden’s Michael, Jenny & Peter

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2016

| | | | |
|------------------|---|---|--|
| Sun.4th | Fifteenth 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 | Rt.Revd. Libby Lane Rev. Gary Bowness |
| Sun 11th | Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity | 9.45am Family Service 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles 1.00pm Holy Matrimony (St.Philips) 6.30pm Holy Communion (said) | Fiona Robinson Rev. Gary Bowness |
| Sun. 18th | Seventeenth 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 | Rev. Gary Bowness Rev. Rev. Gary Bowness |
| Sun. 25th | Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity | 9.45am Mattins at Alderley 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley | John Durnall Rev. Gary Bowness |
| Thu 29th | | 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley | Rev. Gary Bowness |
| Oct | | | |
| Sun 2nd | Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity | 8.00am Holy Communion at Birtles 9.45am Harvest Mattins 11.15am Family Service at Birtles 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley | Rev. David Harrison Rev. Gary Bowness |

PLEASE NOTE

8.00am Holy Communion at Birtles is on the **first** Sunday in the month.

OUR 8.00am HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10.00am Holy Communion is only on the **last** Thursday in the month.

ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER 2016
SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS

| D'T | TIME | SIDESPEOPLE | LECTOR | W'N |
|-----------|---------|--------------------------------|------------------|-----|
| Sept 4th | 8.00am | (at Birtles) | | |
| | 9.45am | Mrs R. Dyas & Mrs W Liddle | Mrs W Liddle | MP |
| | 6.30pm | Mrs A Robinson | Mrs J Youatt | JY |
| Sept 11th | 9.45am | Mr G. Hilton & Mr J. Ratchford | Master G. Vardon | MP |
| | 6.30pm | Mrs J Bean | Mr P Bean | PB |
| Sept 18th | 8.00am | | | HW |
| | 9.45am | Mrs E. Fairhurst & Mr S. Welsh | Mrs J Lee | MP |
| | 6.30pm | Mrs A Robinson | Mr P Reynolds | PR |
| Sept 25th | 9.45am | Mrs J Martin & Mrs G Beeley | Mrs A. Davis | MP |
| | 6.30am | Mr G Barrie | Mr P Reynolds | PR |
| 29th | 10.00am | | | PB |
| Oct 2nd | 8.00am | (at Birtles) | | |
| | 9.45pm | Mrs W. Liddle & Mr A Claridge | Mrs W. Liddle | MP |
| | 6.30pm | Mrs A. Robinson | Mr M Dyer | JY |

On how to baffle the church committee

The Rectory
St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

I was delighted to hear that you have been made chairman of the Missionary Sub-committee; it should help you to hone your skills in appearing to encourage committee members to contribute while ensuring that they only say the things you want to hear. It is a skill that needs not a little practice; democracy only works if all the important decisions have been made beforehand.

However, do remember that sub-committees are only formed in order either to kill an idea stone dead, or to give the chairman of the main committee some time to decide what he wants, since he isn't sure how to handle the issue at that particular moment. I formed a sub-committee in 1999 to discuss Miss Fothergill's suggestion of creating a "water feature" on the Rector's Glebe land, as a way of celebrating the Millennium.

I noted at the time that no one wanted the thing on their own land. It's significant that whenever people suggest some imposing edifice, they always think it will be most appropriate either in the Rector's garden, or in some public place, well out of sight of their own homes.

While this particular group has been working away tirelessly, and endless masons and architects have been approached, a suitable design has yet to be presented. It looks as if a suggestion will eventually be considered by my hundredth successor as we enter the third Millennium. That is the customary rate of progress for St. James the Least, which I find entirely satisfactory.

The procedure for decision-making is always the same: after enormous effort, the sub-committee will produce a carefully worded report, which will be circulated round all members of the church council. At the next meeting, they will be thanked profusely for all their hard work and the matter will be discussed at great length. It will then be proposed that the final decision will be taken at the next meeting, after everyone has had time to consider the matter more thoroughly. Come the next meeting, the item will somehow fail to appear on the agenda, and when it is raised in Any Other Business, it will be pointed out that it is now far too late in the evening to tackle such an important issue. From then on, you can be assured, it will sink without trace.

Always remember the golden rule: a church committee meeting consists of a body of people waiting to go home.

Your loving Uncle, Eustace

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 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 3 rd July | 253.50 | 69.95 | | 323.45 |
| 10 th July | 221.00 | 90.12 | | 311.12 |
| 17 th July | 200.00 | 71.00 | | 271.00 |
| 24 th July | 147.50 | 20.00 | | 167.50 |
| 31 st July | 281.00 | 43.00 | | 324.00 |
| TOTAL | 1103.00 | 294.07 | 1085.00 | 2482.07 |

"Just a reminder that it costs around £6000 a month to maintain St Mary's"

. Thank you. Donald Henderson

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB July draw winners

1st prize Mrs S. Wilkinson
2nd prize Mrs S J Wilkinson
3rd prize Mr W. Ablett

Congratulations to all the winners

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.

A total of £2000 has now been handed over to St Mary's treasurer, towards the day to day running costs of the Church.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Church Open Weekend on September 17th and 18th 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 followed by after Church on Sunday until 5pm. Good to have a gossip with a tea towel and a tray!!

With the new system in place to collect helpers for Coffee on Sunday mornings, offers have improved. If anyone is interested please let me know. Our next Committee meeting is Monday September 5th. We shall be making plans for the Autumn and running up to Christmas!

Janet Adamson (01625 583320)

WALKING

A group of friends from St Mary's are going for a walk on the 1st October 2016. The details are given below and anyone interested is welcome to join the group. If you do come along, you do so at your own risk as walking can be a hazardous activity. Children and / or dogs are also welcome but you have to take full responsibility for them. It is advisable that you have appropriate footwear and clothing with you to cope with any weather and ground conditions that might be met.

Barthomley

Starting at 10.00 am prompt from the St Bertoline's church at Barthomley, on- road parking

Close to Jct 16 M6 Grid ref: SJ 767 524 Post code: CW2 5PG

Length: 6.5 miles park on roads

Grade: Moderate gentle hills

Further information: Packed lunch with drinks needed. Contact Jamie Smith (01625 585245) with any questions.

Flower Fund Tea Party

The Tea party was again a great success despite having to hold it indoors due to the threatening weather forecast. Many thanks to everyone who bought tickets, donated plants, marmalade, made cakes, the team who prepared and served the delicious afternoon tea and decorated the tables with beautiful flowers.

The Draw winners were; 1st prize- Will Ablett, 2nd . Michael Dyer 3rd. Elizabeth Jackson 4th. Ronelda Dyas

The Flower Fund also received two exceedingly generous donations.

Many, many thanks to everyone who helped to make this event such a great success.

Harvest Festival Sunday 2nd 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

Stef Reid – Christian paralympic athlete on her way to Rio

Stef Reid is a paralympic athlete. She does long-jump and also sprints. In the 2008 Paralympics she won a bronze medal in the 200 metres and in 2012, a silver medal in the long jump. She has broken the world record for long-jump in the F44 (below the knee amputees) class several times.

She had a life-changing accident in her teens as she describes: "I was in a boating accident when I was 16. The propellers caught me across my lower back. The water around me was blood red. I thought I had been cut in half. The next issue was that we were three hours away from a half-decent hospital.

"I survived but unfortunately the leg was so mangled that it had to be amputated. So I was really thankful to be alive. But with my love for sport, I was absolutely devastated. The stuff that you love to do, you are told that you cannot do it any more.

"I don't come from a Christian family but my parents sent me to a Christian school. We had Bible classes. I had a very good head knowledge of the Bible but it wasn't a major part of my life.

"Everything changed when I was in the accident. I remember lying in the ambulance. I was scared because I knew in my heart that I wasn't going to heaven. I did not know God. I had never asked Him what His plan was for my life. I remember praying for a second chance. It was a complete miracle that I survived the accident. I know that God had a hand in that.

"I also know that by me not dying, I still had a purpose here. There is a reason for me to be here and it completely changed my perspective. It changed me as a person and I committed my life to Him in the ambulance. Now, I look at things from the perspective of hope. I have always got hope. I think that is the biggest difference". In September 2016 Stef will represent Britain in the Paralympics in Rio.

The story behind the Hymn - 'Who Would True Valour See'

by John Bunyan (1628-88)

John Bunyan wrote the words of the hymn while a prisoner in Bedford jail. They appeared as a poem in his great work, *The Pilgrim's Progress*. He would have been astonished to learn that his poem would ever go on to become a well-loved hymn.

What was Bunyan doing in jail? He had got caught up in the religious/political tensions of the times, and suffered for it.

John Bunyan was born in 1628, only a few years after the Pilgrim Fathers fled England for America, and religious freedom. Those were troubled times in England, with great tensions between King Charles and the Royalists, who were Catholic and believed in the divine right of kings, and the Parliament, as represented by Cromwell and the Roundheads.

Bunyan had been brought up a Roundhead, and even became a soldier for a while in Cromwell's army. When another soldier died in his place, Bunyan was stricken with grief, and went on to become a committed Christian.

After the Restoration of the monarchy and the Established Church in 1660, Bunyan was viewed with suspicion as a Puritan sympathiser. He was ordered to stop preaching in public, but refused. He was convicted and altogether spent 12 years in prison. They turned out to be the most fruitful years of his life, for he took up the pen, and in the end reached far more people than he could ever have done by preaching locally.

The poem appears in *Pilgrim's Progress* at the point where Christiania and her four sons meet and help Mr Valiant-for-Truth on the road. They wash his wounds, give him food and drink, and learn his story. Mr Valiant-for-Truth was on his way from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City. He relates the obstacles and battles along the way, and then launches into 'Who would true valour see...'

The poem/hymn has been praised as 'calculated to inspire the most doubtful spirit; the most disconsolate soul and to rekindle the fire of zeal and enthusiasm for the pilgrim journey.' ... it was born out of Bunyan's own struggle... to be a pilgrim.' And it is the same faith, in the same Lord, and the same journey, that keeps millions of Christians in the Persecuted Church of today strong and looking forward... to the Celestial City!

PETERBOROUGH / NETHER ALDERLEY IN THE GREAT WAR

Peterborough Archives Service has embarked on an exciting three year project to bring to life two visitors' books from the tea stall run by the Women's United Total Abstinence Council on Peterborough East Railway Station during 1916 and 1917.

Servicemen travelling through Peterborough on their way to and from the front wrote messages, poems or drew pictures to express their gratitude to the ladies serving them tea and cake.

These slim volumes provide a unique insight into the servicemen who were passing through Peterborough during two years of the Great War. The men came from across the country and the books highlight the city's importance as a railway hub during this period.

The books have been digitised and transcribed and the volunteers are now in the process of researching the servicemen's stories. It has been discovered that one of these servicemen came from Nether Alderley and appears on the WW1 memorial in St.Mary's Church.

Herbert Potts was born in Nether Alderley in 1897. He enlisted with the 9th Battalion Seaforth Highlanders. His service records have not been found but he passed through Peterborough East Station on 20th Jul 1916, and signed the visitors book as 'sergeant'. It would appear he may have been an Acting Sergeant. On 21st March 1918, the Battle of St Quentin began with a Germans offensive, pounding the British troops with heavy artillery fire and shells for over five hours, the British responding with artillery fire of their own. The firing stopped overnight. The morning brought thick fog but, when it cleared, the Germans resumed their offensive. Herbert Potts was fatally injured in this onslaught and died of his wounds on 22nd March 1918. Herbert is buried at Roye New British Cemetery, Picardie, France. He was awarded the British War and Victory Medals.

Herbert's father Edward and step mother Alice ran the village shop in Nether Alderley. Edward was very closely involved with the church and was presented with a beautiful inkwell in the shape of a bell in appreciation of his 50 years as a bellringer.

<http://www.peterboroughww1.co.uk>

<http://www.stmarysaldерley.com/ww1-2/roll-of-honour/herbert-potts>

ST.MARY'S CHURCH

THE PARISH OF NETHER ALDERLEY & GREAT WARFORD

SK10 4TW

www.stmarysaldерley.com

www.warfordhistory.co.uk

FAMILY HISTORY WEEKEND

WITH

LOCAL WORLD WAR 1 DISPLAY

Saturday 17th September 2016 10.30am – 5.00pm

&

Sunday 18th September 2016 11.30am – 5.00pm

St. Mary's 14th 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.

'The Path of the Remembered'

This project was a key part of the National Commemoration of the Centenary of the Battle of the Somme. It was a call out to the nation, asking people of all ages to take a moment and pay creative tribute to someone affected a century ago by designing a simple memory square.

The Battle of the Somme is widely regarded as one of the most resonant episodes of World War One. A century on, it can be hard to comprehend the scale of the battle and look beyond the statistics, and the imagery of the trenches. The Path of the Remembered encouraged us to focus on the stories of the individual men and women who were directly affected, helping us understand the impact of the battle, not just in 1916, but on the following decades and the lives we lead today. The first 5300 memory squares submitted were printed onto ceramic tiles and laid in a temporary physical Path of the Remembered at Heaton Park.

Here at St.Mary's we have three men listed on our WW1 memorial who died at the Somme. Jenny Youatt 'designed a tile' and submitted the information to the above project.

Dedicated to

Frank Coops; William Gleave;
Walter Summerfield

'We honour these soldiers and will always
remember them. God Bless you all'

We are delighted to let you know that our memory square was printed onto a ceramic tile to form part of The Path of the Remembered at Heaton Park in Manchester - the site of the National Commemorative Concert on 1st July 2016.

The **Path of the Remembered** was visible to the public on Friday 1st July and Saturday 2nd July. A number of organisations will now be taking a proportion of the memory squares, including a new Veterans Housing Village development in Newton Heath, Manchester, as well as Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester Cathedral and at the Tram Museum Heaton Park. They will be installed in the coming six months. The remaining memory squares are being stored at Heaton Park and once funding is secured, will form part of a memorial.

The 'virtual path' with the uploaded designs and words will remain online at www.somme100path.co.uk for the foreseeable future. St.Mary's will be receiving a duplicate copy of the tile very soon, to have on display.