

FROM THE REGISTERS

*Baptisms*

*Weddings*

*Funerals*

8th August Burial of ashes of Mrs Eva Brindle.

31st August - Memorial service for Mr. John Noel Abbott.

**FLOWER ROTA**

Sep 2nd Michael Penlington

Sep 9th Avril Lamond

Sep 16th Avril Lamond

Sep 23rd .....

Sep 30th Harvest

**MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 20th September**  
Please send all copy to:

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& Distribution: Peter Bean: 01625 582073

Large format copies of the magazine are available.

**Rector Writes**

**September 2018**

**The Rector writes about Mary Magdelene – and about grief**

In the church’s calendar, certain days are ‘saints’ days’. When one of these falls on a Sunday we may have the choice of celebrating the saint or staying with the observing the Sunday of the progression of the season.

22<sup>nd</sup> July is the day when St Mary Magdelene is celebrated. This year 22<sup>nd</sup> July was a Sunday, and at St.Mary’s Church and St.Catherine’s Church we celebrated Mary of Magdala – otherwise known as Mary Magdalene.

Mary of Magdala was one of the faithful followers of Jesus who was not one of the twelve disciples, but whose faith is shown to be all the stronger by the fail-ings of the twelve disciples. The disciples serve as a foil to let the faith of others be shown.

Mary of Magdala was one of the faithful followers of Jesus who stayed in sight of the crucifixion as Jesus died. When the twelve disciples had deserted Jesus, others came to the fore, including Mary of Magdala.

It was Mary of Magdala who went back to the garden in which Jesus’ tomb was placed and who mistook the risen Lord for the gardener. The encounter between Jesus and Mary in John’s Gospel is the intimate revelation that is the intimate encounter of all of us in faith with Christ.

In the garden, Mary was searching for Jesus, whom she had seen dying on the cross. Searching is a part of grieving. We seek, in familiar places, for the person whom we have lost. It is almost as if the loss of death might be overcome by searching even more carefully until we recover the lost person alive. For Mary this is what actually happened!

Although we may grieve when there has been a death, and even if we search diligently, we will not find again - in this life - that person who has died.

The Christian will, however, say this: “Those who have departed this life are found in Christ, who makes all things new”. Mary’s finding the Resurrection Christ is the origin of this.

Grief is a natural process. It will not be denied. Faith is no proof against grief. But faith gives a meaning and a hope in grieving – a meaning and hope that remains when all the grieving has been done.

Revd Jon Hale

**DIARY SEPTEMBER 2018**

<b>Sun.2nd</b>	<b>Trinity 14</b>	<i>Holy Communion at Birtles</i>
	9.45am	Holy Communion at Alderley
	11.15am	<i>Family Service at Birtles</i>
	6.30pm	<i>Evensong at Alderley</i>
Thu 6th	10.00am	Holy Communion at Alderley
<b>Sun 9th</b>	<b>Trinity 15</b>	
	9.45am	Family Service at Alderley
	11.15am	<i>Holy Communion at Birtles</i>
	6.30pm	Holy Communion at Alderley (said)
Thurs 13th	10.00am	Holy Communion at Alderley
<b>Sun 16h</b>	<b>Trinity 16</b>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion at Alderley
	9.45am	Holy Communion at Alderley
	11.15am	<i>Mattins at Birtles</i>
	6.30pm	<i>Evensong at Alderley</i>
Thurs 20th	<b>No Service</b>	
<b>Sun 23rd</b>	<b>Trinity 17</b>	
	9.45am	Family Service at Alderley
	11.15am	<i>Holy Communion at Birtles</i>
	6.30pm	<i>Evensong at Alderley</i>
Thurs 27th	10.00am	Holy Communion at Alderley
<b>Sun.30th</b>	<b>Trinity 18</b>	
	9.45am	Family Harvest at Alderley
	11.15am	<i>Holy Communion at Birtles</i>
	6.30pm	<i>Evensong at Alderley</i>

**ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER 2018**  
**SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS**

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sept</b>	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45am	Mrs W Liddle & Mr G Hilton	Mrs W Liddle	KW
	6.30pm	Mr M Dyer	Mr M Dyer	AJH
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	9.45am	Mr A Claridge & Mr J Ratchford	Master George Vardon	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A Robinson	Mrs A Robinson	AJH
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	8.00am			HW
	9.45am	Mr M Wilkinson & Mrs R Dyas	Mrs S J Wilkinson	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs L Kershaw	Mr P Kershaw	AJH
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sept</b>	9.45am	Mr & Mrs G Woolley	Mr K Wilkinson	KW
	6.30pm	Mr G Barrie	Mr T Fones	TF
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	9.45am	Mrs E Jackson & Mrs G Beeley	Mrs A Davis	TF
	6.30pm	Mr M Dyer	Mr M Dyer	AJH

**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.

## Caring for the Carers Service at St.Mary's Church on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 3pm

### The Rector writes

A syndrome that I have seen many times in thirty years in parish ministry is the situation of an elderly couple, one of whom has a seriously restricting condition, with the other being their main carer. Although the carer is relatively healthy, the carer's self-esteem and self-care is neglected because all caring is directed at the cared-for person.

The carer 'soldiers on' and both end up in hospital, separated. As an observer, there is a limit to what I can say, because the devotion of a couple who have been married for many years and who have been through great adversity together may see no alternative to their current arrangement.

Alongside the isolation of a carer in this situation, there may also be unresolved matters concerning household finance, benefits that the couple are entitled to but which they are not claiming, worsening physical condition of the home and other trauma.

Those who care for the carers will say: 'Take a break for a while every day and go for a walk; take a respite break with the cared-for person having residential care for a week; come to a charity that cares for carers and allow yourself to be cared for.'

**Last year in October a 'Caring for the Carers Service' was held at St.Mary's Church on a Sunday afternoon, and we will do the same again. This year it will be on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 3pm followed by tea in the Parish Hall.**

Last year, most people who came to the service had been carers, and they took the safe setting of the service and the tea afterwards to reflect on the experience of having been a carer. If you are a carer, and can find someone to look after the person you care for for a couple of hours, come to the service on 21<sup>st</sup> October. Or, if you have been a carer in the past, come to the service to reflect on that experience.

### Where to go for help:

**Carers Trust: Action, Help, Advice.** <https://carers.org/article/charities-support-carers>

**Carers UK:** <https://www.carersuk.org/>

**Mind. How to cope when caring for someone else:** <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/helping-someone-else/carers-friends-family-coping-support/#.W1czgtJKhkq>

### Email addresses

The email address of the Office at The Rectory is [alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com) . Ken Wilkinson – the Church Administrator – works in the office on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

You can also contact the Rector on this email address: [vicar@jkcahale.co.uk](mailto:vicar@jkcahale.co.uk)

### COLLECTION TOTAL

Week	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid &	Standing	Total
1 <sup>st</sup> July	243.80	51.99		295.79
8 <sup>th</sup> July	119.00	38.00		157.00
15 <sup>th</sup> July	377.50	135.20		512.70
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	335.30	37.00		372.30
29 <sup>h</sup> July	154.00	106.52		260.52
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1229.60</b>	<b>368.71</b>	<b>1151.00</b>	<b>2749.31</b>

Donald Henderson Tel 01625 584008 or email [orchardmain@ntlworld.com](mailto:orchardmain@ntlworld.com)

## NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB August draw winners

1<sup>st</sup> prize     Robert Padfield  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize     Judy Swales  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize     Charles Dyas

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.

Over £6000 has now been handed over to St Mary's treasurer, towards the day to day running costs of the Church.

**Thank you to all participants!!**

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Summer Lunch is now organised. And 23 people expected to be there at the time of writing.

The Open Weekend is getting ever nearer? September 29 and 30th. ( See page 6 ). Rota for manning the cafe still has spaces. Much needed for Saturday. If you feel you have not done it before there will always be somebody around to guide. We would like as many people as possible to take part in the activities over the weekend. Please let me know.  
I have mentioned before that cakes and biscuits would be very acceptable.

We are hoping to have coffee after morning service again in September. It may not happen every weekend due to lack of help. I have recently sent a further £100.00 to Oasis from our charity pot.

Janet Adamson 01625 583320.

## Walking

A group of friends from St Mary's are going for a walk on the **6th October 2018**. 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.

Starting at 10.00 am OS Land Ranger 109/118 Explorer 267

**Arley Walkers Carpark SJ 670 810** (Not the hall) **Nearest postcode: CW9 6LZ**

Approx 7 miles 4 to 5 hours at an easy pace.

Grade: easy Bring drinks and packed lunch

Further Info from Jamie Smith (01625 585245)

## Prayer Calendar for the Parish of St.Mary, Alderley

Week beginning Sunday	Please pray for
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Ancoats Lane
9 <sup>th</sup> September	All businesses in the parish
16 <sup>th</sup> September	Mill Lane
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	All farms and farmers in the parish
30 <sup>th</sup> September	Warford Hall Drive

The church parish of St.Mary, Alderley includes the civil parishes of Nether Alderley and Great Warford. I have drawn up a prayer list of 52 entries (one for each week of the year) which has all roads in the parish that have residential properties, and all institutions, public amenities, pastoral priorities, and democratic bodies in and serving the parish.

## MU News

In July, 4 members from St. Mary's went to St. John's High Legh where we celebrated Holy Communion for our Knutsford Deanery Festival. The theme for the sermon was "Following in the footsteps of Mary Sumner" and St. Thomas the Apostle A very pleasant afternoon and good to feel part of our larger organisation.

Our new programme of meetings begin with a service of Holy Communion in church on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm followed with tea in the Parish hall. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Over the coming months we look forward to welcoming some interesting speakers to our meetings, giving us an insight to the good work which is done by many, reaching out with their time and talents. If we can we support them.

Mothers' Union is a movement of Love and Passion which touches 750,000 lives across 84 countries world wide. We at St.Mary' are a small part of this great organisation. We would love you to join us. Ask any member about our meetings. All are welcome.

Ann Austin

## The Church Sidesmens' Lunch – October 2018

Partly down to positive feedback from those who attended, and partly to give chance to those who serve the church in other capacities to join us, we have booked another 'Sidesmens' Lunch for Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October

This is to be held, as before, at the 'Oakwood' in Brook Lane (opposite the Alderley Edge Golf Course). The time is 12.00 for 12.30, and lunch here costs only £10 for two courses.

Parking is not an issue, but you may kindly wish to give a fellow 'sidesmen' a lift! (If you do have problems re transport do please let me know ASAP. There is good parking space at the Oakwood.)

Those of you who came last time will be aware of the background to this event. For those who are unaware of this, some years ago, when all sidesmen were men, they held an annual lunch! It struck us that it was a long time since then, so we included all Sidesmen and Sidesladies with their partners to lunch earlier this year, and as most Lectors are married to Sidesmen, we invited all Lectors and their partners too! This snowballs even further as Church Wardens act as Lectors and hence were also invited, this time we include all members of the PCC to try and include all those who give something extra to the church.

Please reply to us at [mstonehewer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mstonehewer@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone us at 01625 590105 by the end of September to advise if you can attend or not.

Our thanks to Jenny Youatt for her help in preparing and distributing this invitation, and also to Mark Wilkinson, for distributing the invitation to PCC members!

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

I do hope you are able to join us!

Best wishes  
Michael Stonehewer

## Thank you to Mark Wilkinson and Will Ablett for arranging Text Giving and Online Giving for St.Mary's Church.

**Text Giving:** Text SUND05 £5 to 70070 to donate £5 (the £5 can be any amount up to £10).

**Online Giving:** go to [www.alderleychurch.co.uk](http://www.alderleychurch.co.uk) and click on 'Donate to St.Mary's Church, Alderley'. There is no limit to the amount that you can donate by using online giving.

More people use a card for all payments now and do not carry cash or a cheque book. That's why more and more parish churches have Text Giving and Online Giving. These methods also enable giving by people who want to support St.Mary's Church but who do not come to the church or who live at a distance away. If you have queries about this please talk with Mark Wilkinson or Will Ablett.

### Alderley Church News

July saw the launch of a new St.Mary's Church regular publication: Alderley Church News, aimed specifically at the new homes in Alderley Park. The first new home was occupied in May, and the new community will be growing fast throughout the summer and autumn. Every few weeks, **Alderley Church News** will be delivered to all the occupied homes in Alderley Park. If you would like to join the distribution team please let the Rector know

### Change to worship at 9.45am on Sundays to make it more welcoming of younger families

When the Parochial Church Council met on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, it agreed that from 1<sup>st</sup> August this will be the Sunday service pattern at 9.45am:  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – as now  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Family Service (Common Worship) – as now  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – as now  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Family Service (Common Worship)  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: to vary.

At the same meeting, the Church Council also agreed that we will aim to introduce Common Worship Holy Communion early in 2019 and that this might be either monthly or on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, and that this will be decided by the PCC later in 2018. A Communion service in the Common Worship style is more accessible to strangers to worship and it uses language that is easily understood.

I know that the Book of Common Prayer is greatly valued: I value it greatly. I am also looking to the future and the need to bring in younger adults and their children. Changing from the Book of Common Prayer Communion service to the Common Worship service will be a significant change and I will do all I can to make the change in a sensitive way. Please don't hesitate to talk with me.

## ST.MARY'S CHURCH

PARISH OF NETHER ALDERLEY & GREAT WARFORD SK10 4TW

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

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

# OPEN WEEKEND

WITH

# HARVEST FLOWER DISPLAY

ALSO

## LOCAL WORLD WAR 1 DISPLAY

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 11.00am – 4.30pm**

&

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2.00pm – 4.30pm**

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

Stanley Mausoleum open. Free entry.

*(light refreshments will be available throughout the weekend)*

AND

# '4 HANDS ON THE PIANO'

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm**

Tickets for the evening event at £10, available from  
Michael Penlington (01625 530084) or Marie Stonehewer (01625 590105)  
or Avril Lamond (01625 583985)

*(including wine and canapes)*

## The Churchyard Cross



The churchyard cross, or preaching cross as it is often known, became established in England long before the construction of the church buildings that we see today. Itinerant preachers, sent out into the English settlements by the Minsters that they represented, travelled throughout the country as early as the 6th century visiting towns and villages extolling the virtues of Christianity. Gradually as the 6th and 7th centuries progressed, wooden preaching crosses began to appear where people regularly gathered to worship.

Inevitably, as time passed, the early wooden crosses were replaced with more permanent structures made from stone where Masses were held and burials in unmarked graves took place. This was the origin of the

churchyard that we recognise today.

A few centuries later the church building itself would be constructed close to the cross, and the combination of church, churchyard and churchyard cross would be complete. Pre-medieval times saw the design of the top of the churchyard cross fall into two characteristic styles; the 'wheel-head' and the 'cross-head'. Although a large number of stone crosses were surmounted with a 'wheel-head', (many of which have survived intact in Wales and the south-west of England), the majority would have been topped with a simple cruciform shape – the 'cross-head'.

During medieval times, a third design of cross head known as the 'tabernacle' became popular across England. The 'tabernacle-cross' sanctified the churchyard and provided a visual memorial to all those people who had been buried without grave markers of any kind. As strange as it may seem to us today, anonymous burial was commonplace at that time as gravestones did not come into general usage until the early 17th century. Religious activities were not the sole focus of the churchyard cross. During threats of invasion, at times of war or civil unrest, it was around the ancient cross that the local militia would assemble. Likewise it was the logical rendezvous point for parishioners to gather to hear proclamations and news of the births, deaths and marriages of royalty.

Sadly, many complete medieval crosses in England have not survived the centuries. Due to the destructive actions against any icon of Catholicism following the Reformation of the 16th century, vandalism perpetrated during the English Civil War, and 17th century legislation requiring all remaining cross shafts to be reduced in height to no more than four feet six inches (1m 37cm), it is surprising that any have survived at all.

Churchyard crosses, in whatever form they take, are as important to the history of the English church as the religious buildings themselves; providing one more priceless artefact that links the present to the past.