THE LINK

50p

OCTOBER 2020

Tarporley Parish Magazine









As we celebrate the resumption of services at all our Churches we congratulate and share in the joy of those baptised or married recently at St Helen's and St Thomas'

"Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy"
Psalm 47:1

ANDREW P. DEAN

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PARISH DIRECTORY - TARPORLEY

Services:See Calendar page on the website or 'The Link' magazine.Weekday ServiceSt Helen's Church, Holy Communion:Wednesday at 10.00 am.

(Note: all telephone numbers are area code 01829 unless otherwise stated).

Rector: Georgina Watmore, The Rectory, High St, Tarporley CW6 0AG 732491

e-mail: revgeorgina@me.com

Assistant Curate: Julian Osborne,3 Dingle Way, Cuddington, Cheshire, CW8 2UW 07421 323699

e-mail: revjulianosborne@gmail.com

Tarporley: St Heler	1				
Churchwardens	Phillip Posnett, Haughton Hall,. Tarporley CW6 9RH				
	Liz Neely email nee	elyeliza@hotmail.com	07890 470899		
Treasurer	Anita Langford, 7 T	458351			
P.C.C Secretary	Marion Moss, 2 To	733382			
Organist	Chas Hardern	732595			
Reading Rota Co-ordinator	Elaine Hulton Cor	0HX 732104			
Bellringers	Jenny Christian	732412			
Cotebrook:					
St John Wardens	Bill Spiegelberg, O	760336			
	Peter Copland, Mo	732618			
	Utkinton Lane, Cotebrook, CW6 0JH				
Organist	Katrina Copland,				
Eaton: St Thomas	Rosemary Lilley, Windward Mark, Eaton Lane, Eaton, Tarporley CW6 9AG				
Wardens	Michael Scott, Shire Barn, Moss Hall Lane, Rushton, Tarporley				
Organist	Marjorie Rathbone		732655		
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Done Room Booking Secretary		KathrynPalmer	733040		
CONTACT POINTS:					
Please do not hesitate to report cases of sickness or pastoral need to the Rector 732491					

To ask about Wedding arrangements, baptisms or general enquiries please contact Jan email: admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk

To make arrangements for a Funeral please contact the Rector

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org **e-mail:** <u>admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk</u> Items for 'The Link' should be e-mailed to <u>jobsonajpj@btinternet.com</u>or posted to the Link Editor by the 16th of each month.

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2020

October 4 ^t	HARVEST FESTIVAL SUNDAY				
	St Thomas	9.00am	Morning Prayer		
	St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion		
	Please note that this service is Holy Communion rather than				
	Morning Prayer as we celebrate Julian's first Communion				
	Service as celebrant. Please see Georgina's letter on page 6				
	St John	11.15am	Holy Communion		
	A welcome return of our monthly service at St John's.				
11 th	THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY				
	St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion		
	St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion		
18 th	LUKE THE EVANGELIST				
	St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion		
	St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion		
25 th	BIBLE SUNDAY				
	St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion		
	St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion		
November 1 st	ALL SAINTS DAY				
	St Thomas	9.00am	Morning Prayer		
	St Helen	10.00am	Morning Prayer		
	St John	11.15am	Holy Communion		
	St Helen	6.30pm	All Souls Service		

This special 'All Souls Service' is where we set aside time each year to name and remember those we love but see no longer. We hope to be able to hold a service this year but because of restrictions the format will be a little different. We will still read out names but I am unable to leave out sign up sheets in our churches. Therefore if you have the



name of a loved one you would like included in this service please would you email me their name and also indicate whether or not you will be attending the service (and if so how many will be in your group) so we can ensure we can accommodate all who wish to attend safely: revgeorgina@me.com

The Rector Writes.....

Having been forced to close our churches from March 18th we undertook extensive risk assessments, put safety measures in place and opened St Helens at the first available opportunity for private prayer and then, as soon as we were allowed, resumed services on 5th July. For the



first few weeks we held Morning Prayer and then moved to Holy Communion, again observing all guidelines to minimise risk and keep everyone safe. The services of course feel different and we all miss being able to sing as a congregation, but they work well, people have felt safe and confident and our worship has been meaningful and uplifting. We were therefore able to resume services at St Thomas during September and from 4th October will do so at St John's.

Since the middle of March I have been sending out Sunday Worship at Home. For the 12 weeks of 'lockdown' I also produced, using your wonderful contributions, a weekly sheet of photos, humour, poems, recipes etc, and when that came to its natural end, introduced everyone to Daily Worship and a thought and music for the day. As shops began to open and restrictions lifted further, we then began a series of 100 daily readings to help us see the overview or 'big-story' of the bible which will take us to the end of this month. All of this, along with the phone calls we have all made, have helped us continue to feel connected as a community and hopefully gone some way to encouraging us through isolating and challenging times whilst deepening our discipleship and feeding our spirituality.

I am delighted that we are now able to resume services in all our churches, as there really is no substitute for gathering physically and worshipping and supporting each other, and now that we can do this, the time has come to stop preparing and sending our Worship at Home. For those of you who are unable, for any reason, to attend services there are many fabulous 'virtual' services and resources available online or the radio and a list of just some of these can be found on our website.

We normally hold many 'big' services over the coming three months. Whilst the current (and perhaps future) restrictions may mean we have to cancel a few, (such as lessons and carols services which are so heavily dependent on

congregational singing), I am confident that we can adapt most of them so that we can continue to offer safe and meaningful November services of remembrance, and most of December's Christmas celebrations. I will keep you up to date about the shape these will take through emails and this magazine.

This month our Sundays are bookended by Harvest at the beginning and Bible Sunday at the end; both celebrations of thanksgiving. Although all three of our Churches will host Harvest services, St Helen's will have an additional focus this year!

Because of Covid-19 Julian's ordination could not take place in June and he will now be ordained priest at Chester Cathedral on 3rd October. With continuing restrictions few can attend the service, so we hope to include part of it the following morning at St Helen's. Being the first Sunday of the month this would normally be a non-eucharistic service but for this special occasion we will be celebrating communion. Please support this service if you are able and remember to hold Julian and his family in your prayers both on this special weekend and also as his ministry grows and develops.

Our final Sunday in the month, Bible Sunday, coincides nicely with the conclusion of our 100 readings alluded to earlier: a journey of 20 weeks which has taken us through the 'big-story' of the bible. The Bible readings we hear on Sundays are short extracts taken out of context and even when we read our Bibles at home, it can be difficult to see the themes and images that thread their way through the developing storyline. The Bible tells the story of God's love. We hear it in creation, we hear it even as humans turn away and God calls them home, we hear it throughout the Old Testament, and we hear it most clearly in the New Testament as we meet Jesus. This is the big story that makes sense of the Bible and our lives. I always look forward to this last Sunday in October when we can celebrate and honour this eternal book of wisdom and life, one of God's many gifts to us.

So this month thanksgiving is uppermost in our minds. We will meet to give thanks for the harvest of food, we will meet to give thanks for Julian's ordination to the priesthood and we will meet to give thanks for the gift of the Bible. But, as we do every Sunday if not every day, we will chiefly give thanks for the fullness of love and life eternal that God, through Christ, offers to us all.



Page 8

Slowing Moving Forward

As well as resuming services in all our churches and being able once again to have the joy of conducting weddings and baptisms (see front cover), we are also delighted that new guidelines mean that choirs are now able to sing. After consultation and further risk assessments and risk-minimising measures we were delighted to welcome our choirs back in September. For the time being, in order to maintain social distancing our choir numbers are reduced and sadly, congregational singing is still not allowed.

We are also beginning to re-introduce rotas at our Churches. For the first three months of our services the Clergy undertook all roles so as not to put pressure on anyone to return before they felt comfortable. However, all the measures we have put in place to minimise risk are working well and confidence is returning. Moreover, with the increase in services and need to travel between Churches, the clergy now need some help! We are grateful for those who are returning to take an active part in our services, whilst remaining understanding and fully supportive of those who still cannot.

And, as a further sign of things moving forward, the Done Room Toilets are now open on a Sunday morning. We cannot monitor these facilities during the service so please continue to socially distance, wash your hands thoroughly and use sanitiser as necessary. We also ask you not to enter any other part of the Done Room to minimise the cleaning we need to carry out and protect the other users.

Our priority remains the health and safety of everyone, but we are slowly moving forward and for that we give thanks to God!

The winners of the September 200	0+ club draw are:
----------------------------------	-------------------

First Prize	£100	No. 11 – Wrs S Tomlinson
Second Prize	£20	No. 84 – Mr D Mills
Third Prize	£10	No. 148 - Mr J Rigby

The 200+ Club is a fun and simple way of raising funds for St Helen's. Each month on the second Sunday a draw is made and prizes of £100, £20 and £10 are given. It costs only £1 to have your number in each monthly draw (an annual subscription of £12). The proceeds, after the prizes are allocated, go to maintain the fabric of the Parish Church.

Marjorie's Maundy Money.

Covid-19 has resulted in many losses, casualties and changes of plan. One of these was the Maundy Day service where the Sovereign distributes alms. The earliest record of this is in 1210 by King John. The tradition remembers the 'command' of Jesus given the Thursday evening before his death on the cross. As he washed his disciples' feet, he commanded them to follow his example, love one another and serve others. Command in Latin is 'mandatum' and is the source of the word 'Maundy'.

Each year recipients of Maundy Money (the same number as the Monarch's age) are selected because of the years of, often unsung, Christian service they have rendered to Church and community.

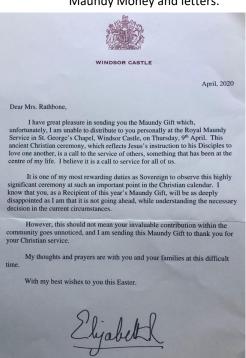
It is fitting that they receive this honour from a Monarch who has taken to heart the words and actions of Jesus and given such unstinting service herself.

This year, Marjorie Rathbone was to have been one of the recipients. For almost countless years, Marjorie has supported so many churches, families and community groups by playing the organ or piano during weekly services, for weddings, funerals, ballet and choir practices.

(continued overleaf)



Marjorie proudly displays her Maundy Money and letters.



Marjorie is a long-standing member of the PCC and always first to volunteer to help, particularly where preparing food, caring for children and being a welcoming presence are concerned.

But even more than these overt, costly and important acts of witness, Marjorie shines with faith. Her quiet, cheerful and stalwart character and values are shaped by her Christian faith which has given her the strength to support so many through their troubles and carried her through the many which she and Graham have had to face. She is an encouragement to all whom she meets. Whilst there are many in our Christian community who give so much and to whom we also owe our deep gratitude I am delighted that it is Marjorie's Maundy Money we celebrate today.

Sadly, Marjorie never got to meet the Queen but you can see her here with her Maundy Money and the many letters she received about the occasion. I also copy her letter from Her Majesty the Queen which accompanied the coins. On behalf of us all: congratulations Marjorie!

Georgina

Elaine Hulton describes :- 'An adventure in Norfolk'

The first week of August was the perfect time to travel in the sunshine to stay with friends in Norfolk for a break with a difference. A different style of holiday, in that bicycles were offered on arrival to explore the FLAT countryside!!

Not being a regular cyclist, I enthusiastically decided to take on the challenge of a daily cycle ride. As a way of encouragement, the glorious weather continued, aiding the enjoyment of cycling to and around the quaint Norfolk villages, starting off each day from the tiny village of Thompson.

Readers who are familiar with Norfolk will know that it is a county full of the most beautiful churches, most of them being medieval. The distant views of church towers in each town or village was a welcoming sight beckoning me across the wide-open spaces of the countryside.

Day one took me on a visit to the small village of CASTON. The photo to the right shows 'Elaine the cyclist' by Holy Cross Church, Caston. There was a "love thy neighbour" notice on the church notice board and the church entrance has huge imposing wooden plaques listing the Ten Commandments. The regular services were suspended during the pandemic but fortunately it was opened for private prayer on a Sunday which was when



Elaine outside Caston Church

I visited. It is one of the Wayland Group of Parishes in the County Diocese of Norwich.

Services were being held only at either Great Hockham or Thompson but as my

holiday covered two Sundays, I was able to worship at both. I was impressed with Holy Trinity Church, Great Hockham, at the edge of the Brecks. Even though it dated from the 14th Century from the photo I have taken, of note, is the extension housing toilets, kitchen and meeting room. I felt it was quite an achievement to be able to resource the funds for this modernisation. Having been a member of our PCC for many years I understand the faculty process and the



Great Hockham Church showing the modern extension

finances need before contemplating such a large project.



Another day saw me cycle to Merton Church. The church is in a delightful setting with the church grounds being part of the estate of Lord Walsingham. The photo to the left shows the current roof, by the round tower, which replaced the original lead roof which was stolen. To think such a picturesque setting was the scene of such a flagrant crime of dishonesty!

Photo (left) of Merton Church. (Continued Overleaf)

The white board fencing includes the name of this private Chapel (almost

exclusively kept for worship by Lord Walsingham's family). Walking past the round tower to the rear of the Chapel I was surprised to have a panoramic view showing the expanse of the estate. The village of Merton had thatched cottages and even a circular shaped thatched shelter (shown right). A super spot for a rest on the village green for a breathless cyclist!!



A welcome resting place.

Elaine Hulton.

Arrangements for our Remembrance Service this year.

St Helen's Sunday, November 8th (time to be confirmed: possibly 10:30am)

In order to maintain social distancing our Remembrance Service this year will be very different. After consultation it has been agreed that we cannot safely hold the parade, large service inside church, or large gathering by the war memorial, that would normally take place. We do however want to involve as many in our village community as possible so we aim to pre-record large parts of the commemoration. These will then be edited together and shown both at a small live service at St Helen's and online. The time the service in St Helen's begins depends on the recorded material which we hope to gather in the next few weeks and will be confirmed nearer the time. We hope that we will have enough in Church to join in the prayers and lead the worship whilst the many hundreds that annually attend can take part in and enjoy both pre-recorded and 'live' elements at home.

Finally, as noted in Georgina's letter, and also celebrated on the front cover:-

We congratulate and pray for those baptised:

Benjamin Crowder Giovanni Crowder Vin Crowder Charlie Lamb

We congratulate and pray for those recently married:

Peter Holloway and Pamela Pritchard Richard Linfield and Fiona Hardy

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Sam Moggan mob:07856 095 611 sam.moggan@opalservices.org.uk

Tarporley Flower Club

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