

TARPORLEY PARISH

St Helen's, Tarporley

St Thomas', Eaton

St John and the Holy Cross, Cotebrook



50p

The Link

Tarporley Parish magazine

December 2025



Pat Harding (centre) receiving her Deanery Unsung Hero Award from Deanery Synod representative Elaine Meredith (right), with Churchwarden Liz Neely (left)—see page 12!

ANDREW P. DEAN

Dip N.T.C., C.G.L.I., A.V.C.M.

PIANO TUNING

REPAIRS and RESTORATION



(01829) 261222
mob 07713 321117



Atropa Cleaning Services

Regular & One-Off Cleaning;

End of Tenancy Cleaning;

Moving In/Out Cleaning;

Commercial Cleaning;

Laundry/Ironing;

Carpet Cleaning; Holiday Lets

Contact us on

01829 730969

info@atropacleaningservices.co.uk

Hibberts LLP

SOLICITORS

For all your Legal Services - Private and Commercial

Avenue Buildings, High Street, Tarporley, Cheshire CW6 0AZ

Tel: (01829) 733338 Fax: (01829) 733055

email: jd@hibberts.com

Phoenix Accounting Services



Tax and VAT Returns
Revenue Accounts
Book-Keeping
Administration of Will Estates

55 Woodlands Way, Tarporley,
Cheshire CW6 0TP

t: 01829 733552 m: 07966 405314

Brian Rathbone Electrical Ltd

APPROVED CONTRACTOR
PART P REGISTERED

Electrical Safety
Register

MEMBER OF   

ALL TYPES OF ELECTRICAL WORK
AND INSTALLATIONS

FUSE BOARD UPGRADES

INDOOR & OUTDOOR LIGHTING
SOCKETS COOKERS SHOWERS
SMOKE DETECTORS

MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS

TEL : 07812 336006

Email : brian-electrical@hotmail.com



FOR EVERYTHING
FORD IN CHESHIRE

SALES • SERVICE • MOTABILITY & PARTS



Cliff Dickenson & Son (Winsford) Limited
Station Road, **Winsford**, Cheshire, CW7 3DQ
01606 592 352 www.cliffdickenson.co.uk



Cheshire's Leading Estate Agent

Time to Sell? Require Property Advice?

Call Robert Reed.

01829 707885

07790 582461

www.gascoignehalman.co.uk

PARISH DIRECTORY – TARPORLEY

Rector

Revd Jim Bridgman The Rectory, High St, Tarporley CW6 0AG
revjim1017@gmail.com 01829732491; 07526243702

Tarporley: St Helen Churchwardens

Phillip Posnett 01829260251
Liz Neely neelyeliza@hotmail.com 07890470899

Treasurer

Dave Smithson tarporleyparishtreasurer@btinternet.com

P.C.C Secretary

Paul Emerson 01829290372

Cotebrook: St John and the Holy Cross Wardens

Walter Gibson waltergibson52@gmail.com
Peter Copland 01829732618

Eaton: St Thomas Warden

Amelia McCourty aemccourty@btinternet.com 01829 730155

Link Editor

Andy Jobson jobsonajpj@btinternet.com 01829732437

Items for 'The Link' should be emailed by the 16th of the month.

Safeguarding Officer

Fiona Kay StHelenssafeguarding@outlook.com 07355988836

Done Room Booking Phillip Posnett 01829260251

To ask about Baptism, Funeral or Wedding arrangements, to ask for a
pastoral visit or home communion, or general enquiries
please contact Revd Jim

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/ParishOfTarporley

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR THE MONTH December 2025

December 7th

ADVENT 2

Tarporley Christmas events—road closure in place

St John's	11.15am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	6.30pm	Holy Communion

December 14th

ADVENT 3

St Thomas'	9.00am	Blessing of the Crib
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	6.30pm	Carol service

December 18th

St Thomas'	7.30pm	Carol service
------------	--------	---------------

December 21st

ADVENT 4

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Communion and baptism
St John's	4.00pm	Carol service

CHRISTMAS EVE

St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
High Street	3.30pm	Carols on the High St
St Helen's	4.00pm	Crib service
St Helen's	11.00pm	Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion

December 28th

CHRISTMAS 1

St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
------------	---------	----------------

January 4th

EPIPHANY

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John's	11.15am	Holy Communion

Weekly Midweek Communion on Wednesdays
at 10am at St Helen's

The Rector Writes:-

Rediscovering the joy of Christmas



As Christians we often talk about ‘the *real* meaning of Christmas’ and not losing sight of it in the decorations and presents and overeating. Jesus, God enfleshed, vulnerable in a animals’ trough, is that real meaning, but what we may forget is the overwhelming emotion that his birth brought: JOY! The angels tell the shepherds that the birth is ‘good news of great joy’, and when the star leads the Magi to where Jesus is, they too are ‘overwhelmed with joy’. When I think of Christmas, I have to admit that I don’t often feel overwhelmed with joy—usually I just feel overwhelmed...

This year, the Church of England’s Christmas theme is JOY; life currently feels a bit joy-less, whether that is looking at the state of the world, or the feeling of lots of people going through difficult times locally. The joy of Christmas is not trying to shrug off the difficulties and paper over the cracks of life with twinkly lights and festive food; this is not what Jesus brings, a temporary distraction before reality bites. The joy that Jesus brings is something that is much deeper and deep seated—a knowledge that God has broken through and come to live among us, changing the pattern of history, changing the pattern of life now, and the possibility of experiencing the love, forgiveness and joy of God eternally. It is an overwhelming joy, that can cope with everything else.

My prayer this Advent and Christmas is that we can all rediscover that deep joy that the birth of Jesus brings, and be overwhelmed by it!

Jim

Cost of The Link

As printing cost have risen recently, the PCC has made the decision to increase the price of the Link magazine, to ensure that we can keep a physical copy available. So from January, the cost of individual copies will now be £1, but for those who subscribe for the whole year there is a special offer—12 copies for the price of 10: so a year’s subscription (and delivery) for just £10!

Cathedral Nave Choir

Many thanks to Chester Cathedral Nave Choir and the Vice Dean, Canon Rosie Woodall, for leading a beautiful service of Evensong during October at St Helen's. The choir sang the introit Holy is the true light by William Harris, with responses by Richard Shephard and Canticles were Hugh Blair in B minor. They sang Psalms 99 & 100 and finished with the anthem I will lift up mine eyes by Herbert Sumson. The singing was superb, and well received by a large congregation, who also enjoyed a sherry and refreshments afterwards!!



JOY

Tarporley Christmas
Sunday 7th Dec
10am until 4pm


**Enjoy the best of the High Street and
then come into St Helen's!!**


JOY

Sunday 7th Dec
10am until 4pm

 Interactive trail in the churchyard

Free present wrapping in
church - just bring your gifts! 

 Seasonal refreshments

Free Christmas crafts for kids 



Pre Christmas Afternoon Tea

Thanks as ever to Elaine Meredith and her team for another amazing Pre-Christmas Afternoon Tea. As well as having some great fun, enjoying wonderful refreshments and spending time with friends, we also raised an amazing £660 towards the continued mission and ministry of the parish. Thanks to all who contributed!



We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:

Chrissy Gaskill

Stephen Allen

Gladys Betty Hoskison



St Helen's Tarporley

Sun 30th Nov 4pm

Christingle

Sun 14th Dec 6.30pm

Carol service

Christmas Eve

3.30pm *Carols on the High Street*

4pm *Crib service*

11pm *Midnight Communion*

Christmas Day 10am

All Age communion

For more information contact the Rector - Revd Jim Bridgman
revjimb1017@gmail.com 01829 732491



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



St Thomas' Eaton

Sun 14th Dec 9am

Blessing of the crib

Thurs 18th Dec 7.30pm

Carol service

Mon 22nd Dec 6pm

Carols on the Green

Christmas Day 9am

All Age communion

For more information contact the Rector - Revd Jim Bridgman
revjim1017@gmail.com 01829 732491





St John and the Holy Cross
Cotebrook

Sun 7th Dec 11.15am
Communion for Advent

Fri 19th Dec 7pm
Carol singing at The Alvanley Arms

Sun 21st Dec 4pm
Carol service

For more information contact the Rector - Revd Jim Bridgman
revjimb1017@gmail.com 01829 732491



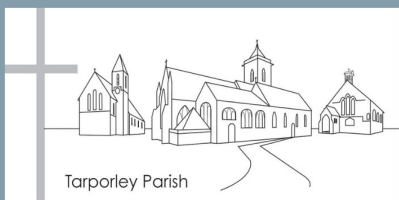
Unsung Hero—Pat Harding

This year the Rural Dean, Revd Tim Hayward, has introduced a Deanery 'Unsung Hero' award, for people who go about quietly doing enormous amounts of work in parishes without recognition. One of our Deanery Synod representative, Elaine Meredith, nominated Pat Harding from our parish—Pat has acted as sacristan at St Helen's for 19 years, setting up and putting away the communion table for services, changing the colours of church with the seasons, ensuring we are stocked with candles, wine and wafers, and keeping our linen and altar frontals clean and in beautiful condition. She has also served as Churchwarden, Sidesperson and ran the kitchen for the Afternoon Teas for many years. Elaine said of Pat 'Pat conscientiously carries out the daily duties of the sacristan in a quiet and efficient manner. When the Unsung Hero Award was announced I immediately thought of Pat, who carries out her essential work with complete selflessness.'

Pat said 'I love the church, it has never been a chore to help out and after 19 years I seem to have got the hang of it!'

With the help of husband Peter (pictured below), she goes about her work without fuss or complaint: she is one of many indispensable members of the parish and a thoroughly worthy recipient of this award!





Advent Book Group

Reading 'Listening to the
music of the soul'
by Guli Francis-Dehqani



*Join together on **Fridays in Advent at 10am**
The Dray's Coffee Shop, Eaton
to discuss what we've read*

5th December

12th December

19th December

ALL WELCOME!

For more information contact the Rector - Revd Jim Bridgman
revjim1017@gmail.com 01829 732491

Jacqueline Wilson

Independent Funeral Services Ltd



WWW.JWIFS.CO.UK

Over 25 years local experience
NAFD Qualified

24 hours a day Personal Service
Private Chapel of Rest
Pre-paid Funeral Plans



TARPORLEY ROAD

TARVIN

CHESTER

CHESHIRE

CH3 8NF

TEL: 01829 740002

EMAIL: tarvin@jwifs.co.uk

I Crown Buildings
Latham Avenue

Helsby
CHESHIRE
WA6 0DX

TEL: 01928 391699

EMAIL:

helsby@jwifs.co.uk

HILL VIEW

HIGH STREET

CLOTTON

TARPORLEY

CHESHIRE

CW6 0EG

TEL: 01829 781572

EMAIL: jackie@jwifs.co.uk
40A MAIN STREET FRODSHAM

CHESHIRE

WA6 7AU

TEL: 01928 643078

EMAIL: frodsham@jwifs.co.uk

74 WESTON GROVE

UPTON

CHESTER

CHESHIRE

CH2 1QL

TEL: 01244 952540

EMAIL: upton@jwifs.co.uk



Golden Charter
Funeral Plans 



Interested in the Arts?

WHYNOTCOMEANDJOINUS?

THE ARTS SOCIETY TARPORLEY

For membership details email
membership@tastarporley.uk
or see our website at
www.tastarporley.uk

Meetings at Tarporley Community Centre
on 2nd Thursday, September to June at
1.20pm. Coffee from 12.30pm. If you'd like
to come as a guest, please contact
membership@tastarporley.uk beforehand.



**Volunteer to help older
people in Tarporley!**

Working to reduce loneliness and isolation,
Tarporley OPAL Club runs every Thursday
with a hot lunch, entertainment and fun
activities. We are looking for new volunteers
to join our friendly team in a range of roles,
from chatting and helping with activities, to
driving or running errands.

No experience is necessary, we care a lot
more about a smile and a desire to help
others. To find out more, contact
janet.handley@opalservices.org.uk
07592 464856



TARPORLEY
WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TRUST
Registered Charity Number: 700335

THE BIG LISTENING EVENT

One of our key objectives as a Trust is to actively listen to our communities and receive their feedback.

We aim to understand the requirements and main priorities for services we could potentially support in the community, including physical and mental health and overall well-being.

We are reaching to you, our community, to tell us:- "What specific service(s) or support would you like to see introduced by the Trust?" Thank you.



A.W.Burrows & Son

Independent Family Funeral Directors

ESTABLISHED: 1841

Complete Funeral Arrangements, Funeral Plans Arranged,
Personal Day and Night Service,
Private Chapel of Rest in Peaceful Rural Surroundings
Snowdrop Villa, Swanley, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 8QB



01270 524243 / 07711468917

Email : barb.burrows2@gmail.com

www.awburrowsnantwich.co.uk

Tarporley Flower Club

*Members of the Tarporley Flower Club
invite you to join them at their monthly
meeting which is held at the*

***Tarporley Community Centre between
1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m.
on the first Tuesday of each month
(except in January when the meeting is held
on the second Tuesday.
There is no meeting in August).***

*Each month spectacular floral designs are
created by a skilled demonstrator on the
stage before an audience of
members, guests and visitors.*

***New members and visitors are most welcome,
there is an admission fee payable.***

Annual membership fee is £55.

J W Gordon

**Plumbing and Heating
From tap washers to
central heating installation
Gas, LPG and oil boilers
installed and serviced
GasSafe Registered
Helpful advice given
Please phone Jonathan
07818 444946
01829 863539**

J.C. CLARKE & SON

Funeral Directors & Monumental Consultants

Pre-Paid Funerals Plans

111 High Street, Tarporley, Cheshire CW6 0AY

Telephone: 01829 733808

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST
24 HOUR PERSONAL SERVICE

Part of 'Dignity Plc a British Company



Birch Heath Veterinary Clinic
Birch Heath Road, Tarporley,
Cheshire
CW6 9UU

Tel: 01829 733777/

www.birchheathvets.co.uk

Opening

times: Mon-Fri: 8am—7pm,

Sat: 9am- 12pm, Sun: Closed



The carpet store that comes to your door

Adam Clifford Jones
CARPETS
of CHESHIRE

Suppliers and Fitters of
Quality Carpets and Cushion Flooring

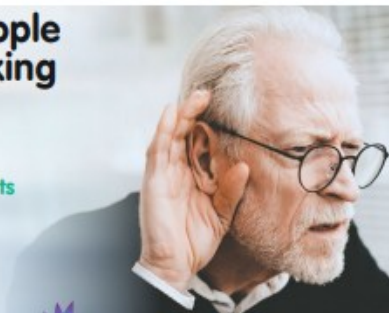
01606 883869 • 07990 881113

www.adamcliffordjonescarpets.co.uk



Do you often feel the people are mumbling, not speaking clearly?

Your local clinic based in Taylors Optometrists
in Winsford can help improve your
hearing and change your life.



Head Office: 01829 824 245

www.hummingbirdhearingcare.co.uk



Hummingbird
Hearingcare

In partnership with

