

July 2024

## Tarporley Parish Magazine



'Liz and Phillip with the new painting of St Helen at our service on St Helen's Day'

## ANDREW P. DEAN

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

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WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TRUST  
Registered Charity Number: 700336

After a period of significant change at TWMH, we are looking for new Trustees/Non-Executive Directors to help us shape and deliver our future plans. This is a particularly exciting time to be part of the charity's journey as we embark on new and varied projects to achieve our goals.

Our new aim is to go above and beyond what the NHS is able to provide by fundraising to enhance facilities, services or equipment for the people of Tarporley and its surrounding communities. We want to support people of all ages, through every stage of life, and to make a difference to both the physical and mental health and wellbeing of our community.

We also want our Board of Trustees to represent the needs and interests of the whole community; therefore we would welcome applications from candidates with diverse backgrounds, skills and perspectives to join our team. If you are passionate about community engagement and fundraising in order to improve local health and social care services, we would love to hear from you. Specific expertise in fundraising or IT or estates management would also be helpful, though not essential.

This is an unremunerated role with a time commitment of five formal meetings per year, an additional online meeting during the other months, plus some email/reading. If you are interested in finding out more about the opportunity, please contact the Trust's Business Manager, Sarah Mills, in the first instance (email: [info@twmh.org.uk](mailto:info@twmh.org.uk)). Please note we plan to hold interviews during April/May 2024.

**PARISH DIRECTORY – TARPORLEY**

**Services** See Calendar tab on the website or page 5 in 'The Link'

**Weekday Service** At St Helen's each Wednesday at 10.00am Holy Communion

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**Rector: Jim Bridgman, Rectory, High St, Tarporley CW6 0AG** **01829732491**

Email: [revjimb1017@gmail.com](mailto:revjimb1017@gmail.com) 07526243702

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**Tarporley: St Helen**

Churchwardens Phillip Posnett 01829260251

Liz Neely email: [neelyeliza@hotmail.com](mailto:neelyeliza@hotmail.com) 07890470899

Treasurer Dave Smithson  
email [tarporleyparishtreasurer@btinternet.com](mailto:tarporleyparishtreasurer@btinternet.com)

P.C.C Secretary Paul Emerson 01829290372

**Cotebrook: St John and the Holy Cross**

Wardens Walter Gibson  
Peter Copland 01829732618

**Eaton: St Thomas**

Warden Amelia McCourty [aemccourty@btinternet.com](mailto:aemccourty@btinternet.com) 01829 730155

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Link Editor Andy Jobson 01829732437  
email [jobsonajpj@btinternet.com](mailto:jobsonajpj@btinternet.com) items for 'The Link' should  
be emailed to the above by the 16<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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Safeguarding Officer Liz Neely email [StHelenssafeguarding@outlook.com](mailto:StHelenssafeguarding@outlook.com)

**Contact points**

Please do not hesitate to report cases of sickness, pastoral need to the Rector.

To make arrangements for a Funeral please contact the Rector. 01829732491

Done Room Booking Phillip Posnett 01829260251

To ask about Wedding arrangements, Baptisms or general enquiries

please contact our Rector Jim by email on

Email: [revjimb1017@gmail.com](mailto:revjimb1017@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.tarporleyparishchurch.org](http://www.tarporleyparishchurch.org)

## SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

### July 2024

<b>July</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
		St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
		St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
		St John	11.15am	Holy Communion
	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
		St Helen	9.30am	Café Church
		St Thomas	4.00pm	Baptism and Holy Communion
	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
		St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
		St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
		St Helen	6.30pm	Evensong
	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
		St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
		St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
<b>August</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
		St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
		St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
		St John	11.15am	Holy Communion

Each Wednesday at 10.00am at St Helen's: Holy Communion.

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**If you have time, please stay for refreshments after the service. Every Sunday at St Helen's, 1st and 4th at St Thomas', 1st Sunday at St John's**



### The Rector Writes:-

By the time you read this, we will have a new government, many new MPs and most probably a new Prime Minister and a change of ruling political party. With the potential for big societal changes understandably comes a lot of worry and anxiety for many (how will this affect the life I've been used to in the last 14 years? What will it mean for my business, my children, my pension, my parents?), whilst also bringing new hope for others (a chance for a new start, an elevated position, the chance to finally be heard and supported, a fresh set of ideas and policies).



Later this month will also see the sad closure of one of our church schools, St Paul's in Utkinton. As the headteacher Natasha outlined in last month's *Link*, this decision was certainly not taken lightly, but also due to factors outside of the school's control. Having been part of the fabric of Utkinton and Cotebrook for nearly 170 years, its closure will bring an end to an important part of local life.

In both of these contexts, national and local, it is important to say goodbye well, to not rush onwards but take time to acknowledge the pain and loss; however, it is also important, despite the sadness, to see new opportunities not just endings. At the present we don't know what a new government will bring, or what will happen to the site of the school, but with both there will be opportunities.

Maria in *The Sound of Music* is consoled that 'When the Lord closes a door, somewhere he opens a window.' However, anyone who has tried to get into a house through the window will know that this isn't as comforting a phrase as first sounds....

But maybe there is some truth in it? The ending of something can lead to a new opportunity, but there is no guarantee that this opportunity is a *straightforward* one; it might require some dexterity, new equipment, determination and help, but nevertheless it still offers a chance of something new. It might not be what we hoped for or planned, but that doesn't mean God is not involved.

At times of endings and beginnings it is natural to ask 'Where is God in this?' I am always reminded that God is bigger than the box that we make for him/her: two passages in Isaiah spring to mind: in Isaiah 55:8-9, God says '*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways,*' says the Lord. *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts;* and then in Isaiah 43:19, God proclaims: *Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.* The ending of a beloved school or a political party in power might signal the time to look for the window that has been opened, to see where and how God is moving in new ways.

God is a God of newness and surprise, of a different way of thinking and acting, seeing beyond our finite thoughts and understanding of each situation. I hope that in the midst of potentially turbulent times, both nationally and locally, we can have faith that the God of newness is still in charge, jemmying open a window or two....

*Do come and share your memories of St Paul's by visiting school during school hours and join in a special service to mark the end of St Paul's school on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm at St Helen's.** Please pray for the staff and pupils over the next few weeks as they say goodbye and the closure draws nearer*

*Jim*

### **St Helen's Day**

In late May we celebrated St Helen's day, both at church and with Tarporley Primary. On Monday 20<sup>th</sup>, all of Yrs 3/4 from Tarporley Primary came into church to learn more about who St Helen was, what makes a saint and how we can follow in their footsteps. There were plenty of activities to explore the theme, from making your own Lego saint, painting a prayer stone, making a stained glass cross, and completing the saints quiz, looking at the other stained glass windows in church. The children were also encouraged to write a prayer and stick it to the cross. The children really enjoyed their visit, and thanks to Liz, Kate, Netty and Di for all their help.

(cont o'leaf)



Then on St Helen's day itself (21<sup>st</sup> May) there was a special service of Communion to celebrate St Helen, followed by strawberries and fizz. We were also delighted to have our special new picture of St Helen, produced for us by the fabulously creative Revd Hana Amner - do pop into church and see it up close!

And then on the Saturday, we enjoyed a fabulous parish lunch very generously hosted by Charles and Sandra Hardy. The weather was kind, and the food and hospitality was excellent – a great way to end the celebrations! Thank you to Sandra and Charles and their catering team for all their hard work!

*Jim*

**Some photographs showing the celebrations on and around St Helen's Day**



**Welcoming the new picture of St Helen at the service on St Helen's Day**



**Our Parish Lunch on the Saturday after St Helen's Day.**



Our kind hosts Charles and Sandra Hardy  
together with Rev'd Jim at the Parish Lunch



**Teddy bear's at the Lunch**

## The Church at the Cheshire Show

Each year in mid-June the Church of England celebrates its close relationship with the agricultural community as the many skills and traditions associated with the countryside are demonstrated and celebrated at the Cheshire Show.



The Church Marquee at the Cheshire show with, in front of it in this picture, a shepherd's hut on the left and the bell tower in the right centre foreground. Just out of picture there is also the 'Messy Church' tent.

The show lasts for 2 days, this year it was Tuesday and Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of June and the Chester Diocese of the Church of England have a large presence in the form of a marquee for church services and displays/exhibits from various church organisations. At the entrance to the church tent there is also a 'pop-up' church bellringing tower. Editor's note: a sincere thank you to the teams whose hard work on the church tent and belltower enabled the euphemism 'pop up' to be used!

A Service of blessing was held at the church marquee on the Monday evening prior to the public opening on Tuesday to bless the Show and all participants and visitors. During this service representatives of the various organisations involved bring forward gifts representing their particular skill or trade.

Further Church Services were held at 8.00am and 2.00pm on the Tuesday and Wednesday of each show day. The Church marquee and bell tower are open during the day for people to view the exhibits, have a chat, pray or perhaps even try their hand at bellringing!

### **The Parish Bookshelf**

At the back of St Helen's Church is the Parish Bookshelf, a collection of books that are free to borrow, made up of books we have we've studied over Advent and Lent, as well as the books that Walter Gibson has reviewed in the Link. It is a great resource, with all different types of book to inspire, challenge and develop our understanding of life and faith, from daily devotions to fictionalised accounts of religious figures: something for everyone, wherever you are on your journey.

### **A date for your diary**

#### **St Helen and Daughter Churches Charitable Trust AGM.**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the St Helen and Daughter Churches Charitable Trust will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm in the Choir Vestry at St Helen's Church, Tarporley.

All are welcome to attend.

### **Summer holidays**

A reminder that some of our parish's regular fortnightly/monthly events/services will be taking a summer holiday break for the months of July and August.

They include in particular:-

**Messy Church at St Helen's** which returns on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> of September at 4.00pm; (monthly)

**Friday Social at Utkinton Village Hall** which returns on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Fortnightly

**Songs of Praise service at St Thomas' Eaton; followed by Breakfast at the Jessie Hughes Hall will be replaced by a Communion Service also at 9.00am during July and August.** The Songs of Praise and Breakfast will return on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> of September at 9.00am; (Monthly) .

**PCC Vacancies.**

We currently have two vacancies on the PCC (The Parochial Church Council). Being a PCC member helps in the smooth running and decisions of the parish, and is open to anyone who is on the Electoral Roll from any of the three churches in our parish. To learn more, please contact Revd Jim or the churchwardens.

If you could offer your time, energy and skills we'd be very grateful!

***Finally***

***We congratulate and pray for those baptised:***

*Poppy Hunt*

*Ollie Hunt*

*Isabella Lawledge-Evans*



***We congratulate and pray for those recently married:***

*George Gresty and Sophie Boardman*

*Mark Elliott and Dani Snelle*

*Oliver Riley and Joey Atkinson*

***We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:***

*Jasmine Whitehead*

*Doreen White*



# TARPORLEY

WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TRUST

Registered Charity Number: 700336

## Tarporley War Memorial Hospital Trust update.

We are pleased to announce that the Tarporley War Memorial premises have become a rural hub for the provision of health and social care services in the community. Our strategic clinical partner, the Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust, has been welcoming and treating patients at the hospital and feedback is extremely positive.

The list of services provided continues to evolve and here is a reminder of the services now available:

Ultrasound, Physiotherapy, Children's therapy team, Neurotherapy team, Podiatry, doppler, leg ulcer and dressing clinics, Community midwives' and health visitor open advice clinics, Diabetes education group, AAA (abdominal aortic aneurysm) screening, Private counselling/therapy services, Autism and ADHD assessments, Pelvic floor clinics, Rapid Response and Hospital at Home.

All clinical services are provided by the Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust and access to the services is usually arranged by your GP practice or following a hospital referral.

For all clinical queries - 01244 364620 [coch.tarporleyenquiries@nhs.net](mailto:coch.tarporleyenquiries@nhs.net)

For all charity enquiries - [info@twmh.org.uk](mailto:info@twmh.org.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  
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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](mailto:membership@tastarporley.uk) beforehand.



**Volunteer to help older  
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Working to reduce loneliness and isolation,  
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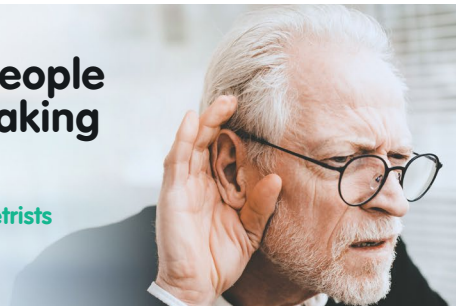
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