

All Saints Cheadle Hulme PARISH DIRECTORY

May 2019
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Deanery Synod Representatives: *Mrs Julia Ball, Miss Irene Walton

P.C.C. Members are marked* Other members

Mesdames: J. Ashman, L. Bacon, M. Epps, L. Karuku, F. Pickett

SAINTS ALIVE



ALL SAINTS

The Parish Magazine
of All Saints' Parish Church,
Cheadle Hulme

INFORMATION PAGE

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am Holy Communion.
10.00am Parish Eucharist.
6.30pm Evensong.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion

Tuesday 9.30am.
Thursday 10.00am.
Holy Days to be announced.

Matins

Daily at 9.00am.



CONFESSION AND SPIRITUAL COUNSELLING

By arrangement with the Clergy.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR BAPTISMS, BANNS AND WEDDINGS

All enquiries to Rev'd Janet Bacon (485 3455).

MOTHERS' UNION

Corporate Communion 10.00am on the 2nd Thursday in Church. Details of all meetings are in Saints Alive and weekly notices. See Notice Board.

MENS' SOCIETY

Monthly meetings on the 1st Thursday, September to May, at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room.
Chairman: Mr Bradley Torbitt (486 9387).
Secretary: Mr Mike Parry (485 7886).



FRIDAY CLUB

Fortnightly meetings on Friday evening usually in the Meeting Room at 7.30pm. Open to women of all age groups.
Chairman is Lily Mitchelhill (485 5187)
Secretary is Julia Ball (440 8647)

GUILD OF ST RAPHAEL

The Guild exists to encourage the Church's ministry of healing, and the practice of regular intercession for the sick. The branch meets monthly to say an Office of Intercession: there is also a monthly Corporate Communion. For further information please contact: The Secretary: Pat Yates (485 4546).

BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

Secretary: Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647).

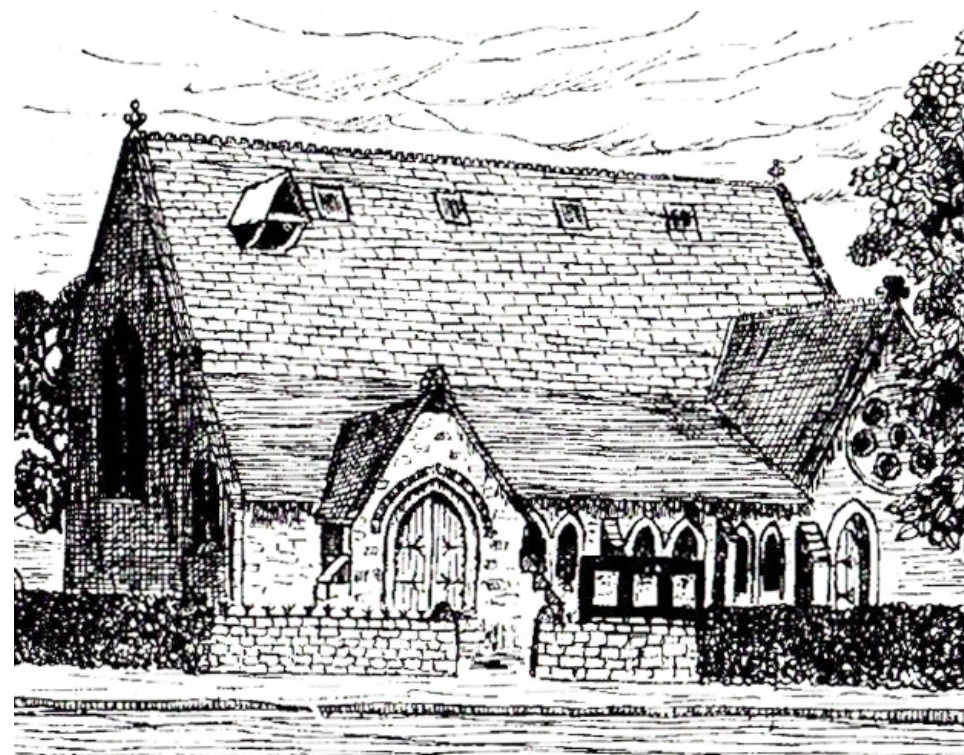
UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Cubs: (7th Cheadle Hulme) Meet on a Friday 6.30pm - 8.00pm at Thorn Grove.
Andrew Thompson
email:andrewthompson630@ntlworld.com

Beavers: (7th Cheadle Hulme)
Meet on a Friday 6.00pm - 7.15pm in the Parish Rooms. Mrs J. Metcalf
jacquiemetcalf@tiscali.co.uk

Brownies: (11th Cheadle Hulme)
Meet on a Monday 6.00pm - 7.15pm at Thorn Grove.
Jo Taylor
brownow11ththeadleulme@yahoo.com

Rainbows: (2nd Cheadle Hulme)
Meet on a Monday 6.00pm - 7.00pm in the Meeting Room.



Christian Stewardship

The Parish practises the principles of Christian Stewardship in its giving for the work of God. If you are interested to learn more about it please contact the Recorder, Kate Hughes (485 1010), the Vicar or the Churchwardens. The giving of time and talents is encouraged, If you wish to help in some capacity in the Church services or organisations, in improving or maintaining the Church fabric or grounds, or in visiting and helping the sick or housebound, please speak to the Clergy or the Churchwardens.

We also support COMMUNICARE, the volunteer service for the whole community, offering neighbourly help in emergencies and difficulties. Volunteers for this are also welcome and should contact the Communicare Secretary.

COMMUNICARE

0161 485 5353

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9.00am to 3.30pm

Parish Calendar and Registers

MAY 2019

SUNDAY SERVICES

- 8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am The Parish Communion.
We welcome children and encourage them to bring their parents. There is a supervised creche in Church for the under 5's in the Meeting Room. On the second Sunday of each month this will be our Family Communion and Parade Service. We serve coffee in Church after the service - please come and join us.
- 6.30pm Evensong.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

- Holy Communion:
Tuesdays at 9.30am
Thursdays at 10.00am
Holy Days as announced
- Matins: Mondays, Wednesdays,
Thursdays and Fridays at 9.00am
- See the weekly news sheet for further details.

ALTAR FLOWER ROTA

MAY 2019

- 5th Mr D. Heywood and Family
12th Mrs S. Barrett and Family
19th Mrs A. Smith
26th -
30th ASCENSION DAY

If you wish to discuss any aspect of church flowers including wedding flowers please contact Frances Pickett (0161 439 8890)

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of the Church:

- Mar 30 Isaac Luke Elliott and
Eddie Leo Elliott
Apr 7 Harry Stephen Scott

CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

We give thanks for the lives of the following:

- Mar 6 David Ernest Bayley.
Died 8th March, aged 79.



Eternal Values

*No matter what the world may say,
We trust God and stand our ground
No matter how much others persuade,
We won't let them pull us down*

*We must be salt to our world
And a light that they can see,
We don't become like the world around,
But let God be all we need*

*For He wants us to be set apart
As we commit to Him each day,
For there is no eternal value
In futile, worldly ways*

*For what we have will one day vanish,
It will wither away and die
When weighed on the scales of eternity,
Our eternal hope is Christ.*

M.S.Lowndes



Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends,

I am writing this on Easter Monday – sorry Rhys, I'm late again! Yesterday we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus – as Pat put it “Resurrection Day” would perhaps be a better title than Easter Sunday. We sang hymns which affirmed our belief and which contained words such as the unequivocal “No more we doubt thee...” and (one that needs a bit more working out) “the Spirit who clothes faith in certainty”.

I believe it is good to be positive on Easter Sunday – if we can't be positive then when can we be? But even the most faithful of Christians have doubts from time to time and would perhaps want to echo the words of the father who begged Jesus to heal his son “Lord I believe, help my unbelief.”

Doubts and questions form part of the faith journey but I don't think they should be our default position. Surely the Christian attitude is not unbelief and doubt punctuated with moments of clarity and belief but having faith and belief when we wake up each morning while also acknowledging the times when we doubt and lose faith. So we can sing “No more we doubt thee” but also know that, like the apostle Peter there will be times when our unbelief takes over. This may, for a time, prevent us from being the disciples we are called to be but we can learn and grow from these times too.

There are times when I think that it is all up to me to sort out things and when I fail, as we all do, I can either beat myself up or start to have doubts. I forget that matters of concern, when placed in God's hands, can often be resolved in wonderful, unforeseen ways. God is there to help us. I love the line from Romans Ch. 8 v 16 “The spirit testifies with our spirit that we are God's children”. While there may be times when we need doubt there are also times when we need our faith clothed with certainty and I believe that through the resurrection of Jesus there will come a time when we won't need doubt because we will see clearly and with certainty.

Happy Easter to you all.

Janet

COPY DEADLINE FOR JUNE - MAY 6TH (6.00PM)
ALL COPY TO THE EDITOR PLEASE

Getting Away



For keen holiday-makers this may well be a time of anticipation.

Decisions have been made, booking forms signed, deposits paid. Any change of heart, any change of plans and

one is committed. Penalties may apply.

See conditions.

There may be disadvantages from going abroad.

Landing in strange, foreign surroundings, finding oneself far from home, may bring

on a bout of homesickness. That is in addition to what the local water may be doing before

one has the chance to become acclimatised.

In those early years before we had to add to our

simple luggage all the paraphernalia which even one addition to the

family entailed, we used to take the car across from Newhaven to Dieppe. On one such trip we got into conversation with a couple who were doing a similar touring holiday to us. The husband told us that this was their first trip abroad. We asked them about how they found the French food.

“Oh, we are hardly touching the stuff if we can help it. So far we have not needed to,” was his reply. His wife opened the boot of their car, and we saw packed in beside their luggage were countless tins of Heinz baked beans, “good, honest PG Tips,” bars of Cadbury’s Bournville chocolate, a crate of Bass bottled beer and at least a couple of loaves of Hovis.

Nowadays my wife and I do not undertake such ventures as travelling overseas. And yet it might be that we now see more of the world than we ever did when we travelled abroad. We see places we would never visit, all from the comfort of our fireside chairs. We could tell ourselves that it is almost as good as being there, seeing faraway places in full colour - but without the heat, the insects, and in some places, the smell from the drains. If we were to stop and consider stepping out of our “comfort-zone” into the wide world “out there”, I suspect that we would soon wake up realising how much we value the familiar world around us, the place where we literally feel “at home”. Getting away for a break, an opportunity to see our everyday lives from “afar” may well help us to appreciate what we could be taking for granted. Friends and family, the staff we pass the day with in our local stores. And, of course, all those whom we meet with, pray with, and sing with, here at our local parish church, All Saints.

Claud Metson



O God of earth and sky,
as Jesus came among us in Bethlehem to
raise us up to heaven,
so today we recall his departing from us
at Jerusalem to be in all places.

Though he is hidden from our sight,
enable us to abide in him
by the power and grace of the Holy
Spirit,

until his mercy and grace fill your whole
creation. Amen.



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Church app prompts 930 reports of possible car wash slaves

Police have been alerted to 930 reports of potential modern-day slavery at hand car washes, thanks to a new smartphone app devised by the Church of England and the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Safe Car Wash was launched by the C of E's anti-slavery campaign The Clewer Initiative and the Catholic Church's Santa Marta Group last June.

New analysis by the University of Nottingham's Rights Lab also reveals the application was downloaded 8,225 times during its first six months.

Chair of The Clewer Initiative, Bishop Alastair Redfern said: "This research shows that the Safe Car Wash app has made an excellent start towards mapping the extent of modern slavery and labour exploitation in hand car washes, and, crucially raising public awareness of this issue. Sadly, the findings so far confirm what we already feared - that many car washes do not protect their workers."

Customers concerned by working conditions at a hand car wash have been urged to download the Safe Car Wash app and complete a survey which includes key indicators of modern slavery. It asks the user to consider whether staff members are equipped with appropriate protective clothing - such as gloves and boots - and whether there is evidence of staff living on site.

Bishop Patrick Lynch, from the Santa Marta Group, said: "I welcome this report into the results of the Safe Car Wash app. I hope the app and this report will help many people become much more aware of the exploitation that workers in the car washing sector often have to endure."

Based on answers received, the app will then alert the user to the likelihood modern slavery. If the offence is suspected, the anonymous results are passed on to police and the Gangmasters' and Labour Abuse Authority.

Dr Akilah Jardine, Research Associate at the Rights Lab, said: "Investigations and operations on hand car wash activities have identified the sector as a high-risk area for labour exploitation.

"Though often operating in plain sight, a great challenge in tackling abuses is the lack of data on the size and scope of the industry and the nature and prevalence of labour exploitation. The Safe Car Wash app shows the potential value of using technology in raising public awareness and leveraging the real life experience and insight of the community to improve our understanding of the sector and also gather the intelligence required to lead effective investigations."



Church of England appoints champion for lay ministries

Promoting lay ministries is a major component of Renewal and Reform, the Church's vision for a growing Church for all people in all places. The effort is spearheaded by the Rt Revd Martyn Snow, Bishop of Leicester and Chair of the Central Readers Council. Bishop Martyn said: "Given the flourishing of lay ministry within the church over recent years, it is now vitally important that every part of the church, local, regional and national, celebrates and integrates this work in to every other area of ministry.

"I am delighted to welcome Carrie who can help to coordinate this work nationally, and enable further growth in both the numbers of lay ministers and their development as theologians, practitioners and key partners in ministry."

In her previous role as Head of Volunteering at the MS Society, Carrie had strategic responsibility for the volunteering strategy, leading an improvement programme which achieved the Investing in Volunteers award. She has managed volunteers for USPG, coordinated projects and international events for Girlguiding, and enjoyed a gap year volunteering with Christian Aid.

Commenting on her appointment, Carrie said: "I'm thrilled to be joining the team and getting stuck in to developing this new role. I am passionate about lay ministry, find my own ministry deeply rewarding and excited to be in a role supporting and encouraging others with a vocation to lay ministry. I am looking forward to bringing my professional and theological skills to the job, supporting such a key area."

Mandy Ford, Director of The Church of England's Ministry Division, said: "We are delighted to welcome Carrie to the team. This is a substantial role and a wonderful opportunity for us to make a real impact on the shape of the Church's ministry. Carrie has extensive experience inspiring, encouraging and supporting volunteers. As a member of our senior management team, Carrie will share in the strategic leadership of Ministry Division, ensuring lay ministry remains a key component of our thinking, planning, and resourcing."

Carrie has a BA and MA in theology from Durham University. She has been a licensed Reader in the Parish of Putney, in the Diocese of Southwark since 2013 and has been a member of General Synod since 2015. She's an enthusiastic cyclist, a keen traveller and is currently cultivating new gardening skills.

The appointment comes as the Church of England sets out a renewed vision for Reader ministry, more on which can be found at churchofengland.org/developing-lay-ministries.



Goats versus Sheep? The Choice is Yours

I love goats. Even the one in Cheadle's Bruntwood Park, known as "the stinking goat" was lovable in my eyes. The safely-grazing sheep off Hulme Hall Rd were peaceful by comparison, but dull.

To me, goats seemed cheerful and cheeky. As a child, the pitiful banished scapegoat of the Hebrew Scriptures worried me greatly until, in adulthood, I learned his symbolic significance. (Leviticus 16:22)

The ancient Hebrews were goat-herders and shepherds. Both animals were classified as clean sacramentally, and, if without spot or blemish, worthy of sacrifice to Yahweh, (Exodus 22:5) bred to provide milk, flesh to be eaten and skins for domestic use by

the Chosen People. "Thou shalt have goats' milk enough for thy food, for the food of thy household, and for the maintenance of thy maidens." (Proverbs 27:27)

Sheep were equally important, highly-prized and cared for but, over the millennia, these creatures, who looked so similar, proved to be very different temperamentally such that though they could graze together they could not be penned or folded with safety.



For me, in childhood, our gentle Saviour gave goats a bad name but not, I later learned, without reason. Notice Jesus was referred to as the Lamb, not the Kid of God, and though He "takes away the sins of the world" I do not remember Him being given the title of the Scapegoat though that is what He was.

So why, in speaking of the Final Judgement, does Jesus' hyperbolic language use the analogy of sheep = good, goats = bad and bound for the furnace of Hell? (Matthew 25:46) In the parable He addresses His warning to nations

and individuals within the diverse ancient peoples of the known world.

But first, what do modern farmers think about goats and sheep?

Here are some quotations from a livestock forum:

"If you leave goats in with your horse, they may chew off his tail."

"My dad has described goats as 'Jack Russells with hooves.'"

"If your fence won't hold water, it won't hold a goat."

"Shepherds protect sheep from their environment, whereas goatherds protect the environment from their goats."

"A sheep is led by its shepherd. A goatherd is led by his goat." (Continued on page 5)



SNOOKER

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3 TABLES

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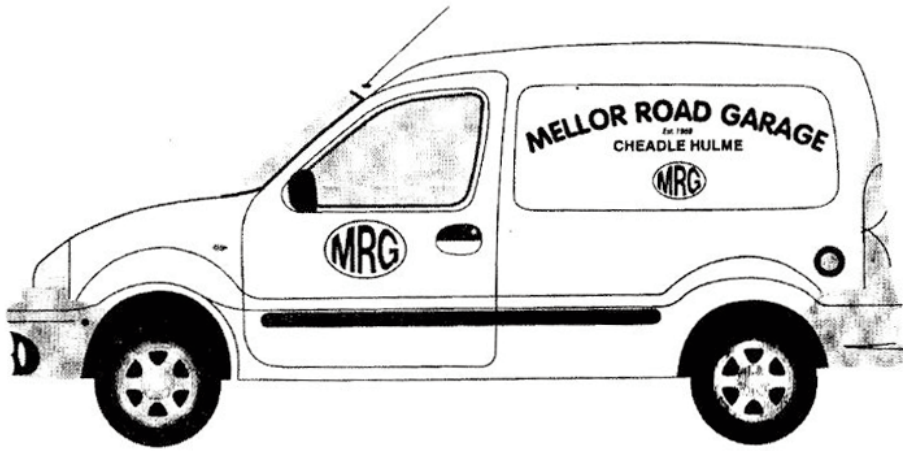
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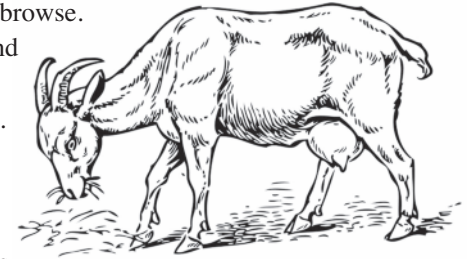
(Continued from page 4) Bear in mind, goats and sheep are so similar physiologically they can mate and produce a sheep-goat but this is rare and the offspring is usually infertile. Goats and sheep are just different. In a fight a ram will win against a buck but sheep are generally known for their passive temperament. They are distant and aloof and fearful if separated from the flock. They follow their leader.

Goats don't follow. A goat forages, it doesn't browse.

It goes its own way being naturally curious and independent. It can be wilful and destructive.

Self-interest, not attachment to the herd, rules.

This observed behaviour hints at why goats, goat-like nations and their people are judged more harshly by Jesus than those of a more sheepish nature. It is not the goat-like person's



lively, often joyful independence, but his headstrong behaviour pulling against the indwelling Spirit and God's caring commitment to his wellbeing. It is the belief that he can go it alone, separate from his neighbours, impervious to wise guidance, resistant to the stirrings of compassion and the faithful leading of the Shepherd that will be his downfall.

In the parable the difference between the sheep and goat people is simple. It is what they did or didn't do for their brothers and sisters in need that divided them.

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me." (Matthew 25:40-45)

I still like goats. More gentle Gospel language from Jesus suggests to me that at the Final Judgement the goat pen will be empty. Both sheep and goats will have learned what true faith means, and all will spend eternity browsing together enfolded in Love.

Gay Saunders



A new C of E coming together over Brexit

Churches and cathedrals held reconciliation events across the country at the end of March to encourage people to come together over Brexit. The initiative, termed “Together”, was supported by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

Derby Cathedral invited people to come in last weekend and say a “prayer for the nation, their neighbours, for MPs and political leaders, and for peace, hope, and good will”.

The Dean of Derby, the Very Revd Stephen Hance, said: “After what has been a divisive political process during the last three years, we want people to be encouraged to pray for someone they disagree with, as a step towards reconciliation and a fresh vision for the whole country.”

The Bishop of Repton, and acting Bishop of Derby, the Rt Revd Jan McFarlane, said: “Our church communities, like the rest of the nation, are divided over whether or not Brexit is the right way forward. But, as Christians, our role is to promote peace and reconciliation in the places where we live and worship, and to demonstrate that we can live peacefully together even when we disagree.”

Other churches taking part included St Botolph’s, in Boston, the area with the highest majority of Leave voters in the country. The Bishop of Grantham, Dr Nicholas Chamberlain, said: “Boston and the surrounding area expressed a strong preference to leave in 2016. However, even in Boston, there were those who voted to stay.

“As we know, the political situation is unclear, and there are still strong differences of opinion. Given that, the one thing we can do is to come together and pray together, and in doing that we are sending out an important sign that, whatever our differences are perceived to be, we have the capacity to be united. The Church in Boston considers itself to be a place of hospitality, and where there are deep differences hospitality matters.”

The Evangelical Alliance is releasing weekly prayers on its website “to aid us in our intercession for the UK and our neighbours in the run-up to Brexit”.

In a poll of 2004 people by Britain Thinks, 64% agreed that the anxiety caused by Brexit was bad for their mental health.



Science and faith project to be extended

Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science, (ECLAS) first set up in 2015 and run by Durham and York universities in collaboration with the Church of England, has received a generous grant from Allchurches Trust to continue its work from April. The new grant will allow Revd Dr Kathryn Pritchard, Research Fellow and Project Coordinator for ECLAS, to continue work with the Church of England’s Mission and Public Affairs team in Westminster on public policy implications of Artificial Intelligence and robotics and other scientific advances.

The project will develop a major piece of research into the impact of church engagement in science and science related public affairs, together with a proposal to integrate science more fully into the curriculum for trainee ministers.

The work will also include more events such as a conference for church leaders on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics and a Royal Society conference for principals of theological colleges.

Nearly a third of the Church of England’s bishops along with a similar number of senior church leaders from the Methodist, Baptist and United Reformed Churches have taken part in ECLAS conferences so far on subjects ranging from fracking, neuroscience and bioethics to robotics.

The scheme has also funded work to promote greater dialogue between science and faith in churches and cathedrals through the Scientists in Congregations scheme, as well as digital resources for theological training.

Sir Philip Mawer, Chairman of Allchurches Trust, said: “This innovative project aims to challenge the thinking that science and faith are in conflict; instead exploring the synergies between them and what they can learn from one another.

“Continuing technological advancement brings challenges, but it also brings opportunity. These are exciting times and it is vital that the church is actively engaged in the debate and equipped to be agile in its response and thinking as public policy is developed.”

Rev Dr Pritchard said: “I am enormously grateful to Allchurches Trust, as are the wider team, for their generous and timely grant enabling us to continue to build on the momentum of this project.

“We are seeing so much interest in our work and enthusiasm from bishops and senior leaders who attend our conferences. The churches and cathedrals that have run science related events report that the wider public are interested and intrigued by questions for faith raised by scientific developments.”




ALL SAINTS CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2.30pm in the Church Meeting Room. We learn new skills and practise old ones. Tea/coffee, biscuits and good company are always on offer. Please join us. All are welcome.

For further details please contact Frances Pickett on 0161 439 8890.



All Saints' Website and Facebook

 Keep up to date with news and events on the All Saints' website. Find out about our charity work, community groups and listen to recent sermons.



Please contact Sarah Ball on: comms@allsaintsheadleholme.org.uk with any stories and updates.

Find All Saints' on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsCH/> and "Like" us to get notifications about our news and events.



Church Open

The next 2nd Saturday Coffee Mornings will be on May 11th and June 8th.



Springtime Prayer

*For flowers that bloom about our feet,
For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet,
For song of bird, and hum of bee,
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!*



*For blue of stream and blue of sky,
For pleasant shade of branches high,
For fragrant air and cooling breeze,
For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!*

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Lambeth Awards honour “extraordinary contributions to the Church and wider society”

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has honoured 27 people, including peace makers, nuns, academics and gardeners in the 2019 Lambeth Awards. Archbishop Justin launched the non-academic awards in 2016, and each year presentations have been made to “people who have made an extraordinary contribution to the Church and wider society”, Lambeth Palace said in a statement. This year’s recipients included Bishop Graham Kings, who was awarded the Cross of St Augustine for Services to the Anglican Communion. His award recognised “his outstanding work in mission and theology for the global South.”

Bishop Graham “has long experience of working in the Anglican Communion, a passion that began early in his career when he spent seven years working as a Mission Partner for the Church Mission Society in Kabare in Kenya”, the citation for his award reads. “On his return to the UK, Bishop Graham was appointed as the first ever Lecturer in Mission Studies at the Cambridge Theological Federation. He then went on to found and direct the Henry Martyn Centre for the Study of Mission and World Christianity. Following stints in more domestic dioceses, including Area Bishop of Sherborne and a Canon and Prebendary of Salisbury Cathedral, Bishop Graham returned to his love of the Anglican Communion, being appointed Mission Theologian in the Anglican Communion. “The purpose of this innovative project was to raise up new ‘Doctors of the Church’ in the global South to write, network, publish and engage with theologians in the global North, to renew the worldwide Church and to influence wider society. Bishop Graham worked tirelessly to achieve this, organising conferences around the world (in Egypt, India, Fiji, Jerusalem and Brazil), arranging regular seminars in Durham and London and creating a website with a wealth of papers and resources. After making a unique contribution to the Anglican Communion, Bishop Graham stepped back from the project in 2017 as it merged into a new phase of its development.”

Other recipients of this year’s awards include Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan from the Anglican Church of Canada. Canon Barnett-Cowan, a former Director of Unity, Faith and Order for the Anglican Communion, was awarded the Lambeth Cross for Ecumenism. “Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan stands in the long tradition of Canadian theologians serving the Anglican Communion in ecumenical dialogue with distinction”, the award citation reads. “In 1977, as a young deacon in the Anglican Church in Canada, Alyson was asked to join an Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue commission in Canada. She went on to take part in, and be secretary of, ecumenical dialogues and commissions at every level, beginning internationally in 1987 as a member of the Anglican-Lutheran International Commission. Pre-eminent in her ecumenical achievements stands the Waterloo Declaration that led to the establishment of full communion between the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7) She was a member of the Lambeth Commission on Communion and, in 2009, Alyson was called to take on international duties full time as Director of Unity, Faith and Order at the Anglican Communion Office.

“There she nurtured relationships between the Anglican Communion and all the major Christian world communions. Notably she brought to publication or to the point of publication important agreed statements between Anglicans and Lutheran, Methodist, Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox Churches and marshalled the early days of ARCIC III. As secretary, drafter, editor and redactor, Alyson shaped the relationships of the Anglican Communion and other world communions and, as a result, helped Anglicans define their own ecclesiology. In her last months at the Anglican Communion Office she was Acting Secretary General and, on her return to Canada, was elected as President of the Canadian Council of Churches. Her contribution in this sphere has been truly outstanding.”

The award recognises people of different faiths too. University of Edinburgh Professor Mona Siddiqui, described in her citation as amongst the UK’s “most eloquent and articulate advocates for interfaith dialogue and a most cogent commentator on current affairs, religion and public life”, received the Hubert Walter Award for Reconciliation and Interfaith Cooperation; as did Laura Marks OBE, a former Senior Vice President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. Ms Marks was the founder of Mitzvah Day, which brings people together through Jewish-led social action on a day in November; and Nisa-Nashim, a Jewish-Muslim Women’s Network, which builds understanding and friendship through local groups around the country. “Her contribution to reconciliation and interfaith cooperation has been and continues to be outstanding”, the citation for her award read.

A former CMS missionary partner, Graham Burton, was presented with the Hubert Walter Award for Reconciliation and Interfaith Cooperation, for 37-years of ministry working to bring peace between Christians and Muslims. in Pakistan for 12 years and in Nottingham for 25 years.” He used his 12-years’ experience of bridge-building in Pakistan, where he was based between 1992 and 2001, to create a project in England, where he was serving as a Priest in Charge of a parish in Nottingham. “He established a project aimed at sharpening the focus of the church’s mission in a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-faith society”, the Citation reads. “From 2007 in retirement, with tremendous grace, he has continued to serve the inner city, facilitating understanding and joint working between Nottingham’s Christians and Muslims, in the complex context of simultaneously supporting Pakistani Christians seeking asylum following persecution for their Christian faith. “Hundreds of Christians and Muslims have learnt to live well alongside one another through his work.”

Archbishop Justin Welby described presenting the Awards as “a great honour”, adding: “As we look around our world today, we could be tempted to despair at the injustice, inequality and suffering that so many people are enduring. But our faith in God, and in our Saviour Jesus Christ, teaches us that there is always hope. The tireless work of these men and women for justice, peace and reconciliation is a great source of such hope. Praise God for those whose lives are dedicated to serving his purposes.”

CAN YOU HELP

Cheadle Hulme Communicare is a small registered charity that takes local elderly residents, who have difficulty with transport, to medical appointments. It is run entirely by volunteers and we **urgently** need new people to join us. We are looking for owner-drivers with clean licenses who could spare the odd hour to drive our clients to and from appointments.

We also urgently need telephonists to work from home one day a fortnight (approx.) liaising between clients and drivers. expenses are paid for both roles. All volunteers are DBS checked.

If you think you could spare a little time, phone us on **0161 485 5353** between 9.00am and 3.30pm Monday to Friday for details.

We really need your help.

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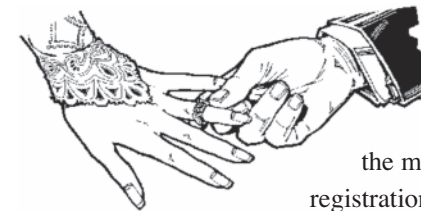
Bishop and MP welcome marriage registration changes by Parliament

The Bishop of St Albans together with Dame Caroline Spelman MP have welcomed changes made by parliament to allow for mothers' names to be included on all marriage certificates.

Royal Assent was received in the last week of March to the Civil Partnerships, Marriages and Deaths (Registration etc) Act following a Private Member's Bill. Dr Alan Smith, together with Dame Caroline, who is the Second Church Estates Commissioner, made the following statement:

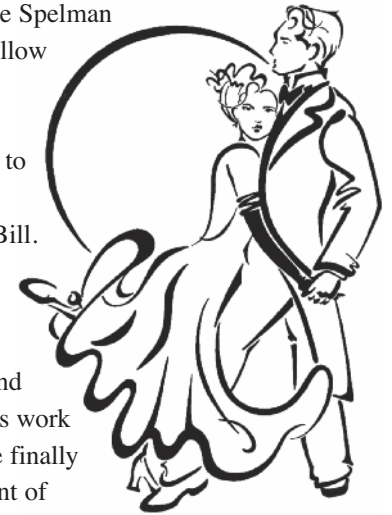
“The passing of this Bill into law is to be welcomed and marks a significant step forward. After years of tireless work by politicians, faith-leaders and campaigners, we have finally achieved tangible progress towards the equal treatment of both parents.

“We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have been so involved in this campaign. Prior to this Act, which relies heavily on wording from our own Private Members Bill, only fathers' names were formerly recorded when marriages were registered, a custom unchanged since 1837.



“This clear and historic injustice reflected the time when children and wives were considered property of men and it is high time for this to be corrected. For clergy,

the most notable change will be the easier electronic registration which will ease the workload of the celebrant in line with other practices such as in Scotland. The Church will look forward to working with our clergy, parishioners and the Government to make sure this Act comes into force swiftly and delivers for all.”



Springtime! Your message of hope to a world tiring of winter's starkness, longing for that first crocus to push through snow's icy blanket and spread its leaves, like arms outstretched, to its creator.

Springtime! Our yearly reminder, if we needed one, that to a world that was dark and cold, a world devoid of love's sweet warmth, you sent your Son to break through sin's icy blanket, and, arms outstretched on a cross, he brought us hope. Thank you

Church Commission on Housing, Church and Community

The housing crisis is to be the subject of a major new Commission was launched in early April by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. Academics, housing experts and theologians are to meet over an 18-month period to examine how the Church of England can build on its own work in housing and contribute to the national debate on policy.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on Housing, Church and Community will explore a Christian perspective on housing policy with a particular focus on providing good homes and promoting thriving communities.

The Commission will be led by Charlie Arbuthnot, an expert in the financing of social housing, and the Bishop of Kensington, Graham Tomlin, an academic theologian who has been active in efforts to support residents following the Grenfell Tower disaster. Other members of the Commission include Rev Lynne Cullens, from the National Estate Churches Network, Sir Robert Devereux, former Permanent Secretary at the Department for Work and Pensions, Marvin Rees, Mayor of Bristol and Professor Christine Whitehead, Emeritus Professor of Housing Economics at the LSE.

The Commission has been set up following Archbishop Justin's book *Reimagining Britain: Foundations for Hope* published last year in which he argued that the principal aim of housing should be the creation of community and that good housing is essential to equality and justice.

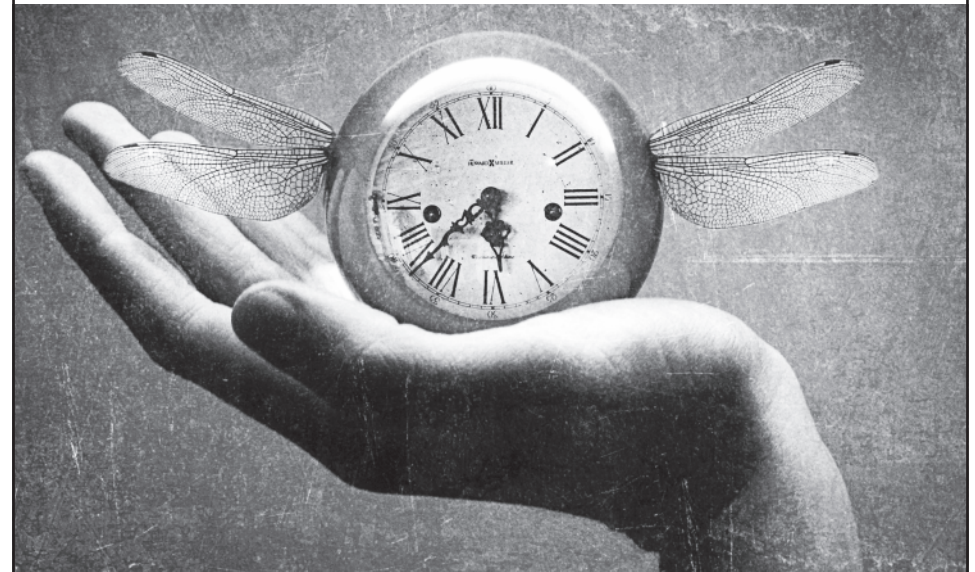
An independent report from the Centre for Theology and Community and the Church of England will be published at the launch today with seven case studies of church-linked housing projects in rural and urban areas and across different regions of England.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: "Britain's housing crisis is one of the major challenges facing this country – and it is hitting the poorest the hardest. While there is already significant work being done to find solutions, the Church has something unique to contribute.

"Up and down the country we are living out our faith in Jesus Christ by loving and serving those around us. Through food banks, night shelters and many other projects, the Church seeks to bind communities together with bonds of friendship, compassion and mutual support. This teaches us that any way forward must involve building communities, not just houses.

"The Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on Housing, Church and Community will consider what else we could and should be doing, as a Church and as a nation. In doing so, I hope it might help reclaim the very purpose of housing – as the basis for community, and a foundation for human flourishing." *(Continued on page 11)*

We Have Time On Our Hands



Do you need company and someone to talk to?

Perhaps you don't see anyone from one week to the next. Or you are a carer who needs a bit of 'me' time.

We hope to create an opportunity for you to meet others who may feel like yourself within a safe, informal and relaxed atmosphere.

We are starting a small group, up to 6 people (any age). Meeting once a month on a Tuesday between 1.00pm - 3.00pm in Cheadle Hulme.

We will offer a relaxed environment where you could just chat and feel at ease. Everyone has something that they are good at and it would be great to be able to share your skills, knowledge and interests.

If you have any questions and are interested in joining us, please contact:
Mel on 0161 485 5486 or mobile: 07916 771224
email: mel@brohn.co.uk

(Continued from page 13) He got a book on carving sticks by Theo Fossil, founder of the Stick Makers Guild and made his first two sticks. After showing them he became a member of the guild. A magazine gave him some further tips and he learned even more by watching a demonstration on stick carving at The Cheshire Show.

November to December are the ideal times to cut sticks but generally he cuts them in June and July and wraps them in newspaper. Some hazel has lichen on it and it makes for an unusual effect on the walking stick as it looks like writing and this is called graphiscripta. He uses two methods to straighten the stick when it has weathered. One is using a heat gun moving the stick to and fro so as not to damage the bark. Method two is to heat cork and use the corks heat to straighten the stick. When he finishes a stick he uses linseed oil from America which includes a hardener. He applies it three times and the American oil saves a great deal of time.

Blackthorn is sometimes used for sticks but you need to take care cutting it as it has vicious thorns. The thorns contain cyanide and make a septic wound. A stick with the thorns on and painted black is the Irish shillelagh. Sometimes a shillelagh is made of oak. A blackthorn walking stick without the thorns is hard, weighty and a lovely thing. Tupelo gum from the mangrove tree which is close grained can be used for glue but a block of eucalyptus gave him contact dermatitis. When honeysuckle is entwined round a stick-sized branch or twig it makes a marvellous and unusual stick. Deer horn can be used for a handle as can rams horn but the latter has to be knocked flat before it can be used, otherwise when it is boiled it would collapse as it is hollow. Rams horn gets a stress line when the ram loses his milk teeth and then again when he moves farms. He has to move when adult otherwise he would be breeding with his own offspring. Mr Williams showed us the sticks he made and also some miniature sticks about six inches long and of various sorts. He also had a set of miniature walking sticks made by Theo Fossil of which he was very proud. The scale of the sticks was an eighth of an inch to an inch.

After the talk we all examined the various walking sticks and looked at the wooden whistles he had for sale. I bought one and I think it was made of birch. We thanked Mr Williams for his talk which we all enjoyed and then had our usual refreshments.

Lily Mitchelhill

Dates for Your Dairy

Friday 10th May

“John Rylands Library (with artwork)” Leslie Crowley-Bull at 7.30pm - ALL WELCOME

Thursday 23rd May

Corporate Communion for Friday Club at 10.00am - ALL WELCOME

Friday 24th May

“Snapshots of Morocco” Barabara Brooks at 7.30pm - ALL WELCOME



(Continued from page 10) The Bishop of Kensington, Graham Tomlin, said: “We hear regularly of the housing crisis in the UK. Many people cannot afford the rent on their homes, live in poor-quality housing or find themselves unable to stay in the communities to which they belong.

“Our hope is that by exploring a Christian vision of housing, home and community we can make a contribution to solving some of these long-standing issues that our society has struggled to resolve over many years.”

Charlie Arbuthnot, chair of the Commission, said: “We hope to bring a distinctive Christian contribution to the work already under way in this area, drawing on the insight the Church of England has through its presence in every community.

“As well as proposing action by the Church of England – at local, regional, and national level – the Commission will explore how, informed by the Christian faith, we can contribute to the national debate.

“We need to build good homes and supportive communities, with the provision of spaces for people to meet, share and celebrate together. We hope to support and inspire all sections of society including public, private and voluntary organisations that share this vision.”



...Rodney, I've been meaning to have a word with you about your carbon footprint!

FRIDAY CLUB

Friday 1st March "World Day of Prayer"

The World Day of Prayer (previously known as Women's World Day of Prayer) for this area was held at St Ann's Roman Catholic Church at 2.00pm.

The service was written by the Christian women of Slovenia and took as its theme "Come - Everything is Ready" based on the reading from St Luke's Gospel Chapter 14. The service opened with Slovenian folk music. A lively tune played while the scene was set by five ladies laying a table ready for a celebration. The ladies went on to tell of their lives in Slovenia, which was previously part of Yugoslavia.

Mrs Beryl Parker, one of our members, gave the selected bible reading, telling of how all the invited guests to a feast turned down their invitations with various excuses. The owner of the house was very upset about this and sent his slave out to bring to the feast the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame. There was still space for more so the slave returned on his master's instructions and brought in others until the house was full and all could enjoy the feast.

The reflection on this reading was given by the leader of the service assisted by an illustration by Slovenian artist, Rezka Arnus which was on the front cover of the service booklet. This showed ladies in traditional dress above a table but busy and unable to come to the feast. The table was shown with grapes, wine, a traditional speciality bread and heart-shaped biscuits decorated with iced carnations which are given as gifts at celebrations as an expression of love.

Under the table were more prominent figures who had been rejected because of infirmity, or had been excluded from society. This was a very moving part of the service.

The ladies from Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme who had organised the service at St Ann's, had purchased the approved C.D. which was used for all the music. This was an excellent support to all the congregational singing. The service ended as usual with the hymn "The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, Has Ended". Afterwards we retired to the Meeting Room for refreshments during which each of the ladies was presented with a red carnation at the special request of the Ladies of Slovenia. Ladies from All Saints' were well represented at the service which was beautifully organised and although it was a simpler service than some years, it was memorable and enjoyable. *Ann Hewitt*



Friday 15th March "The History and Making of Walking Sticks" by Geoff Williams
Mr Williams has lived all of his 80 years of life in King Street, Middlewich, in two different houses. We welcomed him warmly to Friday Club and he began his talk on "The History of Walking Sticks". We weren't sure from the title what we would encounter but the subject was surprisingly rivetting and we enjoyed it immensely.

A staff is engrained in our heritage. At one time everyone had a few, not only walkers and those who need it as now. Cain killed Abel with a staff. Moses changed his staff into a snake and back again before Pharaoh. Tutankhamun the famous and unfortunate offspring of a full brother and sister marriage had many staffs put in his tomb, many of which were well used. A Roman Centurian had a vine staff when he received his rank. Henry VIII had over 150 canes as part of his dress. Even young Albert of "Albert and the Lion" had "a stick with a horse's head" handle, the finest that Woolworths could sell? Everybody but everybody had a stick or two. Architects had a stick with a straight edge. There were sticks to test butter or corn, sticks with a telescope in them or an umbrella. There were drilling sticks for brewers and a sabbath stick. A sabbath stick had a golf edge and when nobody was about you could drop a ball and make a few strokes and ignore the sabbath rest. There were card carrying sticks so you could pass over your card without touching any unwashed hands. Also there were sticks which converted into fishing rods and if you were fishing illegally it would quickly convert into a stick to fool a passing bailiff.

You could also get weapon sticks which could convert into a sword, repeater or a rifle. A violinist or a travelling musician had two sticks, one converting into a music stand and the other into an instrument. One or two sticks could even convert into a bicycle. There were thousands of stick makers. Henry Hall had premises in Whitechapel measuring 30,000 sq ft and 360 employees worked there in Victorian times. Bamboo is extremely hard to carve but the Chinese craftsmen managed to carve beautifully intricate canes. Mr Williams went on to tell us about the making of walking sticks. The earliest was the thumb stick and if you had two of them it would really save your knees. The stick was 'Y' shaped and you placed your thumb on one side in the 'v' and the rest of your hand on the other. Usually nature provided the right shaped stick and once it was shaped and polished, first being weathered, it was very comfortable. The second type was the block stick which needed about a year to weather the wood. Then there was the knob stick and the more elaborate shepherd's crook or bishop's crozier. All these were one-piece sticks and often hazel was used.

Hazel grows in different colours according to the area it is grown. It comes in cream and speckled in Cornwall, while in the Midlands hazel is dark brown. In the Lake District it is silvery-brown and in Scotland it is silver. There are two piece sticks as well but then care has to be taken that the two pieces are fixed with a washer, dowel or steel stud, and are absolutely square or the stick will go out of shape or break.

Mr Williams then went on to tell us about his hobby of walking stick making and how he developed his skills. *(Continued on page 14)*