

## TARPORLEY PARISH

St Helen's, Tarporley  
St Thomas', Eaton  
St John and the Holy Cross, Cotebrook



Tarporley Parish

# 50p

# The Link

## *Tarporley Parish magazine*

### May 2025



**Members of the PCC and the Eco Church team celebrating the Silver awards for all three churches in the parish**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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      walteergibson52@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**

Liz Neely      StHelenssafeguarding@outlook.com

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

**Follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/ParishOfTarporley](https://facebook.com/ParishOfTarporley)**

## SUNDAY SERVICES FOR THE MONTH May 2025

**May 4<sup>th</sup>                      EASTER 3**  
 St Thomas                      9.00am                      Holy Communion  
 St Helen                      10.00am                      Holy Communion  
 St John                      11.15am                      Holy Communion

**Thursday 8th May                      80th Anniversary of VE Day**  
 St Helens                      9.30pm                      VE Day 80 tribute

**May 11<sup>th</sup>                      EASTER 4**  
 Done Room                      9.30am                      Café Church  
*followed by APCM*  
 St Thomas                      4.00pm                      Holy Communion

**May 18<sup>th</sup>                      EASTER 5/Bell Sunday**  
 St Thomas                      9.00am                      Holy Communion  
 St Helen                      10.00am                      Holy Communion  
 St John's                      6.30pm                      Evensong

**Wednesday 21st May                      St Helen's day**  
 St Helen                      10.00am                      Holy Communion  
 St Helen                      7.00pm                      Holy Communion  
*followed by strawberries and fizz!*

**May 25<sup>th</sup>                      EASTER 6**  
 St Thomas                      9.00am                      Songs of Praise  
 St Helen                      10.00am                      Holy Communion

**Thursday 29th May                      Ascension Day**  
 St Helen                      7.00pm                      Holy Communion

**June 1st                      SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION**  
 St Thomas                      9.00am                      Holy Communion  
 St Helen                      10.00am                      Holy Communion  
 St John                      11.15am                      Holy Communion

Weekly Midweek Communion on Wednesdays

## The Rector Writes:-

I'm at an age when top sportspeople who are considered 'past their prime' are still younger than I am...to say that this knocks my ego is a bit of an understatement!



There seems to be a myth that only the young can really make a difference or do something of note. Thankfully it is only that - a myth. Our age is not a measure of our usefulness, especially in God's eyes.

You might think that your age is a barrier. We hear so much in the press about aging congregations and the need for new generations in church that we are tempted to forget that God used Abraham and Sarah when they were both well advanced in years.

This month sees our Annual Parochial Church Meeting [*see page 11*], when we look back at 2024 on the life of the parish, and elect new members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). You may think you're too old to be of use on PCC, but May also provides us with another trend bucker, in the shape of one of our patron saints, Helen, whom we celebrate on 21st May [*see page 8 for how we're celebrating this year!*].

Helen made her biggest impact not when she was in her prime of life, but when she was in her 80s, travelling for the first time to the Holy Land, discovering what was reputed to be actual cross Jesus was crucified on, and then spending her time serving the poor and widows in Jerusalem. She is the epitome of age not being a barrier, and can be an encouragement to us all: God doesn't deal in 'past your primes'! So perhaps this is a nudge to think about applying to join PCC: there are 3 vacancies, and plenty of Helens among us, with much to offer, whatever our age, so do think and pray about it!

*Jim*



**Thursday 8th May 2025**

The Cenotaph  
St. Helen's Church

9:10pm  
*Church Bells Ring*

9:20pm  
*V. E. Day 80 Proclamation*

9:25pm  
*Bagpipes*

9:30pm  
*Lighting of the V.E. Day 80 Beacon*  
*V. E. Day 80 Tribute & Service*

**VE DAY** ©  
80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION  
8 M A Y 2 0 2 5



**Tarporley  
Traders**



— EXPERIENCE —  
**TARPORLEY**



## ST HELEN'S DAY

Celebrate the feast day of St Helen - learn more about this amazing woman, give thanks for the life of this church and pray for our community.

Join us for a service of Communion followed by strawberries and fizz!

**Wednesday 21st May 2025 7pm**

*St Helen's Church, Tarporley*

**EVERYONE WELCOME**



**TARPORLEY PARISH**

St Helen's Church,  
High Street  
Tarporley

*For more information, contact*

*Rev'd Jim Bridgman*  
revjimb1017@gmail.com  
07526243702

## Bell Sunday—18th May

Bell Sunday is a now national annual event which was first celebrated in 2023. It is held on the Sunday nearest to St. Dunstan's Feast Day which is 19th May. He is the patron saint of bellringers due to his experimentation in the early forging of bells in 10th century. Its purpose is to raise awareness of bellringing and to recognise the contribution that bells and bellringers make to the Church. We are lucky to have a great team of ringers in Tarporley, whose skill adds to our worship.

This year we will be marking Bell Sunday during the 10.00am service at St. Helen's church. There will be a live screening of the actual bells as they are rung prior to the service, a chance to pray for and thank our ringers, an opportunity to talk to some of our ringers after the service and, if you wish, to arrange a time and date to visit the tower and learn more about bellringing.



## Silver Status across the Parish for Eco Church!



Two years after we won Bronze awards at all three churches, each one has now gained the much more challenging Silver award from A Rocha, who run the Eco Church programme. This has taken a lot of hard work, not just by our Eco Church team (Walter Gibson, Nick Parker and Netty Oakes), but also by many volunteers at each of our churches who have helped to make important changes to help reduce our environmental footprint. Changing how we do things is challenging but small changes can have a big impact if many people do it. That is why being part of the Eco Church community is so useful.

As a reminder, to gain Silver we had to reach a much higher level of performance against multiple criteria that influence our impact on the world around us. These include worship, buildings, land, community and global engagement and lifestyle. In each of these categories we had to address around 15-20 questions which covered many different aspects of our church life and its impact on nature, on climate change, on waste, on energy and use of resources. All these questions, and how we address them, help us to have a lower impact and be more sustainable as a parish. For Silver status, we need also to be seen to be influencing the community around us, encouraging and supporting everyone to follow suit.

Hopefully you may have noticed some of this happening. There have been a series of articles in the Link on a greener lifestyle as well as regular Eco Film Nights. We have brought in (with great support from Revd Jim, the PCC, churchwardens and volunteers) new policies covering LED lighting, reducing our energy consumption, and changing the cleaning products we use in church to more eco friendly options. We are now a Fairtrade parish. We are supporting a Ugandan organization, Smart Havens Africa, building affordable eco homes for women.

We have new churchyard management plans, through which we are increasing the biodiversity of churchyards. We are also engaging with local schools to help them see the impact that local groups can have on their environment.

We are thinking about how to get to net zero and St Thomas' are leading the way with their new heating system. We want to do more and go further. For now the plan is to consolidate all the things we have already put in place. Thanks to everyone for their support. We'd love your feedback on how it's gone so far and what you are doing at home that others could learn from.

The Eco Church Team



---

## FLOURISH at Tarporley Primary



A photo of the young leaders, and Debbie, the Flourish Children's and Families Worker, from the second Flourish event in April, looking at the theme of Easter: they did an inspirational job!

## APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will this year be on **11th May at 11am** in the Done Room after May's Cafe Church; this is the time and vote for church representatives for the Parochial Church Council (PCC), and look back at the life of our parish and its accounts for 2024.

All members of the Electoral Roll are able to vote at the meeting, as well as be nominated to join the Parochial Church Council (PCC) or stand as Churchwarden. We will have 3 vacancies for PCC this year so please prayerfully consider whether you could serve on PCC – if you want to know more, or hear about what being on PCC entails, please talk to one of the Churchwardens or Revd Jim. Full reports and information will be sent out to all members of the Electoral Roll in early May by email—if you would like a paper copy please contact Revd Jim

## Confirmation - Sunday 22nd June 2025

Bishop Sam, bishop of Stockport, will be coming to the parish on **Sunday 22nd June** for Confirmation.



Confirmation is a special church service in which a person confirms the promises that were made when they were baptized. If you were baptized at a christening when you were a child, your parents and godparents made these promises on your behalf. As a young person or adult, you may be ready to affirm these promises for yourself and commit your life to following Jesus Christ. At a confirmation service, you make these promises for yourself. Your friends and family as well as the local Christian community will be there to promise to support and pray for you. The bishop will lay their hands on your head and ask God's Holy Spirit to give you the strength and commitment to live God's way for the rest of your life.

If Confirmation is something you'd like to explore this year, please get in touch with Revd Jim

# Confirmation 2025 - June 22nd St Helen's Tarpорley

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT EXPLORING AND  
DEEPENING YOUR CHRISTIAN FAITH?  
THEN CONFIRMATION MAY BE FOR YOU!



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

Marga Elsdon    Ann Davies  
Keith Guest    Patricia Hadler

**We pray for those who have been baptised:**

Polly Ledwards

# **FUN, FUND-RAISING FASHION SHOW**

**Fashions by Lizella**

**Friday 16 May 2025**

**St Helen's Church, Tarporley**

**Doors open 6.45pm for a 7.30pm start**

**Tickets £25**

to include:

- Glass of Prosecco on arrival
- Savoury and sweet canapés during the evening
- Ticket door-prize

There will also be:

- Silent Auction
- Raffle with fabulous prizes
- Craft-makers' stalls
- Cash bar

**PLEASE BRING CASH FOR BAR AND RAFFLE**

**Tickets from:**

**Amelia: 01829 730155      Elaine: 01829 732104**

**The Hair Academy, High Street, Tarporley**

**Raising funds for:**

- The Done Room renovations, Tarporley
- Eco-upgrade of heating system at St Thomas' Church, Eaton

# Jacqueline Wilson

## Independent Funeral Services Ltd



[WWW.JWIFS.CO.UK](http://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**  
**CESHIRE**  
**CH3 8NF**

**TEL: 01829 740002**

**EMAIL: [tarvin@jwifs.co.uk](mailto:tarvin@jwifs.co.uk)**

**1 Crown Buildings**  
**Latham Avenue**  
**Helsby**  
**CESHIRE**  
**WA6 0DX**

**TEL: 01928 391699**

**EMAIL:**

**[helsby@jwifs.co.uk](mailto:helsby@jwifs.co.uk)**

**HILL VIEW**  
**HIGH STREET**

**CLOTTON**

**TARPORLEY**

**CESHIRE**

**CW6 0EG**

**TEL: 01829 781572**

**EMAIL: [jackie@jwifs.co.uk](mailto:jackie@jwifs.co.uk)**  
**40A MAIN STREET FRODSHAM**

**CESHIRE**

**WA6 7AU**

**TEL: 01928 643078**

**EMAIL: [frodsham@jwifs.co.uk](mailto:frodsham@jwifs.co.uk)**

**74 WESTON GROVE**

**UPTON**

**CHESTER**

**CESHIRE**

**CH2 1QL**

**TEL: 01244 952540**

**EMAIL: [upton@jwifs.co.uk](mailto:upton@jwifs.co.uk)**



**Golden Charter**  
Funeral Plans



**Interested in the Arts?**

**WHYNOTCOMEANDJOIN US?**

**THE ARTS SOCIETY TARPORLEY**

*For membership details email*  
[membership@tastarporley.uk](mailto:membership@tastarporley.uk)  
*or see our website at*  
[www.tastarporley.uk](http://www.tastarporley.uk)

Meetings at Tarporley Community Centre  
on 2nd Thursday, September to June at  
12.00pm. 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  
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@opalervices.org.uk](mailto:janet.handley@opalervices.org.uk)  
07592 464856



**TARPORLEY**  
WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TRUST  
Registered Charity Number: 700336

## 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](mailto:barb.burrows2@gmail.com)

[www.awburrowsnantwich.co.uk](http://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](http://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

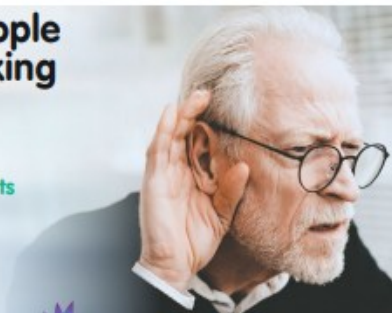
01606 883869 • 07990 881113

[www.adamcliffordjonescarpets.co.uk](http://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](http://www.hummingbirdhearingcare.co.uk)



In partnership with

