

THE LINK

50p

July 2021

Tarporley Parish Magazine



ANDREW P. DEAN

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

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Services: See Calendar page on the website or ‘The Link’ magazine.

Weekday Service St Helen’s Church, Holy Communion: Wednesday at 10.00 am.

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

Rector: **Vacancy, The Rectory, High St, Tarporley CW6 0AG** **732491**

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

e-mail: revjulianosborne@gmail.com

Tarporley: St Helen

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--------------|
| Churchwardens | Phillip Posnett, Haughton Hall, Tarporley CW6 9RH | 260251 |
| | Liz Neely email neelyeliza@hotmail.com | 07890 470899 |
| Treasurer | Anita Langford, 7 The Crescent, Utkinton, CW6 0LT | 458351 |
| P.C.C Secretary | Paul Emerson, Maple Bank, Eaton Road, Tarporley, CW6 0BJ | 733147 |
| Organist | Chas Hardern | 732595 |
| Reading Rota | Elaine Meredith Corner Lodgings, Forest Road, Tarporley CW6 0HX | 732104 |
| Co-ordinator | | |
| Bellringers | Jenny Christian | 732412 |

Cotebrook:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--------|
| St John Wardens | Bill Spiegelberg, Oulton Park House, Tarporley, CW6 9BL | 760336 |
| | Peter Copland, Moss Cottage, Utkinton Lane, Cotebrook, CW6 0JH | 732618 |
| Organist | Katrina Copland, | 732618 |
| Eaton: St Thomas Wardens | Rosemary Lilley, Windward Mark, Eaton Lane, Eaton, Tarporley CW6 9AG | 732948 |
| | Michael Scott, 39 High St, Tarporley CW6 0DP | 733919 |
| Organist | Marjorie Rathbone | 732655 |

| | | |
|-------------|---|--------|
| LINK Editor | Andy Jobson, Plessington House, Huxley Lane, Brassey Green, Tarporley, CW6 9UG | 732437 |
|-------------|---|--------|

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Electoral Roll | Mike Kiddle, 1 Woodlands Way, Tarporley, CW6 0TP | 733431 |
| Safeguarding Officer | Liz Neely email neelyeliza@hotmail.com | 07890 470899 |
| Sunday Sheet | email jleaman@talktalk.net | |
| Tarporley C.E. Primary School | Mrs Kerry Forrester | 01244 981230 |
| Utkinton C.E. Primary School | Ms Lorna Pleavin | 732322 |
| Done Room Booking Secretary | Kathryn Palmer | 733040 |

CONTACT POINTS:

Please do not hesitate to report cases of sickness or pastoral need to the Assistant Curate. 07421 323699
To make arrangements for a Funeral please contact Phillip Posnett. 260251

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

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org **e-mail:** admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk

Items for ‘The Link’ should be e-mailed to jobsonajpj@btinternet.com or posted to the Link Editor by the 16th of each month.

CHURCH SERVICE CALENDAR FOR JULY 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------|----------------|
| July 4th | THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY | | |
| | St Thomas | 9.00am | Morning Prayer |
| | St Helen | 10.00am | Morning Prayer |
| | St John | 11.15 | Holy Communion |
| 11th | THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY | | |
| | St Thomas | 9.00am | Holy Communion |
| | St Helen | 10.00am | Holy Communion |
| 18th | THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY | | |
| | St Thomas | 9.00am | Holy Communion |
| | St Helen | 10.00am | Holy Communion |
| 25th | ST JAMES THE APOSTLE | | |
| | St Thomas | 9.00am | Holy Communion |
| | St Helen | 10.00am | Holy Communion |
| August 1st | THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY | | |
| | St Thomas | 9.00am | Morning Prayer |
| | St Helen | 10.00am | Morning Prayer |
| | St John | 11.15 | Holy Communion |
| | Every Wednesday morning 10am said Holy Communion Service at St Helen's. | | |

Please remember that face coverings are now mandatory in Church services. We continue to follow government and C of E guidance.

Our Assistant Curate writes:-

July this year is set to be absolute bonanza for sports fans, with something on offer for pretty much everyone. As I write this letter, England are just about to start their first match in the delayed Euro 2020 tournament; England's cricketers are playing a second test against New Zealand at Edgbaston, and by the time the Link Magazine reaches you, the Olympics will be just around the corner, as will the Open Golf at Royal St George, Wimbledon, the British Grand Prix at Silverstone, the Lions tour of South Africa, the Tours De France, and so on and so on. It is exhausting even typing the list!

The Osborne household is very happy to watch most sports, both individual and team. One member of our extended family, however, is not at all keen on combative team sports, a feeling that I am sure others in the Parish will share. Her preference is athletics, for rather than watch a tribal clash of one team pitting all their strength and guile against another team, the athlete is competing as much against themselves as against the other competitors. In athletics a runner, for example, may race against a field of twenty other runners in a long-distance event, knowing full well that they stand very little chance whatever of winning. Their joy is not only in the taking part (a sentiment that feels sadly old-fashioned these days), but is also in the achievement of a personal best or a season's best. Their ambition is constantly to improve. For the spectator, the rules are simple. Don't start before the gun, stay in your lane and finish the race.

On hearing this heart-felt opinion, I could not help but think of a couple of Bible verses that describe the Christian way of life in sporting terms. In the 1st century, the Romans celebrated both the Olympic Games and the Isthmian Games. Competitors would spend up to ten months in arduous physical training. Because the Corinthians were very familiar with these events, Paul used the games as an analogy for a believer's life of faithfulness. He wrote to the church in Corinth saying, "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever"

(1 Corinthians 9:24-25). Paul's exhortation is that believers should be as focused and dedicated as those ancient competitors in the games.

Of course, we are not competing just for the gold medal, but we too strive to be the best we can be in the life that is specific to us. Paul describes it thus in his letter to the church in Philippi "I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus." We can expect setbacks, injuries and disappointments. I was watching some golf last week. John Rahm, the Spanish golfer was playing the tournament of his life, and after three rounds of 18 holes, with one round left to play, he was very comfortably in the lead and clearly set to win. Imagine how he felt when an official approached him to say that he had returned a positive Covid test and so could not compete in the final round. He was bereft, as would any of us have been. But the Christian life is more akin to a (hopefully) very, very long marathon than a one-off tournament. Our ambition, again like St Paul, is to be able to say like he did at the end of his race, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7). He was no doubt eagerly expecting to hear those wonderful words from our Lord "well done, good and faithful servant". So, enjoy the sport this summer, but enjoy your own race even more!

Julian

From the Parish Bookshelf

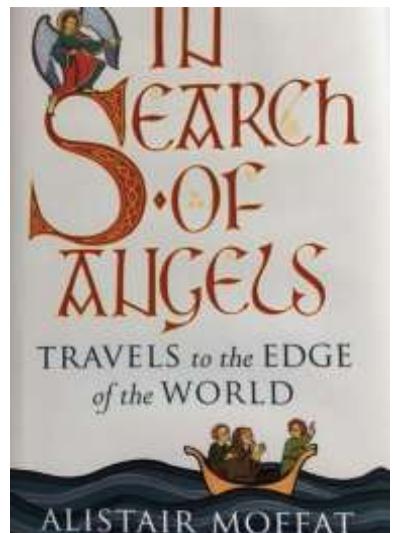
Walter Gibson reviews:-

"In Search of Angels – Travels to the Edge of the World"

by Alistair Moffat

(published in 2020)

Most people have heard of St Columba, the founder of the monastic community on Iona and an early evangelist to what became Scotland. But have you heard of Brendan, Donnan, Moluag or Maelrubha? (cont o'leaf)



Or the journeys they made and the communities they founded in Eilach an Naoimh, Eigg, Lismore and Applecross? Alistair Moffat tells their stories and sets out to look for traces of their lives, their work and their legacy.

Inspired by the “desert fathers” who sought to come closer to God by leaving the world behind, some of these Irish monks set off across the sea looking for remote islands where they could cut themselves off from temptation and mortify the flesh. Other felt impelled to bring the gospel to pagan lands along the Scottish west coast. They all took great risks, not the least of which was on their journeys in small currachs or coracles: the knowledge of their construction survives to this day.

We know of Columba because he had a biographer, but traces of the other saints are harder to find. Moffat finds them in place names, ruins, legends of miracles they performed, and in the language they brought with them – Gaelic. And of course Christianity was their greatest legacy: without their courage and faith perhaps paganism would have dominated for much longer. He senses their spirit in the places where they lived and the sanctity of the ground on which they walked. In the powerful unaccompanied singing of the psalms in the Free Presbyterian Church of today he wonders if he can hear their voices too and how they worshipped long ago.

So once again I am struck by how Christianity spread to remote places through physical and spiritual journeys into the unknown, often made at great personal cost. We can look back and trace what we believe and the way we worship through an unbroken chain of ministry and discipleship to those early missionaries, and be grateful.

Walter Gibson

Some further reports on the careful re-opening of our churches.

St Thomas' Eaton

Mike Scott and Rosemary Lilley write about the re-opening of St Thomas' Eaton. Although we had very much hoped to resume worship after this second lockdown on Easter Day, 4th April, this did not happen until 2nd May when we

marked the occasion with as joyous a peal as Nick Parker could muster from our single bell, for a full ten arm-aching minutes!

We are pleased to say our services have continued without interruption ever since led by Julian or Richard with obvious enthusiasm at being back in reputedly the Diocese's smallest church with regular services.

Our congregation has responded in similar vein with the ladies choir exercising its vocal chords once more at Sung Eucharist on 23rd May when the attendance reached our Covid Capacity of 22!

We welcomed back Revd Alex Sanders on 4th June to lead a very moving funeral service for our oldest member, Muriel Smith—Bett to everyone in the village, a sad loss.

We can only hope and pray this deadly pandemic has lost its potency so that never again will the Church of England find it necessary to close its doors to enable our new Rector's Ministry to begin on time with his first Service at St Thomas' on Sunday 5th September.

We are planning a welcoming party for The Revd Jim Bridgman, his wife Jenny, and their three young children on Friday 3rd September and are fortunate to have received a very kind offer from Richard Reeves to hold it at his Deer Farm at the top of Lightfoot Lane—more details to follow in the next edition.

Our special thanks to all the loyal members of our congregation who have kept our village church heated, clean, aired, the silver and brass polished, and our churchyard tidy throughout the past 15 months—we just could not have done without you.

Rosemary and Mike, Wardens, St Thomas' Eaton.

St John's Cotebrook. Taking care.

We indicated last month that Bill and Rosie Spiegelberg were kindly arranging to open their garden for a garden party on July 4th in the afternoon following the Sunday morning Holy Communion service at St John's Cotebrook. Unfortunately, given the increasing number of Covid cases in the North West in general it has been decided that this event will be cancelled/postponed until conditions improve and restrictions are eased further.

St Helen's Tarporley: The bells are ringing again. It is a delight to announce that as from Sunday 30th May, and on all Sundays since, St Helen's bells have again been heralding the 10am Sunday service. Our church tower is quite small inside so, to ensure social distancing and mitigate the assessed risks, we are only able to ring 4 of the 8 bells but it is a pleasure to do so.

Tarporley Bellringers

News from Tarporley Chapel

As this edition of The Link goes to press the last service conducted by Nic Willis as Pastor of Tarporley Baptist and Methodist Church is about to take place. Nic's final service will be on Sunday 27th June.

Elaine Meredith, a member of our PCC, offers the following tribute to Nic and Denise.

A TRIBUTE TO NIC AND DENISE WILLIS

The last service Nic conducted as Pastor of The Chapel was on Sunday 27th June 2021, when Chapel and village friends paid tribute to Nic and his wife Denise upon Nic's retirement. An outdoor lunch for all the congregation followed the memorable service.

On behalf of our Parish I write a tribute to Nic and Denise and wish them good health and every blessing of our Lord as they commence another chapter of their varied lives.

God guided them to Cheshire from Birmingham, where they settled in Haughton before taking up residence at the Manse after the previous Pastor, Cliff, moved away.



Nic Willis at The Chapel. June 20th

I had the pleasure of attending the Alpha Course that Cliff and his team organised some years ago, where of course I was introduced to Nic and Denise. Their enthusiasm for the Good News of Jesus was infectious and their intimate knowledge of the bible stands out in my memory.

During their time in Tarporley they worked well as a team with their warm, affectionate, welcoming and comforting manner, always putting others first. It has been an honour to call them my friends.

I have attended many ecumenical services where Nic has addressed the congregation or written and delivered the prayers during the joint worship. The regular Good Friday Witness, World Day of Prayer and Remembrance Services are examples when our congregations combined.

The Lent period each year was very special for me, as in addition to attending the Lent Lunches our Parish generously arranged, I met each week with Chapel friends at the evening Lent courses. These were expertly arranged by Nic and his super team of leaders where all participants enjoyed not only the course content but kind hospitality too. At the last one I attended, which was a week before the 2020 March lockdown, Nic gave each participant a small sheet containing a verse from the hymn What a Friend we have in Jesus. The verse remains in place on display in my home as a reminder that Jesus is our friend throughout the good and the bad times.

Nic and Denise have touched the lives of many in our locality. Children, teenagers and adults alike have benefited from their ministry. They are wished a well deserved retirement.

Elaine Meredith - Member of St Helen's P.C.C.

We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:

Mary Barber

Ernest Boynes

Betty Brooks

Ron Chisnall

Donald Gregory

Anne Hayward

Anne Hull

June McQueen

Josie Schwarz

Muriel Smith



Advance Notice: The Collation service for the Rev'd Jim Bridgman as Rector of Tarporley Parish is set for Wednesday 1st September at 7.00pm at St Helen's Church Tarporley.

Arrangements for this service which will see the installation of Jim as Rector of our parish are currently being prepared. Because it is a formal service there are a number of designated people who have to be present and will receive invitations the service. More details of the arrangements for members of the congregation to attend this joyful event will be available nearer the time.

Finally: Liz Neely offers a recipe for the:-

Hazy, lazy days of summer

What says summer better than a big bowl of fresh fruits and a dollop of something creamy? Here's a recipe you can put together with the children and tweak it to your own taste if you don't like the fruits suggested!



Serves 6

Prep time 25 minutes

300g/11oz fresh raspberries
6-8 tbsp icing sugar
150g/5oz seedless red or black grapes, halved
300g/11oz blueberries
100g/4oz strawberries, hulled and quartered
3 nectarines, sliced

Make a coulis for the fruit by placing half of the raspberries and 6 tablespoons of icing sugar in a blender. Whizz until smooth. Push through a sieve into a bowl large enough to take all the extra fruit, discarding the seeds left behind.

Add the remaining raspberries to the coulis with the grapes, blueberries, strawberries and nectarine slices. Stir to combine.

Make a gorgeous creamy topping with 600g of natural, Greek style yogurt and 3 tablespoons of runny honey mixed together and add a generous dollop to everyone's serving of fruit. Simple!

Don't forget you can buy local honey from a variety of farm shops and village stores or clotted cream from the local dairy would be a delicious treat too.

Liz Neely.

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A request for volunteers.
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OPAL Clubs are social clubs for older people who need support to get out and about.

Tarporley OPAL Club runs once a week on a Friday and we are currently short of volunteer drivers. The commitment would probably be once a month.

If you feel able to help or would like further information please contact:-

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

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