

THE LINK

50p

April 2024

Tarporley Parish Magazine



ANDREW P. DEAN

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TARPORLEY
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). 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

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

Email: revjimb1017@gmail.com 07526243702

Tarporley: St Helen

Churchwardens Phillip Posnett 01829260251

Liz Neely email: neelyeliza@hotmail.com 07890470899

Treasurer Dave Smithson

email 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 01829 730155

Link Editor Andy Jobson 01829732437

email jobsonajpj@btinternet.com items for 'The Link' should be emailed to the above by the 16th of the month.

Safeguarding Officer Liz Neely email 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

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org

SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

April 2024

April 7th THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
 St Thomas 10.00am Joint Parish Communion Service

14th THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
 St Helen 9.30am Café Church
 St Thomas 4.00pm Holy Communion

21st THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 St Thomas 9.00am Holy Communion
 St Helen 10.00am Holy Communion
 St Helen 4.00pm Evensong

28th THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 St Thomas 9.00am Holy Communion
 St Helen 10.00am Holy Communion
 St Helen 4.00pm Messy Church
 Messy Church meets in the Done Room.



May 5th THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 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.
 Follow us on Facebook:- Search:- [facebook.com/ParishOfTarporley](https://www.facebook.com/ParishOfTarporley)

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:-

After the fast, comes the feast!

I don't think it's much of a generalisation to say that most of us are generally quite good at deciding on something to give up during Lent (whether or not we are successful in keeping that resolution is another matter...!). But after the 40 days of depriving ourselves in Lent, I wonder how good we are at the celebrating of Easter??



Easter as a season again lasts 40 days, but as with Christmas before it, we may be left feeling a little bit flat once the big day is over. But there are actually another 39 days to continue that celebration! And we lose something of the earth-shattering triumph of Easter if our enthusiasm for it is over come Bank Holiday Monday.

As Christians, we are an-Easter people: our lives have been changed by the events of that first Good Friday and Easter Sunday; without the death and resurrection of Jesus, and the forgiveness and new life that they offer, we have little to celebrate; but because of them, all of life, and death, has changed for us. We can know that all our wrong doings are cancelled out, that death itself is defeated, that God can be a part of our daily life and has prepared a place for us after death. In the fleetingness and turbulence of life, that is really good news! It is worth celebrating, and remembering, and taking 40 days to feast, to give thanks is one way of expressing the truth and change that Easter makes for us.

During Lent as a parish I encouraged us to read '*How to pray*' by the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell. I hope that the book and its tips have encouraged us all to try different styles of prayer, to see prayer as a lifestyle, and to communicate with God in ways that work for us. But I also hope that this is just the start of our journey with prayer, and not something that we give up now Lent is over. Perhaps the 40 days of celebration of Easter give us a chance to keep up that practice – to give 40 days of praise, thanking God for all that happened on the cross and the empty tomb. Maybe every bite of an Easter egg or hot cross bun can be a reminder to thank God for all that Jesus did. As the

days lengthen, maybe every sunrise can be turned into praise for the new life that God brings.

While it might not be the message you expect to hear from Church, perhaps this Easter we need to be serious about and dedicated to enjoying and celebrating. Let's not rob Easter of its joy and power by not celebrating sufficiently. Rejoice in the Good News!

Jim

Mothering Sunday On Mothering Sunday this year we had a very moving Cafe Church with Bishop Mark, Bishop of Chester.

During our time together, we thought about Jesus' mother Mary, and Jesus experiencing the life of a 'normal family'; Angela Symes shared what she would be doing 'This Time Tomorrow' and how her faith affects her life; we sang and prayed and discussed together, all accompanied by great refreshments from Sandra and Charles Hardy!

Then after the service, Bishop Mark blessed the new memorial in the churchyard, a place for all those who have experienced Stillbirth, Abortion and Miscarriage to come and remember.

Thank you to Jackie Wilson, local funeral director, who generously paid for the stone, and to Steve Blackwell and his team of masons who beautifully crafted and installed it.

And friends from Bramble and Bloom generously prepared plantable bookmarks to give out to all who wanted them, to plant or give to someone special.

Thank you to all who came. *Jim*



Bishop Mark blesses the memorial

World Day of Prayer Service – 1st March 2024

Congregations from our Parish and the Chapel were hosted by friends at St Thomas Becket Church for the annual World Day of Prayer Service.

The Order of Service booklet had been prepared by the ecumenical group of Christian women from Palestine. It was also used at similar services throughout the world as part of a Wave of Prayer in native languages, encircling the globe. The theme for the service was “To bear with one another in Love” and of course, due to the ongoing hostilities, prayers for Peace.

As the Peace was shared olive sprigs were exchanged. Each member of the congregation was given a sprig of olive to take home. Citrus fruits which grow abundantly in historic Palestine which are exported across the world. An illuminated candle reminding all that Jesus is the Light of the World. AS Bottle of Olive Oil, one of the fine foods of Palestine. And finally the open Holy Bible with the reading being Ephesians 4: verses 1-7.

The Roman Catholic Priest, Father Joe extended a warm welcome to all with an invitation to share fellowship over refreshments after the service.

Elaine Meredith (Narrator at the Service)



An olive branch depicting everlasting life (an olive tree can last for 1,000 years).

Thank you to Anita and Steve Langford

During the 10.00 am service at St Helens Church on Sunday 18th February 2024, Rev Jim presented Anita and Steve with a bottle of Tattinger Champagne on behalf of the Parish. This was a small gesture of appreciation for the enormous dedication they had both given for the benefit of the three churches within our Parish.

For many years Anita was a valued member of the PCC holding the position of Treasurer. She gave this important role her undivided attention ensuring the finances were always in order. Steve carried out those all-important risk assessments on the church owned buildings in our Parish. They have both been members of the Bellringing Team and Anita served on the Reading Rota for many years. Their enthusiasm for the Done Room Afternoon Teas and other fundraising events was always appreciated. The Parish wishes them both well as they return to Yorkshire with our blessings.

Elaine Meredith On behalf of the PCC



Anita and Steve at their farewell presentation

The Spring Fair in The Done Room on the afternoon of Saturday 23rd March was a very enjoyable event and raised £750 towards St Helen's Church funds. Thank you to all who participated and also to Elaine and her team for running the event.

Eco Church An update for April:

We decided to take part in the Big Plastic Count, (see thebigplasticcount.com) week, (11th – 17th March). This is an initiative set up by Greenpeace who are investigating plastic in order provide Government with the data to do something about it. Every week over 2 billion pieces of plastic packaging are thrown away, only 12% is recycled!!

We're four days in with three days to go and, despite our efforts and our willingness to do the right thing, the results are concerning. I've identified forty-two different pieces of plastic that we have "used" and I think that this is quite shocking. However, it is an audit after all so we have plenty of incentive to do and buy better. The main culprits are fruit and veg trays, especially berries, fruit and veg bags, cold meat packaging and snack packets. At least we have a target to improve upon.

What can we do to reduce our consumption of plastic?

We can be more discerning about what we buy, is there a plastic free alternative? Once in the household can we re-use it, refill it or re-purpose it? If not, can we make sure that we recycle it according to our Local Authority's guidelines?

Thank you to those of you who took part in our Eco Church Lifestyle survey last summer and to those that have more recently given me some ideas. Here is a selection of them. We would welcome any more ideas that you have.

- Have your milk delivered in glass bottles by your local milkman.
- Use your own shopping bags, re-use and plastic ones you have, take your own containers to buy certain items like meat from your butcher or deli.
- If you have the choice, buy fruit and vegetables loosely rather than wrapped. Grow your own fruit and veg if you can.
- Buy locally produced rather than F&V that has been flown into the country and is even more packaged to prevent damage.
- Re-cycle soft plastics at the local Co-op or other supermarkets, most now do it. One couple collect local litter, sort and recycle it in their own bins.

- Substitute where greener alternatives are now available and support brands and companies who have invested in making their packaging eco-friendly.
- For example; buy soap bars instead of liquid soap, buy washing powder in boxes rather than plastic bottles, likewise with soap leaves. Use shaving soap and a brush and avoid disposable razors. Shampoo is also available in bars or you can use a refillable shampoo container. L'Occitane sell a metal container with a push dispenser that you can keep reloading. You can now buy yoghurt in glass jars in the UK (in Aldi and, I think, M&S), and some crème cheeses in cardboard tubs instead of plastic. You also buy chewing gum in cardboard tubs as an alternative.
- Try and substitute cleaning products with natural alternatives eg: vinegar, lemon juice, bicarbonate of soda.
- Carry a water bottle/hot drinks container with you.
- Support your local refill shop if you can find one!!

If you find any other examples of plastic substitute packaging, please let me know and let's not underestimate our power as a consumers to change things for the better.

I think that's probably enough on plastics for this month. Meanwhile I'll try and finish the rest of the week without buying anymore. I'm also going to look at this website: www.wwf.org.uk more information on keeping plastics out of the sea.

Here's some good news on the climate front:

The UK's Reliance on Fossil Fuels for electricity hits it's lowest point.

The UK's reliance on fossil fuels for its electricity fell by 20% in 2023, to its lowest level since 1957. Experts have attributed this decline to a decrease in demand and an increase in the use of renewable energy, especially wind power.

And.....

Last year, 2023 was a record-breaking year for the use of solar energy, with China, Europe and the US all setting new solar installation records, according to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IEA). Additionally, solar power has now become the most economical electricity source in most countries, as the price of solar panels have dropped significantly.

Nick Parker and Walter Gibson

Dates for your diary.

Friday 19th April

The annual St Thomas' Quiz will be on Friday 19th April: 7.00pm for 7.30pm start.

Saturday 25th May

A fundraising Garden Lunch in the Garden of Charles and Sandra at The Old Shippon, Roughlow, Willington.

More details next month.

And now : just maybe:- *Signs of Spring around the corner (on a country lane).*



Brave daffodils opening fully to enjoy the Easter evening Sun; and some, slightly more cautious, hedgerow leaf buds taking a peek before showing their true colour!

Finally

We congratulate and pray for those baptised:

Florentine Lloyd

We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:

Gillian Ashley

Andrew Clarey

Rebecca Hooper

Valerie Jones





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

For all charity enquiries - 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
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There is no meeting in August).

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Volunteer to help older people in Tarporley!.

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No experience is necessary, we care a lot more about a smile and a desire to help others. To find out more, contact
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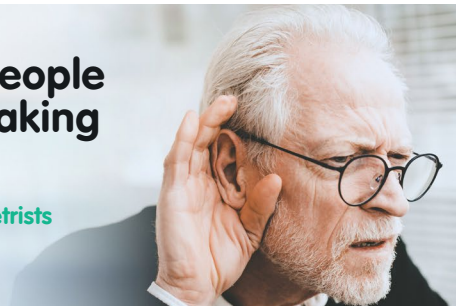
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