

# THE LINK

50p

July 2022

## Tarporley Parish Magazine



Tarporley Parish bid a fond  
'farewell' to Julian and  
Carolyn after Julian's last  
service in Tarporley Parish.

Thank You

# ANDREW P. DEAN

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

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**PARISH DIRECTORY – TARPORLEY**

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

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

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

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

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**Tarporley: St Helen**

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

Treasurer Anita Langford 01829458351

email [treasurer\\_tarporleyparishchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:treasurer_tarporleyparishchurch@yahoo.com)

P.C.C Secretary Paul Emerson 01829733147

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

Wardens Bill Spiegelberg 01829760336

Peter Copland 01829732618

**Eaton: St Thomas**

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

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

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Electoral Roll: Mike Kiddle, 1 Woodlands Way, Tarporley, CW6 0TP  
01829 733431

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

**Contact points**

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Done Room Booking : Phillip Posnett 01829260251

To ask about Wedding arrangements, Baptisms or general enquiries please

Contact Jan by email on: [admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk](mailto:admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.tarporleyparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.tarporleyparishchurch.co.uk) Email: [admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk](mailto:admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk)

## CHURCH SERVICES

### JULY 2022

<b>July</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>THOMAS THE APOSTLE</b>	
		St Thomas	9.00am All-Age Worship
		St Helen	10.00am All-Age Worship
		St John	11.15am Baptism and Holy Communion
		St Helen	6.30pm Evensong

<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
	St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
	St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion

<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
	St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
	St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion

<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
	St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
	St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
	The Done Room	4.00pm	Messy Church have their Summer Party



<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>		
	St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
	St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion

<b>August</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
		St Thomas	9.00am All-Age Worship
		St Helen	10.00am All-Age Worship
		St John	No service (The August service will be on August 14 <sup>th</sup> at 11.15 when Bishop Sam visits our parish)
		St Helen	6.30pm Evensong
		Each Wednesday at 10.00am at St Helen's: said Holy Communion.	
		Follow us on Facebook:- Search:- facebook.com/ParishOfTarporeley	

***If you have time, please stay for refreshments after our Sunday Morning Services.***

**Every Sunday at St Helen's;**

**1st and 4th Sundays at St Thomas'**

**1st Sunday of the month at St John**



### The Rector Writes:-

I'm sure that it is not only me who is wondering where this year has gone! Yesterday it seemed like it was still January, and now we find ourselves over halfway through the year and counting down to Christmas...!



I am currently writing this as the Church's calendar turns to 'Ordinary Time', all those "Sundays after Trinity" which last from Trinity Sunday until All Saints and Advent. It's a long time of the year as there are no 'extraordinary' Church occasions during these months – we're past Easter, and far away from Christmas, so it's simply "Ordinary".

Perhaps we all need that period of 'Ordinariness' after all the excitement that is focused on those early months of the year; otherwise the special times will not seem so special. It is also an acknowledgment that much of life is ordinary, and the same is true for our faith journey: there will be highlights and mountain top experiences, but there will also be a lot of simple, normal, ordinary times. The theologian Paula Gooder comments that *'we need to look again at the spirituality of the ordinariness because without a proper understanding of the importance of ordinariness, our lives become an impoverished waiting room, as we loiter between one big event and another.'* It is tempting to think that God is only there during those exciting times; but in fact, God is as much present in the ordinary as in the extraordinary. Maybe we are just not very good at looking for God in the ordinary. Gooder again writes *'We need to guard against the assumption that God can only be found in sacred spaces and at sacred times.'*

In the middle of this ordinariness we can be tempted just to float on by and live lives in that 'impoverished waiting room' that Paula Gooder talks of, rather than embracing all that is happening, and being alive to God in the everyday.

During Ordinary time this year, we will arrive at the anniversary of my Institution as Rector in the parish – again, where has the time gone?! This past year has felt anything like ordinary to me, as I've got to grips with new people, new places, new rhythms, and that has been both exciting and at times exhausting. As we have been coming out of restrictions and new variants, it has felt anything but ordinary. But coming into this time of relative stability and normality over the summer is a good opportunity to look back and look forward,



to celebrate God at work here in the normal and everyday as well as in the special and different.

As we approach one year since my Institution, I'd like us to use this ordinary time to celebrate who we are and what we do as a parish, as well as thinking about what God might be calling us to be and do in this new phase of life. In order to do that, we will be having a joint parish: -

**'Vision day' on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September :-**

with a joint service at St Helen's at 10am, followed by refreshments and chances to share and hear plans for the future of the parish. I want to encourage you all, whichever church you normally attend, to join together that day.

In preparation for that time, I would like to hear YOUR thoughts! Please take some time to fill in the short Audit and Evaluation form (which you should find as an insert in this magazine), and hand back to me by the beginning of September – please be as thorough and as honest as possible! I want to hear about what is good and what we can improve on about the services, groups, people, and engagement with the community, and also hear about what we are NOT doing that we could or should be involved with. Please pray and put your thinking caps on!

In this ordinary time, may God continue to guide and lead us to see God at work in both extraordinary and normal things.

*Jim*

**Elaine Meredith reports on a recent Rural Deanery Synod meeting**

Together with Rev Jim, Elaine Meredith, Dianne Ousley and Phillip Posnett attended our Rural Deanery Synod which was hosted at St. Mary's Parish Centre Handbridge, Chester. Here we were welcomed with refreshments by a Team from Church House, and then introduced to the topic of '**Every Day Faith**' for discussion and action in our Parish

We were asked to consider Every Day Faith by the questions posed ..... Where has God placed you in your every day? When you are not in church or doing church activities, what do you do? We discussed this in our Parish Representatives Group with a view to bringing our faith into our every day lives at work or during family and social life.

After reading this please consider bringing your faith into your everyday life.

**Elaine Meredith**

**Representative of the Malpas Deanery**

**The Tarporley Parochial Church Council (PCC)** is the executive committee of our three churches. It consists of clergy and churchwardens of the parish, together with representatives elected from the parishioners. But: "Who are they?"

**This month Paul Bullen introduces himself.**

**Name:** Paul Keith Bullen

**Church attended in the parish:** St Helen's Tarporley.

**PCC role/responsibility:** Member.

**Current/Previous employment:** Investment Portfolio Manager/Bank Manager.



**When I'm not at church:** I spend my time:- cooking, listening to lectures and books, using the internet with the assistance of voice over (a screen reader) and in telephone conversations with friends. My interests are limited because for the last 16 years I have been registered blind (severely visually impaired).

*Paul*

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

*Sadie Ellam*

*Sienna Trevillion*

*Jack Williams*

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

*Edward Hulse and Sophie Lamb*

*Steven Baker and Jo Vanes*

*Ben White and Tania Armitage*

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

*John Hewitt*

*Marion Tomlinson*

**Dates for your Diary: 'Vision Day' Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

(see The Rector Writes on page 7 and the questionnaire) :-

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2022 from 2.30pm to 4.00pm**

**Afternoon Tea in the Done Room**

**Cake and gift stalls, children's tombola, raffle and games**

All are welcome at this social afternoon raising funds for St Helen's Church repairs and maintenance. Please come along and enjoy.

Admission £3.00 adults, £1.00 children including Tea/Juice and Cake



**The Mid Cheshire Food bank** is currently seeing a huge increase in the number of families and individuals who need our support. Over recent months we have, unsurprisingly, seen the demand rising by 50% from levels before Covid and we can only see this increasing as cost of living expenses continue to go up. Food donated in supermarkets has, at the same time, reduced as more people now do their main food shop online.



There is a **collection point for the Foodbank at the back of St Helen's church**, just to the right of the main doors: two boxes labelled 'Foodbank'. St Helen's is open most days from 9am-5pm, so please bring donations to church.

But there are other ways to help:

1. Add a few items to your shopping basket to donate at your local super market. This week for example, we are short of tinned meat, tinned vegetables, cordial, instant coffee, fruit juice and dried snacks. To find out where we have local donation boxes visit <https://midcheshire.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> Tesco and Asda also give a cash top up donation per kilo for items purchased and donated in their stores
2. Make a cash donation or set up a standing order to the food bank to enable us to buy the food we need as and when required. You can donate through our justgiving page [www.justgiving.com/midcheshirefoodbank/](http://www.justgiving.com/midcheshirefoodbank/) If you are a UK taxpayer completing the Gift Aid form allows us to reclaim the 20% tax, boosting your donation.
3. Donate your time by registering as a volunteer. We are aiming to increase our supermarket food drives over the coming months, so if you could spare a few hours now and again that would be a great help. To register contact Zoe on [volunteers@midcheshire.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@midcheshire.foodbank.org.uk) or register at <https://midcheshire.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/volunteer/>
4. Like and share our posts on social media particularly facebook as we post on here each week advising what food we are short of, so liking and sharing these posts to your followers is really useful.

Our facebook page is <https://m.facebook.com/midcheshirefoodbank/>

We continue to be able to support the families in need across Mid Cheshire by the very kind and generous donations from people like you and our local community and are always very grateful for any help given.

Keep praying for the Foodbank, its volunteers and its users.

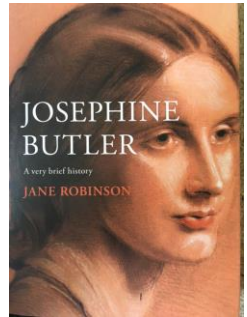
*Jim*

## The Parish Bookshelf

Walter Gibson reviews

### "Josephine Butler: A very brief history" By Jane Robinson

Josephine Butler may not be a household name today but she deserves to be much better known: this book will help to keep her memory and her achievements alive. She was one of the greatest social reformers of the Victorian era, inspired to act by her faith and by her keen sense of injustice, particularly about how women were treated in society. She could have chosen the conventional life of a wife and mother in those days, and perhaps had a pleasant and useful life: instead, she chose to take on several great causes in the face of opposition from parliament and society at large. All this came at a cost to her health, and to her family. Her husband was a clergyman and headmaster whose career undoubtedly suffered because of Josephine's campaigns. But he supported her throughout his life.



This book tries to get behind the facts of Josephine's life to explain what drove her and the impact it had – on society, on her family, and on the lives of women today. You get a real sense of the person behind the campaigns, and how, despite the weak position that society permitted her, she was able to bring about real and lasting change. She was not afraid of what society thought of her and was able to help others see how their views or positions were unjust and unfair.

The causes she espoused included sex-trafficking, prostitution, and higher education and suffrage for women. She shone a light on many of the evils of her day, often taking direct action to care for those affected by unjust laws: she and her husband offered sanctuary in the family home to many women whom society looked down upon and treated unjustly. She learnt how to give powerful speeches and built a network of supporters with influence in the right places. She saw for herself the wrongs to which society was turning a blind eye.

It is hard to read this book without thinking of the life of Christ and how he sought out society's outcasts. Here was a woman doing the work of God and her example can inspire us still today.

*Walter*

And now, there really is a bookshelf as Walter describes opposite:-

### **The *actual* Parish Bookshelf ...**

When the 'Parish Bookshelf' book reviews started in the Link about three years ago, the aim was to explore Christian literature and select books that might be of interest or help to others. Over that time some 24 books have been reviewed, on topics ranging from the history of the early church to inspiring biographies to guides on how to live a Christian life. The vision always was that these books should be available to anyone who would like to borrow and read them: well, now they are! The Parish Bookshelf is a reality!

On a bookcase at the back of St. Helen's you will find all the books which have been reviewed in the Link. New ones will be added as we go along and we hope to build up a small library that everyone in the parish can use. There is a red folder containing all the reviews to help you if needed but please feel free to browse. If you would like to borrow a book, please just complete the form provided. You can have one book at a time for up to a month.

Please give Jim or Walter Gibson your feedback on the book selection and suggest topics or books which could be the subject of future reviews and added to the collection. *Walter*

### **Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee.**

Tarporley Parish villages and villagers, like a multitude of rural and urban communities around the UK, joined in the celebrations in early June to mark the 70 years that Queen Elizabeth II has been our glorious queen. All the celebrations, both small and large, served to bring families and communities together. Old friendships were rekindled and new ones made, busy streets and thoroughfares became busier even though they were 'closed to traffic', shops and buildings were decorated, bells rung and music played. Thanks are due to all those who helped organise or attend these events. Shown on page 12 is a photograph from the celebrations at Eaton: just one of the many taking place locally.

#### **We Thank you, Your Majesty**

**Hot press:**        **Our gratitude** is also due to Julian Osborne and his family for his Curacy in Tarporley Parish. Julian is shown on the Link front cover this month as he presided over his final service in the parish in June. Julian's curacy has involved training with 2 rectors and managing through a vacancy. He is still smiling! There will be more about Julian's time with us next month.

**And don't forget that Messy Church has returned to our Church calendar.**

### **The Reverend Jim reports on the May meeting**

**Messy Church** met for the second time at the end of May, where the theme was the Parable of the Sower. We reflected on this parable of Jesus by retelling the parable with actions, playing a very fun and frantic game in the orchard (where the naughty birds kept stealing the 'seeds' the children gathered!), and making a selection of crafts: a finger bird beak, growing cress heads and even baking fresh seeded bread.



After a time to time and pray in church, we returned to the Done Room to the gorgeous smells of fresh bread, which was soon eaten up along with sausages and beans.

The parable reminded us to think about how we listen and put into practice the words of Jesus: do the words of Jesus disappear quickly, like a seed eaten by the birds after falling on a path? Do they take some root but then get forgotten about, or get squashed out by the other cares of life, like seed falling on stones or choked by weeds? Or do we put them into practice and flourish like seed sown in the best soil??

Messy Church meets on the fourth Sunday of the month from 4pm in the Done Room.

In July we will have a summer party! If you or a little one that you know is interested in coming along, please speak to Revd Jim, or just come along!

**Two pictures below show the May Messy Church by the Done Room and the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in Eaton. Good fun and joyous celebration.**



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- REACT Hospital at Home Team enabling improved access to patients in crisis who might otherwise need to go to hospital to receive treatment in their home.

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### ***Tarporley Flower Club***

*Members of the Tarporley Flower Club  
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*meeting which is held at the*

***Tarporley Community Centre between  
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There is no meeting in August).***

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A request for volunteers.  
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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](mailto:sam.moggan@opalservices.org.uk)



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