

# THE LINK

50p

November 2023

## Tarporley Parish Magazine



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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

---

**Tarporley: St Helen**

Churchwardens Phillip Posnett 01829260251

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

Treasurer Dave Smithson

email [tarporleyparishtreasurer@btinternet.com](mailto:tarporleyparishtreasurer@btinternet.com)

P.C.C Secretary Paul Emerson 01829733147

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

Wardens Walter Gibson

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**

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](mailto:revjimb1017@gmail.com)

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

## SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

### November 2023

**November 5<sup>th</sup>****ALL SAINTS DAY**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John	11.15am	Holy Communion
St Helen	4.00pm	All Souls service See details on P12

**12<sup>th</sup>****REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

St Thomas	9.00am	Communion followed by an Act of Remembrance at the Cross.
St Helen	10.25am	Remembrance Parade and Service.

The Parade will start at the top of the High Street at 10.25am and proceed to St Helen's Church for the Service.

**19<sup>th</sup>****THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	4.00pm	Evensong

**26<sup>th</sup>****CHRIST THE KING: THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT**

St Thomas	9.00am	Songs of Praise: Followed by breakfast at the Jessie Hughes Hall, Eaton
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
Done Room	4.00pm	Messy Church.

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>****ADVENT SUNDAY**

St Thomas	9.00am	Crib Service
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John	11.15am	Holy Communion
St Helen	4.00pm	Christingle Service



Each Wednesday at 10.00am at St Helen's: Holy Communion.  
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**The Rector Writes:-**

I am writing this on the day when the Church of England commemorates one of my favourite saints- St Wilfrid. Wilfrid was a Bishop in the Anglo-Saxon era and was quite a colourful character, often arguing with other clerics and kings, being a decisive voice at the famous Synod of Whitby, deprived of his office as Bishop three times, and even going all the way to Rome (no mean feat in the seventh century!) to plead his case and be reinstated. He was powerful, rich and arrogant, clever and cunning. All in all, not what I'd usually describe as a saint!



And that for me is why he is one of my favourites. He was NOT perfect, but he did his best to be faithful, use his gifts and follow Christ.

It so happens that in the same day, the Church also remembers two other saints - Elizabeth Fry, the prison reformer who worked tirelessly to improve the conditions for female prisoners, and Edith Cavell, a nurse who during the First World War smuggled British soldiers to safety before being captured and executed.

The fact that three such different people are remembered on the same day speaks very powerfully of what it means to be a saint: to follow Christ in everyday parts of life, to be willing to sacrifice self for the good of others, to protect the rights of the Church and stand up for those who are powerless. They are examples to imitate, they show us that being a Christian is seen in deeds not just words and beliefs. Above all they remind us that the imperfect are called to do God's work....so that means we can be called to get involved too! I return to my 'word of the year': none of them were gongoozlers for God; they got their hands dirty, and so should we!

We are soon to enter the period of the Church's year called 'All Saints', and I pray that this year the examples of Wilfrid, Elizabeth and Edith (and countless others) will continue to help me to follow Jesus here in Tarporley, Eaton, Cotebrook, Rushton and Utkinton.

I wonder what things God is calling us to get involved with in this parish, and beyond? What impacts could we have in this place? How will we, like the saints, use our gifts and skills for something bigger than ourselves? Dare we pray and ask God the answers to these questions??

### **Done Room Renovations.**

At Café Church in October, we launched The Done Room Renovation project. For nearly 400 years, the Done Room has stood at the heart of the education of young people in Tarporley and the surrounding areas. Since its initial inception in 1636, founded by the generosity of Dorothy Done, it has played a role in the life of generations of Tarporley's children: starting off as the first school in the village, it educated girls and boys for two hundred years on the site, before being subsequently transformed into a Men's Club and Reading Room, a youth club, Band practice room, and ballet school, right up to its current use as the home of the Done Room Pre School and meeting place for Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, all the while also acting as a space for church meetings, social events and Messy Church.

It is pleasing to see that four centuries on, the Done Room plays a pivotal role in educating and helping young people to grow, develop and learn more about life, the world and God's love. It is a community resource, and a fixture of the parish, and we are grateful for its past and present, but we also want to safeguard its future. In order to do that, there are a number of repairs that are needed to the external fabric of this much-loved building.

### **What are we doing?**

The building work will mostly focus on 4 areas:

- 1) Repairing the roof and guttering
- 2) Repairing the gable ends
- 3) Adding a new fire exit
- 4) Adding a new front door

(Continued Overleaf)

### **Why are we doing it?**

These repairs have been identified for a number of years, but as with older buildings, and buildings related to churches, a lot of planning permissions and checks have had to be made. Now, finally we've been given permission for this necessary repair work to do ahead, with a completion date of November 2024. This work will help to ensure the Done Room continues to be useable for future generations as well as undergoing necessary modernising of parts of the building: accessible fire escapes were not top of the building requirements in 1636!

### **When are we doing it?**

We are planning to undertake the work in the summer of 2024 in the break between the summer and autumn school terms.

### **How much will it cost?**

The works will cost approximately £140 000, which is a not unsubstantial sum! Old buildings certainly take a lot to repair.

### **How will we pay for it?**

There are three main sources for paying for the work:

- 1) Money allocated to the project by the PCC, ringfenced from the proceeds of the sale of the Hearse House
- 2) Grant funding. We are working with local grant fundraiser, Stephen Wright, and using his expertise and wisdom to approach a number of grant making organisations
- 3) Fundraising events and donations

### **What can we do to help?**

Pray! Please do pray for the project, for getting the funds we needs, that the work will run on schedule, for the continued work of the Done Room and the

organisations that make use of the building. God does listen, and will act, so please pray...and keep praying!

Support fundraising events or give a donation: there will be lots of opportunities to support the work by coming along to fundraising events, so look out for what is happening and invite friends along! If you're able to, do give a special donation to the project.

Spread the word – tell others about the work we need to do, why it is vital, and how they could help. For those who live locally, the Done Room will probably have been part of most people's lives, whether as a venue for children's parties, attending the pre school, going along to the uniformed groups or being involved in church meetings and events. If everyone who is or has been a recipient of the work of the Done Room could contribute to the fundraising, we would soon hit our target!

If you feel you can support the project, please do get in touch. Otherwise, keep an eye out for fundraising events, and above all, keep praying!!

If you would like to experience the Done Room in use why not join us on November 4<sup>th</sup> at our:

**"CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA IN THE DONE ROOM"**

**SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2.30 – 4pm**

**"CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA IN THE DONE ROOM"**

Entrance fee: **£3.00** for adults **£1.00** for children

(incl. a drink and slice of cake)

**As usual lots of stalls are running including**

**Cake stall, Raffle, Tombola, Christmas Gifts and Games**

**Donations to all stalls appreciated**

**Proceeds to St Helen's Parish Church**

All Welcome

**And in October we enjoyed each other's company and made new friends** whilst raising money for our Churches and other causes at the events described on this page:-

### **The Bellringers' Quiz.**

This enjoyable event held at the Tarporley Community Centre on October 6<sup>th</sup> raised £1760 whilst testing our knowledge of current and past events. The event was organised by the Tarporley Church bellringers with the profits have being split equally between St Luke's Hospice Winsford and St Helen's Church.



Congratulations to the winning team named 'We Meet Again' who scored a massive 91.5 out of a possible 100 on a wide ranging set of questions.

We are very grateful for the support given by the Tarporley community in general, and local people and businesses in particular, for their generous donations which contributed enormously to a very successful evening.

Maybe we will *meet again* at next year's event.

### **Harvest celebrations and decorations in our Parish.**

**All three of our churches were beautifully prepared our Harvest Celebrations.**

Amelia McCourty reports on the **Harvest Supper at Eaton** as follows:-

It was a lovely evening of fellowship at Harvest at St Thomas' this year. Instead of lots of flowers and fresh produce, the windows were decorated with donations of tins and packets for the food bank. A slightly odd look but for a good cause. The Service was followed by supper in the village hall, the home-cooked food much appreciated.

The auction of items kindly donated by Wendy May, was admirably run by Nick and Wendy Parker. A lot of hard work, cooking and preparing led to a great evening. Good friends, new friends, good fellowship, and good food and with the added financial bonus of £1500 which has been donated to St Thomas' Church Funds.





And here is a photo of the team that decorated St Helen's Church.

Thank you to all who decorated or donated to the preparation of our churches so well for our harvest celebrations.

**Wednesday Welcome.** (Held after the weekly Wednesday morning Holy Communion service at St Helen's).

I was pleased to be able to attend this workshop during the Wednesday Welcome Session. It was a small gathering so I was able to meet Sara and Pete who presented their talk with slides. They explained the various ways to save energy/ money spent on fuel bills . They enthusiastically answered lots of questions and were happy to be contacted in future on the following :-

[Sara.jarman@citizensadvicecw.org.Uk](mailto:Sara.jarman@citizensadvicecw.org.Uk)

[Pete.wait@citizensadvicecw.org.Uk](mailto:Pete.wait@citizensadvicecw.org.Uk)

Thank you to Rev Jim for arranging .

*Elaine Meredith*

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

*Delphine Farnworth*

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

*Tomas Cookson and Gemma Baker*

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

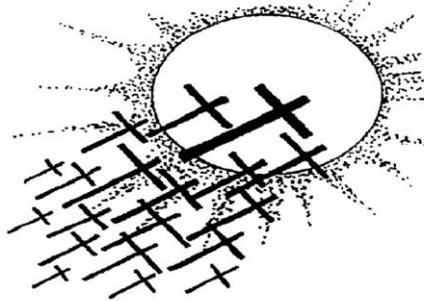
*Annette Crawford*



**Finally: All Souls Service, 4.00pm Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at St Helen's.**

**TARPORLEY PARISH**

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



# **All Souls' Service**

## **Sunday 5th November 2023**

### **St Helen's 4pm**

We join together with others who are facing the pain and sadness of bereavement, and through music, prayers, silence and words, we will remember, pray and give thanks for the lives of those we love but see no longer.

**All are welcome to attend this service, whether you have experienced a bereavement recently or a long time ago.**

**Revd Jim Bridgman 732 491**  
revjimb1017@gmail.com

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Friday Social at Utkinton Village Hall.  
Lunch Club Diary Dates  
November 10th and 24th  
December 8th Christmas Party  
1pm to 4pm  
All Welcome: Come and meet friends old  
and new  
Raffle/Quiz      Table Tennis

### Tarporley War Memorial Hospital

**A quick reminder of the new services to be offered from Tarporley War Memorial Hospital (Phase 1.) (Late Summer /Autumn2022)**

The hospital will become a rural hub for the following:-

- Rapid Response Team enabling people to receive care and rehabilitation in their own homes.
- 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.

**For further information or queries please email  
[fundraising@tarporleyhospital.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@tarporleyhospital.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  
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*There is no meeting in August).*

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# Jacqueline Wilson

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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@opalservices.org.uk](mailto:janet.handley@opalservices.org.uk)  
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