

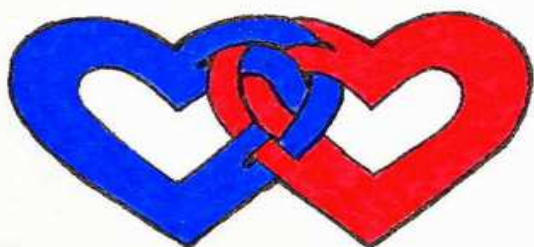
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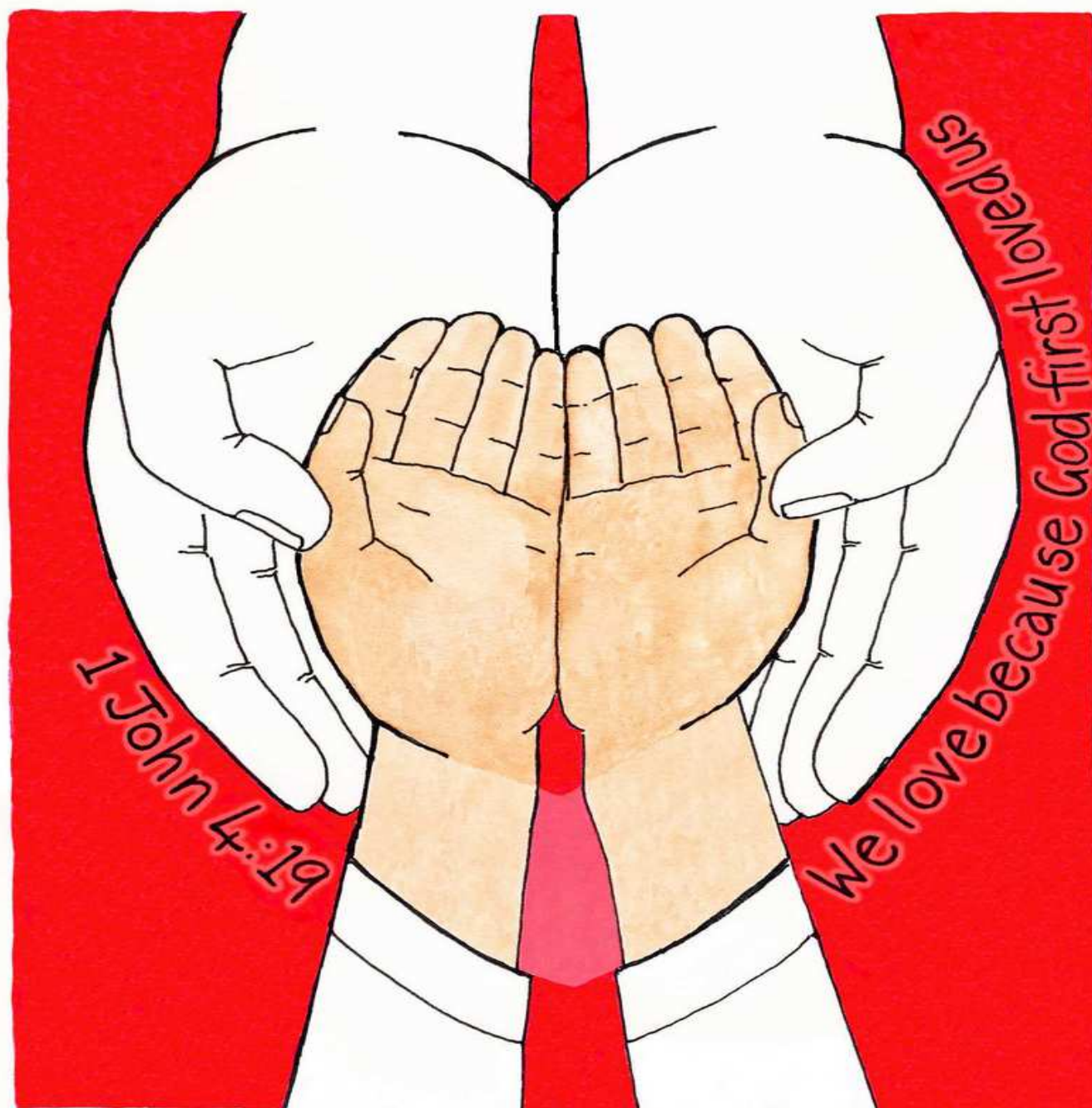


The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad
www.thurstaston.org.uk

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester



February
2014



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Magazine Subscriptions

These are now due for 2014. Details of how to pay on page 24.

Diary Dates

Saturday 25th January
'Saturday Praise'
6.00pm-7.30pm at St Chad's

Saturday 25th January
'Pop in and Pray'
5.00pm-8.00pm at St Chad's

Wednesday 5th February
EMU 'Zumba Gold'
8pm at St Chad's

Thursday 6th February
M.U. 'A Foretaste of Spring'
2.15pm at St Chad's

Monday 17th February
'Wellspring'
8pm at The Rectory

Saturday 1st March
Men's Breakfast
8.45-9.45am at Aroma Café, Irby

Sunday 2nd March
St Chad's Day
See page 7 for more information

Saturday 29th March
Dads 'n' Kids Craft Morning
10am-12 Noon at St Chad's

From the Registers

Baptisms
*We welcome into the
Lord's family*
22nd December
Nathan Geer

Weddings
*We ask for God's blessing upon
the marriage of*
20th December
**Mark Cunningham
& Charlotte Lasley**

Funerals
We commend to God's eternal care
January 24th
**Marjorie
Broadfield**

From your rector

Dear Friends,

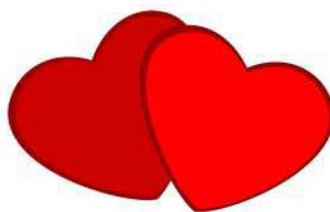
This month sees hearts and flowers fill every shop as they remind us of Valentine's Day. The front cover of our magazine reminds us that all human love initiates with God:-

"We love because God first loved us" 1 John 4v19

I'd like to encourage you this month to think about what it means for God to be your Valentine.

Rev'd Jane

For God
so loved the world
that He gave His
only
begotten
son so
that whoever
believes
in Him shall
have everlasting
life.



John 3:16

St Chad's Day - 2nd March

Join us to celebrate St Chad's Day:-

10.30am Family Service at St Chad's

Followed by Family Games/Crafts

11.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

12.30pm Bring and Share Lunch at St Chad's

EVERYONE WELCOME (you don't have to have been to a service!)

Please bring enough food for you (your family) and this will be placed on a communal table. Everyone will then share together in the feast that evolves.



Dads 'n' Kids Craft Morning Saturday 29th March St Chad's 10.00am-12noon

Leave Mum at home for some peace

Come and Make things
For Mothering Sunday.

Mothering Sunday - 30th March

For details of Services see the Back Cover of the Magazine



Your PCC needs YOU!

WHAT IS THE PCC?

The Parochial Church Council is the governing body of a parish church.

WHAT DOES THE PCC DO?

The PCC is a team made up of members of clergy and lay members of the church. Together they are responsible for the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of their church, the church members, and the church buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the church within the wider community.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Prayer and Worship are at the heart of the work of the PCC. The PCC should ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place for public worship and provide an opportunity for people of all ages to meet for prayer and worship.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

The PCC has an important part to play in promoting the mission of their church, amongst the congregation and in the wider community, and members of the PCC should demonstrate their commitment to the Christian ethos, through leadership, by example and by witness, in the parish.

PASTORAL CARE

The PCC and its members have a duty to support their clergy, prayerfully and personally.

They have a duty to support the members of the congregation and to extend a welcome to all who visit the church, to members of the church community and to those visiting the church at other times.

The church has a duty of pastoral care to all who live in our communities, whether members of the church or not, and PCC members are expected to take the lead in demonstrating that care.

FINANCE

The PCC will appoint a treasurer, and sometimes an assistant treasurer, to manage the day to day finances of the parish. The treasurer does not need to be a qualified accountant (though a very large parish might consider it appropriate to appoint a qualified accountant). He/She must understand how to maintain books, must have a good knowledge of the parish and the work of the church, and importantly must have the full confidence of the PCC membership. The treasurer will keep members informed on the financial situation and present a full report to each PCC meeting.

BUILDINGS

The PCC is responsible for the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church, and any other buildings owned by the church.

WHO CAN BE A MEMBER OF THE PCC?

If you are 16 years old or over, have been on the electoral roll of your parish for at least 6 months and are an actual communicant, **YOU** can stand for election to your PCC.

Cont....



Someone may ask - **What skills do I need to be a member of the PCC?** Skills may be too prescriptive, it is better perhaps to say that someone interested in becoming a member of the PCC will be:

- A committed member of the congregation
- Interested in and involved with the life of the church and the local community
- Willing to learn and to share ideas, experience and gifts
- Caring
- Able to listen to another's point of view

At our Annual Meeting
on Sunday 6th April (6.30pm at St Chad's)

THIS COULD BE YOU.



We will be appointing **PCC MEMBERS**

We will be appointing **DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES**

We also need a **TREASURER**

We are also looking for a new **CHURCHWARDEN**

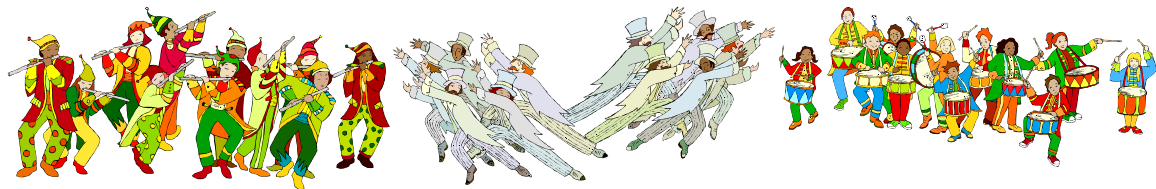
Roger has served for 5 years, and John has served for 4 years

A church warden can do a maximum of 6 consecutive years.

Roger is willing to step down this year in order for someone to learn the role.

For further information about any of these roles, please speak to Revd Jane or either of the Church Wardens (Roger Jackson and John Roberts) , or any member of the PCC (Malcolm Studholme, Helen Boothman, Chris Smale, Chris Turnbull, Graham Barley, Beverley Appleyard, Craig Vickers, Jon Oliver, Julie DeBoorder, Liz Norton-Jones, Matt James, Roger Dennison, Joyce Abbott, Elaine Jones, Sally Lang, Chris Eden, Andrew Harford).

More information about the Annual Meeting in next Month's magazine.



The Twelve Days of Christmas

It would have been surprising if you had not heard the above 'carol' being sung at sometime over the recent Christmas period. Apart from the reference in the title to the twelve days between Christmas Day and Epiphany, the carol, with its strange numerical references, does not appear, on the surface, to have any religious significance whatsoever. However, on the contrary, there is a tradition which suggests that the carol is full of religious symbolism.

The tradition dates back to the period from 1558 to 1829, during which time Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practise their faith openly. It is suggested that someone, during that era, wrote the carol as a catechism song for young Roman Catholics. It had two levels of meaning – the surface meaning plus a hidden, deeper meaning which would be evident only to members of the church. According to the tradition, the various elements in the carol have the following Christian References:

1. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus
2. The two turtledoves are the Old and New Testaments
3. The three French hens stand for faith, hope and love
4. The four calling birds are the four gospels
5. The five gold rings recall the first five books of the O.T.
6. The six geese a laying stand for the six days of creation
7. The seven swans a swimming represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit
8. The eight maids a milking are the eight beatitudes

9. The nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
10. The ten lords a leaping are the ten commandments
11. The eleven pipers piping represent the eleven faithful disciples
12. The twelve drummers drumming symbolize the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles Creed

Any discomfort at thinking of Jesus as a partridge in a pear tree is perhaps mitigated by Jesus' words on Jerusalem in Luke's gospel: '*Jerusalem, Jerusalem... How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings.*' The 'true love' in the carol is said to refer to God himself and the 'me' receiving the various gifts is said to represent every Christian.

Although this tradition of the symbolic nature of the Twelve Days of Christmas Carol remains very strong, particularly in the Roman Catholic Church, there is no documentary evidence for it. This may not be unsurprising in the context of a period of persecution. However, there are other explanations for the origins of the carol. Chief among them is, perhaps, a theory that the carol was originally of French origin and was a counting game to be played by children to reinforce their number skills. This would accord with an early version of the carol printed in English in 1780 in a children's book entitled, *Mirth without Mischief*. It was included as a Twelfth Night *Memories and Forfeits* game in which each player had to recite their own verse but also, cumulatively, the verses recited by those who had gone before him or her.

It will be at least eleven months before you hear the carol again, so you will have plenty of time to consider which version of the origin of this strange carol you lean towards!



Alan Jones, Lay Reader



PARISHIONERS AT WAR!

Part 4

Introduction

This is the fourth of a series of articles about the wartime experiences of members of our parish. The subjects of this month's article are Thelma Welsh and Muriel McKie who have been regular worshippers at both of the churches in the parish, St Bartholomew and St Chad.

One wartime fact about the local area I learned, recently, from Archie Peat relates to the extensive fields on the left of Thingwall Road as you proceed from Irby Village to Thingwall Corner. Apparently, during the nights of the blitz, lights were strung out in the fields to try to divert the German Bombers from the docks in Birkenhead and Liverpool. A similar technique was, apparently, used on the Yorkshire Moors in an attempt to protect cities such as Leeds and Huddersfield.

The wartime memories of Thelma Welsh

Thelma was born in 1920 in Formby. Her father owned a Wheelwright, Blacksmiths and Motor Body Building firm with his brother and Thelma recalls seeing carriages and milk floats on his business premises. Her father fought all the way through the 1st World War, after volunteering at its outbreak in 1914. Thelma was the elder of two sisters, although there was only 17 months between her and her younger sister, Jean.

Thelma went to Miss Rimmer's Private School at the age of 4 yrs and then moved on to St Andrew's Hall at the age of 9 yrs. However, this closed when Thelma was 12 yrs old and she moved onto Waterloo Park which she left at the age of 16 yrs to attend Oakworth Ladies' Secretarial College.

Thelma vividly recalls the radio announcement of the outbreak of the 2nd World War by Neville Chamberlain on Sunday 3rd September at 11.15 a.m. She remembers what she describes as 'his dismal voice' and the feeling of gloom that descended upon the members of her household following that awful news. She was 18 yrs old at the time. It was not long before the family were hosting evacuees. The first were two girls who apparently wore Californian Poppy Perfume which the family found overpowering and far from as appealing as Thelma's mother's Lavender Water Perfume! The next group were four boys who had to attend the local school.

One of them was clearly a reluctant pupil, as the family discovered when the Headmaster called at the house to check on his whereabouts. Apparently, he had been truanting from school and returning home at the end of the day when he saw pupils from other schools leaving for home.

Thelma started work as a secretary and shorthand typist at the Cunard Building on the Liverpool Waterfront in February 1941. Amongst her tasks, was the typing up of crew lists and inventories for the famous Cunard ships. These included the *Queen Mary*, the *Corinthia* and the *Mauretania*. Cunard cargo ships would be involved in the Atlantic Conveys that set sail from Liverpool on their perilous journey to America, while the passenger liners were used as troop carriers. The famous Queen Mary made unescorted voyages to America to ferry troops back to Britain, using her speed to avoid the U Boat threat. Thelma and her co workers knew the importance of discretion in their work. Simply informing someone they were working late into the evening, could release information about when a convoy was due to sail. On one occasion, a sailor asked Thelma to do him a favour. It was to type up his will! Thelma felt he must have had a premonition of his death. Sadly, as it turned out, he never returned to Liverpool and Thelma assumes his ship must have been torpedoed.

Thelma made the journey to work largely on the train which, in those days, terminated at Exchange Station. However, her travel plans were often disrupted by the effects of the bombing. On one journey to work, her train terminated at Seaforth because of a fire on an ammunition ship at Huskisson Dock. As a result, she had to walk all the way from Seaforth to the Pier Head. She recalls she was so exhausted, when she got into Liverpool, she stopped off at a café for a cup of tea. Despite her valiant efforts to get in to work, she was soundly told off for being late! Because most of the bombing raids were at night, Thelma does not recall often having to retreat into the basement of the Cunard Building for shelter. However, she was once in the Paramount Cinema when the Air Raid Siren went. Having already paid her admission, she decided to stay and watch the film, along with the rest of the audience! One bomb did drop in Formby, near to the house in which she had once lived.

After the war, Thelma continued working for Cunard until she retired in 1980. The family moved to the Wirral in the 1950s after her father sold his business and retired. They moved, first to Wallasey, and then to a bungalow in Thingwall Road Irby. It was from that time onwards that Thelma became a member of St Bartholomew's Church. The incumbent at the time was Canon Spencer who had been the family's rector at St Hilary's, Wallasey, so they were thrilled to be re-acquainted with him. Thelma recalls how much, in those early days, she enjoyed the long walks to and from church after working all week in the confines of an office. Nowadays, when Thelma is able to attend church, it is at the nearby St Chad's.

Cont....

The Wartime Memories of Muriel McKie

Muriel was born in 1931. The family lived in West Derby and her father was a process engraver in the printing trade, working in the centre of Liverpool. Before the arrival of Muriel and her younger brother, Reg, Muriel's mother had been a secretary and book-keeper. Both her parents had been born in 1899 and her father served with the sea plane section of the Royal Navy Air Force towards the end of the 1st World War and later with the R.A.F.

In 1935 the family moved to Roslin Road in Irby, close to a house occupied by her father's aunt and cousins which borders Muriel's back garden. Muriel thinks the move was partly motivated by her own health problems. Her father continued working in Liverpool city centre and the family included Muriel's grandmother who had lived with them in West Derby and who was now unwell and was undergoing an early form of radium treatment. Muriel started at Dawpool School at the age of six. Her grandmother had already taught her to read and, after a few years at school, Muriel had read all of the books available in the school and was on to a novel brought in by the headmistress, Miss Claxton, from her own collection! At that time, the school had just three classes and the Headmistress lived in the adjacent school house.

Although Muriel has no recollection of the announcement of the war, she recalls having to wear an identity bracelet to school and also having to carry a gas mask. Lessons and practice on the fitting of gas masks were given at the school. During air raids, the children were all led down to the bottom of School Lane to their air raid shelters opposite the Heatherlands 'Café', as it was known then. Today, a footpath starts where the shelters were sited. The shelters were dug into the ground and covered with earth.

The school hosted evacuees from Wallasey and Birkenhead and, when they were present, the local children would only attend for half a day, while the evacuee children attended for the other half. There were also evacuees in the area from the Channel Isles and they were taught at the Village Hall. The air raid siren for Irby was situated above the front door of the Village Hall and Muriel recalls sleeping downstairs during alerts and also being put under the stairs. Often, however, Muriel recalls she and her brother slept through the siren as it became a part of normal life in those early years of the war. Although Muriel felt that her parents protected her and her brother from the true horror of the war, on one occasion, she recalls her father took her upstairs to the front bedroom to show her the sky, which was a vivid red with the fires burning in Liverpool. He told her it was important that she realised what people were suffering. Later, Muriel was to visit Liverpool and see the devastation for herself.

Although rationing was in place, the family's food supplies were supplemented from the garden which boasted six apple trees and a range of soft fruit bushes. Muriel's father also kept two allotments. His gardening tools, during his working week, were lent to the headmaster of the Channel Islands evacuees' school in the Village Hall so the boys could look after their own allotment. On occasion, Muriel's father would cycle to Farndon to collect soft fruit from a relative, cycling back with boxes of fruit perched precariously on the back and handlebars of his bicycle.

One of the favourite pastimes of the boys on the way to and from school was looking for rare pieces of shrapnel. Muriel recalls her brother, Reg, actually finding a piece in School Lane.

Muriel transferred from Dawpool to West Kirby Grammar School in 1942. By this time, she was a girl guide attached to the Providence Mission Hall, which is Irby Evangelical Church today. As a guide, she remembers helping the war effort by collecting potato and vegetable peelings etc for use in the pig swill and also waste newspapers, rags and tin cans. She also recalls collecting weekly on behalf of the Red Cross.

Although Muriel attended Sunday School at the Providence Mission in line with her guide membership, at the age of 16 yrs she was confirmed as a member of St Bartholomew's Church. She already knew the church well from her days at Dawpool, when the school staff and pupils attended the church frequently during Lent. She became a regular Sunday worshipper at St Bartholomew's until the mid 1990's when the incapacity of her mother made it impractical and she started attending St Chad's, which she had, previously, attended only on Wednesday mornings. Muriel still attends St Chad's regularly on both a Sunday and Wednesday morning and is an active member of the Mothers' Union and the Wellspring Prayer Group which meets at the Vicarage.

Alan Jones, Lay Reader



"It may well attract more young folk to join the congregation but I still prefer the old church notice board"

THE WAR TO END ALL WARS:

Part 1: Tensions in Europe

On July 28th 1914 the continent of Europe was at peace, though riven with tensions between the great powers (Germany, Russia, France, Austria-Hungary and Britain). That Sunday morning, however, a sniper, probably a Serbian activist, shot and killed the Archduke Ferdinand of Bosnia-Herzegovina outside Sarajevo railway station.



THE GREAT WAR 1914 - 1918

For a month Europe held its breath as diplomats and politicians from the major nations went into crisis mode. Those involved mostly knew each other - in fact, several were related. Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, after all, was a grandson of Queen Victoria! Yet long-standing feuds in the Balkans, fierce nationalism, new 'Ententes' between some of the powers, swollen arsenals of weapons and - perhaps most of all - fear of one another paralysed their approach. July passed, and with it the hope of peace.

No one knew, of course, what dark and appalling forces they were about to unleash, but on August 4th the most terrible war of European history erupted. Not surprisingly it has become known simply as the 'Great War'. By the time it ended four years later it had involved 65 million troops, brought about the deaths of twenty million soldiers and civilians, and injured another 21 million people. It's a truism to say that it changed history, but a glance at any war memorial in Britain is a constant reminder of its cruel cost in human terms. Many villages lost almost all their young men. Families were decimated, children lost fathers, women lost their boy friends. Those who lived through it - my parents' generation - would never forget its consequences.

Throughout this year the story of that dreadful conflict will be re-told as we mark the centenary of its outbreak. It's surely pointless, so long after the event, to attempt to apportion blame. Thoughts of military conflict between the nation-states involved seem remote and ridiculous today. Yet whatever its immediate trigger, that War, and its strange child, the Second World War, have shaped the modern world.

It must all seem a long while ago now to schoolchildren studying it as history, but for many of us older people it was a conflict that involved our parents or grandparents, and changed their lives for ever. My father enlisted in 1914. He and millions like him had been told they were fighting 'the war to end all wars'. Sadly, it wasn't.

By David Winter, (a former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC)

The Great War:

Part 2: GALLANT LITTLE BELGIUM

The posters were everywhere. Lord Kitchener, eyes blazing and finger pointing imperiously, proclaimed 'Your country needs YOU!' And up and down the land during those first anxious months of the Great War young men, often urged on by families and girl friends, responded by lining up at recruitment offices in order to enlist in the Army. Those who didn't, for whatever reason, were in danger of receiving a white feather in an anonymous envelope, the badge of cowardice.



THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

Most, like my own father, needed no such urging. For him, as he would explain to the end of his life, the war was a moral duty in defence of 'gallant little Belgium', which had been invaded by the German army on its way, it hoped, to northern France. Britain was bound by its treaty obligations - the famous Entente Cordiale - to share in the defence of France, so (as my father and millions of others saw it) there was a solemn duty to keep our promises.

That is not, of course, necessarily the way history sees things, but I am sure that most of those young men who queued up to volunteer did it for one of two reasons, or, more probably, both of them: patriotism and public pressure. Crowds cheered the young recruits as they marched off to training camps. It would, everyone confidently asserted, 'all be over by Christmas'. Defeat was unthinkable. These young men - many of them barely fit, through poor diet or unhealthy backgrounds - would face up to the Kaiser's hordes and crush them. At that point, the country was not an unwilling participant in war, but totally committed to it.

In the event, the euphoria didn't last long - indeed, barely as far as Christmas. The German army, well-drilled and equipped, simply barged its way across Belgium. There were bloody battles at Ypres and Mons, but it was the Germans who did the crushing and the Allies - British and French - who did the retreating.

However hard they fought, at each point where the generals drew a line and said 'no further', the German army simply paused for breath and then swept on. Casualties on both sides were high, and slowly the truth began to filter into the public consciousness at home. This war would not be short; it would not be easily won; and it would be desperately costly.

By David Winter (a former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC)



At our meeting on 6th February Colin Ratcliffe will be presenting 'A Foretaste of Spring' from The Keukenhof Gardens near Amsterdam.

You do not need to be a member to come along to our meetings so please Ladies & Gentlemen do join us for a lovely afternoon, 2.15pm at St Chad's.

EMU (Evening Mothers' Union) meets:-

One Wednesday in each month, 8.00pm at St Chad's
for more information contact Chris Rostock (648 1112)

This month's meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th February,
8.00pm at St Chad's
'Zumba Gold'

A half hour session of a modified Zumba with low impact moves
Suitable for all abilities

There will be a small charge for this session





Families across the UK & Ireland get Away From It All

"I had fled from my husband with my two of my daughters because of domestic violence and mental abuse. We had nothing. However we spent a wonderful week as a family; not just as a holiday but it was a time with my daughters to talk and understand how they were feeling." AFIA holiday recipient

In 2013 Mothers' Union helped 2,721 people to get Away From It All by providing AFIA holidays and away days. The scheme, run by Mothers' Union members across the UK, is hoping to increase this number in 2014 to enable even more families, who wouldn't otherwise be able, to get a break from their difficult lives.

Away From It All breaks take many forms, they can be either weeks away with many families, led by a group of Mothers' Union volunteers, or holidays in mobile homes or caravans owned by the local Mothers' Union. Day trips or weekend breaks are also offered for families who could not manage a full week away. The holidays are offered to families who are experiencing stressful times, or simply need a break; this could be for any number of reasons.

AFIA breaks give people an opportunity to step away from their stressful lives and reconnect as a family. One family who had experienced domestic abuse found their trip away was an opportunity to not only have fun and play but to finally be themselves again and feel safe.

Here in the Chester Diocese Mothers' Union diocese we have an AFIA fund and team in place and run annual events trips for those who need it most. Families who are facing challenging times can apply for a break by contacting their local Mothers' Union branch. It is also possible to nominate families who might not think to put themselves forwards.

"Without your members we would not have been able to have this holiday, thank you so much for making this possible." AFIA recipient

The application process is simple and not only do the families hugely benefit but so do those who help the holidays take place. You can support the project through nominating a family, donating to the project or by praying for those families experiencing stress and the Mothers' Union members who enable them to have this welcome rest.

Please email mothersunionchester@care4free.net for more information or telephone 01244 400 491

**Advanced Notice of
Lent, Holy Week and Easter Special Services**

Ash Wednesday 5th March

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

Palm Sunday 13th April

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

9.30am Family Communion at St Chad's

11.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

6.30pm Taize Service at St Chad's

Maundy Thursday 17th April

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

There is also a service at 11.00am at Chester Cathedral

Good Friday 18th April

10.00-11.30am Easter Journey Experience at St Chad's

Lots of fun things to do and make: Everyone will travel together on a journey around the building with crafts, activities and stories taking us on a journey from Palm Sunday through to Easter Day

10.00am Short Morning Service in St Chad's Extension

2.00pm "Hour at the Cross"

Meditative Service at St. Bartholomew's

Easter Day 20th April

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

9.30am Family Communion at St Chad's

11.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

NO Evening Service

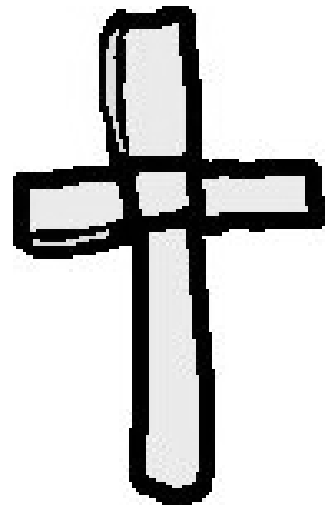
Sunday 27th April (Sunday After Easter)

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

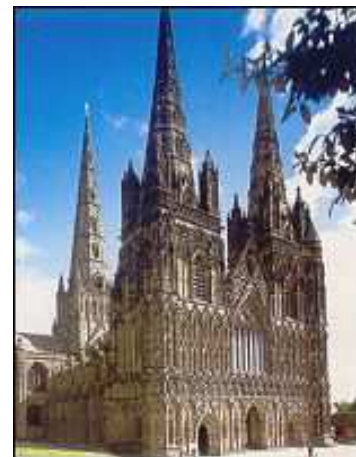
9.30am Morning Worship at St Chad's

11.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

NO Evening Service



**Parish Outing to
Lichfield Cathedral and
The National Memorial Arboretum
Tuesday 17th June 2014
EVERYONE WELCOME**



Cost £15.00

Includes Coach, Driver's Tip & a Donation to Lichfield Cathedral.

Does not include Lunch or any refreshments.

There is no charge for entry to the National Memorial Arboretum and as an individual you may wish to make a donation via the visitor centre on the day.

9.00am Meet on the Rectory Drive (77 Thingwall Rd)

Please park either in St Chad's Car Park or the Village Car Park and walk to the Rectory. Please DO NOT park at the Rectory - the Coach will need access!

9.15am Depart from The Rectory

11.00am Arrive Lichfield (St Chad's) Cathedral

Explore the Cathedral at Leisure

Enjoy Lunch in the Cathedral Refectory or your own picnic in the grounds

1.45pm Depart Lichfield

2.00pm Arrive at The National Memorial Arboretum

Explore at your own Leisure. For those needing disabled facilities, their website says:-

*Visitors in **wheelchairs** and **electric scooters** are well catered for. There is level access to the Visitor Centre, where toilet facilities are available, and firm, level paths give good access to much of the site.*



4.30pm Depart The National Memorial Arboretum

6.30pm Arrive back at the Rectory

Book your place ASAP

**Give your name and a non-refundable £5.00 deposit
to Leslie Worrall or Alan Jones,
or put it in an envelope and deliver to the Parish Office.**

Church Calendars

Following the, highly successful, photographic competition held last year, over 200 of the resulting Church Calendars were sold, raising just on £500 for church funds.



The competition attracted entrants across a wide age range and the winners were presented with special prints of their own photographs, kindly donated by Roger Dennison.

The prize giving, held at St Chad's, was a hugely enjoyable social occasion, which raised a further £200 for church funds. Prizes were presented by local M.P., Esther McVey, who, wholeheartedly, entered into the spirit of the occasion, even agreeing to draw the raffle prizes!

Many thanks to all of those people who took part, supported the prize giving event and who purchased calendars.

Our idea of Photograph Competition leading to Parish Calendar is to be included in a Diocesan Booklet called GAP100 which will list successful GAP projects. The Booklet aims to inspire parishes to share success stories and learn from one another.

Elaine Jones and Sally Lang – Organisers

Chester Diocesan Lay Conference

16th – 18th May 2014

A weekend residential conference at
the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire

Anyone is welcome to go on this Conference which happens every three years. Members of our congregation, who have attended in the past, have found this to be an excellent weekend.

If you are interested, please speak to Revd Jane.



Wellspring

Third Monday of each month
this month: **Monday February 17th**

8.00pm Meeting at the Rectory

An opportunity to Listen to God and to Pray.

All are Welcome

Together we will seek

God's Vision

for our church communities.

Give ears and come to me; listen, so that you might live.



Men's Breakfast



1st March 2014

8.45 – 9.45am

Aroma Cafe, Irby Village

Eat, chat and share in fellowship.

Contact Matthew James on 07817625122 or
mjames@doctors.org.uk for further details.

Dates for your diary: Where possible Men's Breakfasts will take place on the first Saturday of alternate months. Future dates for 2014 are:

May 10th, July 5th, Sept 6th and Nov 1st.

Saturday July 12th at St Chad's Commemorating 100 years since the beginning of World War 1

There will be:-

- **Displays of artwork produced by primary school children**
- **Information about the men recorded on our War Memorial**
- **A family History Enquiry Table**
- **A display about “Animals in the War”**
- **Refreshments**

We would be especially interested to hear from anyone who is related to those on our War Memorial (Thomas Baker, Fred Carr (MM), Charles Fairbanks, Edwin Lester, Frank Lester (VC), William Lee Maddock). Also if anyone has any artefacts that they would be willing to bring to display on the day (you would be responsible for them at all times).

We would also invite anyone else who would like to produce a display on a specific area of the war to get in touch. Areas that people might have a special interest in could be Women in the War, Medicine, Life in the Trenches, War Poetry, Army, Navy, Air Force, The Merchant Service, The Home Front (e.g. Land Girls, Munitions, Transport, Train Drivers), Rationing – the effects on home life, The Civilian Services (Police, Ambulance, Fire), Individuals eg Woodbine Willy (Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy), Tubby Clayton (Reverend Philip Thomas Byard Clayton), etc...

Mr Roger Jackson (Tel: 648 0365)



P.S. If there are any church members who would like to offer to organise the refreshments, please also contact Roger

P.P.S. If there are any church members willing to organise a “mini” Summer Fair in the extension to run alongside this event, please also contact Roger.

February Recipe

This is quickly assembled; use either cooking or eating apples. You can use up your vegetarian mincemeat in this recipe too. Serves 8.

INGREDIENTS

175g (6oz) self raising flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
50g (2oz) caster sugar
50g (2oz) soft baking margarine
1 egg
finely grated rind of 1 lemon
100ml (3½ fl oz) of milk

225g (8oz) mincemeat
450g (1lb) apples, sliced.

Topping

50g (2oz) butter, melted
about 175g (6oz) demerara sugar
I also just sprinkle this recipe with the sugar.

Heat oven to 200C/Fan 180/Gas 6. Well grease a shallow round 28cm (11in) ovenproof dish.

METHOD

1. Measure the flour, baking powder, caster sugar, egg, margarine and lemon rind into a bowl. Beat well together, add the milk and beat until the consistency of a sponge mixture.
2. Spread the mixture on the base of the dish, spread over the mincemeat and arrange the apple on top. Brush butter over the apple and sprinkle with Demerara sugar.

Bake in a pre-heated oven for about 35 minutes until the apples are cooked and sponge golden brown.

Serve warm with cream.

Betty Rimmer



"Cross Talk Subscription for 2014 is £4"

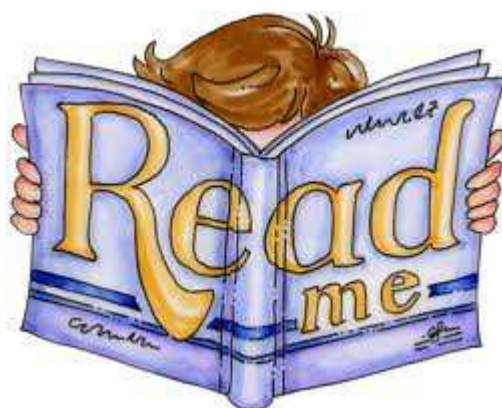
These are now due for 2014. If you see your deliverer please pay them.
Alternatively either post a cheque for £4.00 payable to Thurstaston PCC,
to St Chad's Church Office, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH or pay on-line at
40.52.40 00018674, putting your surname and mag subs as reference.

- ☐ I enclose £4 and would like to continue to have Cross Talk delivered to my house
- ☐ I no longer wish to have Cross Talk delivered to my house

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No. (optional) _____





The Cinnamon Trust Irby

The Cinnamon Trust is the national charity whose wonderful volunteers help people over retirement age and those in the latter stages of a terminal illness by offering all kinds of pet care. We urgently need volunteers for a resident of Irby who cannot walk their dog a lovely 8 year old Springer Cross.

What happens if illness, injury or just the fact that we all get older eventually affects our ability to look after our four legged companions? A large number of elderly or ill pet owners become very worried about their ability to care for their pets, feeling that their only option is to rehome them, this is where our national network of dedicated volunteers step in to offer support enabling them to stay together.

We'll walk the dog for a housebound owner, we'll foster pets when owners need hospital care, we'll fetch the cat food, even clean out the bird cage or litter trays.

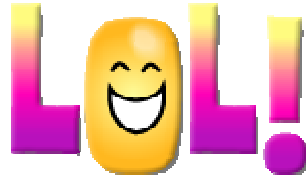
We are always seeking new volunteers so even if you can only spare an hour a week we would love to hear from you,

If anyone can help please call during office hours 01736 758707 or via email volunteer@cinnamon.org.uk Please also check out our website for more details

www.cinnamon.org.uk

The Cinnamon Trust is a Registered Charity No: 1134680 The Cinnamon Trust is a limited company registered in England and Wales. Registered Office: 10 Market Square, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4HE. Company Number 07004861





Why?

A young couple invited some people to dinner. At the table, the mother turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I don't know what to say," the girl replied.

"Just say what you hear Mummy say," the father answered.

The daughter bowed her head and said, "O Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"



**

Windows



A wife texted her husband on a cold winter morning: "Windows frozen."

Her husband texted back: "Pour some lukewarm water over it."

The wife texted back five minutes later: "Computer's completely not working now."

**

The Haircut

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test. He asked his father when he could start using the family car. His father replied: "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car."

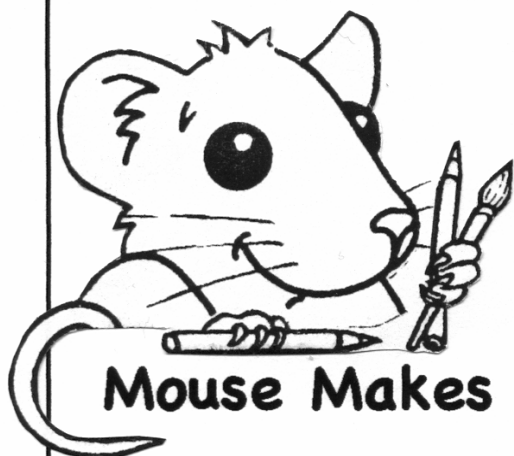
The boy thought about that, and decided he'd settle for the offer. After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

His dad sat for a moment and then thoughtfully agreed. Then he added: "Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"



**



Mouse Makes

Nothing ...
... will ever be
able to separate
us from the
LOVE of **God**
that is in
Christ Jesus
our Lord.

Romans 8:39



1 John 4:16

Cut out and keep these cards to
remind you of God's love for us.

The Lord's **LOVE**
never ends,
his mercies
never stop.
They are new
every morning.

Lamentations 3:22-23



God **loved** the world
so much that he gave
his only Son, so that
everyone who
believes in him would
not be lost but
have eternal life. .

John 3:16

"See how much our
heavenly Father
LOVES us,
for he has
allowed us
to be called
his children"

1 John 3:1



For the
Lord is **GOOD**
and his **LOVE**
endures
for ever

Psalms 100:5



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If you are thinking of making a new Will, please remember the teaching on Christian stewardship.

Leaving a Legacy can make a vital difference for the general purposes of our parish's local mission and ministry.



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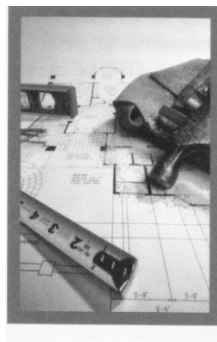
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E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk



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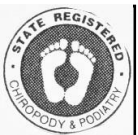
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Contacts

Churchwardens

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Mr J Roberts 23 Riverbank Road Lower Heswall CH60 4SQ | 342 2149 | Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's) Mrs J Bibby | 678 8124 |
|--|-----------------|--|-----------------|

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Mr R Jackson 13 Norton Drive Irby CH61 4XP | 648 0365 | Cleaning Guild (St Chad's) Mrs L Worrall | 648 5590 |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|

Reader

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Mr Alan Jones 8 Edgemore Drive Irby CH61 4XT | 648 1400 | Bellringers Tower Captain Dr P Robson | 648 6691 |
|---|-----------------|--|-----------------|

Retired Clergy

| | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Rev'd J Edwardson 38 Hazel Grove Irby CH61 4UZ | 648 2661 | CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------------|

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Rev'd S Beckley 162 Heathbank Irby CH61 4YG | 648 7767 | Junior Church Mrs J Deboorder | 648 6331 |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Rev'd I Morris 43 Abbotts Way West Kirby CH48 6EH | 625 8474 | Seniors/Youth (11-16) Mrs J Trigg | 648 1245 |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|

PCC Secretary

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| Mr G Barley 5 Sherwood Avenue Irby CH61 4XB | 648 1867 | Rainbows/Brownies/Guides www.girlguiding.org.uk or Freephone | 0800 1 69 59 01 |
|--|-----------------|--|------------------------|

PCC Treasurer

648 8169

CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

Verger

| | | |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Mrs J Ratcliffe 135 Thingwall Road Irby CH61 3UD | 648 6171 | Christian Aid Representative Vacant |
|---|-----------------|--|

Organist

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Mr C Vickers 34 Townsend Avenue Irby CH61 2XW | 648 7405 | Children's Society Representative Mrs J Heath | 648 6015 |
|--|-----------------|--|-----------------|

Electoral Roll

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| c/o Church Office | 648 8169 | Leprosy Mission Representative Mrs P Hulme | 648 1827 |
|-------------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|

St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Mrs J Heath | 648 6015 | Adoption Society Representative Mrs C Rostock | 648 1112 |
|-------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|

Evening Mothers' Union (EMU)

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Mrs C Rostock (Secretary) | 6481112 |
|---------------------------|----------------|

Flower Guild (St Bartholomew's)

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Mrs E Jones | 648 1400 |
|-------------|-----------------|

Flower Guild (St Chad's)

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Mrs J Ratcliffe | 648 6171 |
|-----------------|-----------------|

Church Services - January

Sunday Services

St Bartholomew's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Holy Communion

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Holy Communion

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Worship

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm NO SERVICE

2nd February
Candlemas

9th February
4th Sunday Before Lent

16th February
3rd Sunday Before Lent

23rd February
2nd Sunday Before Lent

2nd March
St Chad's Day

St Chad's

9.30am Family Service

9.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Communion

10.30am Family Service

Weekday Services

Holy Communion celebrated at St Chad's each Wed 10.15am
ALL WELCOME

7.30pm Holy Communion

5th March
Ash Wednesday

10.15am Holy Communion

Baptisms and Weddings

To arrange a baptism or wedding,
please telephone the Rector, Revd Jane Turner on 0151 648 1816
or the Church office on 0151 648 8169.

PLEASE NOTE: Rector's day off - Tuesday

RECTOR: Revd Jane Turner

The Rectory, 77 Thingwall Road, Irby, Wirral, CH61 3UB
Telephone: 0151 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday) E-mail: rector@thurstaston.org.uk

CHURCH OFFICE: Mrs C Rostock St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH

Telephone: 0151 648 8169. E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk
OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm (term time)

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