

Crosstalk

40p



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

June 2014

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

*Pray at all times
as
the
Spirit
leads*



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Notices

Thank you card received from Ruth & Bernard Dann following Bernard's 90th Birthday:-
 "Bernard has asked me to thank you most kindly for his lovely card and good wishes. He was so pleased that you remembered him after so long. He has such a lot of happy memories of St Chad's which always meant a great deal to him. With love & best wishes to you all and again very many thanks from Bernard. Ruth & Bernard."

Diary Dates

Monday 9th June PCC Meeting 7.30pm at St Chad's	Thursday 3rd July Mothers' Union Strawberry Tea 2.15pm at 135 Thingwall Road
Monday 16th June Wellspring 8pm at The Rectory	Saturday 5th July Men's Breakfast 8.45-9.45am at Aroma Café Irby Village
Wednesday 25th June EMU-Crown Green Bowling at Irby Park, 7pm	Saturday 12th July Commemorating 100 years since the beginning of World War 1 10am-1pm at St Chad's

From the Registers

Funerals
We commend to God's eternal care

9th June
Jacqueline Frodsham

Congratulations to
Joe & Simon
as they celebrate 50 years of
Ordination

From your rector

Dear Friends,

This month sees two major church festivals - that of Pentecost and Trinity Sunday which lead us in to ordinary time. So here are a few thoughts about each of them:-

Pentecost:

Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house. (Acts 2:2)

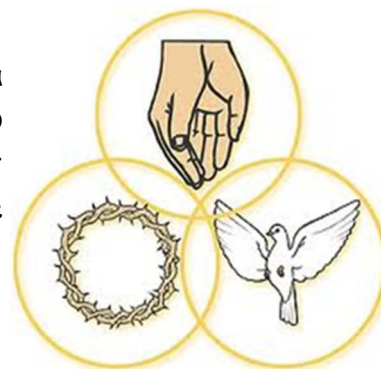
During Jesus' earthly ministry, no more than a limited number of people could be near enough to hear him, let alone speak to him or touch him. His Ascension - followed by Pentecost - was to change everything to a global dimension. Earlier he had reassured his disciples, "I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you....It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go I will send him to you....(John 14:18; 16:7). To have the Holy Spirit is to have the very presence of Jesus in your life.



- The mystery of Pentecost. The coming of Christ's Spirit - 'the Counsellor' - remind people of a wind (unseen, yet powerful in its effects) - and of prophecies such as Ezekiel 37:9. Christians have always loved these vivid descriptions of the Holy Spirit - wind, fire, oil, water, a dove.
- The sovereignty of Pentecost. 'The wind blows where it wills' said Jesus to Nicodemus (John 3:8). So was the Spirit's working in Acts 2 - suddenly there were new believers swept into the Church of Jesus Christ - from lands all around the Mediterranean basin. Don't say the Gospel can't work in certain places and people. It has! It does.
- The energy of Pentecost. At the start of Acts 2, there were about 120 believers in the church. By the end of the day they had ballooned by over 2,000 percent. And our church is still growing today. Pentecost still happens in peoples lives today!

Trinity:

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself - way out there in space - unapproachable in its fiery majesty - is the Father. The light that flows from



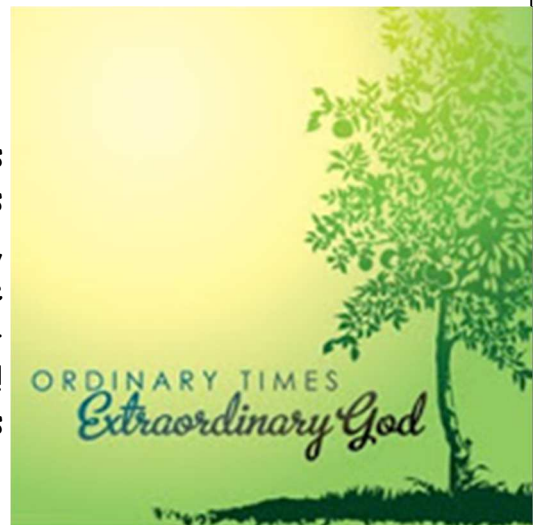
it, and which illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells his disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we stand in its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follows.

Ordinary Time:

One great phrase of the Church of England, which is little-known but carries a wealth of rich meaning, is "ordinary time." While the seasons of Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Advent all have their fixtures and moments for focus and concentration, the bulk of the summer months is 'ordinary time'! A very evocative phase - nothing particularly to focus on or to celebrate.



Just because it is ordinary it does not mean it is not important or of no significance to how God wants us to use our lives. For most of us life is lived between high and low points: we look forward to something on the horizon or we are seeking to recover from something. So it should be no surprise that ordinary time is the longest season in the Church calendar. Abraham Lincoln once said that: "God must love ordinary people because he made so many of them"!

Ordinary people, it seems to me, need 'ordinary time'. Sundays and week days in-between, to sense God's presence with us in the day-to-day mundane, and ordinary comings and goings of life. He is there in the heights of resurrection joy and celebration. He is with us in the vulnerability and frailty of human weakness, modelled in the incarnation. He is with us in our efforts to discipline ourselves and be moulded by him (Lent) but he is also with us whenever we are conscious of life just being ordinary. When our eyes are opened to these things, we will see what an extraordinary God we have!

Rerd Jane

Photograph Competition 2014

**All
ages**



under 11

11-17

over 18

Winners to be included in a 2015 Calendar

Prize Giving Afternoon

Saturday 13th September at St Chad 's Church 1-4 pm

Age group winners presented with prizes by Esther McVey MP

Entries Displayed, Irby Artists, Children 's Crafts,

Raffle and lots more

Lunch and Refreshments

Entry forms with further details from Parish Office, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH

Tel: 6488169 or on line at www.thurstaston.org.uk

Closing Date Sunday 31st August



Entry form

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Telephone number.....

Email address.....

Age group ☐ please tick appropriate box

Under 11 ☐ 11-17 ☐ over 18 ☐

Brief Description of photo (including location)

.....

.....

.....

Entry Number

(for official use only)

The small print

Closing date: Sunday 31st August 2014

Exhibition/Prize giving afternoon: 1-4pm Saturday 13 September 2014

Photographs must be taken within the Wirral District

Maximum of two entries per person

Three age categories: under 11, 11-17 and over 18 (age as on 31/8/14)

One winner in each category will be awarded a prize and their photo will be included in 2015 Wirral Calendar

Nine other runners up will also be chosen to complete the Calendar

All Photographs must printed at 7x5in (and minimum 300dpi)

Photos must be in landscape (not portrait)

Please submit printed entries to the Parish Office, at St Chads, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH (Tel: 648 8169 Website: www.thurstaston.org.uk)

Each photo must have a completed entry form and entrance fee of £1 and your name on the back of the photo.

If your photo is selected you will be contacted to supply a digital copy

If your photo has people in it you must have their permission for it to be displayed and to be included in the calendar.

Photographs will be taken of the owners of the winning photos for the Wirral News and the Parish Magazine, your or the parent/guardians permission is assumed unless otherwise informed.



Commemorating 100 years since the beginning of World War 1



**Saturday July 12th
10am-1pm at St Chad's**



There will be:-

- . Displays of artwork produced by primary school children**
- . Information about the men recorded on our War Memorial**
- . A display of 'The Trenches'**
- . A display of War Memorabilia from WW1 & WW2**
- . A family History Enquiry Table**
- . A display about "Animals in the War"**
- . Refreshments**





THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

WW1: THEY WENT WITH SONGS TO THE BATTLE

'We don't want to lose you, but we think you ought to go', sang music hall star Vesta Tilley in the Summer of 1914, when theatre stages became recruiting centres as young men, urged on by their girl-friends and wives, made their way forward to offer themselves for military service. This was, of course, in those first heady months of the war, the 'over by Christmas' time, when not to volunteer was to risk being given a white feather of cowardice in the street. Rapidly a huge volunteer army was assembled, and soon made its way to the western front.

The songs of the music-hall went with them - indeed, this was an army that sang and whistled its way into those muddy trenches and kept on singing, even when it turned out that the war was going to be long, bitter and brutal. 'Pack up your troubles in your old kitbag', they sang, 'and smile, smile, smile'. All that was needed was a 'lucifer to light your fag'. After all, 'What's the use of worrying - it never was worthwhile'. Soon that song was joined by others - I learnt many of them from my father: 'Mademoiselle from Armentieres, parlez-vous?' 'It's a long way to Tipperary' and so on.

The songs of the music hall became the songs of the battle-field. Soldiers on leave or in 'Blighty' for medical treatment sat in the cheap seats and sang their heads off, while a singer on stage, often wearing patriotic uniform, marched up and down orchestrating the performance. ('Blighty' incidentally was the soldiers' slang for Britain or home - it's from an Urdu word brought back from India by a previous generation of soldiers, and actually means 'European'.)

When, in his most famous poem *For the Fallen*, Laurence Binyon wrote that 'they went with songs to the battle' he was stating the truth. 'Pack up your Troubles' was the defining song of the trenches, though in the harsh light of reality its message seems a bit like whistling in the dark.

As the war went on and year followed year, so the songs tended to change their mood. In 1918 it was Ivor Novello's first great hit, 'Keep the home fires burning . . . till the boys come home' that stirred the audiences' hearts. The same shift occurred in the Second World War, from the confident 'We're going to hang out our washing on the Siegfried Line' in 1939 to Vera Lynn's plangent voice assuring war-weary troops in 1944 that 'We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when'.

Popular songs, in other words, captured very accurately the mood and heart of the nation. As they always have been, their trade secrets were smiles and tears.

**The Parish Church of St. Bartholomew, Thurstaston,
with St. Chad's, Irby**

Parish Weekends

Dear Friends,

A number of you will remember that a few years ago we organized several parish weekends, in three different locations. These proved very popular, with people of all ages enjoying the opportunity to socialize, explore certain Biblical or faith-based themes, participate in different workshops and contribute to Sunday morning worship. We also benefited from being able to share these weekends with our friends from Irby a Methodist Church.

The MCC has decided that it would be a good idea to organize another parish weekend in 2015. I am very happy to undertake the planning and to make the necessary arrangements, but, before doing so, I need to know who would be interested in taking part, at what time of year you would prefer it to be held and where you would like to go. Inevitably, one major consideration is cost; we very much hope that families will want to and feel able to attend, so it is important to keep the costs as reasonable as we possibly can.

Below, I have given web links to four possible venues, which you may wish to look at (I realize it's risky giving alternatives, because we shall almost certainly find that people express different preferences!):

<http://cloverleyhall.org/>
<http://www.waddow.org.uk/home.aspx>
<http://www.beechwoodcourt.net/>
<http://www.scargillmovement.org/>

We have stayed at Cloverley Hall before and it has several features that make it quite attractive. One is price: the 2015 price list is not yet available, but currently the adult full board rate for a weekend (Friday evening – Sunday afternoon) is £95, with significant reductions for children below the age of 13 and free places for children up to the age of 5. There are also facilities for people to take a caravan or to camp, which reduces the cost very considerably. In addition there are quite good recreational and sporting facilities, including an outdoor heated swimming pool which is open during the summer months.

I know from past experience that there is no ideal time for a weekend of this type to be held, but we believe that one of the following four possibilities may prove most attractive:

Friday 26th-Sunday 28th June
Friday 3rd-Sunday 5th July
Friday 4th-Sunday 6th September
Friday 25th-Sunday 27th September

We are most anxious that families with children should feel welcome to attend. I know that parents sometimes think that it will be impossible for them to participate fully because they

will have to spend the time looking after their children. However, I should like to emphasize that, although we haven't yet planned the programme of events for the weekend, we shall make sure that there are activities and adequate supervision for children, to enable parents to take some time off.

If you are interested in the possibility of attending, please let me know your thoughts, by phoning me on 648 4944, emailing me at postmaster@thesmales.plus.com or returning the pro forma below to me via Chris Rostock in the parish office. It would be very helpful if I could have replies by

Sunday, 8th June.

Yours sincerely,

(Chris Smale)

I am/We are interested in the possibility of attending a parish weekend next year

a y/Our preferred venue would be (please circle your preference):

Cloverley Hall

Waddow Hall

Beechwood Court

Scargill House

a y/Our preferred dates would be (please circle your preference):

Friday 26th-Sunday 28th June

Friday 3rd-Sunday 5th July

Friday 4th-Sunday 6th September

Friday 25th-Sunday 27th September

Name(s) (please print):.....

.....



PARISHIONERS AT WAR!

Part 8

Introduction

This is the eighth of a series of articles about the 2nd World War experiences of members of our parish. The subjects of this month's article are Margaret (Peggy) Evans and Lillie (Lil) Ormsby. Peggy has been a member of St Bartholomew's congregation since the time that Rev Diane Watson was rector, while Lil has attended St Bartholomew's and St Chad's Church since the days when Rev Brian Harris was rector.

The Wartime Memories of Peggy Evans

It was early evening on a Saturday at the height of the May blitz. Peggy's father, James Callaghan, was fire watching from the roof of Lewis' Department Store. He could tell from the sound of their engines that the approaching bombers were still heavily laden with their full bomb loads. To his horror, he observed the planes were by-passing the dock and city centre and heading in the direction of the railway yards at Edge Hill which were close to his home. Immediately, he informed his colleagues that he had to return home as quickly as possible.

Back home, James' wife, Ellen, had just finished putting the children to bed. In addition to Peggy, were Rose, her elder sister, younger brothers, James and Edmund and Edna, the baby. There had been no air raid siren that night so their brick and concrete air raid shelter remained empty. The blast from the bomb threw Peggy's mother, Ellen, off her chair and blew out all of the windows and fireplaces in the house. It flattened the house across the road, killing the lady who lived there. Peggy woke up covered in rubble. The bedroom fireplace had also struck her on the head and caused a gaping wound. The road outside the house was chaotic. A mobile anti aircraft gun was firing into the sky and ARP volunteers were running about with stirrup pumps trying to extinguish the many small fires started by the incendiary bombs that had also been dropped alongside the stick of bombs. Eventually, Peggy and the other members of her family were extricated from the rubble and transported to a variety of hospitals. The bomb damage meant their journeys were extremely tortuous. Peggy recalls she was quite proud of the large bandage that adorned her head once she had, finally, made it to the hospital!

Eventually, the family returned home to salvage what they could from their bomb damaged house and then moved into their Aunt's house in Gainsborough Road. Even there, there was an unexploded bomb that had to be dealt with and Peggy recalls all of the residents being forced to remain in their houses when the bomb was, eventually, detonated.

Peggy was 11 years old at the outbreak of the war. She heard Chamberlain's fateful announcement on the radio at her friend's Grandmother's house. Peggy and her friend had called in to see her after they had spent the day together in Prince's Park. Her friend's grandmother told them to run all the way home because a war had started - so they fled home in terror. On the way, Peggy was frightened by her first sight of a barrage balloon. She had no idea what it was.

At the time of the outbreak of the war, Peggy was attending Lawrence Road School. In her early days there, Peggy was confused as to how she could manage to leave home as Peggy but become Margaret as soon as she arrived at school! Like many of the children in the area, neither Peggy nor her brothers and sisters were evacuated. Her father's philosophy was, *If we go, we'll all go together!* He believed that if a bomb had your name on it, there was nothing you could do about it. Because the school was taken over by the local ARPs, Peggy's schooling during the war was severely disrupted. Groups of about six pupils would meet in various houses to be taught by female teachers who had come out of retirement to help the war effort.

Peggy left school at fifteen and took over the running of an ironmonger's shop in Smith-down Road, which was owned by a fireman friend of her father. He was about to close the shop, one of three he owned, when Peggy's father told him his daughter could easily manage the running of it! Peggy also had a brief spell working, as part of the war effort, in a section of the Bear Brand Factory, Woolton. Initially, she thought she was going to be doing piece work on the factory floor, but, by a strange quirk of fate, she ended up working on barrage balloons – the very thing that had frightened her as she ran home from her friend's grandmother's house on that fateful day war was declared! Peggy's job was to enter the balloon to check the seams were all intact. Although she found it claustrophobic at first, she grew to love the job, taking a small battery operated radio into the huge balloon and singing along with it as she went about her task!

Eventually, Peggy was needed back at the shop and so she returned. An occasional visitor to the shop was Llanfair, the fireman's brother, who, when on leave, turned up in his RAF uniform - cutting a dashing figure! When he was demobbed, he took over the ownership of the shop and worked in it, although Peggy insisted she was still to be the boss! Love blossomed behind the counter and they were engaged when Peggy was 22 years old and married three years later.

In 1981, Liverpool was struck by a series of riots which started in the Toxteth Area. Peggy and her husband were woken by the police at 3.00 a.m. in the morning in their Woolton home and told to make their way to the shop - but not to take their car anywhere near it! They parked in Gainsborough Road and made their way to the shop on foot. (By this time, because of competition from the large DIY stores the nature of the shop had changed from being an ironmonger's to more of a gift shop with china and glass items on display in glass cabinets.) The scene inside the shop was one of devastation. The windows had been smashed, along with the many glass cabinets inside. One of those responsible for the damage was later apprehended and brought to justice because of glass shards and resin that were found on his person. He was duly convicted.

Peggy and Llanfair never returned to the shop but, instead, moved to Broad Lane, Lower Heswall on Wirral, where they took over and managed the Broadway Bungalow Stores. There, Peggy became adept at making ice cream! Sadly, Llanfair died within two years. Peggy managed the store for a few more years on her own and then moved to Nelson Drive in Pensby where she lives today. She moved there because it was close to Kylesmore Drive where her son, Vaughan, already lived. However, tragedy struck Peggy again when, in 2002, when Vaughan died totally unexpectedly. Peggy describes that day as the saddest day of her life. Her close friendship with Eileen Davies, who lived over the road from Peggy, helped see her through that terrible ordeal.

Although Peggy initially attended St Peter's Church, Heswall, she started attending St Bartholomew's Church after getting to know Margaret Fletcher through a gardening club she and Eileen attended. At that time, Margaret was in training for the ministry. Peggy still attends St Bartholomew's regularly, accompanied by another friend, Eleanor Dean.

The Wartime Memories of Lil Ormsby

Lil was 7 years old at the outbreak of the war and living in Netherton. Her younger brother, Ken, was born during the war in 1940. In those days, Netherton was a rural farming area and there were only fifteen houses where Lil lived. Her own cottage was only five doors away from the Leeds - Liverpool Canal. While Lil's father, John, known to everyone as Jack, worked as a fireman stoking the boilers in a nearby soap factory, her mother, Ivy, worked for Fred, the local farmer. Lil, herself, often worked on the farm as a young girl and can remember haymaking late into the evening. Lil recalls taking her mother cups of tea while Ivy sat in front of a great pyramid of potatoes cutting potato sets. In the winter it was so cold her mother would wrap herself in sacks to try to keep warm.

Following the announcement of the war, Lil's father set about the task of building his own air raid shelter in the family's quite expansive back garden. Each morning, after his night shift, he would walk home carrying a large railway sleeper on his bicycle.

He used these to line a large hole he had dug in the garden. He added a door and lined the floor and roof with waterproofing and felt. A butt was positioned next to the shelter so they had water to drink. Whenever an air raid occurred, the family would retreat into the shelter but Lil's father would always stay outside to keep watch. A stick of bombs was dropped in the area when a German bomber mistook the moonlight shining on the canal for a railway line. However, none of the local houses was hit. On what is now the local golf course, there was a large gun battery and Lil recalls the whole ground shaking when the guns were firing at the bombers overhead. Once, when Lil and her mum were standing at the front gate, a plane went over. Assuming it was one of 'ours', they waved frantically and Lil's mum shouted, *Good luck!* However, their plane spotting skills were, somewhat, suspect – as they quickly found out when the plane suddenly banked and dived towards them with machine guns blazing! They dashed around to the back of the house, while a neighbour out walking threw herself into a hedge. Luckily, no one was harmed!

Lil, first of all, attended St Benet's Roman Catholic School which was the only school in the area. She recalls being exempted from assemblies in that tiny village school and an ongoing feud with another pupil who called her, *a proddy dog!* When St Oswald's church and school were built, Lil transferred there. Both schools had air raid shelters and, after the war, those at St Benet's were usefully converted into toilets! After the age of 11 years, Lil transferred to Litherland Central School which also had its own air raid shelters. Lil recalls one brutal Maths teacher who used to hit the pupils with a short, thick stick. On one occasion, she hit a mixed group of pupils on their legs, causing particularly severe swelling on the girls' legs, which weren't protected by the long grey stockings the boys wore. The teacher was hauled before the head teacher when their mothers complained. She didn't stay to answer the complaints but, promptly, put on her hat and coat and walked out!

Some children were evacuated to a house not far from Lil's. Lil's mother noticed that they weren't allowed in the house during the day but were out in the cold. It transpired that the lady who hosted them didn't want them in the house too much because they were dirty. Lil's mother took them in instead. Some weeks later, their mother came to see them. She begged the billeting officer to let them take her home and, reluctantly, he agreed. Tragically, not long after returning home, the young daughter amongst them was burnt to death when her nightdress was set ablaze, as she stood near to their open fire.

Another 'evacuee' Lil's family hosted was a man who had twice been bombed at his home in Wallasey and had fled to Netherton to try to escape the bombing. He worked in Liverpool and travelled everywhere on his bicycle. Whenever there was an air raid warning, Lil recalls him sitting with them in their make-shift air raid shelter wearing a tin helmet and shaking with fear until the all clear was heard.

Once, Lil was walking to school with four friends when a man approached them and pointed to their gas mask boxes-asking, *Have you got any food in there?* Lil immediately realised something was badly wrong when the man failed to recognise the boxes they carried were for gas masks and were not lunch boxes. Petrified, she called upon the others to run with her and they headed in the direction of school as fast as they could. They knocked on the headmaster, Mr Lord's door and told him what had happened. He came out and looked for the man but, by this time, he had disappeared. Mr Lord phoned the local anti aircraft battery and the troops there confirmed a plane had been shot down in the area and that patrols would be sent out. It later emerged the German pilot had stolen some clothes off a washing line to cover up his uniform, though Lil recalled, in retrospect, he was still wearing his uniform leggings.

The farming nature of the area meant that prisoners of war were drafted in to help in the fields. The first group Lil and her family encountered were the Italians. Lil's mother used to bake scones and take them to them. One very small soldier was an organist and started to help out by playing the organ at St Benet's church. At the end of the war, he stayed on in the area and married the lady organist who also played there. Lil recalls she was very tall and that they made a somewhat odd looking couple!

Later, German prisoners of war were drafted in. Initially, Lil was not happy with their presence because her Uncle Herbert was a prisoner of war near Dresden. When the POWs found this out, they assured Lil's family that, given where he was, he should be all right. As a result, they were then also given the scones! One of the POWs made some rope slippers for Lil's mother.

On V.E. day, Lil and her mother were riding on a tram. As they turned into Great Cross-hall Street, they came across crowds of people shouting and cheering. The tram driver stopped the tram and asked them what was going on. The crowds shouted back, *The war's over!* At that point, all Lil's mum wanted to do was to return home to her husband as quickly as possible!

Lil married Reg in 1953 and they moved over to Wirral in 1980, living first in Heathbank Avenue and then in Far Meadow Lane. Initially, they attended Christchurch in Moreton but, eventually, moved to St Bartholomew's and St Chad's during Rev Brian Harris' tenure as rector. Lil has acted as server at St Chad's for over ten years.

Alan Jones, Lay Reader

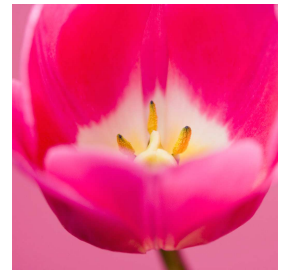
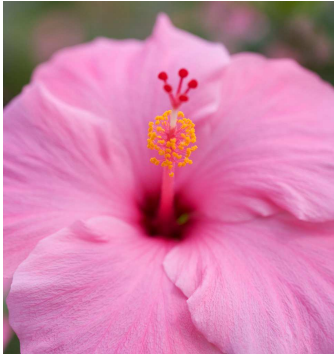
Footnote

This series of articles is nearing completion. However, if there is anyone else who would like to share his or her wartime experiences or even just a particular anecdote from World War 2 please don't hesitate to contact me.

Flowers at St Bartholomew's

The decrease in the number of weddings this year has meant it has become increasingly difficult to fund our weekly flower displays. I should be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to make a donation towards the flowers for a particular week, perhaps to mark a special occasion or to remember a loved one.

Elaine Jones



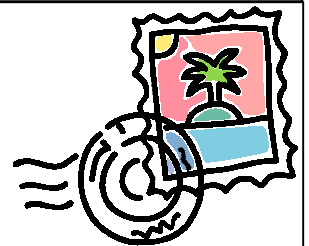
Riding for the Disabled Association

Riding for the Disabled Association

R.D.A. Charity Number: 244108

The Foresters' Horn Group

Registered Charity Number: 1073541



Jean Heath is collecting used postage stamps on behalf of R.D.A. to raise money for the North West Region. Please place stamps in an envelope and leave in church or in the box in the foyer for collection.

Like Father, Like Son

'Dead Ringer' is the odd phrase we use when referring to someone who looks like somebody else. Sometimes, instead, we say 'spitting image' when we see a likeness or similarity between one person and another.

This month includes Fathers' Day (15th June) and is an occasion when dads are particularly remembered by their children. As far as the boys are concerned, how many have heard someone say 'Oh, you really look like your father'?

One day, Jesus was talking to His disciples and said "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9). What an amazing statement! Jesus was saying that he was the dead ringer or spitting image of God! At another time Jesus said "I am in the Father and the Father is in me." (John 14:10) These words must have shocked his hearers, for he was saying that he was equal with God. No one had said anything like this before, but certainly his miracles were proof that he was different. No-one else could do what he was doing. Some people wondered—could he really be who he said he was?

So Jesus attempted to make his position clear and said "If you knew me you would know the Father also." (John 8:19) The people were being urged to know Jesus more. They had to look, listen and believe. Were his deeds of God or not? They had to decide!

Today, we all stand in a similar position. Who is Jesus? Do we look at him and say 'Yes, this is God in the flesh' or 'No, he was just a good person — but also perhaps, deluded or crazy?'

Thomas, the disciple with the nickname 'doubter', exclaimed: "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28) Thomas was convinced that he was in the presence of God, in human form. And when the Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Colossae he said clearly: 'It was by God's own decision that the Son has in himself the full nature of God' (Colossians 1:19). Like Father, like Son!



This article was submitted by Sarah Robson who first saw it on Face book and thought it was amazing, and so wanted to share it with others.

An Atheist's View on Life

I will live my life according to these beliefs
God does not exist
It is just foolish to think
That there is a God with a cosmic plan
That an all-powerful God brings purpose to the pain and suffering in the world
It's a comforting thought however
Is only wishful...thinking
People can do as they please without eternal consequences
The idea that
I am deserving of Hell
Because of sin
Is a lie meant to make me a slave to those in power
The more you have the happier you will be
Our existence has no grand meaning or purpose
In a world with no God
There is freedom to be who I want to be
But with God
Everything is fine
It is ridiculous to think
I am lost and in need of saving

An Christian's View on Life

(read this bottom to top)



Wellspring

Third Monday of each month
this month: **Monday 16th June**

(No July meeting)

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



5th July 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:

Sept 6th and Nov 1st.

May Recipe - Almond Tarts

PASTRY INGREDIENTS

110g (4oz) plain flour
Pinch of salt
50g (2oz) butter or
block margarine, cut into pieces
About 1 tablespoon water

FILLING INGREDIENTS

jam
2 egg whites
55g (2oz) castor sugar
55g (2oz) ground almonds
2 drops of vanilla extract

METHOD

Mix the pastry and line the tart tins.

First put a teaspoon of jam into the bottom of each tart case. Whisk the egg whites until stiff and stands out in peaks. Fold in the sugar, ground almonds and almond extract. Place a small tablespoon of the mixture in each tart case. Bake at 180C/350F/ Gas Mark 4 for about 25 minutes. This makes about 12 tarts.



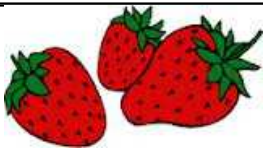


Our next meeting will be on
Wednesday 25th June when we will be
'having a go' at 'Crown Green Bowling',
followed by a 'chippy supper'.

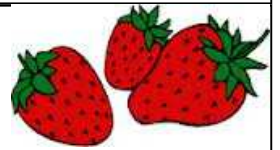


Weather permitting, we will meet at the bowling green in
Irby park at the earlier time of 7pm.
Everyone welcome

EMU (Evening Mothers' Union) meets:-
One Wednesday in each month, 8.00pm at St Chad's
for more information contact Chris Rostock (648 1112)



Mothers' Union No June meeting



Our next meeting on 3rd July at 2.15pm will be a
strawberry tea, to be held, weather permitting,
in the garden of
Colin & Joyce Ratcliffe's home—135 Thingwall Road.
If the weather is not suitable we will meet at St Chad's.
Admission £1.50



Everyone Welcome
Ladies & Gentlemen do please come and join us.

Confirming Faith

Sunday 14th September 2014 with Bishop Peter

Some may want to think about being baptised. Those who have been baptised may wish to be confirmed. Those baptised and confirmed already can make “a renewal of baptismal vows”. The service is about making promises to be a follower of Jesus. We particularly encourage anyone who has “come back to faith” over the past couple of years to take one of these options. Please talk to Revd Jane to explore more.

We already have three adults committed to this service. Two who wish to be baptised and confirmed and one who wishes to be confirmed. They will be sharing in a preparation course:-

Sundays at 8.00pm

25th May	Reading the Bible and Prayer
1st June	Communion
8th June	The Church's Year
22nd June	The Church Family and the Church World Wide
29th June	Stewardship – Time and Talents
6th July	Christian Life and Witness

Others would be very welcome to join us
for these informal discussion sessions.



Photograph of those confirmed
2nd Feb 2013

The Children's Society house-to-house envelope collection raised £1143.00. Many thanks to collectors & donators.



Reach new heights for vulnerable children in Liverpool

Looking for a new challenge? The Children's Society is getting together a team of daring supporters to take part in the Liverpool Cathedral Abseil on Saturday 2nd August 2014. Join hundreds of other abseilers descending 150ft down the face of this historic building while taking in the spectacular views across the city.

This is a fantastic challenge and there are two ropes allowing participants to descend two at a time so you can also abseil with a friend or colleague for moral support! There is a registration fee of £50 and we are asking people to raise a minimum of £200 in sponsorship.

Yvonne Watson, from Mossley Hill, took part in the event in 2012. She said "I pass this building on the way to work every morning and never thought I would be abseiling down it! I was nervous at first at the idea but I really enjoyed this chance of a lifetime opportunity and I would definitely urge others to get involved and help raise funds for vulnerable children and young people in Liverpool and the surrounding area"

The Children's Society work with many disadvantaged children and young people across the country, including young runaways. In Liverpool alone, 2,100 children run away from home or from care every year. Some of these children are as young as 8 years old and are extremely vulnerable to the dangers of drugs, alcohol and sexual exploitation. We are fighting to ensure that information and support is available to these children and young people when they need it the most.

Every penny raised will help us to work with more young runaways and ensure that they are taken off the streets and into safety. For more information about this event, contact Hannah, your Regional Fundraiser, on 07538 439573 or email hannah.noble@childrenssociety.org.uk

Notes to Editor:

If you would like any further information, or a photo to go with this article then please do get in touch on 07538 439 573 or email hannah.noble@childrenssociety.org.uk and I will be happy to send this out to you.

Thank you for your help!

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Gloucester GCVO

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Canterbury and York

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*Church of England
Children's Society*
Registered Office:
Edward Rudolf House
Margery Street
London WC1X 0JL

Charity Registration No. 221124
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Liverpool Cathedral Abseil



Saturday 2nd August

Abseil 150ft down the face of this historic building and help to raise funds for vulnerable children in your community - no experience necessary!

£50 registration fee, £200 minimum sponsorship

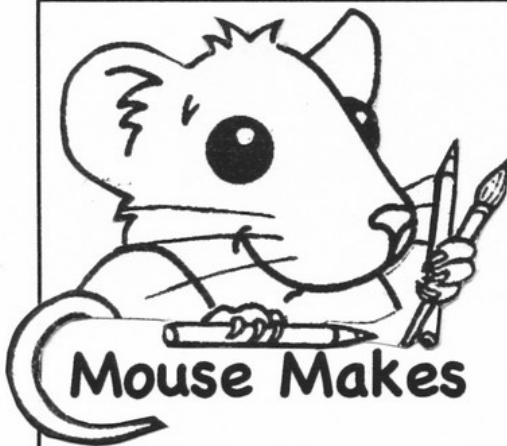
Contact Hannah on 07538 439 573 or email hannah.noble@childrenssociety.org.uk



Charity Registration No. 221124 | Photograph © The Children's Society | 2336/06/13

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THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Now when the day of **Pentecost** had come the disciples were all together in one place.

Suddenly a sound like a violent wind blowing came from heaven and filled the entire house where they were sitting. And tongues spreading out like fire came to rest on each one of them.

See Acts 2:1-47

Colour in the picture then carefully cut out. Glue onto bright card and pin on your wall





Reasons for marriage

Studying our wedding photos, my six-year-old asked, "Did you marry Dad because he was a vicar?"

"Not really," I replied.

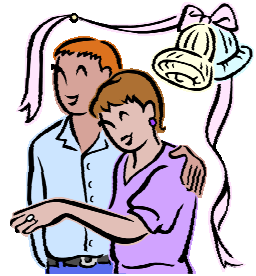
"Did you marry him because he was good-looking?"

"No, not that either," I replied.

"Did you marry him for his money?"

"Definitely not," I laughed. "He didn't have any."

"So," he concluded sadly, "you just felt sorry for him."



**

Laundry



I often do the 'laundry' for our church, and one day I decided to do the altar cloth with a lavender-scented detergent. When our minister next walked past the altar, he sniffed in bewilderment. "What's this?" he asked.

"Guess," I said coyly.

"I have no idea," he said. "It smells like the stuff my daughter uses to line the hamster's cage."



**

DIY

Our churchwarden has the courage, but not always the skills, to tackle any DIY job that needs doing around the church. For example, in the church shed are still pieces of the church lawn mower she once tried to fix. So our vicar wasn't surprised the day he found her in the vestry, attacking the vacuum cleaner with a screwdriver. "This thing won't co-operate," she complained.

The vicar thought for a moment: "Why don't you drag it out to the shed and show it what you did to the lawn mower?"

**





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Contacts

Churchwardens

Mr J Roberts **342 2149**
23 Riverbank Road Lower Heswall CH60 4SQ

Mr R Jackson **648 0365**
13 Norton Drive Irby CH61 4XP

Reader

Mr Alan Jones **648 1400**
8 Edgemore Drive Irby CH61 4XT

Retired Clergy

Rev'd J Edwardson **648 2661**
38 Hazel Grove Irby CH61 4UZ

Rev'd S Beckley **648 7767**
162 Heathbank Irby CH61 4YG

PCC Secretary

Mr G Barley **648 1867**
5 Sherwood Avenue Irby CH61 4XB

PCC Treasurer **648 8169**

Verger

Mrs J Ratcliffe **648 6171**
135 Thingwall Road Irby CH61 3UD

Organist

Mr C Vickers **648 7405**
34 Townsend Avenue Irby CH61 2XW

Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office **648 8169**

St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary

Mrs J Heath **648 6015**

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**

Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs J Bibby **678 8124**

Cleaning Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs L Worrall **648 5590**

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Dr P Robson **648 6691**

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CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

Christian Aid Representative

Vacant

Children's Society Representative

Mrs J Heath **648 6015**

Leprosy Mission Representative

Mrs P Hulme **648 1827**

Adoption Society Representative

Mrs C Rostock **648 1112**

Church Services - June

Sunday Services

St Bartholomew's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Morning Worship

8th June
Pentecost

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion

15th June
Trinity Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
3.00pm Baptism

22nd June
Trinity 1

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion & Baptism

29th June
Trinity 2

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion

6th July
Trinity 3

St Chad's

9.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Communion

9.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Family Service

Weekday Services

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

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

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