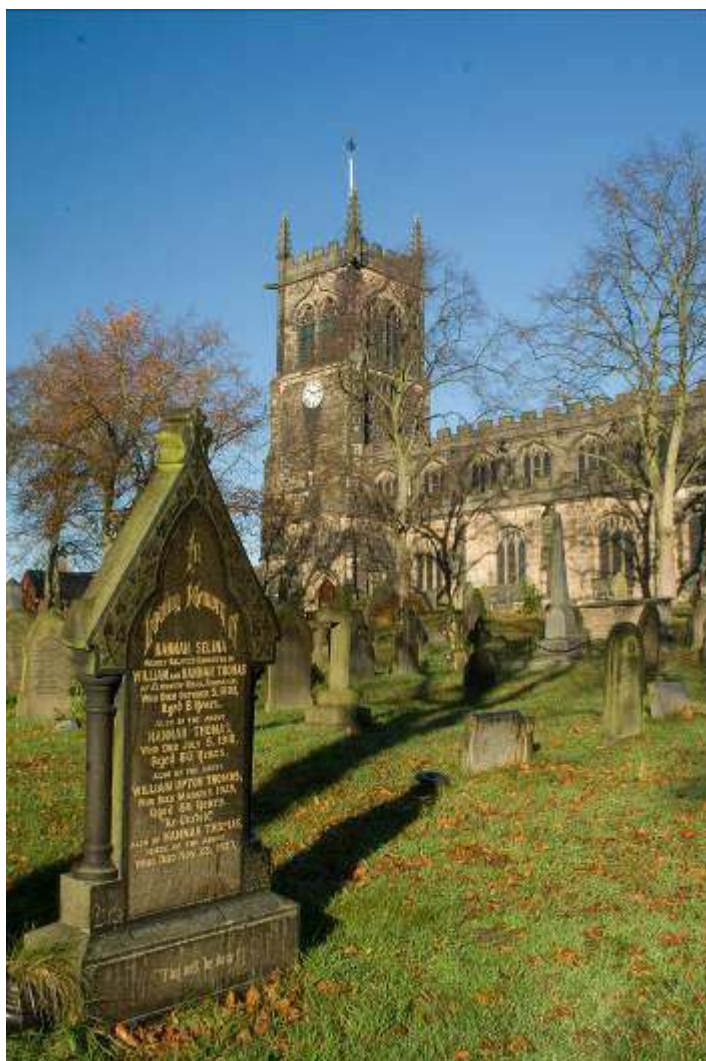


CHALLENGE



January 2012

Volume 48

No 563

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

At St Marys in January 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sunday 1st January	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Naming and Circumcision of Jesus	10.00 am	Morning Worship
	3.30 pm	Holy Eucharist

Friday 6th January	7.30 pm	Holy Communion
The Epiphany		

Sunday 8th January	8.00 am	Holy Communion
1 Epiphany	10.00 am	NO Service at St Mary's
Baptism of Christ	10.30 am	Joint Covenant Service at Wesley Methodist
	3.30 pm	Evensong

Saturday 15th January	8.00 am	Holy Communion
2 Epiphany	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
	3.30 pm	Evensong

Sunday 22nd January	8.00 am	Holy Communion
3 Epiphany	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
	3.30 pm	Evensong

Sunday 29th January	8.00 am	Holy Communion
4 Epiphany	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)	3.30 pm	Evensong

Sunday 5th February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
3 Before Lent	10.00 am	Morning Worship
	3.30 pm	Holy Eucharist

Some thoughts at Epiphany

Magi:

A priestly caste my dictionary says, not Kings at all but men who sought to understand spiritual matters. It also suggests they may have practiced some sort of sorcery, not evil magic but seeking to understand how the creation may be manipulated. Isaac Newton the great mathematician, he of the laws of motion, also sought to find ways of transmuting one element to another. He didn't succeed of course but he too was a seeker of understanding.

We cannot know, probably will never know, what it was in the heavens which moved those seekers after understanding to undertake the long uncomfortable journey to Palestine just because a very bright star had appeared. Several weeks rocking back and forth on a camel's back. No thank you.

Hardly surprisingly they first sought news at the seat of power. They expected a prince but none had been born at the palace to the Royal Family. Herod believed them, trusted them to keep him informed and sent them off to Bethlehem where his advisers told him a prince, a ruler would be born according to the ancient prophecies.

So they went and they found and they presented gifts but they did not retrace their steps to give the wily old fox Herod the information

he wanted.

A message from an angel was it? Or is that just a way of saying that three shrewd observers of human nature had seen through Herod for what he was, a power hungry despot, not to be trusted and so they were led to 'go back another way' on the long return journey with plenty of time to think about what they had seen and learned.

Not Kings themselves but I would guess they had been close to the seat of power in their own land. Spiritual advisers to the King maybe. Men used to weighing up and seeing through the schemes of men who love power. Modest men of wisdom who longed for better, wiser rule.

So they returned having laid their gifts at the cradle of a defenceless child, son of poor peasant parents. Returned perhaps with renewed confidence in their understanding of the meaning of true values and with a fresh grasp of the possibility of the power of simple goodness to overturn the seats of the mighty.

I can't help thinking that we could manage with a little of that in our own day in our own land.

Perhaps our prayers will be answered and we shall see more care being taken to build a more just society. In the meantime we must go on as they did, worshipping at the cradle of one who came to serve rather than to rule, living lives of service in imitation of Christ in joyful gratitude to God.

David Ashworth

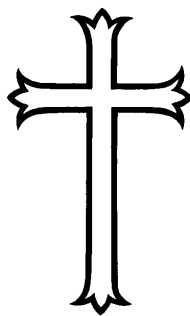
From the Registers

Funerals

December

5th Paul Ingham (62)

7th Gladys Blakburn (81)



Flower Rota

January

Altar

1st

Christmas Flowers

8th

Joyce Griffiths

15th

Linda Bourne

22nd

Jean Smith

29th

vacant



Offers of flowers for the altar on 29th January or for a pedestal on any Sunday of January to Mrs Ashworth on 01270 529187.



Coffee Rota

January

1st

Kathleen Davies and Kathleen Beech

8th

Marjorie Holdcroft and Joanna Whittaker

15th

Kate Roberts and Sheenagh Ashworth

22nd

Eileen and Jim Thompson

29th

Joyce Griffith and Lynne Winfield



A Sandbach, councillor, a taxi proprietor by profession, brought up the question of maternity home accommodation at Monday's meeting. Pointing out that at present the nearest facilities were at Wybunbury fifteen miles away. he related how, recently, he was called out to take a young woman there. Appreciating the need for urgency, he got out his fastest car and was soon doing 55 miles per hour, when his passenger tapped on his shoulder and said "You've no need to go that fast; I only work there."

From a 1951 copy of the Chronicle



Sandbach - Times Gone By



Here's a picture taken in the 1930's. It shows a view over to the cenotaph from the corner of the square looking up High Street. The Black bear was still separate from Clogger Allen's shoe repairs at this time seen on the left of the Bear in this picture.

From the Editor

Photos - I'm sure you have photos you would like to show off on the front of one of the monthly magazines.

Have a look in your albums or get the camera out . Please send me your photos – of inside or outside the church, views of Sandbach, flowers, nice views etc.



Rising Magazine Costs - You will not be surprised to learn that production costs have risen over the last few years, especially the cost of the paper and ink. Therefore we have had a closer look at the finances of the Challenge Magazine to make sure the books balance.



The cover price of 30p has been in place for at least 10 years and it is now necessary to increase the cost of a copy. We are recommending a **minimum donation of 50p** per issue from the **February edition**. We are very grateful that some already give a larger donation for each issue.

The plan for next year is to publish 12 editions so a whole years subscription will only be £6.

Church Fellowship

Unfortunately we do not have our Christmas Social Evening until after the final publication date but watch this space I will report back in the February issue.



A Happy and Peaceful 2012 to everyone from all of Church Fellowship.

I still say a church steeple with a lightning rod on top shows a lack of confidence

See, Amid the Winter's Snow

See, amid the winter's snow
Lots of cars that just won't go;
It is not the drivers' fault –
Councils have run out of salt!
Here, we sit the whole night long!
Where have all the snowploughs
gone?
If we'd known we'd be delayed
We'd perhaps have a brought a
spade!

Say, ye cheerful children, say
Why aren't you in school today?
'We are skating round and round
'Cos the heating's broken down!
'Yes, the heating's gone berserk!
'Mum has missed a day at work!
'Though she's cross and seems on
edge,
'We can ride upon our sledge!'

Sages on the weather show
Said the sun would surely glow,
And, said they, we may be sure
Of a glorious day in store!
But they missed a detail, small
And the snow did thickly fall!
But the met-men feel no shame –
Their computer takes the blame!

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

22nd to 29th January

There will be a United
Service on Sunday,
29th January, at
St. Peter's. Elworth.

Do make a note in your
diary. The time of the
service is to be
confirmed -
look out for this on the
pewsheet



Churches Together In Sandbach

A meeting is to be held at 7.30pm, **17th January**, in St.
Winefride's Church Hall on Middlewich Road, opposite the
Council Offices.

This meeting will be open to all and we shall have a bring and
share light supper.

Just a few minutes

HELP is still needed to polish and dust the Church. The team of four is now down to two and often only one, due to people moving away and sickness. Please do offer to help.

We meet on a **Thursday** morning at about 8.30pm to 9.00pm for around an hour. However, should more people come then this would be shorter. We appreciate that some of the Church members are involved in the refreshments in the Hall but not everyone is. A lady does come and undertake the deep cleaning during the week so it **only light dusting** and you can chat and dust in your own time – there is no supervision!

Rota. A rota will be available very soon for you to add your name to.

The one or two Holy Dusters.

Rules of the for pilots



1. Every take-off is optional. Every landing is mandatory.
2. It's always better to be down here wishing you were up there than up there wishing you were down here.
3. When in doubt, hold on to your altitude. No one has ever collided with the sky.
4. A 'good' landing is one from which you can walk away. A 'great' landing is one after which they can use the aeroplane again.
5. Never let an aircraft take you somewhere your brain didn't get to five minutes earlier.
7. There are three simple rules for guaranteeing a smooth landing. Unfortunately no one knows what they are.

One of the unsung freedoms that go with a free press is the freedom not to read it. Ferdinand Mount British journalist.

Health Feature - How physiotherapy works

The aim of physiotherapy is to help restore normal body function. As well as treating a specific injury or illness, the physiotherapist may consider ways to improve your general wellbeing and overall quality of life.

Holistic approach

Physiotherapists usually take a holistic approach, which means they are likely to look at the body as a whole, rather than focusing on individual factors of an injury or illness. For example, back pain can have a number of causes, such as:

- poor posture
- muscle imbalance
- bending awkwardly
- standing or bending for long periods
- lifting or carrying incorrectly

Patient education is an important part of physiotherapy. As well as aiming to improve your strength and mobility, a physiotherapist can also advise you about how to manage your condition more effectively, for example by exercising regularly. Physiotherapists use a range of techniques and approaches, the most common of which are described in more detail below.

Massage and manipulation

Massage involves manipulating the body's soft tissues using the hands. It is suitable for most people and can be used to:

- improve circulation (the flow of blood around the body)
- help fluid drain from parts of the body more efficiently
- restore normal movement patterns
- relieve pain and help you relax

Movement and exercise

Physiotherapists often use an exercise programme, which may incorporate specific exercises to help with particular health problems or injuries.

Energy based therapy

Energy based therapy, which is sometimes referred to as electrotherapy in the UK, is a form of treatment that uses different types of energy, such as electric currents or impulses (small electric shocks) to stimulate the nervous system.

If you would like more information or require specific advice relating to a specific problem or injury please contact: **Sandbach Physiotherapy & Sport Injury Clinic, 12 Abbey Road, Sandbach CW11 3HA**

01270 763025

Guess the personality

Her Dad was a butcher who worked for Mr Riley on Congleton Road and then the Co-op.

At Secondary school she played netball and Hockey.

She used to go to the 'Palace' cinema which was on the corner of Congleton Road and Green Street; the matinee on Saturday afternoon was 7d (old money) about 3 new pence!

The family holidays were to Rhyl each year. Later on she had some wonderful times walking in the Lake District. She also has many memories from her visit to Australia and New Zealand.

Funny Story: She used to give blood and, due to the rarity of her blood type, was asked to join the Rare Blood list. Great, she thought, paid for trips around the world to donate blood. She gave blood to a new born baby and three people undergoing heart surgery. How far did she travel? As far as Northwich! Before retiring she had donated over 80 pints of blood.

What makes her happy: Being with family and friends.

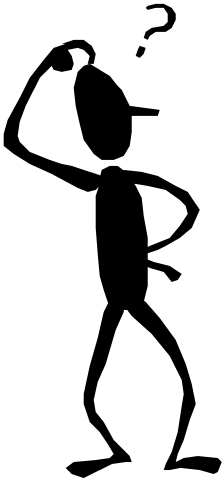
What makes her cross: Gossiping, and folk that when they overhear something, they get the wrong end of the stick and spread the wrong message.

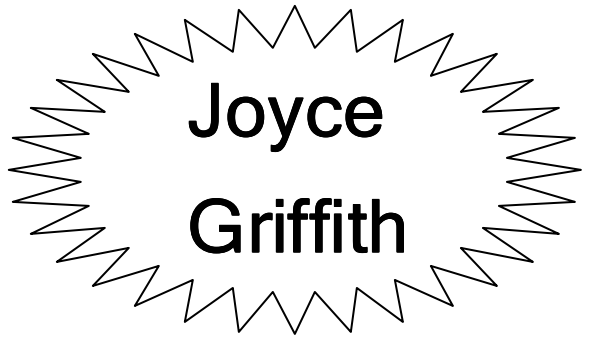
Favourite book: The Gentle Ribbon by local lady, Jean Williams, relating memories her grandma told her. It is all about this area.

First memory: The Roberts twins, Lily and Doris calling to take her brother and her twin sister to Sunday School and choosing the colour of ribbon for her hair.

She has many favourite hymns but 'Lord for the years your love has kept and guided' really speaks to her.

Born in Sandbach and lived in the same house all her life.





Sandbach Communicate

What we do. We take people, mainly elderly, to hospital or to Ashfields when they have no one else to do so and not transport of their own. The doctors at Ashfields let us know who requires this help.

What we need. We urgently need a number of new volunteers to help with this excellent service. Several former helpers have had to give up during the last year.

Help given. There is a petrol allowance for the use of your car, and you will only be called upon once or twice a month

Please consider giving a little of your time in this way. For more details contact Stella Craven 763801 or Joyce Foster 763527



Life is not about how fast you move, or how high you can climb; it's about how, with God's help, you bounce back when you're down.



What does that mean?

Covenant — A sacred, irrevocable promise between God and man. "You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Acts 3:25).

Conviction — An inner awareness of truth. "Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst" (John 8:9).

Creed — A statement of beliefs which include the fundamentals considered necessary to salvation.

Deacon — Literally a servant. An office of servant ministry within the church. "But let these also first be proved; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless" (1 Tim. 3:10).

Decalogue — A reference to the ten commandments.

1st Elworth Boys Brigade is looking out for new members!

As the forerunner to the Scout movement, the BB has been providing structured activities for boys since 1883. With a Christian ethos, we focus on developing confidence through drama; physical skills through sport and games; and group skills through team activities and challenges. Our structured badgework programme provides a real sense of achievement and culminates in an annual awards evening where the boys can show off their new skills in front of their parents. Above all BB is about having fun and meeting new friends.

We meet at Elworth Methodist Church during school term time. There are three sections:

Anchors - 5-8 years

Juniors - 8-11 years

Company - 11-18 years

Anchors meet on Wednesdays 6.30-7.30pm and Juniors meet on Tuesdays 6.15-7.30pm. Boys may then progress to the Company section (Tuesdays 7.30-9pm) and can look forward to annual camps including beach barbeques, archery, volleyball, football, cricket, team competitions, go-karting and orienteering.

Please check out our website at: www.1stelworthboysbrigade.com find out more and see some of the activities we get up to. Alternatively, contact us on: 01270 765932 or e-mail: elworthbb@btinternet.com for more information, or come and sample a taster session. Finally, there is a national website for the organisation at:

www.boys-brigade.org.uk

Nothing much is free these days. BUT God's love is.

1st January - The naming of Jesus

It is Matthew and Luke who tell the story of how the angel instructed that Mary's baby was to be named Jesus - a common name meaning 'saviour'. The Church recalls the naming of Jesus on 1 January - eight days after 25 December (by the Jewish way of reckoning days). For in Jewish tradition, the male babies were circumcised and named on their eighth day of life.

For early Christians, the name of Jesus held a special significance. In Jewish tradition, names expressed aspects of personality. Jesus' name permeated his ministry, and it does so today: we are baptised in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), we are justified through the name of Jesus (1 Cor 6:11); and God the Father has given Jesus a name above all others (Phil 2:9). All Christian prayer is through 'Jesus Christ our Lord', and it is 'at the name of Jesus' that one day every knee shall bow.

JESUS

Have you ever wondered where the name 'Jesus' comes from?

The name Jesus is a transliteration of a name that occurs in several languages. It is of Hebrew origin, 'Yehosua', or Joshua. Or there is the Hebrew-Aramaic form, 'Yesua'. In Greek, it became 'Ἰησοῦς' (Iēsoûs), and in Latin it became 'Iesus'.

With Epiphany in mind...

I was telling my three boys the story of the Nativity and how the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh for the infant Jesus. Clearly giving it a lot of thought, my six-year-old observed, "Mum, a Wise Woman would have brought nappies."



A year for Celebrations

1952 – 2012 – Celebrating 60 years of The Queen's reign

Queen Elizabeth II came to the throne on 6th February 1952. Her coronation took place on 2nd June 1953. She celebrated her Silver Jubilee (25 years) in 1977 and her Golden Jubilee (50 years) in 2002. The only other British monarch to celebrate a Diamond Jubilee was Queen Victoria, in 1897. The main celebrations for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee will be from Saturday 2nd June to Tuesday 5th June.

Saturday 2nd June:

The Queen will attend the Epsom Derby.

Sunday 3rd June:

The Big Jubilee Lunch: Building on the already popular Big Lunch initiative, people will be encouraged to share lunch with neighbours and friends as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. This might be a traditional street party or even a picnic lunch. Visit:

www.thebiglunch.com

The Thames Diamond Jubilee

Pageant: This event will consist of up to 1,000 boats assembled from across the UK, the Commonwealth and around the world. The Queen will travel in the Royal Barge which will lead the flotilla.

Monday 4th June:

BBC Concert at Buckingham Palace: There will be a televised Diamond Jubilee Concert at Buckingham Palace, with tickets being



available to UK residents by public ballot. The musical programme will feature British and Commonwealth musicians.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons: A network of 2,012 Beacons will be lit by communities and individuals throughout the United Kingdom, as well as the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Commonwealth. As in 2002, The Queen will light the National Beacon.

Tuesday 5th June, 2012

There will be a Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral and a formal carriage Procession by The Queen.

Where were YOU when you heard that King George VI had died?

60 years ago next month (6th February) King George VI died peacefully in his sleep at Sandringham House. He was 56, and had a serious lung condition. The official announcement from Sandringham, given on 6th February at 1045 GMT, said the King was found dead in bed at 0730 GMT by a servant. Princess Elizabeth, who was at the Royal hunting lodge in Kenya, immediately became Queen, at the age of 25. She flew back to London to take the Royal Oath, which sealed her accession to the throne.

60 years is a long time ago, but some of us were children back then. What can you remember of the day that King George VI died? Can you remember where you were when you heard the news, and who told you? If you have any memories at all of the fateful day, we would love for you to share them with us! Please contact the editor of this magazine this month, so that for our February issue, the anniversary month, we can include your memories in this magazine.

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	1						7	5
		8	9	5			3	
4	5			6				
				3			1	2
	9			7	2	5		
7	3						8	
6						1		

WHO'S WHO AT ST MARY'S

Vicar	The Revd Thomas Shepherd	762379
	e-mail revts@me.com	
Reader	Jane Colley	748669
Churchwardens	Reg Dunning	762681
	Martyn Colley	748669
Sacristan	John Percival	765700
Verger	June Ollier	766973

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OFFICERS

PCC Secretary	Sylvia Watkins	767386
Treasurer	Roger Cooke	762118
Covenants/Gift Aid	Paul Burden	764687
Captain of Bells	Paul Burden	764687
Church Flowers	Sheenagh Ashworth	529187

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

Meetings 2 nd Tuesday in each month at 7.30pm in the Church Hall		
	Marjorie Spence	767020

CHURCH HALL hall@sandbachchurch.co.uk

Bookings	Sylvia Watkins	767386
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BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS

Please Contact The Vicar in Church on Sundays between **2.00pm-3.00pm** to make the necessary arrangements

Challenge is edited by John Bottomley. If you or your organisation have reports of events that have already happened, progress updates of continuing projects, or any other items to be published in the magazine, please contact me by:

e - mail: jandhbottomley@virgin.net
tel: 01270 7687844
post: 15 Chartwell Park, Sandbach, CW114ZP

Articles must be received by **Sunday 22nd January 2012**

More information is also available on the web-site:

www.sandbachchurch.co.uk