

CHALLENGE



The Parish Magazine of St Mary Sandbach

October 2019

Volume 55

No 650





Sunday 6th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Harvest Festival	10.00 am	Morning Worship

Sunday 13th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion
17 Trinity	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist

Sunday 20th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion
18 Trinity	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist

Sunday 27th October 2 am

British Summer Time Ends

CLOCKS GO BACK 1 HOUR



Sunday 27th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Last of Trinity	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist

Sunday 3rd November	10.00 am	Morning Worship
All Saints Sunday	3.30 pm	Commemoration of Faithful Departed

Every Wednesday	11.00 am	Holy Communion
------------------------	----------	----------------

Holy Eucharist, Parish Eucharist = Order 1 Common Worship
 Holy Communion = Order 2 Book of Common Prayer

Dear Friends,

There is always something poignant about an ending. Perhaps it is to do with the sense that something has happened which can never happen again in quite the same way - a stretch of the road which can never be travelled again; a chapter in one's life which can never be lived again. For good or ill that particular page of the book is written and can not be altered or revised. What is written is written, and must stand.

Ends are also turning points, linking what has been with what will be. "In my end is my beginning", for as T.S. Eliot reminds us, "the end is where we start from". From this end we shall begin again, from this here and now, and find new responsibilities and commitments, relationships and obligations of life. Things will never be the same. You have moulded us, the Shepherd family in more ways than you can possibly imagine. From the depths of our hearts we thank you.

As we all look forward to what lies unknown in the future, let us all be reminded that God has been in the days of what is past, they have been his days, this parish is his place, and this has been his time, here and now. So let ours be the prayer of Dag Hammerskjold:

"For what has been, Thanks:
For what will be, Yes."

Thomas and Catherine

From the Registers

Baptism

July

21st Amaya Maud Ball daughter of David and Sarah

August

18th Emily Rose Allan daughter of Ros and Jane

Albert Hunter Metcalfe son of Jason and Kerry

George Matthew Potts son of Samuel and Kelsey Cartwright

25th Kyran James Preston son of Gary and Emma Proudlove



September

1st Ethan James Wakefield son of James and Julie

8th Georgia Mae Murray daughter of Christopher and Michelle

Florencia Anne Cameron daughter of Joshua and Sianead

15th Alfie Michael Wellings son of Michael and Angela

22nd Kainan Joseph Coppenhall son of Joseph and Amy Bosson

Jude Alexander Arrowsmith son of Paul and Haley

Isaac Robert Hardy son of James and Cathryn

Eira Anne Williams daughter of Paul and Heather

Elsie Jane Scarle daughter of Christopher and Lucy

Weddings

August

17th Benjamin Fuller and Hannah Roberts

31st Harley Greenwood and Laura Andrews

September

14th Ryan Connolly and Jessica Gallimore

21st Keith Jones and Olivia Bradshaw



Funerals

August

20th Robert Leech (89)

29th Nellie Hough (89)

September

20th Janice Margaret Coles (71)

Burial of Ashes

September

12th Alison Judy Atkinson

27th Jean Helen Pointon



Services during the interregnum

During the interregnum, a pause before a new vicar is appointed, there will be no weekly Evensong. The next evening service is on Sunday 3rd November at 3.30 pm - Commemoration of Faithful Departed.

The next Choral Evensong, a monthly event, will be on Sunday 24th November at 3.30pm

Services will be taken by other clergy and there is a possibility that they maybe changed or cancelled..

I've read the last page of the Bible – it's going to turn out alright (Billy Graham)

Coffee Rota

October

- 6th Jean Richardson and Iris Kenilworth
13th Marjorie Burgess and Joyce Booth
20th Kathleen Davies and Kathleen Beech
27th Joyce Griffiths and Lynne Winfield



November

- 3rd Stella Craven and Christine Hirst

Church Flowers

October

- 6th Harvest
13th Vacant
20th Janet Hides and Sylvia Watkins
27th Joyce Griffiths



If anyone would like to give flowers on any Sunday please speak to Sheenagh on 01270 529187.

In this Issue....

Presentation Success Everton
Christian Aid Harvest
Tattoos Alexa Halloween

Christian Aid cutbacks



As Christian Aid plans to save money, its staff members' jobs are at stake. The anti-poverty charity said it has a goal of saving £7 million a year as part of its new global strategy, called Standing Together, and that "political uncertainty and a tough environment for unrestricted fundraising" means some staff may have to be made redundant.

Christian Aid will withdraw from twelve countries in order to reduce unrestricted spending from £47m to £40m a year. The countries the charity is leaving are: Angola, Egypt, Zambia, Mali, South Africa, Ghana, the Philippines, Nepal, Bolivia, Colombia, Guatemala and El Salvador. Amanda Mukwashi, chief executive of Christian Aid, said: "After careful consideration of every piece of work Christian Aid does, the senior leadership and trustees have made the difficult decision to exit from some countries and instead, in some cases, work regionally to have greater impact.

The charity said it will still be working in fifteen other countries and the new strategy will help it to be "more focused and deepen its interventions in fewer countries and to do so as good stewards living within our means".

Top Tips

Use a large muffin tin to cook stuffed peppers in the oven - it will help keep them upright.

Create a thrifty watering can by puncturing holes in the top of a used milk bottle. *(Ed. Maybe, for the environment, we should be going back to supporting the local Milkmen - glass vs plastic re-cycling)*



Harvest Festival

Please do bring items of produce to the Harvest Festival on Sunday 7th October. Longer life produce, such as coffee, UHT milk, tinned meat and tinned vegetables, squash and Long life fruit juice are ideal.

The food will be taken to the local Foodbank (suggestions below) for distribution to families in particular need.

Most needed

Instant coffee
Tinned ready meals
Long life fruit juice
Jam
Tinned vegetables
Tinned Potatoes
Tinned Fruit



Other items

Long grain rice
Breakfast cereals
UHT milk
Tinned sponge puddings
Fruit juice
Pasta sauces
Sugar
Toilet roll
Shampoo
Tooth brushes and tooth paste

Important to keep churches open and in good repair

A severe shortage of funding is endangering keeping the UK's historic churches in good repair. The National Churches Trust says the total number of applications it received for its grant programmes increased by 24% in 2018 from the previous year, with 593 applications made and that over the last two years applications have increased by 56%. It cited less money from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, changes to the Trust's grant programmes and greater awareness how the Trust can help as well.

Luke March, Chairman of the National Churches Trust said: "At a time when so many public buildings are closing and high streets are losing their shops, church buildings are places where people can meet, collaborate and build community, as well as continue to worship. That is why it is so

important to keep them open and in good repair. The funding of urgent repairs of church buildings remains a source of great concern.

Following the decision by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to end its ring-fenced Grants to Places of Worship scheme, and the ending of the Government supported Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund, the Trust has seen a very large increase in demand for its grants. Although congregations and charitable trusts continue to provide substantial financial support to churches, there continues to be a need for funding from national heritage bodies. Direct state support continues through the refunding of VAT on repairs, administered by the Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme. But this is only guaranteed until 2020.

The Trust will continue to make the case for church buildings as the Government embarks on a new spending review in 2019.

Sandbach concert series

Tickets: Adults: £10.00
Snr Citizens/Concessions: £9.00
School Children: £3.00
Family Ticket : £21.00
Doors Open 6.30 pm

Wednesday 30th October

Ben Powell

presents an evening of solo piano music.
and spotlight concert with local young musicians

www.sandbach-concert-series.co.uk

All concerts at 7pm in St Mary's Church Hall

Tickets available from: on-line, Demeters Wholefoods (12 Welles St), Bramwells Opticians (4 Hightown) or on the door.

Wise Words

Life is short,

And we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who
travel with us.

So, be swift to love,
And make haste to be kind.

And the blessing of God,
who made us,
who loves us,
and who travels with us
be with you now and forever.

Amen.

(Based on words by Henri Frederic Amiel)



Please help us to improve our knowledge of the Heritage of St Mary's Church by completing this questionnaire.

Please briefly describe the Heritage of St Mary's Church and other historic buildings in Sandbach.

Of which aspects of Social Heritage (eg people, organisations, visitors) are you aware that would be of interest to visitors to the Church?

How would you like to see this new information presented?

What would bring the community and St Mary's church closer together?

If you can provide us with more information, or time to help us, please provide us with your name and contact details.

(Please send completed forms to magazine@sandbachchurch.co.uk or drop them off at the Church or the Church Hall)

Dropping a line

Like many older readers I can remember being taught how to write a letter. Address, date, recipient, signature, and then we had to address the envelope, buy a stamp (two pence at that time!) and post it.

The first change to that routine came exactly 60 years ago this month, with the introduction in the UK of the postcode – a combination of seven or eight letters or numbers which precisely located our address. It took 14 years to enlist the entire country, but eventually virtually the whole world took on the ingenious postcode. We were now part of a world network of communication.

It was the first big change to

our postal system in a century, but we happily took it on board. More recent changes have been more revolutionary: fax, e-mail, texting and their many refinements. Letter-writing or ‘snail mail’ as it is referred to now, is rapidly dying out. I would guess many under thirties have never written a personal letter or received one. Paper, envelopes, stamps are too complicated.

I think that it is sad, but probably unavoidable. I don’t think many people will be preserving their love-texts for posterity. Products of a moment can be forgotten in a moment.

David Winter

Hotter with tattoos

Thermal image technology has found that heavily tattooed skin heats up more than normal skin in direct sunlight. Images of tattoo artists in Shoreditch, taken on a Cat S61 smartphone, showed higher temperatures on sections of skin that were heavily inked – with the black of the tattoo retaining the most heat.

Church of England and Alexa

Alexa skill enables millions of users to ask the Church of England for prayers, explanations of the Christian faith, location-based information about local church events and services and more.

It also seeks to increase users' knowledge of the Christian faith by answering questions such as: what is the Bible? Who is God? What is a Christian? Many of the answers draw on material from the Pilgrim discipleship course and The Pilgrim Way: A Short Guide to the Christian Faith which also feature in the Our Faith section of this site.

You can activate the Church of England skill by saying:

“Alexa, open the Church of England”

The skill is integrated closely with A Church Near You – our national church finder that gets 10 million page views a year to find the nearest services and events.

While the Alexa skill has been built first, we are aiming to launch for Google Home and Apple HomePod devices in due course.



Community Heritage Presentation

The presentation by Minshull Archives on the 17th September was a great success. Over 150 people attended this free evening and all the feedback was very positive. Many people commented on how informative the evening was and would like to attend similar evenings, and even the same presentation again! Unfortunately, due to lack of space, numbers were limited and



there were many other members of the community who could not attend.

Thank you to all who completed the questionnaire on the evening and if you didn't, we would welcome your comments. (The form is on the next page and also available on the website). We will now analyse the answers and report back in a future magazine.

A special thank to Pauline and Stephen Minshull for all their efforts in producing the brand new presentation for us. Thanks also to the team who completed all preparations for the evening, especially to Brian Day who was the front man.

From donations on the evening, approximately £600 will be given to church funds. *(More colour photos on the web-site)*

MAB Electrics

Mark Bruderer is an Independent City and Guilds qualified Electrician in Sandbach with over 36 years Electrical experience covering Electrical Services throughout Cheshire.

He is a Member of NAPIT (National Association of Professional Installers and Inspectors), which is an organisation committed to household safety in the domestic sector and ensures that through the competence of registered installers, householders can be confident with the work carried out on their home which complies with the relevant regulations.

NAPIT operate a rigorous Code of Practice for registered installers who are assessed on a yearly basis to ensure their work meets the highest standards. MAB Electrics ensures you will have the added peace of mind that with the correct qualifications and business practices in place, we can carry out professional, quality electrical work at a fair price.

No job is too small.

Domestic Electrical Services

Rewire, sockets, wiring

**All aspects of lighting, indoors
and outdoors**

Consumer units/fuse boxes

Fire and smoke alarms

Outdoor power

Inspection/testing

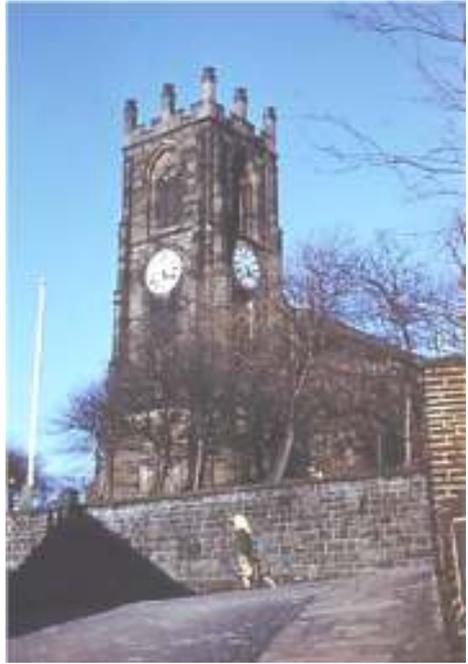


Tel: 01270 764791 E-mail: info@mab-electrics.co.uk

www.mab-electrics.co.uk

Do you know anyone who can match this?

A church in Darwen, Lancashire could have the longest attending church member in the country. This has sparked a challenge to see if anyone has been a part of the same church family for longer than 99-year old Edna Emery. She has attended St Peter's in the market town of



Darwen her whole life, having been there for nearly 100 years. She was baptised and married at the church and still attends worship and other events when she can. She and her late husband Tommy, as well as their son Michael, have served and supported the church over many decades.

The church recently celebrated its 190th anniversary, meaning she has been there for over half of the church's existence. In the first 150 years St Peter's was known as Holy Trinity Church, until four decades ago when two other local churches, St John's and St George's, were closed and the three parishes were united.

The message and the mission of Jesus were never made clearer than when he said, “I am the way, the truth and the life; no-one comes to the Father but by me.”

Dialect - Cheshire

Here are a couple of local phrases from our readers. If you know of any more then please get in touch:

Beryl Evans **Therers thee faver** - there's your father

At goin up toon - are you going to town

Bob Mynett **Rack a thigh and screw a chops** - rack of the eye and screw of the chops!

(Bob came upon it when delivering a leather suite to a customer in Lymm from his furniture business. His hedge was immaculate and when he asked him how he did it, he came out with the above expression. He closed one looking along the hedge then twisted his mouth sideways and there you have it)

Our bankrupt young

The number of young people who go bankrupt has soared, increasing tenfold in just three years. People from 'Generation Z' (aged 18 to 25) now make up one in 15 of all personal insolvencies. Back in 2016 only one in 100 insolvencies involved a young person.

As one accountant explained: "In this climate of low interest rates and relatively easy access to credit, young people without financial experience may be more susceptible to the temptations of easy money." The rise of the gig economy and zero-hours contracts have also played a big role, for without a regular income, young people find it much more difficult to budget.

St Mary's Events



Saturday 2nd November Autumn Fair

Sunday 8th December Christmas Lunch

Come along and bring your friends to these events.

Tickets will be advertised in the magazine and on the pew sheets.

If you would like to organise an event then please get in touch with one of the Social Committee members or Churchwarden.



Summer Lunch

The Social Committee would like to thank everyone who came to the Summer Lunch, which was enjoyed by all,. Money raised was **£373**.

All Hallows Eve - or Holy Evening

In those long-ago days, on the last night of October, the Celts celebrated the Festival of Samhain, or 'Summer's End'. The priests, or Druids, performed ceremonies to thank and honour the sun. For there was a very dark side to all this: Samhain also signalled the onset of winter, a time when it was feared that unfriendly ghosts, nature-spirits, and witches roamed the earth, creating mischief. So the Druid priests lit great bonfires and performed magical rites to ward off or appease these dark supernatural powers.

Then the Romans arrived, and brought their Harvest Festival which honoured the Goddess Pomona with gifts of apples and nuts. The two festivals slowly merged.

When Christianity arrived still later, it began to replace the Roman and Druid religions. The 1st November – All Saints' Day – was dedicated to all Christian

Martyrs and Saints who had died. It was called 'All Hallows' Day'. The evening before became an evening of prayer and preparation and was called 'All Hallows' Eve', The Holy Evening, later

shortened to 'Halloween'.

For many centuries, however, fear of the supernatural remained strong. During the Middle Ages, animal costumes and frightening masks were worn to ward off the evil spirits of darkness on Halloween. Magic words and charms were used to keep away bad luck, and everybody believed that witches ride about on broomsticks. Fortune telling was popular, and predicting the



future by the use of nuts and apples was so popular that Halloween is still sometimes known as Nutcrack Night or Snap-Apple Night.

Today, Christians have learned to turn to prayer instead of charms to overcome the powers of darkness. And the deeper,

true meaning of All Hallows' Eve, should not be forgotten. As Christians, we all draw closer to Christ when we remember and give thanks for our loved ones and for others who have gone before us through the gates of death.

Hymns you need to know

If, for some inexplicable reason, you feel you are justified in breaking the speed limit while you are driving, we suggest you keep these hymn titles in mind and call them up at the appropriate time::

at 45 mph: "God Will Take Care of You"

at 55 mph: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

at 65 mph: "Nearer My God to Thee"

at 75 mph: "Nearer Still Nearer"

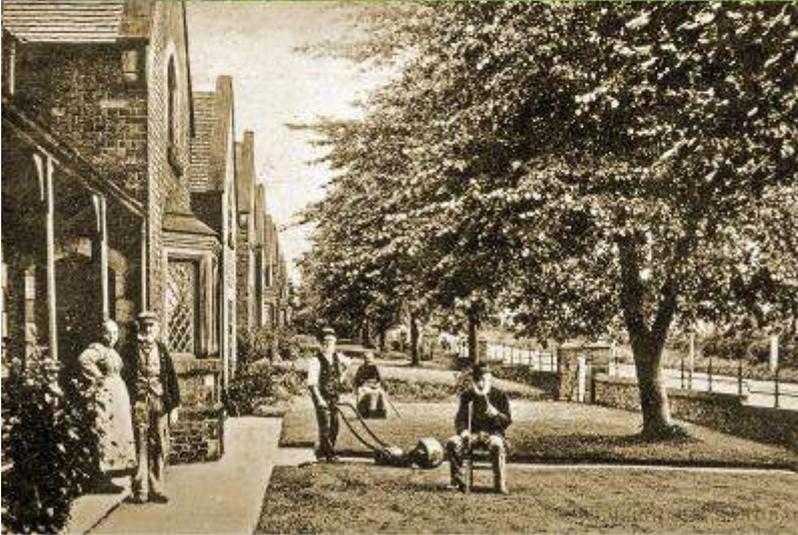
at 85 mph: "This World is Not My Home"

at 95 mph: "Lord, I'm Coming Home"

at 100 mph: "Precious Memories"



From the Archives



This month we are looking at the Almshouses on Newcastle Road, and in the lower image back to the early 1900's. The Almshouses were designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott and built around 1870 by local builders Thomas Stringer from Sandbach and Samuel Faram of Rhode Heath.

Stephen Minshull



Autumn Fair

Saturday 2nd November

10 am until 12.30 pm

Church Hall

Tea Coffee and Cakes

Raffle and tombola

Books and Toys

Gift Stall

and more

For more information, requesting a stall or willing to help then please contact Gill Savage on 765161.



Tuneful Places

Everton - sung to one of the following two hymns :

Lord, her watch Thy Church is keeping:
When shall earth Thy rule obey?
When shall end the night of weeping?
When shall break the promised day?
See the whitening harvest languish,
Waiting still the laborers' toil;
Was it vain, Thy Son's deep anguish?
Shall the Strong retain the spoil?

Son of God, eternal Saviour,
source of life and truth and grace,
Son of Man, whose birth incarnate
hallows all our human race,
thou, our Head, who, throned in glory,
for thine own dost ever plead,
fill us with thy love and pity;
heal our wrongs, and help our need.

Composed by Henry Thomas Smart (b. Marylebone 1813; d. Hampstead 1879). He was a capable composer of church music who wrote some very fine hymn tunes including Regent Square (Angels from the Realms of Glory..)

He gave up a career in the legal profession for one in music. Although largely self taught, he became proficient in organ playing and composition, and he was

a music teacher and critic and organist in a number of London churches, including St Luke's, Old Street and St Pancras. He became completely blind at the age of fifty-two, but his remarkable memory enabled him to continue playing the organ. Fascinated by organs as a youth, Smart designed organs for important places such as St Andrew Hall in Glasgow and the Town Hall in Leeds.

There is no evidence of the name coming from the district of Liverpool but Everton is an ancient settlement and, like Liverpool, was one of the six unnamed berewicks of West Derby. Until the late 18th century Everton was a small rural parish of Walton-on-the-Hill, but the rise in wealth of nearby Liverpool pushed its wealthier merchants towards Everton and further afield to live.



Ed: Thomas has given me a gift that he was obviously not brave enough to give me before he left - 101 things to do during a Dull Sermon. So here a few tasters.

Locate all the typing mistakes in the Pewsheet. Allow yourself extra points for bad grammar. (Q: Is syntax a sin?)

See how many bird names you can list. Match the birds you have listed with church members who look or sound like them. Attract their attention with the relevant mating-call.

Compose a letter to the vicar extolling the spiritual rewards to be had on a solitary camping expedition. Then offer to loan him all your camping gear if he will take off for a few weeks.

Games - Listen for the Vicar to use a word beginning with "A" then "B" and so on through the alphabet.

An elderly gentleman wasn't hearing well, so he went to an audiologist practice for a hearing check. They gave him a test and fitted him up with better hearing aids. They suggested he returned in a month to check that he was happy with them. He did so and he confirmed that his hearing had improved significantly.

The audiologist said, "I would say your hearing is now almost perfect, so your family must be delighted." The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to their conversations and I have changed my will three times!"

CHURCH OFFICIALS

Vicar	Please contact the Churchwarden	760778
Reader	Joan Plowman	768079
Churchwarden	Anne Birch	760778
Sacristan	Andrew Wood	

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OFFICERS

PCC Secretary	Aileen Higgs <u>pccsecretary@sandbachchurch.co.uk</u>	760149
Treasurer	Roger Cooke	762118
Covenants and Gift Aid	Aileen Higgs <u>giftaid@sandbachchurch.co.uk</u>	760149

OTHER CONTACTS

Organist and Choir Master	Kevin Birch <u>organist@sandbachchurch.co.uk</u>	760778
Music Group and Web Editor	Heather Bottomley <u>musicgroup@sandbachchurch.co.uk</u>	768744
Bells	Steven Stoker <u>bells@sandbachchurch.co.uk</u>	07456 418888
Church Flowers	Sheenagh Ashworth	529187
Church Hall	Sylvia Watkins <u>hall@sandbachchurch.co.uk</u>	767386

Baptisms and Weddings

Please Contact the Churchwarden.

Challenge is edited by John Bottomley. If you or your organisation has any events or information that needs publicising, please telephone 01270 768744 or e-mail: magazine@sandbachchurch.co.uk

Articles must be received by **Sunday 20th October**

More information is also available on the web-site:
www.sandbachchurch.co.uk

