

CHALLENGE



The Parish Magazine of St Mary Sandbach

September 2019

Volume 55

No 649





September 2019

Sunday 1st September	8.00 am	Holy Communion
11 Trinity	10.00 am	Morning Worship
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sunday 8th September	8.00 am	Holy Communion
12 Trinity	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist and Baptism
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sunday 15th September	8.00 am	Holy Communion
13 Trinity	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sunday 22nd September	8.00 am	Holy Communion
14 Trinity	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
	6.30 pm	Choral Evensong with Churches together in Sandbach
Sunday 29th September	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Michaelmas	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 6th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Harvest Festival	10.00 am	Morning Worship
Every Wednesday	11.00 am	Holy Communion

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

Libricide. Biblioclasm. The destruction of books. Ray Bradbury wrote a book about the subject and François Truffaut, amongst others, turned it into a film, "Fahrenheit 451". I'm back on a topic I raised in a vicar's letter in 2014.

Then I was worried about the fate of the large number of books in the vicarage and what to do to them. Many of my academic father's (bargain) purchases of water-stained leather folios from the 16th century onwards and mostly in Latin. The (incomplete) works of the Church Fathers such as Ambrose, Gregory, Jerome et al. In reality, no one wanted them then. They cost pence. The market for those types of tomes is even worse now. After all, if you must study the works of the ancients, there are critical modern editions "online". I glibly promised during my time as vicar of Sandbach to get rid of the books. Second-hand book dealers...they were pleased to have them off their shelves then. Hay on Wye bookshops (from whence many came in the 70s) politely say that they are valueless and they won't receive them even as a gift!

As objects they can't be recycled - leather, glues and old paper. Land fill or burning seem the only alternatives. But I feel a deep seated revulsion for destroying books many of which were brought into physical existence as objects with extreme care and labour. There is also the idea of the Word and words being sacred. There are all the issues of Bibliolatry and the destruction of the word.

It's a bit more of a crisis now than five years ago as I know the limited space of our new home in Lincoln. We simply can't take them, most of them. They are my "babies" I love them all - like Gollum's ring they have become "precious".

But the ruthless cull has started in earnest and will continue for a few weeks to come - and there will be the pain of parting...

Thomas Shepherd Vicar

From the Registers

Baptism

July

28th Sophie-Lily French daughter of Richard and Sarah
Poppy May Collett Barker daughter of Andrew and Emma
Isla Brooke Barker daughter of Andrew and Emma



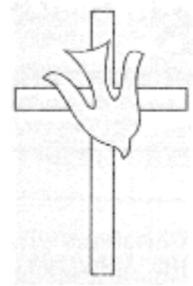
Funerals

July

25th Ida Pauline Booth (93)

August

1st Katie Sara Ratcliffe (33)
6th Desmond Cyril Donnelly (90)
15th Maurice Whiteley Osborne (83)



Church Flowers

September

1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd Vacant

29th Mrs Stanway

Apologies to Mrs Stanway, as she was missed off the list in the August Magazine, she gave flowers on the 18th August.

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



Coffee Rota

September

- 1st Joyce Griffiths and Lynne Winfield
8th Kathleen Davies and Kathleen Beech
15th Stella Craven and Christine Hirst
22nd Margaret Parry and Ghania
29th Jim Thompson and Rosemary Wilkinson



October

- 6th Jean Richardson and Iris Kenilworth

Services during the interregnum

The last service Thomas will take before retirement will be the morning service on Sunday 29th September.

As subsequent services will be taken by other clergy there is a possibility that they may be changed or cancelled.

There will be only one Evensong per month, which will be advertised in the magazine, on the notice board and on the website.

From the Editor

In this Issue....

Chester Festival

Minshull Archives

Presentation Anagrams

Sunrise

Safeguarding

Social Heritage

Keys

Concert

Farewell Lunch

Safeguarding in the C of E

An extensive presentation on safeguarding in the Church of England was given by the lead safeguarding bishop, the Rt Revd Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath & Wells, at the recent meeting of the General Synod.

He said that while “the need for compassion and pastoral care is clear,” it is “action that will bring reform, support survivors and ensure that we keep prevention at the forefront of our work.”

In a wide-ranging speech the Bishop quoted the letter originating from Blackburn Diocese that stressed “there are very few areas of our common life that we will not need to look at very closely and honestly in the years to come. Vague and evasive talk of ‘culture change’ is not enough.”

The bishop said: “We ALL have a role to play in safeguarding. It is not something that can be ‘done to’ the Church. It is instead integral to the Church’s very life and it remains at the heart of the Christian message.

He said: “There is no doubt that our response to survivors in the past has been inadequate. But there has been good progress.” As an example, he said that the Church has now committed to co-producing a National Victim and Survivor’s Charter, “which will outline the key statements and principles we agree to adhere to when working with victims and survivors.”

Choir Away Day

Members of the choir will again be singing in the Area Festival at Chester Cathedral which is attended by many choirs from the Diocese. The service will take place on Saturday 28th September at 5pm.

It is always a great pleasure for the choir to sing in this magnificent building. Please do come along to attend the service.

Safeguarding at St Mary

If you hold any of the following positions, **PCC members, Organist, Music Leaders, Bell Captain, Servers, Sidespersons, Flower Arrangers and refreshment helpers**, the PCC would like to remind you that you should complete the "Basic Safeguarding Awareness" via an online course through the link below:

<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>

The training is very straightforward and takes approximately 30 minutes. If anyone would like help with accessing the form then please contact one of the PCC members. Completed certificates should be sent to:

safeguarding@sandbachchurch.co.uk and
pccsecretary@sandbachchurch.co.uk.

There is a link on the church website to the policy together with important contact details.

Should you have any concerns about Safeguarding, please contact in the first instance Mrs Joanna Johnson who is responsible for all aspects of Safeguarding in the parish (07725989374) or the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Pauline Butterfield, (01928-718834 Ext 221).

Top Tips

Water straight from the tap becomes cloudy when frozen. To make ice cubes crystal clear, allow a kettle of boiled water to cool slightly and use this to fill your ice cube trays.

Prevent soil from escaping through the holes in the base of flowerpots by lining with large coffee filters.

Autumn Fair

Saturday 2nd November

10 am to 12.30pm

If you would like to run a stall or have any new ideas please contact Gill Savage on 765161.

Cakes, items for the stalls, raffle and tombola will be very welcome. No bric a brac or toys please

Summer Lunch

By the time this Magazine is out, we will have held our summer lunch. For those who came I hope you enjoyed the food and company. We will be able to tell you in the next Magazine the amount raised.

Thank you all for your support

Important - Keys

Brian has had only one response from people holding keys to the Church and Church Hall.

All holders of keys, please ensure you contact Brian Day as soon as possible in person or by e-mail if you have a key to the Church or Hall:

brian_v_day@hotmail.com



3rd Sept St Gregory the Great – the man who saved the ‘angels’

Pope Gregory never called himself ‘the Great’, but instead ‘the Servant of the Servants of God’. Nevertheless, Gregory was one of the most important popes and influential writers of the Middle Ages. The son of a very rich Roman senator, he left the service of the State upon his conversion as a young man. Gregory then sold off his tremendous estates to found six monasteries in Sicily and a seventh in Rome, and gave generously to the poor. He became a monk and adopted an austere lifestyle. But he was destined to be a frustrated monk, because successive popes kept appointing him to jobs with major public responsibilities.

Christians in England owe him a great deal. When Gregory came across some English slaves

for sale in Rome, he asked who they were, and was told, ‘They are Angles.’ Moved with compassion for these humiliated and despised men, he replied, ‘They are not Angles, but angels!’ He wanted to lead a band of missionaries to England to evangelise the Angles, but then plague broke out in Italy, and during this time he was elected Pope.

Reluctantly he accepted, and then sent to work to deal with the crises facing Christendom: plague, floods, famine, and a Lombard invasion. But busy though Gregory was, he did not forget the Angles. He sent Augustine to England, and so indirectly became the apostle of the English.

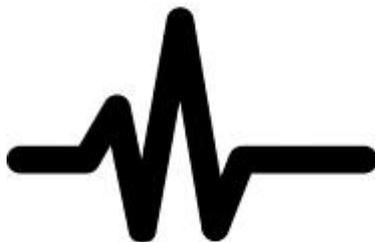
I know the Bible is inspired because, more than any other book, it finds me at a greater depth of my being.
(Samuel Taylor Coleridge)

Life Saved

Eddie Timmins, (75), of Elm Tree Lane in Elworth, survived quadruple heart bypass surgery at the Royal Stoke University Hospital and is putting together a unique concert to raise funds for the coronary unit that saved his life. He has booked Foden's Brass Band and Rhos Orpheus Male Voice Choir who will play together at Hanley's Victoria Hall for the first time since 2005, when they ended their much-loved annual shows (*See the next page*).

"There was a slim chance of me surviving that operation and now I'm grateful for every day that I'm given. Aren't we lucky?" Mr Timmins said that days after surgery he was lying in the hospital thinking of how he could show his gratitude to the ward. He said: "The idea came to me just like that!"

Mr Timmins has a long history with Foden's, he owned dealerships where he sold the trucks, and so maintained a good relationship with the firm. In the 1980s, after the company had been sold to the American firm Paccar amid financial difficulties, Foden's flagship brass band was in search of a new home and considering moving to Manchester. Mr Timmins owned the Stud Green Industrial Park on Dragons Lane at the time and, after learning that one of the town's greatest assets was looking to move elsewhere, he stepped in to help.



All funds raised going to the coronary care unit at the Royal Stoke University Hospital. He said : "I want the head of the coronary unit, Dr Richard Warwick, and his colleagues to have the final say on how the money should be spent. You really can't know what work they do or fully appreciate them until you need their help. I owe everything to them. "

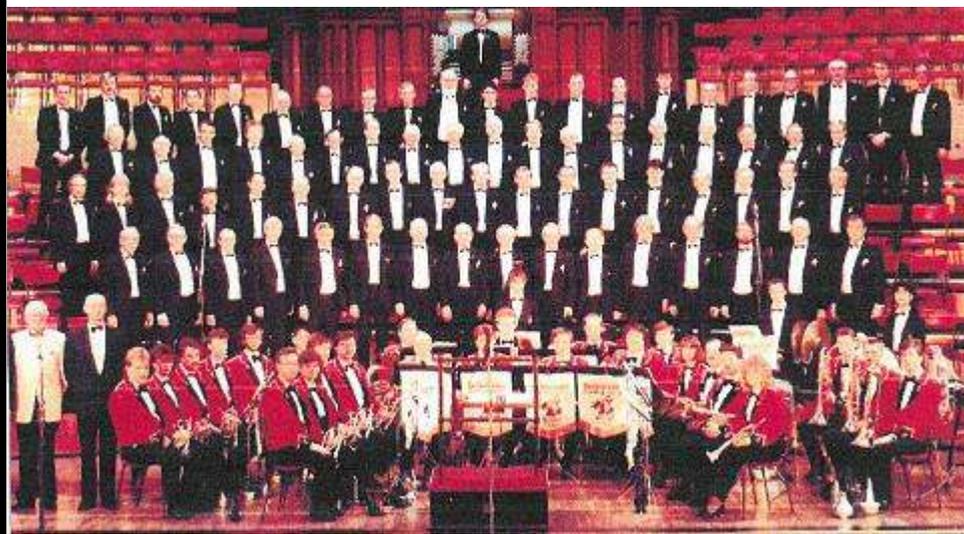
SPECIAL CONCERT

Sunday 27th October at 7pm

Victoria Hall Hanley

In aid of the Coronary Care Unit at The Royal Stoke
University Hospital.

Featuring Fodens Brass Band and Rhos Orpheus Male
Voice Choir



Tickets £20 (£28 including coach travel to and from Sandbach)

Available from the first floor desk in Sandbach Library on the 2nd
and 4th Wednesday of the month between 9.30 and 11.30 am.

For further details telephone 01270 762157 or 07748 567735

www.atgtickets/stoke

Clever Anagrams

Have a go at these anagrams. The answers and questions are both related. You may have to add some punctuation to some of the answers. (See page 21 for the answers).

1. Presbyterian
 2. Astronomer
 3. The Eyes
 4. The Morse Code
 5. Dormitory
 6. Election Results
 7. Snooze Alarms
 8. A Decimal Point
 9. Eleven Plus Two
-

Open the window!

How often do you think about the air quality within your own home?

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has found that many of us are living with ‘indoor pollution’. It has recently issued advice on keeping kitchens and bathrooms well ventilated to combat the problem.

NICE warns that bathing, cooking, cleaning, drying clothes, using candles or open fires all impact on the air quality within a room. Poor ventilation leads to a build-up of pollutants which can exacerbate illnesses such as asthma.



The Heritage of Sandbach and St Mary's Church

Tuesday 17th September 7pm
St Mary's Church Hall.



**Brand new presentation by Minshull
Archives.**

Free entry by ticket - available from Peevers,
Godfrey Williams and the Churchwarden.

Donations on admission for Church Funds.

Includes a free glass of wine or soft drink.

The 23rd Channel

The TV is my shepherd, I shall not want.

It makes me lie down on the sofa.

It leads me away from the faith. It destroys my soul.

It leads me in the paths of sex and violence, for the sponsors' sake.

Yea, though I walk in the shadow of my responsibilities, there will be no interruption, for the TV is with me, its cable and remote control, they comfort me.

It prepares a commercial before me in the presence of my worldliness.

It anoints my head with humanism and consumerism.

My covetousness runneth over.

Surely laziness and ignorance shall follow me all the days of my life.

And I shall dwell in the house, watching TV for ever.

Farewell to Catherine and Thomas

Thomas' last service at St Mary's, before retiring, will be held on Sunday 29th September at 10.00am. Please do try and attend this special service.

Afterwards there will be a lunch in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Wisdom is knowing when to speak your mind and when
to mind your speech

Caption Competition

Thank you for the entries for the Caption Competition for the photograph on the right, taken at the July Garden Party.



PHEW!!! I wish they would all go to McDonald's... **Joyce Booth**

If I make a mess of carrying the plates, thought Heather, they won't ask me to do any washing up...**Alison Kime**

Heather's guilty attempt to hide the evidence of her over-indulgence was hampered by her double jointed fingers...**Alison Kime**

"Mine?? No... these were thrust upon me by the cake fairies Vicar!" ...**Alison Kime**

"Did I really eat all that? " ...**Janet Kime**

And the winner is...

Heather's previously unknown life in the circus suddenly became all too clear...**Alison Kime**

National Lottery Heritage Fund

Thanks very much for those of you who have offered help with the project in preparation of a funding application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). A special thanks to those who have giving us historical documents, memories and those would like us to visit them to help gather their social heritage. We still need more help and information.

This will help us demonstrate that during and after the project:

"A wider range of people will be involved in heritage".

To increase peoples knowledge of the church and why it is a major park of the heritage of Sandbach, we have asked Pauline and Stephen Minshull to create a brand new presentation. This will be on Tuesday 17th September (see page 12)

Physical Heritage. The church and its contents are heaped in history but there is next to no information available to visitors. Do you, or anyone you know, have any information you can send to the team?

Social Heritage. The people involved in the church and its community historically and today are all part of the Social Heritage and are as important as the Physical Heritage in the success of any application.

Please send your information to the Editor (contact details on the last page of the magazine). If you would prefer, one of the team could meet with you and help you record the information. If anyone else would like to volunteer to help collect this information then please let us know.

Unless we can demonstrate that a wider range of people will be involved in heritage during and after the project, there is **absolutely no chance of us being successful** with any application to the NLHF.

Dialect - Cheshire

I've been trying to find phrases and dialect specific to Cheshire but, not being local, have not had much luck. Do you know of any? In the meantime here are a few phrases from Manchester:

Nice one - Thank you

Sorted - It's alright

Our kid - My brother or sister

Clergy in the North?

Can it be true that God is calling most Anglican clergy to the South of England? Does He really want churches in northern urban areas like Burnley, Wigan, Sheffield and Bury and other post-industrial towns to struggle on with very few clergy?

Well, you might be forgiven for thinking so, when you compare some figures. According to a recent meeting called by the Diocese of Manchester in order for clergy to share best practice and learning, too few clergy are looking North. The Archdeacon of Rochdale, the Ven Cherry Vann, said: "God seems to be calling clergy South for some reason; we are lucky if we get one or two applicants for a post. That's a real indicator of some of the challenges we face."

For post-industrial towns across the Northwest are really struggling. "When you see that even McDonald's has moved out of Rochdale town centre, you get the picture." To put it another way, in Burnley you can buy a three-bedroomed house for £20,000.

And if the towns are struggling, the churches are struggling too. "We feel left behind, forgotten and ignored. There needs to be a national strategy for moving clergy up north," said the Archdeacon.

St Mary's Events



Tuesday 17th September Heritage of
Sandbach and St
Mary's

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.



Songs and Prayers at Westminster

Six hundred people, including MPs, peers and Christian leaders, met in Westminster Hall on a Tuesday morning in July to sing worship songs and pray as Bishop Sarah Mullally spoke about valuing those who hold opposite opinions. This prayer by SNP MP David Linden is worth sharing:

"Heavenly Father, we thank you for the amazing opportunity to gather here this morning to worship and proclaim your great name and give thanks for our salvation, paid for by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And Lord, at this time, we pray for our politics, both here in Westminster and right across these islands.

"Give us wisdom, God, to make wise decisions about our nations' futures, and guide us to decisions which are just and fair. Lord, help us to demonstrate a positive Christ-like witness as we seek to navigate the tricky waters of Brexit and with our domestic politics. And for those of us who already know you passionately, Lord, I pray that we would disagree well and do so with grace and brotherly love. And Lord, help us to speak truth in power and make decisions which are not for the convenience of merely today or political expediency but instead, help us to make decisions which improve people's lives and advance your kingdom here on Earth. God, I ask that you would use these volatile times to cause people to reflect on where they draw encouragement from. We pray Lord that these too would come to know and love you and recognise the immense sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ, Amen."

Sunrise and Sunset

There are two very special moments each day - sunrise and sunset. Let us focus on these for a moment. Take the sun's rising; having extinguished the stars, ever so slowly and gently, it eases itself over the rim of the world.

Up, up it comes from the great beyond, scattering light and radiating heat to the earth. We are amazed at how large it appears. It is at its largest when it sits on the horizon, joining heaven and earth. It seems to pose there fleetingly before it starts to climb the sky and get on with the business of the day.

And take the sun's setting. Down, down it goes. Its rate of departure can be measured by the fading light and waning heat. As it retreats, it appears to grow in size once more and is again at its largest when it meets the horizon. As at its coming, so at

its going, it seems to pose briefly on the edge of the world. Then, re-lighting the stars, it slips slowly and silently away into the great beyond from whence it came.

Just as sunrise and sunset are very special moments in the day, so birth and death are very special moments in the life of a

human being.

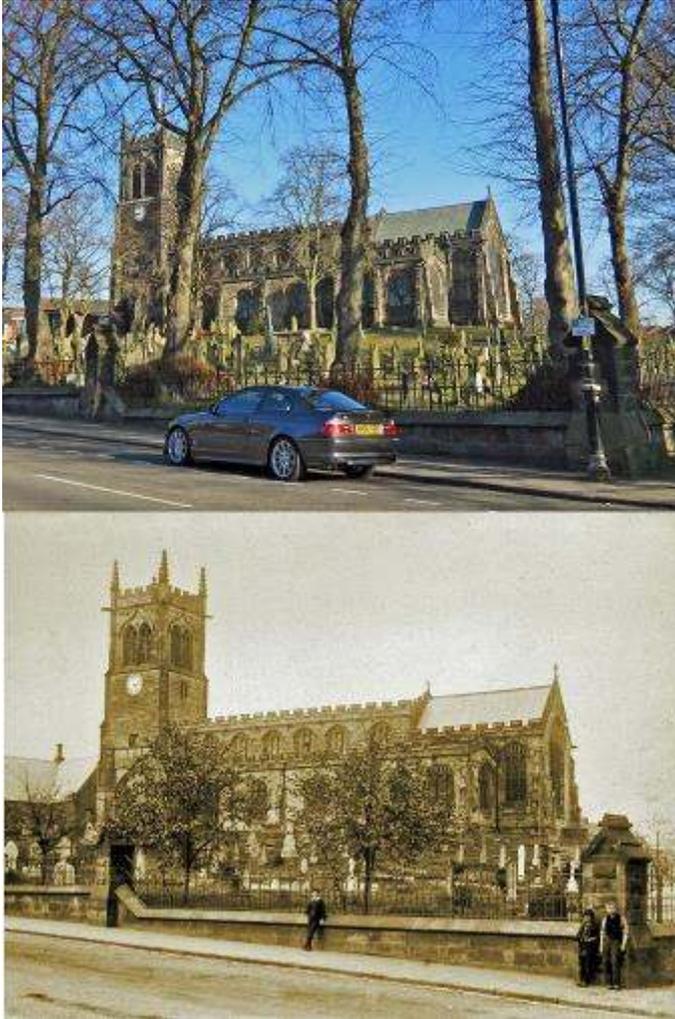
At these moments, we realise that a person is absolutely unique. At birth, something comes into being that never was before. At

death, something passes away that will never be on earth again. People seem larger to us at these two moments, when we get a glimpse of their true worth and their gifts. There is something sacred about birth and death. Heaven and earth are joined together. Each person is a mystery; each person is a gift from God.

(A meditation by Deacon Angie Allport)



From the Archives



This month we are at St Marys Church, in the top picture as it is today and, in the lower image the same view back in the late 1800's. Origins of the current church can be traced back to the 13th century with various items being incorporated in later builds. The last major rebuild was in 1849 when the church was lengthened and 1876 for increasing the size of the graveyard that removed part of Front Street. **Stephen Minshull**

Clever Anagrams - Answers

1. Presbyterian - Best In Prayer
 2. Astronomer - Moon Starer
 3. The Eyes - They See
 4. The Morse Code - Here Come Dots
 5. Dormitory - Dirty Room
 6. Election Results - Lies - Let's Recount
 7. Snooze Alarms - Alas ! No More Z's
 8. A Decimal Point - I'm A Dot In Place
 9. Eleven Plus Two - Twelve Plus One
-

Food Bank

Our harvest service will be on Sunday 6th October and many of the gifts brought to church that day will be sent to the Food Bank. Here is an update of items that are in short supply:

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



Tuneful Places

Dundee - sung to one of the two hymns below:

Let saints on earth in concert sing
with those whose work is done;
for all the servants of our King
in heaven and earth are one.

The people that in darkness sat
a glorious light have seen;
the light has shined on them who long
in shades of death have been.

Dundee first appeared in the 1615 edition of the Scottish Psalter published in Edinburgh by Andro Hart. Its harmonization was published in Thomas Ravenscroft's *Whole Booke of Psalmes* (1621).

Little is known about Thomas Ravenscroft's (b. circa Sussex, England, 1592; d. circa London, England, 1635) early life. It is believed he sang in the choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, and probably received his bachelor's degree in 1605 from Cambridge.

Ravenscroft is principally known for his collections of folk music: *Pammelia* (1609), *Deuteromelia* or *The Seconde Part of Musicks Melodie* (1609), which includes the famous children's song "Three Blind Mice," and *Melismata* (1611).

The tune's name comes from the city of Dundee, which sits on the north bank of the Firth of Tay on the North Sea Coast of Scotland, also known as the "Scottish Geneva" during the era of the Scottish Reformation.

The city has adopted a plan to regenerate and reinvent itself as a cultural centre. In pursuit of this, a £1 billion master plan to regenerate and to reconnect the Waterfront to the city centre started in 2001 and is expected to be completed within a 30-year period. The V&A Dundee – the first branch of the V&A to operate outside of London – is the main centre piece of the waterfront project. A unique feature of Dundee is that its two professional football clubs, Dundee F.C. and Dundee United, have stadiums all but adjacent to each other.



Little Emily was at her first wedding and gaped at the entire ceremony. When it was over, she asked her mother, "Why did the lady change her mind?" Her mother asked, "What do you mean?" Emily said, "Well, she went down the aisle with one man and came back with a different one."

A teacher was finishing up a lesson on the joys of discovery and the importance of curiosity. "Where would we be today," she asked, "if no one had ever been curious?"

There was a pause, and then one child ventured: "In the garden of Eden?"

On a beautiful late summer's day, two American tourists were driving through Wales. They reached Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwylllantysiliogogoch (yes, that place in Wales) and stopped for lunch.

Still gazing in fascination at the place name on the sign outside, one of the tourists approached the waitress and said: "Before we order, I wonder if you could settle an argument for us. Can you pronounce where we are, very, very, very slowly?"

"Of course," the girl shrugged. She leaned over the counter and said: "Burr-gurr-king".

One day a small boy started pulling handfuls of money out of his pockets – several notes as well as many coins. Bewildered, his mother asked, "Where on earth did you get all that money?"

"At church, of course," the boy replied, surprised. "They have bowls of it there."

CHURCH OFFICIALS

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Baptisms and Weddings

Please Contact The Vicar in Church on Sundays 5 pm to 6 pm to make the necessary arrangements.

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 22nd September**

More information is also available on the web-site:

www.sandbachchurch.co.uk

