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The Grapevine

**August &
September 2018**

Issue 5

The Church of England in Saddleworth

“Celebrating God’s presence in all people.”

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The Rector writes...

At the recent Royal Wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan Markel, the preacher, Archbishop Michael Curry spoke memorably in his sermon about the power of love.

The power of love is the power of God. It is power of a different order from power found in laws and treaties; in regulations and politics. It is not our familiar understanding of power exercised through status, success, money, control, manipulation, violence or abuse. It is the power of love to help and heal when nothing else can; to lift up and liberate when nothing else will. There is power in love to show us a different way to live. It is demonstrated in generosity, forgiveness, humility, apology and self-control.

Everything God has been trying to teach humanity since the time of Moses onwards is summed up in Jesus' commandment to love. For Jesus, love is not an easy choice or an optional extra. It is an intentional act of self-giving; of inconvenience, of taking risks and being vulnerable; it is a personal subsuming of our will to the will of God in the service of others. It is a daily surrender to the ways of God revealed in Jesus Christ. Love is the power of the Holy Spirit at work within us released through prayer.

Listening to God in prayer is an imperative. It informs our lives and judgements because silence is the language of God. In gazing upon God and being attentive to the moment, God's transforming work begins. It is then that we will have earned the right to speak and will have something to say to the world that is worth listening to, for the world is in desperate need of the power of love.

Sharon



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Cover Photograph of Heights Chapel
Many thanks to Jim Leonard of Delph for this excellent photograph.

Church of England in Saddleworth Who's Who

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Secretary	Liz Rooke	lizzierooke@gmail.com	01457 810666
Treasurer	Chris Chard	chard.chris@gmail.com	01457 874165

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Monday 10th September 2018
2:00pm to 3:00pm

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre

Station Road, Uppermill, OL3 6HQ

Music provided by Mike Hindson.

Prayers, reflection and activity
on the theme of Autumn and Harvest

by Revds Barbara Christopher and Hilary Edgerton.



Church of England in Saddleworth

"Celebrating God's presence in all people."

Congratulations to...

Councillor Rob Knotts, Chairman of Saddleworth Parish Council whose Inauguration Service was held at Holy Trinity Dobcross church on Trinity Sunday.

We send our best wishes to Rob and Lesley for a happy and no-doubt busy year in office.



Regular Sunday Services

St Thomas Delph

1st Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion (said)
10:30am Service of the Word

2nd Sunday 9:30am Informal Service
10:30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion (said)
10:30am Service of the Word
6:30pm Prayer for Healing
with Holy Communion

4th Sunday 9:30am Informal Service
10:30am Holy Communion

5th Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion (said)
10:30am All Age Holy Communion

Christ Church Denshaw

1st Sunday 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

2nd Sunday 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)
6:00pm Evensong (BCP)

3rd Sunday 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

4th Sunday 10:30am Morning Prayer
6:00pm Evensong (BCP)

5th Sunday 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

Holy Trinity Dobcross

1st Sunday 9:30am All Age Eucharist (CW)
10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

2nd Sunday 10:30am Morning Praise
and Sunday School

3rd Sunday 9:30am Little Fishes
10:30am Eucharist (CW)

4th Sunday 10:30am Family Eucharist (CW)

5th Sunday 10:30am Morning Prayer (BCP)

Christ Church Friezland

1st Sunday 9:30am Eucharist (CW)

2nd Sunday 9:30am Children's Eucharist (CW)

3rd Sunday 9:30am Morning Prayer

4th Sunday 9:30am Eucharist (CW)

5th Sunday 9:30am Eucharist (CW)

St Mary Greenfield

1st Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Eucharist (CW)

2nd Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Morning Prayer (CW)

3rd Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Eucharist (CW)

4th Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Eucharist (CW)

5th Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Eucharist (CW)
6:30pm Eucharist

¥ 'Early Church' for children and young families.
On special occasions (e.g. Mothering Sunday,
Easter Day, Harvest, Christingle, Nativity, etc.)
we have just one service at 10:30am.

St Anne Lydgate

1st Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Children's Eucharist (CW)
(including Church Parade)

2nd Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Eucharist (CW)

3rd Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Morning Prayer

4th Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Eucharist (CW)

5th Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Eucharist (CW)

Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world.
All things break. And all things can be mended.
Not with time as they say, but with intention.
So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally.
The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you.

L. R. Knost

St Chad Saddleworth

On the 5th Sunday all three of the worship centres worship together. The venue is rotated.

30th Sept 9:30am Eucharist at
The Parish Church

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre

1st Sunday 9:30am Children's Eucharist

2nd Sunday 9:30am Family Worship

3rd Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and
Sunday School

4th Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and
Sunday School

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Church

1st Sunday 11:00am Sung Eucharist

2nd Sunday 11:00am Sung Eucharist

3rd Sunday 11:00am Sung Eucharist

4th Sunday 11:00am Morning Prayer

St Chad Saddleworth - Kilngreen

1st Sunday 9:30am Family Worship

2nd Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and
Sunday School

3rd Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and
Sunday School

4th Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and
Sunday School

Regular Weekday Services

Christ Church Friezland

Tuesday 9:30am Eucharist (CW)

Thursday 7:00pm Eucharist (CW)
non-alcoholic wine

St Anne Lydgate

Wednesday 6:00pm Family Worship

Friday 10:00am Eucharist (CW)

St Mary Greenfield

Wednesday 10:00am Eucharist (BCP)

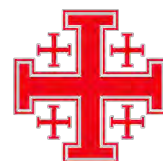
St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre

Tuesday 9:30am Eucharist



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2019

Eight Days for £1225 from 1st to 8th April 2019



I am organising and leading a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Please visit www.special-pilgrimages.co.uk/tours and look in 'Available Tours' for details of my tour: "Graham Hollowood's Holy Land Pilgrimage".

This is a wonderful way to prepare for Easter.

Please contact me if you are interested.

All are welcome.

Bookings are now being taken.

I do hope that you will join me.

Revd Graham Hollowood



Sea of Galilee



Mount of the Beatitudes

Revd Graham Hollowood is the Vicar at St Mark with Christ Church, Glodwick, Oldham and the Area Dean for the Oldham East Deanery.

Contact details are:

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0161 624 4964
stmarkglodwick@gmail.com

My First Year

As of writing this article, I am a mere four days away from being ordained as a priest within the benefice of Saddleworth. I have been here for almost a year (which is called my 'diaconal year') - and what a year it's been. Besides the weekly process of learning how to serve as a minister on a Sunday morning, my first year as a fledgling curate in Saddleworth has been a smorgasboard of events, activities and experiences with which to get my teeth stuck into.

I have been fortunate enough to have been given the opportunity to travel around the benefice, sharing in and leading worship at all of our nine churches and getting to know the congregations. It has been a real privilege to offer words of challenge, encouragement and insight on Sunday mornings, to join the congregation in prayer, and to assist at the altar in the sharing of the Eucharist. To some, these occasions may appear to be mere ritual, but for me, they are a chance to pause for a while and contemplate the loving presence of a God who is in all things and at the heart of this community.

Speaking of community, I have been welcomed with open arms into all these villages by both young and old. It has been an honour to celebrate the start of new life with families through baptism, to visit the elderly in times of sickness and loneliness, and to support the grieving in death. I never tire of Parent-Toddler groups, youth drop-ins or school assemblies, and the opportunity to enjoy cake and coffee at a luncheon club is always too good an offer to turn down!

I have had the privilege of participating in major community events, including the mass pilgrimage up to Pots and Pans for Remembrance Sunday,



the frivolities at Rushcart - and of course, who could forget the traditional Whit Friday procession, accompanied by

traditional brass music...and traditional Saddleworth weather!

My children have settled at school in Denshaw and have made many friends. My wife, Gemma, is already well-known in Dobcross as the keeper of an ever-growing menagerie of animals. The last time I checked, we had 2 dogs, a cat, a hamster,



2 fish,
2 stick insects,
12 sheep,
3 geese,
11 ducks
and 10 chickens - who knows what's next?!

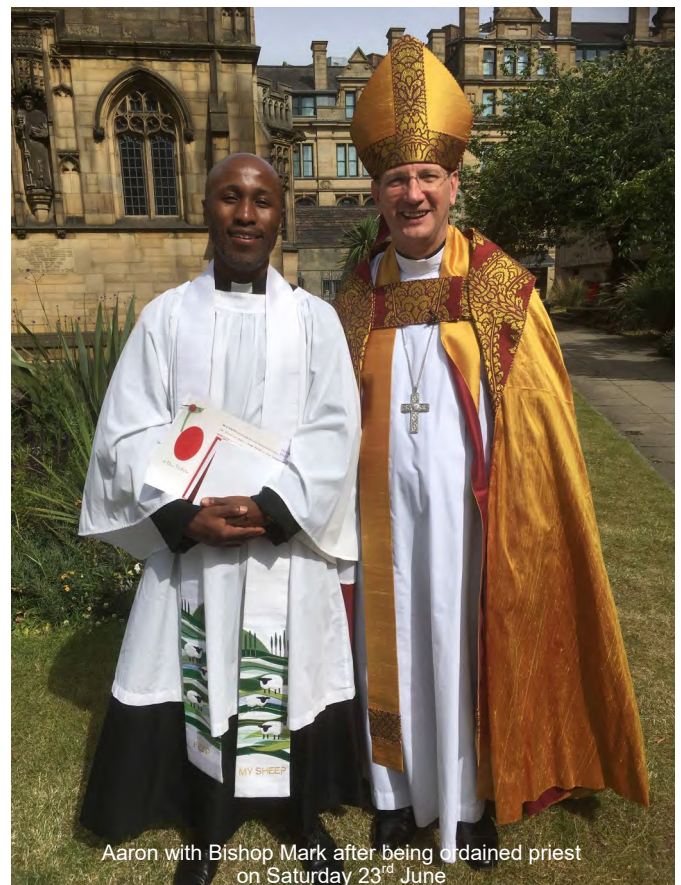
Also my 'brother-from-another-mother', Kile, is keen to settle in the area after moving from Manchester and finding work in dry stone walling through the Lancashire family.

All in all, as I spend time in Saddleworth - taking my children to school, shopping for last minute ingredients for dinner, or enjoying the occasional coffee in Abaco - I feel more and more part of the community. I enjoy recognising familiar faces, and hope that people feel the same way when they bump into me on the street.



I look forward to the additional responsibilities and privileges that being a priest in Saddleworth will bring and ask for your prayers and best wishes as I endeavour to serve God and all of you in the only way that I know - as myself.

Aaron Jackman



Aaron with Bishop Mark after being ordained priest on Saturday 23rd June

The 2019 voyages of the slave ship Zong

Highlighting yesterday's injustices and today's legacy



The movement for Justice and Reconciliation was born out of the desire to draw public attention to one of the great injustices of our age: the legacy of chattel slavery.

Britain transported millions of enslaved Africans to the New World, nearly 13% of whom died on the voyage.

The exploitation of these Africans, together with that of the new working classes at home, formed the human engine-room of Britain's Industrial Revolution, generating wealth and economic growth that laid the foundations of our modern society, but at a cost that has been largely hidden.

When slavery was abolished in the British Empire in 1833, £20 million was paid to British slave owners: 40% of Government expenditure for 1834.



The equivalent to £17 billion today, this remained the largest Government pay-out ever made until the rescue of the banks in 2008.

Not a penny was paid to the slaves themselves.

This injustice left a legacy of underdevelopment and poverty in the Caribbean islands and has left its mark on Britain today. A number of banks, institutions and companies, still well known today, were founded and flourished due to enslavement. After the last war Caribbeans, many of whom had served in the British forces, were encouraged to settle in Britain due to post-war labour shortages. Their labour was welcome but their presence was resented. "No Blacks" greeted them in many places. While such open racism is no longer tolerated, hidden attitudes, injustices and inequality still linger.

200 years of silence and historical amnesia on the facts and effects of slavery, both the suffering caused and the benefits it created for Britain, has

kept the wider British public in ignorance of what their forebears did in Africa and the Caribbean. In short: the legacy of slavery impacts us all.

The Zong Voyage aims to highlight these injustices and set in motion a wider project to effect community change.

If you would like to be involved in this exciting project please contact us.

Specific needs are:

- Local representatives to help co-ordinate events in each port.
- Local groups to assist with publicity.
- Funding.

Research has shown that colonial enslavement has left a deep-felt legacy of far reaching social and economic problems; a legacy that has yet to be sufficiently acknowledged or addressed.

In the summer of 2019 a replica slave ship will visit some of the British ports that were involved in the Trans-Atlantic slave trade.

The voyage is being planned in conjunction with local museums, churches and community groups, and will provide an opportunity to:

- experience something of life on board a slave ship
- visit the on-board exhibition about enslavement and its legacy down the generations
- attend a programme of related events

For more information about the planned itinerary please contact us at info@mjr-uk.com or go to our website: www.mjr-uk.com.

The original 'Zong' was infamous for the owners claiming on their insurance for the loss of 'property' after 133 slaves were thrown overboard when the ship had apparently got into difficulties.



The Movement for Justice and Reconciliation (MJR) is a Christian charity which aims to increase our understanding of how modern society has been affected by the legacy of oppression through colonial slavery and industrial exploitation.

The Chatty Café

A scheme to combat loneliness and isolation in Oldham has taken off less than three months after it launched. The Oldham Chronicle reported on new start-up project, The Chatty Café, in April 2017, which was set up to create a space for residents to talk and enjoy each other's company.



Lees-based mum-of-one Alexandra Hoskyn, who is the brains behind the idea, is excited to announce that 180 cafés across Britain have already adopted the scheme with more in the pipeline. She said: "There are a small number of cafés across Oldham that are involved and we are running a 'Get Oldham Chatting Week' during the last week in July to let people know more about the scheme and to publicise it. The idea is to encourage cafés to have a 'Chatter & Natter' table where customers can sit if they are happy to talk to other customers.

"It's fantastic that the scheme now has cafés in the Oldham borough with a 'Chatter & Natter' table."

Cafés in Grotton, Greenfield, Uppermill, Delph, Chadderton, Shaw and Oldham town centre have so far adopted the scheme.

The project is being supported by Oldham Council, Costa Coffee, Age UK and Spindles Shopping Centre.

Residents are invited to attend any of the following locations to meet with other people and have a chat over coffee. Please contact the venues below to see when they have a designated 'Chatter & Natter' table:

- Christ Church Friezland (Thursday afternoons);
- Relish Sandwich Bar, Grotton;
- Reclamation Room Café, Uppermill;
- The Old Library Garden Café, Uppermill;
- Emmaus Mossley Café (not at meal times);
- Station Brew, Greenfield;
- Albion Farm, Delph

A full list of participating venues can be found on the Chatty Café website. For information visit www.thechattycafescheme.co.uk or call Alexandra on 07917586160.

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Iona of my heart - Iona of my love

The Island of Iona lies to the west of Mull. When the sun is shining, which is rather often here, the white sands and clean water make the sea a beautiful turquoise colour. The island itself is low lying and seems to float on the water. Iona is often described as a thin place, where heaven and earth seem very close together. Another way of putting this is that the spiritual and the earthly come close. As a very sacred place for many, it is certainly very special.

In 563 Columba and his twelve companions steered their currach, a vessel made of bent ash and covered in ox hides, onto the south coast of Iona (St Columba's Bay). Having sailed from Ireland and first making landfall on Colonsay, they chose Iona to settle and founded a monastic community. It became a thriving community and it is thought that this is where the Book of Kells was created. Columba died there in 597. The monastic community continued until the Scottish reformation with many pilgrims visiting the island abbey.

The present community was founded in 1938 by Revd George MacLeod to be a sign of the rebuilding of the common life of the church in the world and to break down the barriers between prayer and politics, between the religious and the ordinary. Their first task was the restoration of the ruined monastic buildings of the Abbey.

Iona is 3 miles long by 1½ miles wide and has a population of around 120 permanent residents. The island welcomes up to 120,000 visitors each year to what is sometimes called the Cradle of Christianity in Scotland.

The Iona Community is a dispersed Christian ecumenical community working for peace and social justice, rebuilding of community and the renewal of worship. Members are men and women, lay and ordained, from different Christian traditions, living and working in many different countries.



Members renew their commitment to the community on a yearly basis and they are bound together by a rule of life and faith including prayer, engagement with scripture and public worship; meeting together; accountability on the use of time money and resources; and active working for justice and peace. The focus of the community's work lies in ecumenical activity, work with the poor and exploited, justice, peace and the integrity of creation, action in relation to racism and inter-faith concerns, work with young people, social and political change and the rediscovery of spirituality.

There is a small resident staff to welcome the many guests each year, to lead the worship and host volunteers and those on retreat or weeks of reflection, for whom there is residential accommodation in three centres on the island.

I have been visiting Iona, often with my family, for more than thirty years. Whether you go there to walk the islands, to wander over the beaches, to visit the Abbey and Abbey Church, you will find yourself stopping, looking about you and looking within you. Without traffic but with the constraints of weather and ferry timetable to get you on and off the island, you are, in a sense, enabled to be on retreat - away from it all, even if only for a few hours. Somehow, the place is spiritually refreshing.

*It is indeed a thin and sacred place,
where the Light shines!*



Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

Christ Church Denshaw

3rd June Frank Norman Eastwood

Holy Trinity Dobcross

20th May Holly Christine Hutchins and
Scarlett May Hutchins

9th June Klara Rose Boon

St Mary Greenfield

6th May Poppy Grace Annesley

6th May Harry George Danks

27th May Sophie Clare Harrison

27th May Rosie May Dunster

St Anne Lydgate

27th May Florence Olive Nelson

3rd June Annabelle Marion Kelly

St Chad Saddleworth

6th May Joshua Frankie James

27th May Jack Chandler Beaumont

27th May Elizabeth Alison Crowther

Welcomed into the fellowship of faith.

Sound of Mull (or Giving Thanks)

Deck gusts, wind-force-buffeting
Head hair-pulled, tugged...
The smell of sea and rumble-hum of engine
Ploughing on.

I look across the Sound of Mull
To old familiar landmark memories -
Young children playing and rock-slipping
Pebbles and drift-shells to find and keep.

Can we celebrate that - then and now...
As we have celebrated light and love
In old Iona stones of Abbey Church this morning?
Yes!

Thankful, through thick-and-thin-and-roar-of-sea.

MD Sound of Mull June 2018

Marriages

Christ Church Denshaw

26th May Victoria Ellen Bateman and
Andrew John Melling

16th June Stephanie Pemberton and
Stephen Barlow

Christ Church Friezland

19th May Melissa Buxton and Josh Bayley

St Anne Lydgate

26th May Laura Taylor and Harry Bunn

2nd June Stephanie Mills and John Dixon

9th June Danielle Poole and
Stuart Campbell

16th June Emily Reynolds and
Scott Armstrong

16th June Emma Corbitt and
Christopher Hughes

St Chad Saddleworth

19th May Janice Hallsworth and Paul Harkin

Joined in mutual love and companionship.

Funerals

Christ Church Denshaw

8th June Margaret Walker

St Chad Saddleworth

9th May Veronica Hill

7th June Margaret Wright

May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.



A view behind bars – What about the Children?



The little boy stood poised on the edge of the visits hall, waiting for the officer to signal that he could come in. Then he charged between seats to his dad, who lifted him up and swung him around as he started to talk excitedly so as to get through what he wanted to say before his sister interrupted. It's a scene repeated in many a situation in everyday life. Except that this is prison.

That particular family meet almost every week. Rob is lucky enough that his wife seems to have forgiven him for bringing shame on the family and she books visits as often as she can and squeezes them around her work and the care for both children and an elderly relative.

Others are not treated in the same way. *'I'll give it another year or so and then I'll talk to her'* said one prisoner, when he'd told me that he rarely sees his daughter. I asked how old she is. *'Fourteen'*. And what does she know about the fact that her father is away from home? *'She thinks I work abroad. It saves her having to feel embarrassed if anyone talks to her about her dad'*. Personally, I question that approach but what would I know?

Meanwhile Dave, who doesn't write very well, thinks that he'd be better staying out of his small son's life and although he'd really like to write some letters, finds it too hard to put down on paper what he wants to say.

Recently I was asked to get in touch with the Salvation Army to ask for their help to trace someone's son. The adult son had not been in touch with his father for some years. *'Somewhere in Birmingham'* his dad thought.

What do the children think, when they're young and when they're grown, of this existence that their parent has shaped?

Many of the men talk really fondly of their children and know their likes and dislikes and speak on the phone regularly. Some are more wistful. They've already lost touch. One told me how his boy has shocking behaviour because his partner can't handle him alone. Another talked about how the children expect bigger gifts because they don't see them often - as if material things could make up for the bond that's being stretched all the time. Yet another knows that his teenage boy has become wild and taken to drugs and is desperate to revive his relationship with him.

Ivan heard that his two-year-old daughter had been diagnosed with leukaemia. It was a shattering blow and his partner had to stop working to cope with the treatment regimes. Ivan was not able to visit, of course, and felt helpless. I'm glad to say that, unusually, he was allowed a video link phone call under supervision. Hardly the best contact for father and daughter but better than nothing.

Families are spoken of as high priority. So the visits hall is noisy with children on a regular basis, and the POPS (Partners of Prisoners and Family Support group) people arrange games and crafts for them. A two hour visit sitting in the same chair (prisoners aren't allowed to leave their seat) is too much to cope with for some and distractions are necessary.

Every now and again, prisoners can apply for a Family Day visit which allows them four hours and the smallest grains of normality as they queue up at the canteen to buy sandwiches or take the children to see the chickens, rabbits and guinea pigs outside.

My own memories of growing up include the times of children boasting in the classroom about what their mums and dads did. The reality may well have been different from the story. Did they really all become pilots, professional footballers and managing directors and star on TV shows? Unlikely! Yet I don't remember anyone boasting that their father was a criminal. Perhaps I did share a classroom with someone who knew that truth, I may never know. But I do, from time to time, try to imagine what the impact of the truth will be on young lives with such connections.

Hilary Edgerton - April 2018
HMP Buckley Hall, Rochdale

St Thomas Delph

What's in a Name?

In one 'History of Heights' publication it states that in 1883 the decision was made to build a Mission church in the village of Delph. The publication then states that *"in 1941 services at the Parish church be on the first Sunday in each month from November to March and the other services to be held at St Hilda's Church."* Then fifty years ago Hilda lost her name and was renamed Thomas.

With the re-ordering, thinking through the past into the present and on into the future it has been suggested by some members of St Thomas Delph, that Hilda regain her stature in Delph and that what is now St Thomas' be renamed either:



**St Thomas and
St Hilda**

or

**St Thomas with
St Hilda.**



We are possibly all familiar with St Thomas the Apostle, Thomas (Hebrew or Aramaic for "twin") was also called "Didymus" (Greek for "twin"). He was absent when the Risen Lord appeared to the other apostles on the evening of Easter Day and refused to believe that Christ had indeed risen until he had seen him for himself. When he had seen Him, he said to Him,

"My Lord and My God."

(John 20, v.19-29).

Because of this episode, he has been known ever since as "Doubting Thomas". But we ought also to remember his earlier words, when Jesus announced His intention of going to the Jerusalem area, brushing aside the protests of His disciples that His life was in danger there, at which Thomas said to the others:

"Let us also go, that we may die with him."

(John 11, v.7,8,16)

If Thomas was pessimistic, he was also sturdily loyal. Tradition has it that Thomas travelled to Inia and took the Gospel from the North West to the South East of the country, along a line where today there are numerous churches named St Thomas.

Although St Thomas's church has no pictures or identifying memorabilia/relics associated with St Thomas it does have a stained glass window of Hilda looking out across Whitby.

Bede describes Hilda as a woman of great energy, who was a skilled administrator and teacher. She gained such a reputation for wisdom that even kings and princes sought her advice, but she also had a concern for ordinary folk. Although Hilda must have had a strong character, she inspired affection. As Bede writes, *"All who knew her, called her mother, because of her outstanding devotion and grace"*.

Away from the legend, Hilda is cited for her part in the Synod of Whitby. The Synod of Whitby (664 A.D.) was a Northumbrian synod where King Oswiu of Northumbria ruled that his kingdom would calculate Easter and observe the monastic tonsure according to the customs of Rome, rather than the customs practised by Irish monks at Iona and its satellite institutions. The synod was summoned at Hilda's double monastery of Streonshalh (Streanæshalch), later called Whitby Abbey, of which she was the founder.

St Thomas's PCC will be discussing the matter in July.

Heights Church 250th Anniversary

On the weekend of 23rd and 24th June 2018 the parish of St Thomas Friarmere celebrated the 250th Anniversary of the opening of a chapel at Heights. Three services took place to celebrate the anniversary.

Evensong was celebrated on Saturday at 4:00pm. In recognition that Denshaw parish was formed out of Friarmere and that many residents still have deep family connections with Heights, the service had a strong input and musical accompaniment from their congregation.

On Sunday 24th June at 10:30am, Eucharist led by The Right Revd Mark Davies, Bishop of Middleton, and was attended by about 100 people. His sermon made reference to the recently published book detailing the history of Heights and the planning involved in its inception. He highlighted how the Church is repeating past processes, such as church planting and church re-ordering, as it plans to take Mission and Ministry to the wider community.

Whilst respecting the past but always looking to the future, the Bishop received Darren Quinlan into the Communion of the Church of England. The weekend closed at 4:00pm with a service of Songs of Praise. The older traditional hymns, chosen from Ancient & Modern, were accompanied by the church brass section. The well-attended service had members present from parishes across the Benefice. We were pleased that Revd Nick Feist and his wife Mary were present. Nick was Vicar at St Thomas's from 1980 to 1988.



On both afternoons the Church was open. As well as locals, visitors arrived from far afield as Leicester including a visit from Revd Sidney Orme's daughter and granddaughter. He was the vicar who oversaw the closure of Heights and the transformation of the then St Hilda's church into the parish church of St. Thomas.

There were excellent displays of work by The Piecemakers. Two exceptional items were a new quilted wall-hanging made to celebrate the 250th Anniversary and the quilted wall-hanging commissioned by the Denshaw Hall, completed in 2009. The latter was hung over the balcony at the West end of the church suspended from the organ loft for full viewing. Whilst the current



Whit Friday Banner is displayed in the parish church in the village, the original banner which is over 90 years old and the intermediate banner were also on display at Heights.



The book, "Heights Church and Friarmere - A Potted History 1758 - 2018" was on sale for £15 with the authors, Mary Rodgers and Geoffrey Dent, present for book signing and discussion of the contents. These include a History of Heights until the closure, St Hilda's conversion to St Thomas' to the present, a history of Whit Friday and other notable events. There are pictures of all the stained glass windows in both Heights and the former St Hilda's.

Copies of the book are available from Mary Rogers (01457 874354) or Geoffrey Dent (01457 874027)), Delph Post Office, Delph Craft Shop, Delph Library and the Saddleworth Team Office. Copies can be ordered by post (£17 inc p&p.) from John Battye, 23 Hillside Ave, Grotton, Oldham OL4 5SG.



Friarmere PCC wish to thank Lynn and Matt at Heights Farm, Sheila and Michael Fancy at the Royal Oak, Chris and Gail Dunnet for car parking facilities, and the Churches Conservation Trust for permission to hold the celebrations in the building.

Parish Contacts

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Church Hall Bookings	Alison Lambert		01457 875141

Christ Church Denshaw

Saddleworth Above & Beyond

Abve
&
Beyond

As you will read in Revd Philip Williamson's report on the Denshaw Procession of Witness, everyone was invited to

Friarswood, home of Andrew Vance and Michael Lyons for light refreshment. During this happy time, the couple were presented with the Denshaw Above and Beyond Award for the work they do for the Denshaw community.



Christ Church Primary School News

One of the highlights of the summer term for the children in Year 6 of our Church of England Primary schools in the Manchester Diocese is the visit to Manchester Cathedral for the annual Leavers' Service. This year the visit took place on Friday 15th June.

The service was led by The Right Revd Mark Davies, Bishop of Middleton, who is no stranger to any of the children in Church of England schools in the Manchester Diocese, where he is a frequent and popular visitor.



In his address, Bishop Mark spoke about the values of Peace, Courage and Service. The theme being to 'live life to its fullest'. In preparation for their visit to the Cathedral, the children wrote prayers which were in turn stuck on the doves they had made to take with them to the service. The service was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

This term is also the time that the same children visit their new secondary schools and are visited by their transition mentor; some of the children at Christ Church have already been on their first visit. It's a very exciting time. The majority of children from our primary school usually go on to study at one of our two excellent Church Schools, the remainder to Saddleworth or Waterhead Academy as a number of pupils live in the Moorside area.

It is just as exciting for those coming into Christ Church in September to start a whole new stage in their journey through life. They will soon be spending some time in their new school with class teacher Mrs Keyl and Higher Level Teaching Assistant Mrs Mudd.

Whit Friday - The Rain didn't dampen the Holy Spirit!

Revd Philip Williamson led the Procession of Witness along with Revd Roy Chow.

Philip's account can be found below.

"Only mad dogs and Englishmen" so the saying goes. It certainly could be applied to the intrepid folk of Denshaw on Whit Friday. However, it wasn't just English folk who braved the driving rain and strong winds, the fabulous Buckten Brass Band from Switzerland also braved the elements and played magnificently.



After an unusually long spell of good weather, particularly for Saddleworth, (and equally unusual that the weather forecaster's predictions were correct!), the weather took a turn for the worse as Whit Friday dawned.



We gathered in the church at 9:45pm and the band warmed up with a lovely rendition of Deep Harmony. We debated whether to remain in church, (we had planned a short service as a contingency) but decided to “brave the storm” and continue with the planned annual Whit Walk around Denshaw village. It proved to be a good decision. Though we all got very wet it was a lovely occasion, with God leading us on as we celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost throughout our procession.

We began with words of welcome and an opening prayer at the lychgate and then set off through the village, stopping at various places on route to sing a hymn of praise, accompanied by the excellent Buckten Band from Switzerland.

We enjoyed a wonderful break from the storm at Friarswood, by virtue of the enormous generosity and hospitality of Andrew and Michael as they opened their home to us all. In the dry and warmth we enjoyed delicious sandwiches, cakes



and scones. Andrew and Michael were presented with a very well-deserved Award for “Above and Beyond” service to the local community. They received heart-felt applause and cheers and Rupert, their lovely dog, became all the more thrilled with his visitors – so many people to welcome and thrash with his ever-wagging tail!

Then back into the elements. The strength of the wind increased, and the rain had intensified. There were moments as we descended the hill into the village with the wind lashing the banner that the banner bearers were in danger of taking off and landing somewhere in Halifax!

Nevertheless, we got back safely, ending at the church lychgate with a final hymn, closing prayers, votes of thanks and a final, beautiful, rendition of *Deep Harmony*. We were very wet, blessed and soaked with the Holy Spirit.

Revd Philip Williamson

Black Dyke Concert

Looking forward to December, Christ Church will once again be hosting a concert by the world famous Black Dyke Band on Saturday 1st December. This will be the sixth concert organised for Christ Church and Denshaw Village in general by the Childs family and we are all looking forward to it. It is a marvellous feeling to hear this great band in our very own church. Tickets cost £15 and can be obtained by contacting Alison Childs on alison4horn@btinternet.com



Also looking to the future, following the success of our Autumn Fayre last year, we are planning a similar event for 2018 which will be held at Denshaw Village Hall on Saturday 13th October. In addition to various stalls there will be home-made food and Gaelic coffees on offer. The fair will be open from 12 noon until 4:00pm.

Parish Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Mary Rodgers	rodgers@delphman.myzen.co.uk	01457 874354
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Be very, very nice to your church organist, and don't upset them, because they are becoming endangered species in the Church of England. A recent survey found something very ominous: that less than 4% of churches have organists under 30 years old. Almost 50% of churches with organists report that they are over 70 years old.

But recorded organ music is hardly ideal – it tends not to leave enough time between lines, and so rushes the singing along. Also, there is a weaker sense of togetherness and community, if you are singing along to a machine, rather than a person well known to you.

Survey conducted by Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich

Holy Trinity Dobcross

A Dedication of Textiles

“O Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness”
(Psalm 96, v.9)

The Eucharist service on 13th May was a special occasion for everyone. On a lovely spring morning, we welcomed The Venerable Cherry Vann, Archdeacon of Rochdale, to celebrate the Eucharist and also to introduce and bless a beautiful range of new textiles in the sanctuary together with other furnishings. Donations in memory of Barbara Hopkinson have been used in conjunction with other gifts from The Friends of Holy Trinity to finance the project.

In her address, the Archdeacon praised the work involved in carrying out the beautiful art work; the artistry of the designer, Polly Meynell, who was a guest at the service, and the skill with which she captured the beauty of Saddleworth throughout the seasons.



She also paid tribute to skills evident in this morning's service, such as the beautiful flower arrangements, the music makers in Dobcross Silver Band, the organist and choir, and the congregation who provided the “Yanks Picnic” lunch which followed the service. Last but not least, the hard-working initiatives of the “backroom staff” particularly Roy and Paul who led this project to completion.

As quoted by the Archdeacon:-

“The world is charged with the grandeur of God”
(Gerard Manley Hopkins, 1844-1889)

A Church for a different world

Whether we like it or not, “a Church for a different world” means change and change is a challenge. We cannot shut our eyes or be immune to the impact change, particularly in this digital age, has on the lives of men, women and young people.

The church is its people, not its buildings. Our church, Holy Trinity, like the other Saddleworth churches must address the impact of rapid change. We need to be “a church for a different world” and that is the motto of the current call to action in Mission Action Planning (MAP).



Churchwarden, Paul Wooding, recalls that the response from the community when we asked for support for the Restoration Project was outstanding. Twenty years on it's a different world. Now we want to know how we can maintain an effective presence in Dobcross and reach out where there is need. Fellow churchwarden, Denis Cavanagh, speaks about the welcoming ethos of the church and is delighted that it is open daily for everyone in the village. But we need to move on to make sure we match that with effective support for people who feel cut off or feel there is more to discover in life.

The MAP group have set about a two-year programme of events aiming at wider engagement. In some respects, it has already hit the mark with the church establishing a community book share library. We have enjoyed fellowship and fun with several celebratory meals which has enabled the different generations within the church congregation to get to know one another better. There was a real ‘buzz’ with the recent Yanks picnic. Our plan is to engage in every way we can so that God's plan for each and everyone of us bears fruit. It's a different world but our message to the community is “Holy Trinity is there for you”. How can we be a better church in a different world?

The forthcoming photographic exhibition in the autumn will bring new people over our threshold and hopefully inform them about the things we all need to value and keep. In the future we aim to showcase the musical talents of all, both young and not-so-young.

Graham McGuffie

Local News Round-up

Whit Friday, the best day of the year for many in Saddleworth began with a walk of witness as over eleven hundred people, young and old, assembled in The Square for a short service led for the first time by Revd. Aaron Jackman, Assistant Curate. We were pleased to welcome back The Right Reverend Mark Davies, Bishop of Middleton, and Revd Canon Jim Burns.

It was a wet march to Uppermill with colourful rainwear and umbrellas, but the banners were proudly carried and the bands played on. Despite the weather a collection of £657.31 was taken in aid of Oldham Mountain Rescue Team.

Thank you to all the many helpers. A special thank you must go to Vernon Cressey who for many Whit Fridays has organised the safety arrangements for all churches and now wishes to stand down.

Experience Pentecost took place on 5th June where Year 5 pupils visited key parts of the church to learn that Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of tongues to Christ's disciples. The children wrote some lovely comments and prayers which were left on the altar.

Claire Archibald has been appointed as a new Foundation School Governor. Claire is a member of our congregation and mum to Sophia and Ella who attend Holy Trinity School.

Christian Aid Week in Dobcross

Once again, the house-to-house collection in Dobcross brought together community and church. A small team of volunteers went out around the streets delivering and then collecting red envelopes in the biggest act of Christian witness in Britain.

The relief work in Haiti continues and Christian Aid partners in Kenya and Ethiopia support pastoral communities to improve farming methods.

Thank you to everyone who helped to raise £952.49 during the week in May.

*"This is my commandment
that you love one another as I loved you"
(John 15, v.12)*

Dorothy and Bob Townend (co-ordinators)

Heritage Photographic Exhibition

As part of "Oldham's Heritage Trail" we are creating an exhibition of photographs on the theme of 'Heritage' in its broadest sense. We are delighted that the photographic society, Focal Point Oldham, have agreed to take part in the exhibition.

The open exhibition is for amateur photographers to enter a single photograph. Entries will be reviewed before being accepted. After acceptance, a fee of £15 is requested to cover the cost of a 40cm x 50cm frame (yours to keep) that will be provided by church for mounting the photograph.

To enter, please email your photograph to heritage@holytrinitydobcross.org.uk by the deadline of 19th August. Please provide details of size and orientation and include a description of your selection. Please also provide contact details. Entries will be reviewed on a first-come-first-serve basis until the exhibition space is full.

Please do have a look through your photographs for something appropriate or pop out with your camera in the coming days.

Photographic Exhibition

by

Focal Point Oldham

together with an

Open Photographic Exhibition

incorporating



heritage **open days**

Monday 3rd September

to

Sunday 16th September

Monday to Saturday: 10:00am to 4:00pm

Sunday: 1:00pm to 4:00pm

at

Holy Trinity Dobcross Church

Woods Lane, Dobcross, OL3 5AL

Entry Free

Donations Welcome

Parish Contacts

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Baptisms and Weddings	Dorothy Townend	r.townend@btinternet.com	01457 873861

Christ Church Friezland

Friezland Church Art Exhibition

Friezland Parish Church will be holding their annual Art Exhibition over the weekend of 8th and 9th September. This is an opportunity for both professional and amateur artists to display and/or sell their work. Anyone wishing to enter an exhibit should contact Duncan Ross on 07753510178 or email ross328@btinternet.com



Our Charities

Each year at AGM we vote to support a charity for the coming year and we like to alternate between a local charity and an international one. Having successfully raised funds for Reuben's Retreat throughout 2017/18, in April, Christ Church Friezland voted to support TWO international charities:

Saddleworth Palestine Women's Scholarship Fund raises money to help women in Palestine, specifically those living in the Gaza Strip, access higher education.

They work closely with Sheffield Palestine Women's Scholarship Fund who manage the Fund in the UK. Groups in Sheffield, Saddleworth and Bolton are currently supporting nearly 40 women through higher education. In Gaza the Fund is managed by a panel drawn from the Board of Directors of the Red Crescent Society and the Union of Health Work Committees.

Candidates for scholarships are nominated by their local community centre and are either ready to enter university or are in the first or second year of a course but unable to continue for financial reasons. There are strict selection criteria for the Scholarship Fund, which include:

- † having attained 65% or above in high school grades;
- † socio-economic background;
- † commitment to the community;
- † and personal and family circumstances such as a recent home demolition, or war injuries.

Partners in Gaza keep in contact with the scholarship students and help them overcome problems in completing their courses, from bombings to not being able to afford transport, books, equipment etc. Partners access other small amounts of funding to cover some of these additional costs. In Britain the Fund's supporters make donations or monthly contributions through standing order or by organising or taking part in fundraising events.

For more details contact: Kathy Brooks at: saddleworth.pwsf@gmail.com
www.psc-manchester.org.uk/saddleworth-palestinian-womens-scholarship-fund

Horizons International was established in 1999 and is based in Dobcross, but provides financial, practical and spiritual support to projects throughout the world. Wherever they see a need, Colin & Judith Carson and the other Trustees will try to meet it!



Their charitable objectives are:

- † *To relieve persons in any part of the world who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress as a result of local or international disaster or by reason of their social and economic circumstances*
- † *To alleviate their suffering and/or discomfort by the provision of humanitarian aid to provide appropriate relief to such persons in accordance with the teachings of the Christian faith.*

As experienced Christian leaders themselves, Colin and Judith have a passion and a calling to discover, train, nurture and support local Christian leaders in parts of Africa and Eastern Europe as well as in Haiti and Pakistan.

Among many other things, they have been instrumental in building and maintaining a school for vulnerable children and young adults in Zambia, sheltering, feeding and educating orphans in Haiti, and establishing Estonia's first drug rehabilitation centre for women.

For more details contact:
Judith Carson at mail@horizonsinternational.org.uk
www.horizonsinternational.org.uk

Christian Aid Quiz Night

To mark the start of Christian Aid week, in May, a Quiz Night was held at Friezland Church Hall to raise funds for the charity. Over forty people attended from churches around Saddleworth and eight teams took part in a friendly atmosphere, sustained by drinks from the bar and a 'bring and share' supper. Thanks to the generosity of the winning teams, who donated their prizes back to the fund, a total of £156.85 was raised.

It has been suggested that we should make this an annual event, trying to get at least one team from every church in Saddleworth to compete for the Saddleworth Christian Aid Quiz Challenge. Who knows, there may even be a trophy next year.

Duncan Ross

Being Harvest Queen

Being Harvest Queen for Christ Church Friezland has been so good so far. My retinue and I have had a great time visiting other churches over the course of the year. Amelie, Holly, Martha, Beatrice, Lily, Abigail and my sister Gabriella have been an amazing retinue.

Although visiting other Queens and their retinues at their churches has been fun, my favourite part has been the Whit walks, despite the awful weather. We all walked with clear ponchos or rain coats on over our dresses!

When I got crowned, I helped raise funds for church by selling tea, coffee, juice, cakes and biscuits along with raffles and stalls. It was a lovely experience as lots of people from church, families and friends all attended.



If anyone gets the chance to be a Harvest or Rose Queen for their church I would definitely recommend it.



It is filled with many great opportunities and experiences. It has also helped with my confidence since I delivered a speech at my crowning.

I will "retire" from my duties as Harvest Queen in October when our new Queen is crowned. Until then I will continue to visit crownings/celebrations at other churches with my retinue and represent our church.

Madeleine Leadbeater (11)

Eco Tips

One of the best things we can do for the environment, our community, and ourselves is to use our **LOAF** when we shop!



It stands for **L**ocal, **O**rganic, **A**nimal-friendly, **F**airtrade. Some **LOAF** items may initially appear to be more expensive than alternatives, but usually they work out as being more cost-effective to our pockets, our health, and our planet.

When you shop, swop just one item for a LOAF!

Friezland Green Gym

I started the Friezland Green Gym over twenty years ago after hearing a GP saying on a news report that he felt it was more beneficial for people to spend thirty minutes being active in their garden than in a gym. We meet on Saturday mornings and work primarily on maintaining the churchyard. Over those years we have discovered the graves of the first vicars of Friezland and also St John's Roughtown. If you would like to get involved in the Green Gym, please speak to either me or Dave Cartwright.



Duncan Ross

Parish Contacts

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ALM Community Outreach	Peter Whalley	loch2lock@btinternet.com	07746 665404
ALM Prayer and Spirituality	Megan Harrison	megharrison64.aol.com	07817 771663

St Mary Greenfield

My Report

As I write this, we are still basking in what has been several weeks of sunshine and the only day of really bad weather was Whit Friday! But the rain did not dampen our spirits, in fact it encouraged us to call upon the Holy Spirit to spur us on as we walked around the village. As always, it was a pleasure to meet, worship and walk with our friends and colleagues from Greenfield Methodist Church and it was good to have Reverend Ian Heath with us for his very first Whit Friday. Ian moved to the area last September to take on the role of Superintendent for the Oldham and Saddleworth Circuit of Methodist Churches and he had clearly done his homework about Whit Friday! He led our joint service at Road End in the rain and vividly described receiving the Holy Spirit and its impact upon us as being greater than putting on new Whitsuntide clothes and walking out proudly and confidently in the procession, as we proclaimed our faith.

St Mary's Church and Greenfield Methodist Church enjoy a special relationship and our walk on Whit Friday is just one example. Throughout the year, we also have three or four joint services which alternate between our churches. At each church, the host minister leads the service and the visiting minister preaches. Afterwards we enjoy fellowship over a bring-and-share lunch. Several of St Mary's ladies go to the craft group at the Methodist Church, just as several ladies from the Methodist Church attend St Mary's Luncheon Club.

On 9th June St Mary's held a coffee morning as part of our efforts to raise funds for Christian Aid. We were grateful that those at the



Methodist Church welcomed us to use their hall and facilities. The event was well-supported by members of both churches and other people from the village. The coffee morning raised £291.12 towards our overall total donation of £471.32 for Christian Aid week.

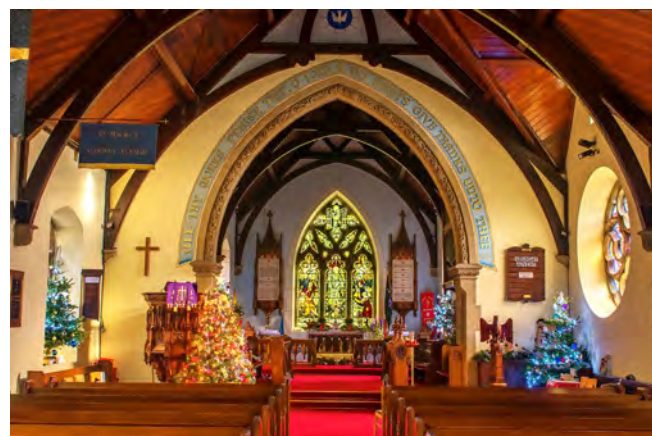
Sharing our faith and supporting one another was also evident at the Ascension Day service for our Benefice which was held at St Mary's on 10th May. In recent years this service has been held at St Mary's church as it was dedicated on Ascension Day in 1875.

Still on the theme of sharing our faith and supporting one another, we have a date for your diary of another event at St Mary's church to which everyone will be invited.

On Friday 14th December, we are pleased that The Right Reverend Mark Davies, Bishop of Middleton, will lead our worship and formally open our third Christmas Tree Festival. Pat Bottom is already busy going around the village asking local businesses, shops and organisations to sponsor and decorate trees. We are also pleased that both schools, St Mary's and Greenfield Primary, will be decorating trees. We have invited them to take part in the service or provide some of the entertainment during the evenings that the church will be open. More information and publicity will be provided nearer the time.



The church has previously held Christmas Tree festivals in 2013 and 2015, both of these were real community events, so we are hoping for the same this time. The display of beautifully decorated trees and their wonderful scent, the lights, the atmosphere, and the happy smiles of those who attend all make this a very joyful occasion.



Speaking of joy, all our churches will also know something of the joys of the Faculty application process! As I write, St Mary's church has submitted an application for a faculty for guards to protect the stained glass windows, one of which has been broken in two places within the last two years. In the near future, we will also be applying for a faculty to repair the organ and restore it to its original state. The PCC has agreed that the work will be done in two phases, initially to repair the bellows, so that the organ can be played again,



followed by more major work at a later stage, to undertake a complete restoration. Currently, we are awaiting further advice from the Diocese regarding this particular faculty application, and we're also looking into

applying for grants for the cost of the work, although the Organ Trust group has already raised a significant amount through events and donations.

With such an emphasis on jobs that need to be done to preserve and care for our much-loved buildings and their contents, and therefore on money and the financial status of our churches, it is easy to lose sight of more spiritual things. However, I am pleased to report that Alison O'Brien, who has attended St Mary's church since she was a child, is coming to the end of her training as an Authorised Lay Minister (ALM) and will be commissioned on 23rd September. Alison has studied on the worship elective and has already taken part in leading services at St Mary's church. We all wish her well, and pray for God's blessings upon her and her future ministry.

The commitment of so many people who work for and support our churches, such as ALMs and Ordained Local Ministers (OLMs) and others from across our benefice, reminds me of all that we learn from one another, and the continuity of our faith throughout the generations.

This brings me to St Mary's Book of Remembrance, and the names that are included in there for August and September. They are Eric Bourne, George Richard Bennett, Fred Green, Mary Christopher, Ada Partington, Rose Ellen Hallam, Ron Hingston, and Audrey Greenwood. We give thanks to God for all that they meant and still mean to their families and friends, and for all that they did as faithful members of our church. I wonder what kind of

faithful legacy we will leave behind in our church and community?

With God's blessings,

Barbara



On a family trip to Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre, I wandered into the tiny memorial chapel within the airfield grounds and came across the following piece of writing - thought provoking and amusing.

I don't know who wrote it, but thought it rather beautiful and wanted to share it with everyone.

Good Morning

I am God. Today I will be handling all your problems. Please remember that I do not need your help.

If the devil happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, DO NOT attempt to resolve it. Kindly put it in the SFJTD box (Something For Jesus To Do). It will be addressed in MY TIME not yours.

Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold onto it or attempt to remove it. Holding on or removal will delay resolution of your problem. If it is a situation that you think you are capable of handling please consult me in prayer that it is to be the proper resolution.

Because I do not sleep nor do I slumber, there is no need for you to lose any sleep. Rest my child. If you need to contact me, I am only a prayer away.

Elizabeth Pilkington

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Gift Aid Secretary	Elizabeth Pilkington lizhp2170@lizhp2170.plus.com	01457 837268
Charity Shop Manager	Lynda McGowan shel48@live.co.uk	07708 996919
St Mary's School, Headteacher	Mrs S M Hall info@greenfieldstmary.oldham.sch.uk	01457 872264

St Anne Lydgate

Lydgate Larks

In 2014, Love Lydgate, the local residents association, formed a community singing group...the Lydgate Larks! They are led by their inspirational facilitator, Liz Brocklehurst. Members of the choir are all committed to creating a positive, community spirit and enjoy singing together. Their repertoire is very varied and the sixteen members range in talent, but all share the same enthusiasm and under Liz's direction they have wowed audiences!



On 7th September they will be part of Love Lydgate's September Song concert, which will be held at St Anne's church and will also feature the Saddleworth Male Voice Choir and Sarah Davies, harpist. See the Love Lydgate website www.lovelydgate.org for details or phone Jennifer on 01457 877935 for tickets, just £8 each.

Love Lydgate has existed since 2009 and has tapped into the neighbourliness and talent in the village to help create a flourishing community. It is an inclusive organisation. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to live in Lydgate just love being part of it.

Facilities are minimal in the village and the group are fortunate to have great support from the White Hart and other local businesses and individuals. Oldham MBC also give their encouragement and backing to the group and worked in partnership with them on the Britain in Bloom bid.



Love Lydgate have raised money to improve the Parish Hall which is the only community space in the village. The church itself is an iconic part of the village and to this end Love Lydgate has donated over £2,000 to St Anne's church to clean up the graveyard and reveal some of the older graves. In working together in this way it is hoped that everyone will benefit and the place will be somewhere to be proud of and enjoy.

Jennifer Greenwood

'Teach us to Pray'

Following on from Sharon's article in Issue 4 of The Grapevine on 'Teach us to Pray', each parish has been asked to run a four-week course. At St Anne's Lydgate we propose to run the sessions in church on Monday evenings at 8:00pm for one hour on 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th September.



We all lead busy lives socially and at work, and with social media and the internet being 24/7 there is never a minute to just "be with God". These sessions are a way to demonstrate how to find that time and space to be "at one with God". Please come along and give it a try and together let us find God in the silence.

Contact Revd Pat Gillian (details on Page 4) if you are interested in attending so that we can provide an appropriate number of resources.

Supporting Charities through Morning Prayer Services

Here at St Anne's church we have taken a positive decision to encourage lay leaders as well as Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) from the benefice team to lead our Morning Prayer services and this includes our flourishing Youth Group. In most months we offer "the sermon slot" to a charity to come along and tell us what their charity does and what we could do as a congregation or as individuals to help them prosper.

On 19th August we will be welcoming Janet Isles ALM from Kilngreen to lead our service and Nealm Johnson to speak to us about Eco Church, an environmental approach that is gaining momentum throughout the Dioceses. Hopefully Nealm will be able to give us some ideas and advice to help us move forward with the Eco-friendly initiatives that are on our Mission Action Plan.

16th September is our Harvest Praise Service that will be led by Rachel and assisted by the Youth Group.



St Anne's work with children, young people and school

Our Junior Church is thriving, learning the bible stories and having fun with craft activities. Some of the children who started to come along to our Wednesday evening service are now happy swapping from Sunday church to Wednesday church and back again, which makes a big difference to our building up of community.

Our Wednesday weekday service is thriving with new families from across the benefice. We celebrate Holy Communion on the third Wednesday of the month in which the children love to take part. In September we shall be holding

classes for around 10 - 12 weeks for those who would like to be admitted to 'Communion before Confirmation' and they will be officially 'Admitted to Communion' on Sunday 25th November at the 11:00am service.

Our Little Lambs service on Tuesday Mornings (term-time only) is just



beginning, so please come along and join in. The service is



for pre-school children with an interactive bible story, song, colouring activity and of course drink and biscuit. Mums, Dads, grandparents and carers are all welcome to join in the fun.

Revd Pat Gillian



@stanneslydgate



stanneslydgate@gmail.com

Parish Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Sue Willett	sue@nwsecretarialservice.co.uk	07808 474743
Parish Hall Bookings	Frank Boocock	fandmboo@btinternet.com	01457 873985
Junior Church	Lianne Marshall	lvmarshall@outlook.com	07725 650233
Baptism & Wedding Coordinator	Anne Smith		07507 339983
Sexton & Grave Enquiries	Al Gillian	patandalgillian@btinternet.com	01457 870162
Weekly Sheet Manager	Sue Willett	sue@nwsecretarialservice.co.uk	0161 425 7909



Advertise in The Grapevine

Bi-monthly production of 900+ copies, full colour A4 pages, distributed throughout Saddleworth.

The bi-monthly fees per issue are: A4 full page £110, ½ page £55, ⅓ page £40, ¼ page £30, ⅙ page £25, ⅛ page £20.

Closing date for next issue (Issue 6) is Thursday 6th September 2018.

For further information contact Sue Willett on grapevineadvertising@cofeinsaddleworth.org.uk



Having asked Oldham Mountain Rescue Team to contribute to Issue 5, they suddenly found themselves thrust into 'Incident 48' - Wildfire Event in Saddleworth & Tameside. Together with Glossop Mountain Rescue Team and Kinder Mountain Rescue Team, they have worked alongside the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service in controlling this incident.

Oldham Mountain Rescue Team relies almost entirely on public donations.

Please support them at <https://www.justgiving.com/oldham-mrt>

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Church

St Chad's Ramblers



We have now completed two of our four proposed walks for 2018. The first was on Saturday 14th April when nineteen of us met up at The National Trust car park at Marsden before catching the train into Huddersfield. We then walked back along The Huddersfield Narrow Canal to Marsden with a break at the canal side bakery and café at Slaithwaite. Although the day itself was fine and dry, the tow path had not stood up to the ravages of winter and parts of it were rather muddy to say the least. However it was good to be out in the fresh air and there was much of interest to see and admire.

The second walk was on Saturday 9th June when eighteen of us assembled at The Lime Kiln Café at Saddleworth Viaduct for a leisurely walk along the Delph Donkey, through the back of Delph and then up the Tame Valley via Slackcote to The Junction Inn at Denshaw. The weather was perfect and the meadows in the valley bottom looked stunning. From Denshaw some of the group were ferried back to the start or used the new Saddleworth Rambler bus service. A group of seven elected to walk back via Oxhey and Heights before dropping back down into Delph again to pick up the Donkey Line.



The next walk has been pencilled in for Saturday 28th July but this will be confirmed nearer the time.

Dates for the Diary.

Sunday 26th August at 11:00am - Rushcart service followed by Morris dancing, stalls & café.

Sunday 7th October at 11:00am - Harvest Services at the Parish Church.

Saturday 3rd November - Pennine singers concert in the Parish Church.

Sunday 4th November at 4:00pm - All Souls service at the Parish Church.

News from El Tular and El Salvadore

During September we shall be having two or three visitors from our Friendship community in El Tular, El Salvadore coming to stay here in Uppermill.

If you are able to offer meals, accommodation or anything you think would be of interest please contact:

Brian 07930 56080
or Sarah 07747 091253.

We have asked that only those who have a reasonable grasp of English be selected and from past experience we know that they will be eager to experience family life here.

Rushcart 26th August 11:00am

Come and enjoy this wonderful local tradition of harvest and dance.

During the Rushcart service the Morris men will strew rushes and herbs on the church floor as would have happened in times past to keep the buildings warm in winter. The church is full and with so many the singing is great.



Afterwards enjoy the festivities with all the teams of Morris men dancing. Competitions take place of wrestling and gurning. The Hearse House Café will be open all day serving hot and cold food. Take time to look around the church at all the Rushcart banners or walk around the churchyard.

Friends of Saddleworth Church

We have had a busy year holding events that are both for fund raising and supportive of St Chad Saddleworth Parish Church. Thank you to all who have helped or supported us. The afternoon tea, held in June, was most successful and enjoyable.

Our next event is the Rushcart Tombola on Sunday 26th August. If you have any suitable prizes, please leave them at one of the worship centres suitably labelled.

We will be holding a Harvest Supper on Friday 5th October at the Parish Centre so please keep the date free.



In 2017 we paid for new electric consumer units, central heating timers, an outside notice board at the Parish Centre, a flag, roof repairs, gutter cleaning and the sound loop system at the Parish Church, and plumbing repairs in the Hearse House. A donation was also made to Seeing is Believing of monies raised by the 200 Club. A total of over £7500 was given to the Parish of St Chad.

At the recent Annual Parochial Church Meeting the Church Treasurer explained how very grateful he was for the monies the Friends raise .

If you would like to become a member of the 200 Club for £20 a year you could win £40 monthly or £100 at Christmas then contact either:

Liz Rooke 01457 810666 or email lizzierooke@gmail.com

or Alison Coates 01457 876760 or email alison99@talktalk.net

St Chad's Community Project

A link between St Chad's Parish and Year 5 pupils at St Chad's School started during Lent. A group of ten pupils walked from school to the Parish Centre to join in with parishioners on a Lent-themed activity.

Everyone enjoyed the get together and it was decided to continue the opportunity of sharing time together.

Sessions this term have included making friendship bracelets, finger knitting , making paper flowers and sharing stories of how Whit Friday was celebrated 60 years ago compared with today.

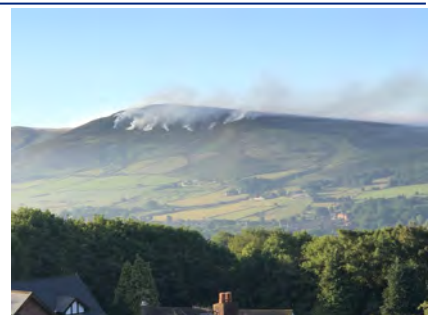


A special thank you to the group who planted up the pots outside of the building they have brightened the area considerably.

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Church, Church Lane, Uppermill, OL3 6LW

Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Sarah Barlow	sarah.barlow@talk21.com	07775 613787
Assistant Wardens	Tim Edge		01457 872429
	Debbie McCabe		



St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre

St Chad's Seeds Group

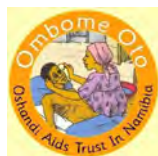
Seeds group meets for play and singing each Wednesday morning in term time at the Parish Centre between 10:00am and 11:30am. A wide range of toys and activities is provided. All pre-school children, parents and carers are welcome.



Healthy snacks and water are available for children, whilst parents and carers can enjoy something a little more indulgent including freshly-filtered coffee, a range of teas, cakes, many of which are homemade, and fruit.

Namibia Update

Hopefully, those of you who bought from the OATIN plant sale in May are still able to enjoy some late flowering borders and baskets. Thank you to everyone who supported the sale which raised £1745.



On 22nd September we look forward to welcoming 'The Friends of Namibia' to Manchester to their quarterly Autumn meeting. This will be held at Church House and hosted by Bishop Mark Davies, chairman of the Diocesan 'Namibia Network Group'. 'The Friends' is a national network group bringing together charities and public bodies working with educational, health, and non-governmental organisations across Namibia.

Meetings are held quarterly at the Namibian High Commission in London, attended by His Excellency Steve Katjiuyanjo. The meetings are an opportunity for members to report on progress of projects, exchange useful information, 'network' and ask advice from the High Commissioner. The meeting in Manchester will allow members of Mission Partnerships across the Diocese to share information with a wider audience, whilst increasing their knowledge of Namibian culture and customs.

The OATIN project, now in its twentieth year, continues the work of supporting orphans and young people who are HIV positive ensuring that through health care, adequate nutrition and educational support they have a sense of security and hope in a future.

Thank you to everyone who supports our projects either through regular donations or by attending one of our functions.

As Mission Partners with the Church of The Holy Spirit Oshandi, our aim is to continue to work not only to the aims of our charity but to the aims of 'Mission Partnership' which are: -

'To Tell', 'To Teach', 'To Tend', 'To Transform' and 'To Treasure' one another.

For more information about the project, about mission partnership or visiting Namibia, contact Ann Hibbert - 874423, Liz Rooke - 810666, Sarah Adams 875126

Coffee Mornings

Every other Saturday between 10:00am and 11:30am.



Saturday 4th August

In aid of Dr Kershaw's .

Saturday 18th August

'Seeing is Believing' coffee morning.

Saturday 1st September

In aid of Francis House.

Saturday 15th September

'Seeing is Believing' coffee morning.

Saturday 3rd November

In aid of Dr Kershaw's Hospice.

Yanks Weekend NAAFI Café 2018

**Sacred Heart Church Hall,
High Street, Uppermill**



Saturday 11th August

Sunday 12th August

from 10:00am to 4:00pm

**Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches and Cakes,
served in an authentic 1940s atmosphere
with wartime music, costumes and decorations**

**All the proceeds go to fund
the St Chad's Church and Sacred Heart Church
Whit Friday Procession of Witness.**

Dates for the Diary.

Friday 5th October Harvest Supper

Sunday 7th October Harvest Service



St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre, Station Road, Uppermill, OL3 6HQ

Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Sarah Barlow	sarah.barlow@talk21.com	07775 613787
Assistant Wardens	Margaret Fletcher		01457 874941
	Sarah Adams		01457 875126
Parish Centre Lettings	Joe Hughes		01457 873165

The Calling

It makes you think, you know. I'll be sixty-eight this month and you start to wonder how much time you've got left and what you need to pack into it. I can't say I was ever attracted to the pipe and slippers type of retirement, but I hadn't expected at this late stage to be called to be a priest in the Church of England. However, when the call came it was quite unmistakable. I'll tell you about it sometime.

The church has a very robust filtering process, and in my innocence, I thought that in view of my age there would be a short cut for me. It hasn't been so, and, although I've been impatient to move on at some times, generally I've been glad of the slow process. It changes things, it changes everything, and I've needed time to absorb the change.

The discerning process starts first of all within the diocese. The director of ordinands guides you through the process, sending you to be quizzed by a variety of wise people. When you're ready you're sent to a selection conference known as Bishops' Advisory Panel. This is a three-day meeting of potential candidates for ordination from all over England and I found it demanding but stimulating. Candidates are scrutinised and given various

exercises to do. It's a holy version of tough mudder. Later, you find out whether you've been recommended for training.

I started training this time last year with All Saints, a theological training institution based at Chester University. The training is a mixture of weekday training in the evenings, weekend schools, a summer school and a retreat. I've done a year now and finally I'm feeling that I've found my feet. As a retired person, I've got much more control of my personal timetable. Some people are managing to train as well as doing a full-time job and bring up a young family. The problem for me has been in adjusting to changes in education. It's more than thirty years since I did any formal academic work and things have changed. We've had assignments to do on Preaching, the Old Testament, and Worship, as well as courses on Funerals and Baptisms.

So now I'm moving into my second year and this time next year, if the bishop approves, I'll be ordained deacon. It feels a joy and a privilege to be chosen by God to follow this new and exciting pathway in the last portion of my life.

Richard Lambert



St Chad Saddleworth - Kilngreen

Reflection

I am writing these notes bathed in sunshine and warm weather! Let's hope there is more to come through the summer and autumn. Our window boxes at Kilngreen have been planted by Doreen and Mike Hall and have been full of colour over the summer, whilst the garden outside the Church has also been full of beautiful flowers and is tended by Tracy Waller, who is one of our piano players at Church. The seats outside Kilngreen which are on either side of the flower garden offer a welcome resting place to passing walkers and visitors.

Family Services at Kilngreen

Family Services take place at Kilngreen on the third Sunday of the month at 9:30am. These are All Age Services and a warm welcome awaits. We have a growing Sunday School which meets in the smaller room for part of the service and then the children join us for Communion and the final hymn. If you are not sure where to find us, the Church is in Lee Side, down the road from the Diggle Hotel, and you can see the building from the car park.

'Thank You' Service for Duncan

Our June Family Service took place on the second Sunday (10th) so that we could welcome Duncan and Nancy Rhodes to a 'Thank You' Service led by the children and leaders from Sunday School. Everyone who came to the service sat in a very large circle. The children had worked hard on finding ways to thank Duncan for all the work that he has done both in Kilngreen Church and in Diggle with so many different groups of people. The children welcomed Duncan and Nancy and showed everyone in the congregation some paper people they had drawn and coloured to represent all the different groups that Duncan has helped and worked with in Diggle.



Next, they held up the letters of his name and listed words that described all the special qualities that Duncan has, such as nice and caring. The children then showed us how to make a Recipe for Thank You, which included putting cups of handshakes, a large spoonful of kindness, a handful of hugs, a bucketful of smiles, a pinch of helpfulness and a sprinkle of love into a bowl. Then gently fold the ingredients together whilst saying "Thank You" and when baked serve by spreading thickly all around Diggle and Saddleworth for everyone to share!

Howard Sutcliffe read a wonderful poem that he had written about Duncan entitled "Good Morning Good People". At the end of the service the Sunday School presented Duncan with a cake, and flowers for Nancy. A leader and some of the children from the Brownies and Rainbows gave Duncan and Nancy a beautifully decorated planter full of flowering plants. The service included some of Duncan's favourite hymns and at the end Duncan thanked everyone for all their cards, good wishes and kind words. We all wish Duncan a very happy retirement.

Diggle Blues Festival 'Where the greenery meets the Blues'

It's a great event which is free! Bands play at many venues across Diggle and the audience move from one to the next! Kilngreen Church is used as a venue and a team of people from Kilngreen supporters run a BBQ and bar to raise funds for the building.



The transformation that Kilngreen takes on the Saturday night from gig venue to church in the space of thirty minutes is amazing.

Harvest Service on the Allotment – Sunday 7th October

As in previous years there will be a Harvest Service on the Allotment at 10:00am (just past the chippy on Ward



Lane) This will be led by the Family Worship Team at Kilngreen and will include contributions from the uniformed organisations. Please bring food donations (tinned) for the Booth Centre. Diggle Band will be there to accompany us in the harvest hymns. Everyone is welcome!

Kilngreen Christmas Nativity

This will be on Sunday 16th December at 9:30am.

St Chad's All Stars Pantomime 21st to 24th November



The Christmas Pantomime this year is Sleeping Beauty and rehearsals are now underway. If you would like to join the All Stars, new members are always welcome, age is no barrier at the older end. So if you have ever fancied "treading the boards" then why not come along. We are especially keen to expand our chorus, all you need is a desire to be on stage, no prior experience is required, we all have lots of fun preparing for productions. Alternatively, you would be welcomed to help backstage with painting scenery, props, costumes, or front of house with programmes and refreshments, then we are always happy to hear from you. We are interested in more help backstage and front of house so get in touch if you can help, even if it's just for one evening.

Tickets are £5 adults and £3 for children and can be purchased on Monday evenings from Kilngreen between 8:00pm and 9:00pm or contact Hazel on 07813 829566 or hazel.edmends@gmail.com

The dates for the Christmas Pantomime are Wednesday 21st November to Saturday 24th November. Performances start at 7:30pm on Tuesday to Friday. Performances on Saturday 24th November will be at 10:30am and 2:30pm.

It is hoped that this will enable as many youngsters and their parents to come along to the matinee on Saturday afternoon and hence not spoil their bedtimes! For more details contact Kate Millett on 01457 239136 or look on the St. Chad's All Stars Facebook page.

Would you like to book Kilngreen?

Kilngreen is a busy place every week, as besides Church on Sunday there are Tai Chi classes, an art class, Diggle Ducklings, the All Stars, Brownies, Guides and Cubs, and numerous bookings for parties for both children and adults.

Kilngreen is also licensed for weddings; an excellent venue where you can celebrate both the marriage and the reception. If this is of interest to you, contact Lynda Barlow on 01457 878338 who will be happy to show you around and answer any questions.



Diggle Diamonds

Coffee mornings are held each month at The Gate in Diggle on a Saturday morning at 10:30am start, admission £1. All older residents of Diggle are invited to join us for coffee and friendship.

Dates for the rest of this year are:
13th October, 17th November.

Christmas Party will be on Saturday 1st December at Kilngreen.

All who are over sixty and live in Diggle are welcome to attend the Christmas party. If you want to meet up with others of a similar age and enjoy a lovely Christmas dinner and entertainment from Diggle Band then why not contact Mike Hall on 01457 870480.

St Chad Saddleworth - Kilngreen Church, Lee Side, Diggle, OL3 5JY

Contacts

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Kilngreen Lettings	Lynda Barlow		01457 878338

OLDHAM MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM

www.omrt.org

Thank you for your continued support



Oldham Mountain Rescue Team started in 1964 as Oldham Rover Mountain Rescue Team from their Glodwick Rover Scout base with a few ropes and a stretcher and with no funds, no base and no vehicles. Volunteers supplied all their own clothing and climbing equipment and used their own cars. They attended the Clarence Hotel in Greenfield waiting for any calls that might come through to the GPO telephone kiosk at the pub. Training consisted of group self-improvement, reading how to do it and practising where they could.

New members were recruited from local climbers and each subscribed £5 per annum. An old ambulance was bought for £25 from the ambulance service until it failed and was replaced by a dreadful Austin Champ - fun, but lethal! Then came a series of cheap Land Rovers - creaking wrecks - obtained with the generosity of Norweb, BT and others.

The Team had taken to meeting at the Cross Keys Inn and was offered long-term use of the barn by John Willie Lees as a headquarters; somewhere to hold meetings and garage our vehicle. For many years, the sole source of income was a grant of £600 annually from Oldham Council. In addition, team members had to fundraise to cover the cost of the vehicle, the electricity bill, and to start purchasing better equipment as rescue standards improved. A national Mountain Rescue pager contract with Vodafone was started as an Oldham Mountain Rescue Team initiative - a massive improvement in Team callout speed, but yet another cost.

By the time the Team had managed to acquire a second Land Rover we were assisting the ambulance service especially in winter. The winter of 2009/10 caused a massive workload on the Team which was witnessed by several generous organisations resulting in some astounding grant funding as well as public contributions, just as we were about to start a fundraising year for two new vehicles. Such was financial support from local people, local walking groups, businesses, schools and organisations too numerous to mention that we were in a position to purchase a third vehicle, a mobile control centre from a neighbouring Team and Greater Manchester Police finally came up with a mini-bus surplus to their requirements.

Such was the growth of the Team that we needed to consider larger premises for garaging and we thought long and hard before renting space at Boarshurst Business Park to house the vehicles and the burgeoning level of equipment. We have recently moved to even larger premises at Boarshurst and held an Open Day on 3rd June 2018 to say thank you to all the countless people who have helped us. We were delighted with the attendance of the public and the massive support shown by the Fire, Police and Ambulance Services.



Our running costs have risen in 55 years from about £250 per annum to around £35,000. Modern life requires insurance, communications, repairs and replacements, fuel bills and rent - most of which weren't needed in the "old days". We are so grateful that local people recognise the work we do and support us to that level.

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What do we do at N W Secretarial & PA Service and why do people use our service?

Working with an Arborist

I am pleased to be working with a man who is 'mad about trees', Ged the Arborist!

We have helped him by creating, designing and putting together marketing material for an upcoming exhibition including leaflets, pop up banners and business cards. He hadn't

exhibited before, so we set out his stall for him by mapping out floor space and setting up the stand so he would be able to set everything up in the right way at the exhibition and save himself the time and stress of deciding whilst in situ.

We also assisted him with his training programme for assessing trees.

This was easy for us as we have the skills and the technology to do this. First of all I recorded Ged delivering a mock training session to me and then gave him my feedback, for which he was thankful. I then transcribed the recording word for word so that he could see where he could make

improvements. He read through the transcript, but initially he didn't want to listen to himself talking, but I put my foot down and I made him listen to it! He was so glad that he had taken my advice, as he could see how his clients would benefit better by delivering the programme in a slightly different way.

He visits golf clubs, churches, country parks and schools delivering courses and giving out advice. He regularly goes to an orphanage in Uganda!! And all 'for the love of trees'.

Why not give us a call on 0161 425 7909 or 07808 474743.

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