

TARVIN & DUDDON



GRAPEVINE

August 2021

50p

## From the Vicar...

First, I would like to share some very good news, (if you have not already heard), the Nave aisle in St Andrew's has now been placed back. We are still missing some carpet, and awaiting a professional clean although the volunteers last week did an excellent job in preparation for the Year 6 Leavers from Tarvin Primary to use it on Friday Morning. This was followed by a wedding, (that had moved dates 4 times), on the Saturday and then in full use on the Sunday.

There is still some work to be done and we are waiting for the blower of the organ to be put back to get the instrument back into use.

There has been some wonderful coming together of the community as well as the church members. The choir have continued to provide music for the online service as well as live. We will be continuing with the online service on YouTube and Facebook as well as on telephone audio, (probably indefinitely!). The online services have engaged with a much wider community than those who were regular worshippers of the church before the pandemic began.

There are some changes in the wider country and these are reflected in what we are going to have in place at church. We want to return to our worship as best as we can but as safe as we can in response to those who want to get going with everything and those who are still a little anxious.

All these feelings are perfectly acceptable and the Parochial Church Council have decided on the following:

Please wear a mask as you enter the church and move to your seat.

If you choose to remove your mask when seated this is your choice. Please place your mask back on to move around church and to leave the building

Singing will begin for the congregation for those who wish to participate. You can sing with a mask on or off, it is your choice.

We will not be having tea and coffee after the service but we are hosting a coffee morning every Wednesday 10am -11.30am in St Andrew's for anyone that wishes to come. This will be table service only and include a slice of cake and a biscuit.

Hand Sanitiser will still be available on entry and we strongly encourage everyone to use it as they enter the church.

Track and Trace has moved to using the QR code only. This will be available on the service sheet. If you still wish to leave your details for the service you have attended, please contact someone on the door as you enter.

We are also starting to make some future plans and I wanted to share these with you.

The weekend of the 26<sup>th</sup> of September is Harvest weekend where we will be celebrating with Harvest Festival, please see more details in the September Magazine.

In October we wanted to have an opportunity to say thank you to all those who have been working through this Pandemic to enable society to keep moving. All NHS staff have done an absolute self-sacrificing job and there have been others too, from recycling staff to teachers, supermarket workers to emergency service personnel.

On Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> of October at 6.30pm we will be hosting a service to say thank you to all 'Key Workers'. We want to especially thank those who live in the Parish of Tarvin and Duddon. This service will be in St Andrew's and if you know of a 'Key Worker' that lives near you please let me know at [tarvinparish@gmail.com](mailto:tarvinparish@gmail.com) so that we can send them an invitation to the service.

In November we will be hosting a special service to remember and give thanks for those who have died since March 2020. In the service we will be remembering those whom we have had contact with as a church. I know that some people will be having a memorial service for those services where numbers were very limited. I am also aware that emotionally in grief we are all in different places.

The service will be held on Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> of November at 7pm in St Andrew's Church. If you wish to remember someone who was not part of this community or who didn't have their service in church or the churchyard, then please do contact me and we can include them.

On the weekend of the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of October we are planning to host a Music Weekend in St Andrew's. Following the success in 2019 we are bringing it back. There will be a variety of concerts over the weekend so please book this in your diary and look out for more details in September.



I would like to thank so many for their kindness to others over this past year and also to those who have been so generous to the church with their time and money. I have included here a QR code for those who would like to make a donation to the church.

Adam

## St Andrew's repairs

Following the internal repairs at St. Andrew's, I can confirm the Church is now open!

We have completed the re-laying of the stone flags in the main reception area, which also includes the Choir Vestry. The Nave aisle had to be reinforced with a post and beam system, which will avoid any further subsidence. The pews have also now been reinforced with a new foundation. The North and South aisles will also need refurbishment work in due course. We are hopeful that this can be carried out early next year.

The new organ blower is due to be installed Thursday 29th July, and new carpets will be fitted after a period of settlement, to the newly laid floor..

I did state in the June issue, that our insurance company, Ecclesiastical, have agreed that most of the repairs will be fully covered. The costs so far, for the internal works, are in the region of £64,000. The Church is responsible for £2840, which has already been paid. In addition to the above works, we had a major problem with our underground drainage pipes. This work has now been completed with a total cost of £7460.07. Ecclesiastical agreed to pay £5314.15, which left St. Andrew's paying £2145.92.

Therefore, the total cost to St. Andrew's so far is £4985.92.

David Ferguson      Churchwarden



## Duddon St Peters CE Primary School

We sadly had two classes isolating towards the end of term which put an end to trips out and with cases rising locally the Year Six transition days at high school were also cancelled. We all really feel for the children of Year Six who will be leaving to go on to their new schools without some of the normal Duddon St Peter's send off, although they have managed a Celebration Day together and a party after school, but have not enjoyed the same levels of familiarity that comes with the days spent at high school beforehand. We have been able to do the Leavers' Service in church, which is a nice end to the year, for Year Six and their parents. Hopefully in the new school year we will be able to celebrate again as a school and hope that we may see some of the older children join us for this.

We were able to make the most of the good weather and hold Sports Day, again with no parents but the children all did amazingly well for their teams, with Green Team proving to be this year's over all winner! The children also held a summer fair in the school which was a fun day and helped raised funds for the PTA. Susan Gregory, who has been a governor for the school for a number of years also helped to raise money with several lovely hampers of goodies which were raffled off in school and raised £180 - fantastic effort and much thanks to Susan.

Last week we had a "Break the rules" day at school which saw the children come in with crazy hair, painted nails, tattoos, chocolate snacks and their own clothes. It's fair to say everyone embraced this with gusto, even Mr Hudson in his Hawaiian shirt!

Hopefully next year will see us return to a more normal year as we look forward to welcoming new families to the school. I'm sure the teachers, children and parents alike will be looking forward to the summer holiday after this year!



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## Curates Corner

### August

August brings the sheaves of corn,  
Then the harvest home is borne.

### Reasons to be cheerful:

\*It's the holidays! Well done to all children and teachers for their hard work! Now all can enjoy a well earned rest.

\*"Let's begin by taking a smallish nap or two." A. A. Milne (Winnie the Pooh)

\*The sound of laughter.

\*The way sunlight bounces off a window

\*Post Regulation life is a bit easier... I pray.

\*St. Andrew's is back to normal after all the repair work.

\*We are catching up on weddings! Congratulations to all who are getting married or have been married in St. Andrew's this year, some for the fourth time of trying to arrange it! May such early troubles make the marriage strong!

er! The other one died.

\*I have a new cook-

### Staying afloat

The pandemic is still with us. We still need to be careful of ourselves and others. I will continue to wear my mask in shops and busy places. Let us hope the good hygiene we have learnt will help with preventing future coughs and colds.

Keep safe.

If you still find going out hard, just take it easy, the Lord will stand with you and give you strength (2 Timothy 4.17)

And as always breathe ... deep breaths are like little love notes to your body ...filling lungs with air, which flows around our bodies, helping to relax tense muscles.

### Bobbin' along

Remember some things are better not spread too thin - yourself and cream cheese. (or peanut butter...)

Be there for others but never leave yourself behind.

Self compassion is simply giving the same to our selves as we give to others.

If you have been criticizing yourself for years, perhaps now is the time to change. Try approving of yourself and see what happens.

If you're searching for that one person that will change your life,  
take a look in the mirror." Unknown  
"The things that make me different are the things that make me  
me." A. A. Milne (Winnie the Pooh)  
"The bags under my eyes are Prada."Unknown (- couldn't resist this  
one!)

### **Will your anchor hold?**

Laughter

Because God is important we can think that means serious. Because  
God is bigger and better than us and we screw up, we can think that  
means serious with us.

We forget that if you are the biggest and best you don't have to be  
serious. If you know how stuff works you can relax and have fun.

Was God serious when planning the turkey or the baboon's bottom?

Did we think we invented laughter?

Next time we laugh so much that every cell tingles, know it is a sac-  
rament and give God a smile

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May the light of God surround us.

The love of God enfold us.

The power of God protect us.

The presence of God watch over us.

Now and forever more. Amen

Love and prayers,  
Barbara

## **@ Grapevine**

Copy deadline for the September edition is Friday 20th August.  
Please send any news items, articles, events or diary entries to  
tarvingrapevine@gmail.com

We are also making this Grapevine available in digital format as a  
pdf download from <http://kenfayle.com/home/grapevine>

## Weekly reflections

### Week 1

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### John 6 35.41-51

'They were saying 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"'?

People not realising who we are, what we stand for and even what our name is, can be frustrating. I always wished that I was better at names but unfortunately, I really struggle. I don't think will get any better as I get older. How do we convey ourselves to others? It is really quite an important question, our nervousness and anxiety can get in the way of who we really are when we are in public. Here in this passage from John, the Jewish leaders could not get their heads around the fact that Jesus was different. Yes he had been a carpenter like his father, he had been working until his ministry started when he was 30 years old. I'm not sure anyone would have accepted a boy of 12, telling them what the meaning of the scripture was and healing people. I do wonder if we were able to be more ourselves all the time, as opposed to being a someone else for fear of what people think of the really 'me'. I am sure we would be more relaxed, it comes down to the question of allowing others to see who we really are.

### Prayers week 1

#### A prayer from Tearfund:

Loving one,

We lift up this day to you and pray for your blessing upon it. Fill us with the awareness of your presence today; let us know truly and deeply, the full measure of your love.

We pray for people who are finding this day difficult, for anyone experiencing fear, anxiety, grief. Pour out your comfort and peace upon them.

We thank you for everyone who has worked and still is working, sacrificing much, on the front line of this pandemic. Shine your light upon them, give them rest and refreshment.

We pray for countries where strict lockdowns are still in place. Bring hope, provision and protection there, and let there be greater fairness in the sharing of vaccines.

God, we cry out for an end to this terrible pandemic. We grieve for all that has been lost. And we pray that a better world can emerge on the other side.

In Jesus' holy name. Amen

## **Week 2**

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Luke 1 46 -55**

'he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.'

This passage is more commonly known as the Magnificat, which I have sung at Evening worship for many many years, since the age of 7! It is Mary's response to being told that she is going to the mother of Jesus, God's only Son. I think somehow over the years I have lost touch with the deep meaning that the whole passage has and it usually is given two prominent places in the church lectionary one is the Feast of St Mary, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, and the other is at Christmas when we are hearing the story of Jesus's birth. There seems a righteousness in the passage that I have quoted above. The hungry will be filled and the rich sent away. We are told so many times that Jesus came to save the poor, the lonely, the wounded, the outcast and the sinner. Do we ever see ourselves in this light? Are we the rich that leave empty? There is a sense of piety in this statement to, as the immediate reaction is that we want to be the hungry, after all that is the right answer. A bit like when we were at Sunday School and the right answer was always Jesus. It is more invasive as a passage from the bible than that, as it asks a very direct question. It is about what we do with what we have. The challenge is are you rich and do not share, or are hungry and refuse to receive. I hope the answer is no to both and that as we move in our faith, we see the truth in our own lives.:

### **Prayers week 2**

Jesus said 'I am the bread of life.' As we eat our toast at breakfast or enjoy our picnic sandwich, help us to be thankful Lord for the food we have. Help us to remember all who have contributed to the loaf of bread, the farmer, the grinding of the corn into flour, the baker, those who operate the machines that bake and wrap it, those who deliver to the shops where we can buy it or have it delivered . Then mum, dad or you can make the toast, assemble the sandwich! Enjoy the eating and say thank you to God who gives us all we need.

### **Week 3**

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **John 6 56-69**

'It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and truth.'

I am sure in the basking hot sun in July, which might be a distant memory by the middle of August, it is true to say that the body is lacking. Lacking being not an accurate description, it is quite honestly in refusal of anything. It is tired as it cannot sleep, it is constantly wanting to sit in a fridge and with hay-fever in the area of being uncontrolled, it is unable to see or concentrate. So, I agree with Jesus the flesh is (at the moment of typing this) useless. The spirit however, enables me to carry on and not melt in a corner. The spirit wills my body to do what it seems impossible to do on so little sleep, it is the spirit that quietly whispers to me, come on, you just need to do this. I think that I am lucky, that this voice drives in me as I see the other door, the one marked, give into the flesh. The other door should we choose it has, come to me all who are weary and I will refresh you. (that's the one that says the 'spirit that gives life'). If the spirit could just turn the temperature down a little bit.

### **Prayers Week 3**

Dear Lord thank you for holidays, for rest and relaxation, for the time to do different things, to meet with family and friends. May this month be good for us, a time for finding the normal again, for setting new goals that take us out a little further each day, a time to re find ourselves. Above all may it be a time when we have the time to get closer to you, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

## Week 4

Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Mark 7 1-8, 14, 15, 21-23

'For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come.'

When I was on placement in Frankland Prison, in Durham, it was clear to me that the world I lived in was very different than the actual world I now lived in. Walking into the prison for the first time, was a very daunting experience, the high walls the extreme security. What is the chaplain's role here in the middle of what I perceived to be where evil intentions come from. I was soon changed in my pre thoughts, it was a place where evil exists without the want to change, but it was also a place where there was a passion for repentance, remorse and a seeking of forgiveness. I was most fascinated with why someone had committed a crime, what the driving force was for them and of course did they regret it. The chaplain whom I was on placement with was absolutely wonderful, very experienced and a delight to be with. She taught me a very special principle, love the person, but hate what they have done. Jesus talks in this passage about evil intentions coming from within and whilst working with the prison chaplaincy it was easy to see where these evil intentions came from. I began to contemplate what was the difference between the person behind bars and the people that are not. My only answer was the choice that was made with the evil intention from within that raised into the heart and into the mind. It began to get complicated when hearing the details, the choices that had led to where a person, behind bars, found themselves now. If our hearts are the source of evil intentions our hearts are also the solution to this problem. Imagine you have to stuff lots of things in a tin. If the heart was a tin and we filled it so full of love, compassion, understanding, patience, hope, faith and all that makes us kind to others and ourselves. Then there would be no room for anything negative, there would be no room, for evil intentions to find any home at all.

### Prayers Week 4

Lord, open my life to your presence.  
Come fill me with your peace,  
fill my days with your glory, fill my heart with your love,  
that my life may overflow with your goodness

and bring forth the fruits of love and joy and peace. Amen

Lord of all power I give you my will,  
in joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.  
Your bondage is freedom, your service is song,  
and held in your keeping , my weakness is strong.

(Jack C. Winslow, Hymns Ancient and Modern)

## Birds on the Farm

Around mid-June the snow-white stock doves returned. Last year they nested in our log shed, a nest of twigs high up in the beams. I loved to watch them as they are so affectionate with each other. I can't tell whether they are building up for romance or perhaps parent birds with young but they look just as though they are kissing. Last week I invested in a squirrel and jackdaw bird feeders for fat balls. The blue tits, great tits and sparrows came to it straight away, with black birds and robins picking up the crumbs below. Normally the jack daws come en masse early in the morning and gorge the lot. I'm afraid jack daws are one bird I don't like, having had one chimney fire because of them. They can even thread sticks through mess chimney guards. We had one of their nests in a loft which was floor to roof at least seven foot tall and six foot wide at the base. Imagine the work and determination that took for birds to build. It took me work and determination to remove it when they had gone!

Pat Briscoe





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**COFFEE MORNING**

**Coffee Morning:** Every Wednesday (Starting the 21<sup>st</sup> July) 10am - 11.30am. As well as refreshments being served, there will be a play area for children, an area for Dominoes and space just to be with other people. No booking required.



# Prayer for August 2021

## *Giving thanks for the Summer*

Lord God, Creator of all, thank you for the summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.

Thank you for the natural beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.

Thank you that I can now see my friends and family and for the more relaxed pace of the summer season.

Bless those who keep us safe outdoors this summer, lifeguards, lifeboat crews, paramedics, St John Ambulance, mountain rescue. Be with them as they work to protect us.



Please, dear Lord, comfort those who are less fortunate.... Those who cannot get out to see your wonderful creation, those who do not have family with whom to share happy memories, all who are anxious about the relaxing of Covid rules, all who suffer from the consequences of war and extreme weather conditions at this time.

Lord, draw me close to You this summer and teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing. Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence as I enjoy your creation and keep



us all in Your loving arms, free from danger, injury and sin.

In Jesus' name, I pray.

Amen.

## Woodland Notes — August

### There is a definite role for roadside verges!

Over the past few weeks, we have been commenting on the way that our roadside verges, left to themselves, can produce such a vast range of plants and flowers. Rather than looking untidy, they have been full of flowers, of bees and other insects and of the birds that feed on the insects. Little by little, they have been forming their own ecosystems. Then, while reading back issues of "The Week" magazine, I came across a very brief mention of some research being done at Exeter University on the importance of road verges and hedges as both habitats and habitat networks for wildlife. This chimed so well with conversations that we have been having with other folk locally that I thought that I would follow it up and see how the research findings coincided with what we have seen and experienced in Tarvin.

The study has estimated that roadside verges (defined as the strip of land between the roadside and the fence) cover 1.2% of Great Britain. This apparently small percentage is actually nearly 1,000 square miles - an area the size of the County of Dorset! Researchers found that, of these verges, about a quarter are frequently mown, two-fifths are wilder grassland, one-fifth is woodland and the rest scrub. About a quarter of our road verges are mown very regularly to make them look like garden lawns. These are genuinely bad for wildlife. Research has already shown that reducing mowing to just once or twice per year (with exceptions being allowed only on the grounds of safety) would provide more flowers for pollinators, allow plants to set seed and create better habitats for other animals, as well as saving on the maintenance costs.

The two-fifths of the roadside verges that are wilder grassland can provide a vital refuge for pollinators - but they should be well managed, not just neglected. With many pollinator species in decline, the University of Exeter study shows that verges can provide food and a safe home for pollinators such as bees, butterflies and hoverflies. But the study emphasises that not all verges are equal - pollinators prefer less busy roads and areas deeper into verges. The parts of the verge that are within two metres of the road contains the fewest pollinators and this is often the most important part to cut for road safety and visibility. So, where possible, only this part should be cut in Summer. Ben Phillips (the Lead Researcher) said, "It was also found that cutting verges in summer, which removes wildflowers, makes them useless for pollinators for weeks or even months. ... Road verges can provide a fantastic home for wildflowers and pollinators, which is often lacking in our vast agricultural landscapes. ... But management is key - some road verges may need to be cut for safety, but at the moment we cut far more than we need to. Most verges are cut in summer - the peak of flowering - but where possible they should be left until autumn, when pollinators are less active."

Our verges in Tarvin village had been growing well and the range of flower species growing amongst them was amazing. The verges on the main roads had also received less attention from the mower this year and, while they did not have the appearance of a public park, they were providing more flowers and more nectar for insects, without any apparent detriment to the road users.

Then the contractors arrived around Tarvin. All of the verges were trimmed short, just at the point where they were going to make a genuine ecological impact! All the flowers, with the nectar that they could provide for insects, have gone. So, too, has the possibility of those flowers producing seeds that would help to improve the ecology of the verges next year.

Am I cross at the contractors? No, of course not. They won a contract to do exactly what they have done and in doing so, they are earning their living. But who is it that decides that we need the verges cutting at this time of year and who is it that then awards the contracts? Can we influence them to leave our verges uncut until the end of Summer - and then cut them just once? Perhaps our Councillors - both District and Parish - would like to let us know what they think of this small step which would both save money AND help our hard-pressed environment. Sometimes, doing the right thing need not be expensive!

### **Tarvin Street Trees**

Being involved with Tarvin's woodland might suggest that the only trees in which we are interested are those in the woodland. This is not so. With the notable exceptions of the trees from the original hedgerows, none of the woodland trees are older than 35 years and so have a long way to go before they reach their prime. On the other hand, as we move around the village, it is difficult not to notice how well-blessed we are in Tarvin for street trees - some of considerable age and stature. In addition to the many old and venerable hedgerow trees, we have the Red Hawthorns on the High Street (and elsewhere), there are a number of lovely field maples, some gorgeous blossom trees and a splendid Copper Beech up at Austins Hill. There is even a fruiting apple tree! Add to all this the sterling work being done, day in and day out, by Tarvin's very-own tree warden, Peter Maiden, as he continues to plant a great many young saplings in all of our roadside verges and the prospect for the future looks bright.

One of our truly magnificent street trees is a European Lime (or Linden Tree) - *Tilia x europaea* - which is situated in the broad green verge outside No 16, Hallfields Road, CH3 8LL. Not only is it a really beautiful tree, but, during its flowering period (in June or July most years) it also produces the most magnificent and truly heady scent. May I suggest that you make a detour along the top part of Hallfields Road, so that you can have a look at it?

This tree, which is the common lime tree of Britain, is a hybrid between the small-leaved limes and large-leaved limes that are found across Europe and it has distinct characteristics of both parent species. The bark is pale grey-brown and irregularly ridged, with characteristic large burrs and leaf shoots at the base of the tree. The twigs are slender and brown, although they can become red in the sun. The dark green, heart-shaped leaves are lopsided, lobed at the base and are more or less hairless, except for creamy-buff or white hairs on the underside of the leaf between the joints of the veins. In autumn, the leaves fade to a dull yellow before they fall.

The tree's sturdy trunk stands like a pillar and the branches divide and subdivide into numerous smaller branchlets, on which the twigs are fine and thick. In summer, these are profusely clothed with the large leaves and the result is the magnificently dense head of abundant foliage. The heart-shaped leaves are almost always asymmetrical - the curve is different on the two sides (something you don't notice unless you look closely). The flowers form in abundance but attention is often drawn to them only by their scent, because the flowers themselves are tiny and inconspicuous. They do serve to draw in a host of nectar-seeking insects, which then accomplish the pollination. After pollination, the fruits develop. Each tiny, pea-like fruit hangs attached to a greenish-yellow, ribbon-like structure, resembling a leaf. Strictly, this is a bract and its whole purpose is to act as a wing to enable the wind to catch the ripened seed clusters and carry them just a little way beyond the parent tree.

There is a 'down-side' to living with a Lime tree. Aphids are attracted to the tree by the rich supply of sap, and these are in turn often "farmed" by ants, although this "farming" process does not appear to cause any serious damage to the trees. The ants care for and nurture the aphids in exchange for the aphids being 'milked' for the production of the sap - a syrup-like honeydew - which the ants collect for their own use. The result can often be a dripping of excess sap onto the lower branches and leaves - and anything else which happens to be below. Cars left under Lime trees can quickly become coated with a film of the sticky, syrupy honeydew dropped from higher up!

Trees can often be just a part of the street "furniture" and we don't take any notice of them as we pass by. However, in an almost magical way, they do succeed in taking the harshness off the concrete, bricks and tarmac and help to make the roads much more an extension of our homes and gardens, giving us a much more friendly local environment and helping to show how humans can fit into what would otherwise be much starker surroundings. As you go around and about through your day, take notice of the plants (especially the trees) that surround us. You will be surprised at how rewarding you will find it to be!

**Charles Bradley**

Vicar	Parish Website: <a href="http://www.tarvinparish.com">www.tarvinparish.com</a> Revd Adam Friend, 01829 740354 or 07984003665 The Vicarage, Church Street, Tarvin, CH3 8EB Email address: tarvinparish@gmail.com	
Curate	Revd Barbara King	01244 300756
Clergy	Donald Marr 741302	Richard Tuckwell 732732
Readers	Mary Burgess 740716	Jo Richards 741474
	Ron Fuller 740559	Colin Haworth 07584419348
Parish Wardens	David Ferguson, 39 Deansway, Tarvin Peter Ladd, 4 Smithy Court, Clotton	741192 781788
<b>SA</b> Director of Music Verger Bell Tower Captain	Ken Fayle Sandra Turner Colin Haworth	07711058835 749310 07584419348
<b>PCC</b> Treasurer Secretary	David Caddell	740554
	Jane Holmes	740564
Safeguarding Officer	Treasurer Secretary (Currently Peter Ladd) Volunteers Welcome Pat Briscoe	732515
	Jenny Burkill-Howarth	740319
Women's Group	Rev Barbara King	
Grapevine	Paul Mercer tarvingrapevine@gmail.com	309306
Gift Aid	David Caddell	
Z Team (Churchyard)	John Plant	740057

Tarvin Parish, St Andrew's and St Peter's takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at [www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding). If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at [www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding](http://www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding)

## TALES FROM THE GRAVEYARD JULY 2021



Thanks to the wild variety of weather experienced this month, one aspect—heavy rain—brought down a large branch from a Yew tree at the south-east end of the church. This branch completely blocked the pathway at the rear of the church (see photo left) and it was down to the graveyard team to make the area safe again. The picture below shows Barry Rees and Peter Ryan working to clear the branches, but the rest of the team were employed in taking away the debris produced. The tree was a very old Yew

right on the boundary of the church yard and the farm next door, but there was a significant amount of Ivy wrapped around the branches to virtually double the amount of foliage involved. It is amazing that heavy rain alone can bring down a tree branch of



this size, but there was obviously a weakness right at the trunk to make this happen. The Z Team members went so far, in the pouring rain, but thanks to Wilmot Blockley at the farm, tree surgeons came to finish off the removal of the main branches and made the area safe again.

(See photo above.)

Finally, it is worth reporting that when we had problems with a new strimmer, Turner Groundscare, from whom we bought it, did not hesitate to replace it with a new one under warranty. The new one was here within the week, so work was not held up in keeping the graveyard neat and tidy. Well done Turners.

