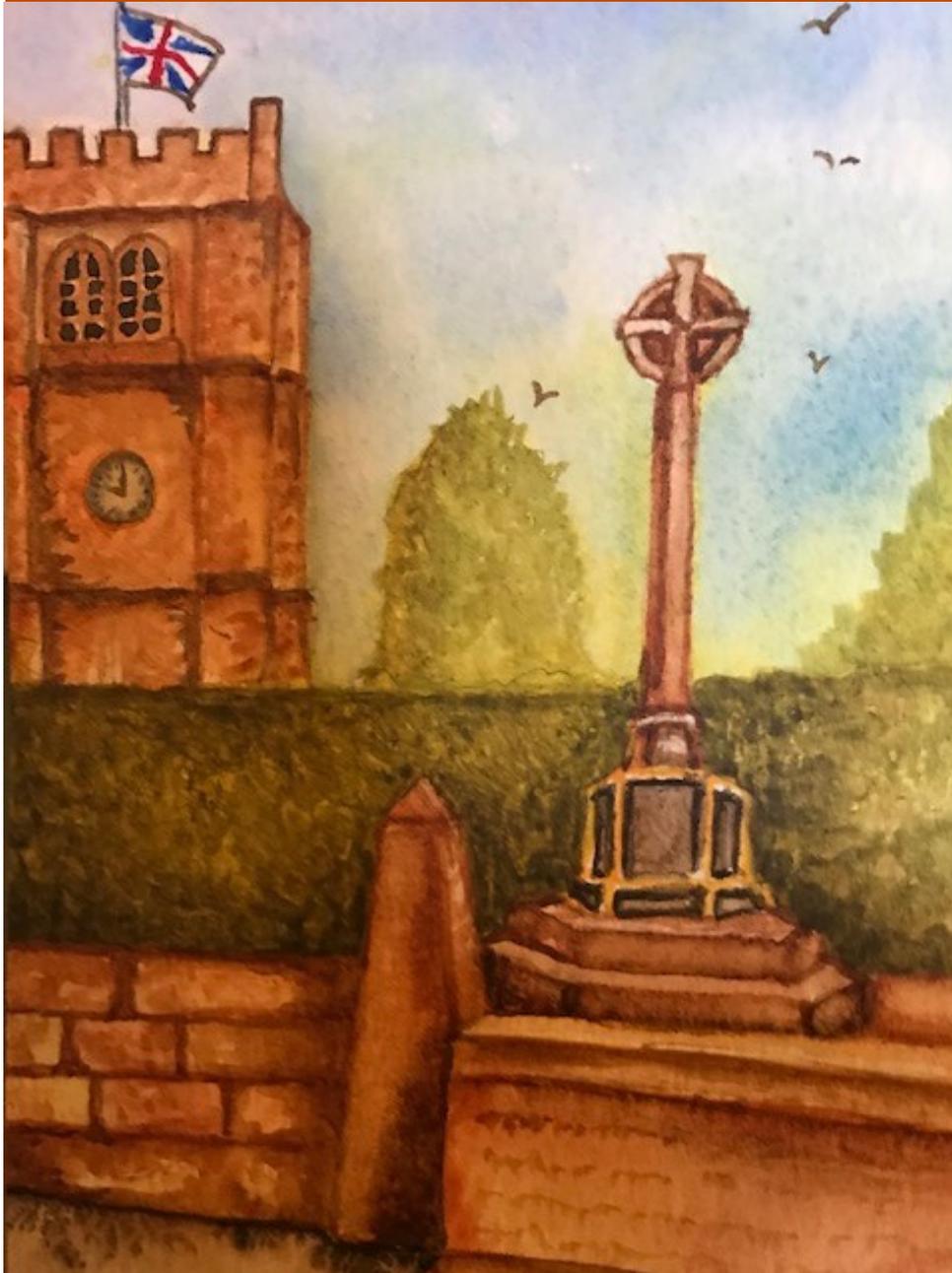


TARVIN & DUDDON



GRAPEVINE

June 2021

50p

## From the Vicar...

One of the biggest questions on my mind as I write this is what will be happening on June the 22<sup>nd</sup>? It maybe a day where the current COVID restrictions are eased. This is something that I am sure we are all eager to know the outcome. The 22<sup>nd</sup> of June is also, in the Church of England's Calendar, the day to remember Alban the first martyr of Britain.

*Here is an extract from Saints on Earth: A biographical companion to Common Worship by John H Darch and Stuart K Burns 'Records of Christians living in Britain have been found as early as the second century, and in 314 three 'British' bishops attended a council in Arles. Alban, held to be the first British martyr, has traditionally been regarded as having being martyred in the Diocletian persecution of 303. But his death is more likely to have occurred in the reign of either Septimius Severus c.209, or Decius c.250. Alban was a Romano-British pagan living in Verulamium, known today as St Albans, Hertfordshire. He met a fugitive priest and gave him shelter in his home. Alban was so struck by the way of life and the commitment of the priest that in time he was converted to the faith. When soldiers came searching for the fugitive Alban disguised himself in the priest's cloak and was arrested and condemned to death. The priest was subsequently arrested and stoned to death some days later. Holmhurst Hill, where Alban's martyrdom is traditionally located, became the site first of a shrine and then of a church dedicated to his memory. By the Middle Ages this church had grown into the Abbey of St Albans and is now the cathedral of the diocese which bears his name. Bede, writing in the early eighth century, recorded the torture and trial of Alban. He mentions the crowds at his execution, a spring of water rising up at his feet at the top of a hill, and the miraculous conversion of the appointed executioner. Bede also records that his executioner was unable to see the death of Alban, as the instant he beheaded him his own eyes fell out.'*

*"Saint Alban suffered on the twenty-second day of June near the city of Verulamium...Here, when the peace of Christian times was restored, a beautiful Church worthy of his martyrdom was built, where sick folk are healed and frequent miracles take place to this day."  
Bede: Ecclesiastical History 1.7*

What seems to be very interesting in this is the speed at Alban's conversion to Christianity, the sight of the priest's faith was all that was needed, and although unable to save that priest, Alban set his mark on the history of Christianity in Britain. Surely for us this is a story of what is seen by others when we live our lives. What is visible is a portrayal of faith in the way we act, what we do and what we say. This has an influence on other people's behaviour. I do not very often watch a 30 second commercial, however in that snapshot you are introduced and enticed to buy something. We are the advert of Christianity, we are the advert of faith, it is through the snapshot that others see in our lives, that gives them a glimpse of if that is who they want to be or not. Just like Alban, there are those who haven't yet opened the gift of faith inside them and just need a nudge. You could be the nudge that others need.

Adam

## Church Services

**At the moment we are holding all Sunday services at St Peter's Church in Duddon, these we be as follows: 8am Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer; 9.30am and 10.45am Family Communion using Common Worship.**

We have a limited number of seats in order to remain COVID safe and keep the 2metre distance in accordance with the government guidelines. **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME TO THE 9.30AM or 10.45AM SERVICE YOU WILL NEED TO BOOK A SEAT.** If you have not booked a seat we may not be able to accommodate you. (currently we are not asking those coming to 8am to book a seat in advance)

To book a seat please contact Sandra Turner on 01829749310 or email her on [sandraturner1234@btinternet.com](mailto:sandraturner1234@btinternet.com).

We look forward to welcoming those who want to come back to public worship, if you feel that this is not for you at this time, that is fine. Our service will remain on Facebook and YouTube at 10.15am on a Sunday morning and through the Telephone service on 01829708989. The service will also be available through the email system.

Thank you for your patience at this time and we look forward to being together and sharing in worship together."

## St Andrews Church repairs

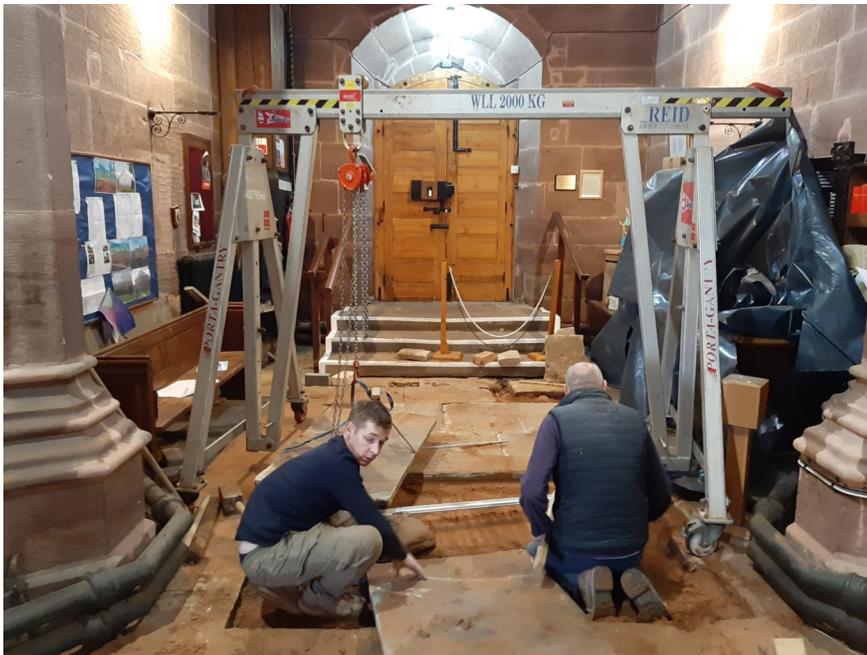
The works to the fractured heating pipes have now been completed. After a period of settlement, we are now in the process of re-consolidating the stone flag areas. The centre aisle stone flags, are to be reinforced by a post and beam system, which will avoid any further subsidence. The pews can then be reinforced on to a new foundation. A Faculty for this application has been applied for.

We also have the matter of replacing the organ blower. We have received 2 quotes which are acceptable to our Loss Adjuster, and the replacement can be installed within 4 weeks.

Most of the repairs are covered and agreed, by our insurance company Ecclesiastical, but we will be responsible for the first fractured pipe repair, plus the insurance excess payments etc. We may be facing sums in the region of £3000 to £4000, over and above the insurance cover!

We are hoping to have the Church open by the end of June, as we have 5 weddings taking place in July!

David Furguson, Church Warden



## Prayers Answered

### Grateful thanks for Prayers Answered

In December 2019 Bob Lelliott was added to our prayer list when he went into hospital for open heart surgery and he has remained on the list until April of this year. Due to severe and complex post-operative complications, Bob has spent many months in hospital and undergone several more operations and procedures. So it is with great happiness that we can say that he has now finally been discharged from Broad-green hospital.

As a family, we are so very grateful for your prayers which have sustained us through some of the darkest times and how joyful it is that those prayers have been answered in the best possible way.

Jo Richards

## New Junior Choir

Ken is starting a junior choir which will meet at St Peter's Church, initially for children age 7-11 at Duddon school. We need to have 2 adults present as well as Ken. The choir is on Tuesdays after school from 3.30-4.15 (term time only). The first session is on 8th June. So we need volunteers to help walk the children over from the school to the church, give out music and enjoy the singing! Please let me know if you are interested in helping so that we can draw up a rota for the remainder of the summer term. Thank you. Contact: Mairi - [Email: mairilevitt@btinternet.com](mailto:mairilevitt@btinternet.com). Tel. 07773688147.



## CHESHIRE LEGAL

*LADY WITH 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
AS A WELFARE RIGHTS OFFICER WOULD LIKE  
TO HELP YOU INCREASE YOUR INCOME  
BY UP TO £332.40 A MONTH.  
ARE YOU AGED 65 OR OLDER /  
AND HAVE HEALTH PROBLEMS.*

*IF THE ANSWER IS YES*

*THEN YOU COULD BE MISSING OUT.  
YOUR OTHER INCOME OR CAPITAL  
IS ABSOLUTELY NOT AFFECTED*

*FOR MORE DETAILS PHONE  
TEL; 01829 741600 OR 07541 185848.*



**TURNER**  
GROUNDSCARE MACHINERY  
Lansdowne Road, Stamford bridge, Tarvin, Chester, CH3 8EL  
Web Site: [www.turnergroundscare.co.uk](http://www.turnergroundscare.co.uk)  
Email: [Brian.Spruce@turnergroundscare.co.uk](mailto:Brian.Spruce@turnergroundscare.co.uk)

**SALES**      **SERVICE**      **PARTS**  
**Opening Hours:**  
Monday to Friday 8am - 5pm  
Saturday 8am - 12:30pm

**FREE  
COLLECTION  
&  
DELIVERY**

**CALL NOW 01829 741797**  
FOR ALL YOUR GARDEN MACHINERY NEEDS

JOHN DEERE      HONDA      STIHL      VIKING      METESIA      BRIGGS & STRATTON

If your insurance is up for renewal, please check this out, yes we could get £130 if you take your insurance with them.



Choose the UK's most trusted home insurer and we'll donate

# £130

to your church



To celebrate our 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Ecclesiastical is offering to donate £130 to your church for every new home insurance policy taken out.

We're proud that customers across the UK have voted Ecclesiastical as the UK's Most Trusted Home Insurance provider, ahead of all other insurers. To celebrate this achievement, and in recognition of our 130 year anniversary, we'll donate £130 to your church if you take out a new home insurance policy with us. To take advantage of this offer visit [www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130) or call 0800 783 0130 and quote TRUST130.

When it feels irreplaceable, trust



Terms and conditions 1. To celebrate our 130 year anniversary we are offering to make a charitable donation of £130 when a new Ecclesiastical Insurance plc Home Insurance policy (a "Policy") is purchased directly from us and your insurance cover commences on or before 31st December 2019, on the following terms and conditions. 2. One charitable donation will be made per Policy issued. 3. Quotation requests for a Policy must be made online or by telephone, quoting TRUST130. This charitable donation offer cannot be redeemed in any other way. 4. Underwriting terms and conditions apply and we reserve the right to not provide a quotation or offer to insure if the property that is the subject of the quotation does not meet our underwriting criteria. 5. The charitable donation is conditional on the named insured under the Policy notifying us of a church in the United Kingdom which is part of the Anglican Communion to receive the donation (the "Nominated Church"). Donations will be made by us directly to the Nominated Church, within 30 days of the Policy start date. 6. "We" and "us" in these terms and conditions refer to Ecclesiastical Insurance Office plc.

CONTAINS PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

# Jacqueline Wilson

Independent Funeral Services Ltd

[WWW.JWIFS.CO.UK](http://WWW.JWIFS.CO.UK)



**Over 25 years local experience**

**NAFD Qualified**

**24 hours a day Personal Service**

**Private Chapel of Rest**

**Pre-paid Funeral Plans**

**Memorial Masonry**



*HILL VIEW  
HIGH STREET*

*CLOTTON*

*TARPORLEY*

*CHESHIRE*

*CW6 0EG*

*TEL: 01829 781572*

*EMAIL: JACKIE@JWIFS.CO.UK*

*74 WESTON GROVE*

*UPTON*

*CHESTER*

*CHESHIRE*

*CH2 1QL*

*TEL: 01244 952540*

*EMAIL: UPTON@JWIFS.CO.UK*

*52 HIGH STREET*

*TARVIN*

*CHESTER*

*CHESHIRE*

*CH3 8EE*

*TEL: 01829 740002*

*EMAIL: TARVIN@JWIFS.CO.UK*



**Golden Charter**   
Funeral Plans



# IAN LITTLER PHARMACY

THE COBBLES, 28 HIGH STREET, TARVIN.

Web: [www.littlerpharmacy.com](http://www.littlerpharmacy.com) E-mail: [ianlittler.pharmacy@npanet.co.uk](mailto:ianlittler.pharmacy@npanet.co.uk)

Tel: 01829 741880



*Common ailments don't always need the doctor's attention.  
At your Pharmacy you can buy everything your family could need for dealing with  
minor medical emergencies - and won't need an appointment.*



*Our advice is friendly, free and confidential  
And will see you quickly on the road to recovery*

FREE PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SERVICE



# Okells

GARDEN & HOME  
COFFEE SHOP

Duddon Heath, Nr. Tarporley CW6 OEP Find us on the A51 between Chester & Nantwich.

[www.okellsgardencentre.co.uk](http://www.okellsgardencentre.co.uk)

Open Monday to Saturday 9am-5.00pm Sunday 10am-5pm

• Windows • Doors • Conservatories • Garage Doors • Roofline Products



# Osprey windows

BUILDING OUR BUSINESS ON RECOMMENDATION

SUPPLIERS & INSTALLERS  
OF HIGH QUALITY PVCu

WINDOWS  
DOORS AND  
CONSERVATORIES

GARAGE DOORS

FASCIA, SOFFIT,  
AND GUTTERING

**01244 332178**

White Lane Depot, Christleton, Chester

[www.osprey-windows.co.uk](http://www.osprey-windows.co.uk) e-mail: [sales@osprey-windows.co.uk](mailto:sales@osprey-windows.co.uk)

FENSA  
Registered Company



## Curates Corner

**Visualising prayer.** With the ending of the two weeks of 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer does not stop! Those we have prayed for still need our prayers as do many more. It often helps to have something to imagine, hold or see whilst praying, helping to make the intangible real.

### Look a

**t you hand:** begin with the little finger, the weakest one, so prayers for those who are weak elderly or ill. And for ourselves, we are small compared to God's greatness but made great in our weakness. Then the index finger, that one that is wagged at you when told off reminding us of the things we do wrong so we can say sorry and ask for God's forgiveness. It also the one that points the way ahead, the way we are to go with God's help. The middle finger is the tallest one and can remind us those who have influence over our lives, leaders and rulers, so we can pray for wisdom, peace and justice. Then the ring finger, rings are a symbol of love so we pray for those we love, family, friends and neighbours. Last but not least the thumb, set apart from the others, so can remind us of people far away and of other countries.

**A candle** can be a good start to prayer. Thinking back over thousands of years the early Christians would have prayed by candle light; just think of all those prayers! Lighting or switching it on makes the 'go' of prayer. Just watching it flicker can rest the mind, let unruly thoughts be calmed and the needs of prayer emerge. The light reminds of us courage in dark times and places, the light of Christ. He said himself he was the light of the world and our little corner of the world is lit up and our prayers shine a light into other lives as well as our own.

**Aslan.** In the BBC serialisation of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S.Lewis, (my favourite book and desert island choice!) Aslan's breath restores the statues of animals and people who had fallen foul of the White Witch from stones to living flesh. His breath is seen flowing out to encircle and restore and I find this image of the circling, unseen Holy Spirit a powerful aid to prayer. I imagine it flowing out and around people, especially those who are ill holding them in it's gloriousness and healing power.

**Holding a stone or wooden cross;** again this is the tangible assisting the intangible. The smoothness of wood or stone is a soothing, tactile focus for thoughts. You may have prayer beads, each bead representing a prayer focus. Four is a good number: bead 1 gives praise to God; bead 2 helps to confess our sins; bead 3 gives gratitude to God, a thank you for all we have, all our blessings and bead 4 is asking what to do now, not only for us but for others.

Talk to God as you would talk to a dear and respected friend, one who knows what you are going to say before you say it, one who knows you and loves you so deeply. The words do not matter, God understands our rambling thoughts, He will find the diamond in our words.

Keep talking to Him!

I haven't abandoned the other format of this page, just thought we could have a change! Thank you for reading!

Keep safe,.      Love and prayers,      Barbara

Easter treats being delivered to the residents at Iddenshall Hall Care Home  
By Sandra Turner



## Weekly reflections

### Week 1

God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom,  
that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen

#### Mark 3 20-end

Verse: "Whoever does the will of God is my brother, sister and mother."

Families are complicated, some work well, others are labelled as dysfunctional. When we look at church families the same can be said, 'complicated' or 'dysfunctional'. You can have both at the same time. Jesus on the other hand is making the church family more simple, 'those who do the will of God'. The will of God is to spread the word of the gospel and lead a life of faith. So easy when said so quickly! This is not the whole story though. Families support each other, the phrase 'blood is thicker than water' springs to mind, meaning family is a very strong bond, not easily broken. This is the same emphasis that Jesus is giving to the Church Family. A bond that is not easily broken, and those who do the will of God are part of that family. He didn't say those who walk through the doors, or those who are devout in worship. All those who do the will of God. I must admit if you have the spiritual resources to do God's will without the need of support from the church family and a recharge of spirit through spirit and sacrament, then you really are, well God!

#### Prayers week 1

May the quiet fire of God's love arise within you. May its flames of joy and peace enlighten your steps in this world, and may you be like a burning bush, the presence of God for each other, that holy healing light of love, the breath of God made manifest in you (Bob Holmes)

## Week 2

Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you  
and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### Mark 4 26-34

Verse: "it is like a mustard seed, which when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth."

I have quite big, sometimes clumsy and heavy handed hands, and the thought of trying delicately to sow small seeds troubles me greatly. However I do remember as a child needing to take the engine out of an old morris minor. The space where the engine mounting was, was too small for my Dad's hands to reach in, but mine were perfectly sized. They were so much smaller and I could do what needed to be done. I wonder sometimes in faith, that if we have lived by faith for a long time, become experienced and lead a life that reflects the true nature of God. If, we have now big, clumsy hands when it comes to enabling the faith to grow in others. We maybe forget what it was like before God came into our lives, or didn't know a life without. Faith, as we can see from the parable of the mustard seed is fragile and precious, easily lost as it slips though our fingers. Each seed deserves a delicate touch and then we can watch it grow. Every person whom we know, deserves a delicate touch, and we can maybe watch the faith grow within them.

### Prayers week 2

Keep us safe Lord. It is so good to meet with our families and friends again, to go into more shops, to feel normal! We want to shrug off that overwhelming cloud of Covid but we need to learn from its presence with us. Help us, as always, to be aware of those who still find it difficult for whatever reason to get out of the house. Help us to be good friends and neighbours.

### Week 3

God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

#### Mark 4 35-41

Verse: "They woke him up and said "do you not care that we are perishing?""

I know this must be something we have all muttered at sometime in our lives, when we see our life, falling apart around us. Did Jesus not care? He was asleep, he was tired, there was not much downtime and he was exhausted. I am sure that we all take our eyes off the things that matter to us from time to time, and it isn't because we don't care it is that life gets in the way. Maybe we don't spend as much time with family and friends as we would like to, maybe we have visited someone we have been meaning to for a while, called someone on the phone we have wanted to catch up with (that manly sounds like my life). The business of life has overshadowed us like a storm. Just as the disciples experienced in the boat. The busy lives led by some overshadows those who don't have a busy life anymore and what seems to some that 'someone doesn't care' anymore is not most of the time the reality. I quite often think of people whom I want to catch up with, say a little prayer as go past their house, and realise so much time has passed since I last spoke to them. Even more so with St Andrew's still shut and the scars of the pandemic still amongst us. Jesus did, does care, as I am sure a lot of us do, even when we don't show it as much as want to.

#### Prayers Week 3

We thank you Lord for the comfort on difficult days; the smiles that cheer the sad times, the rainbows of promise and hope, the laughter of family and friends, the hugs to restore ones spirit. We thank you for our faith so that we can believe, the confidence and trust in you. Gives us courage to know ourselves, patience to accept the truth and love to complete our lives.

## **Week 4**

Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

### **Mark 5 21-end**

Verse: "He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha cum' which means, 'little girl, get up!'"

The story of the resurrection did come early, Jesus gave life back to this girl and the family she belonged too. I am sure that many of us who have had the painful parting from loved ones in this world would love Jesus to do that for us, even more so for the untimely loss. For me, I often think that these are the words Jesus uses as he comes to meet us at death and takes us with him on our journey to heaven. Whatever and however that journey is made Jesus promises us that it is one that he makes with us. After celebrating Pentecost we have the hope that through the Holy Spirit Jesus is everywhere to everyone at the same time. I know that in grief this is not comforting to everyone. I find it a comfort to know that when my journey from this life to the next comes that Jesus will take my by the hand and say, 'come, get up, come with me.' When we meet people we need to know that sometimes faith is about seeing what we do and hearing what we say. Most of the time it is about being in the lives of others, being where they need someone most, taking someone by the hand, reassuring them that all is ok. Be kind and support where you can.

### **Prayers Week 4**

Lead me Lord into this new situation, be with me in these new experiences. Show me, Lord, how to respond, how to behave. Help me in what I need to do, which way I need to go. Help me, Lord to listen, to hear your voice, feel the Spirit's prompting. Help me to remember I do not to have do everything in my own strength but can trust in you. You are with me always.



# Raise FREE donations for

**Tarvin Parish Church**

every time you **shop online**

Find us on **easyfundraising.org.uk**

**easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/tarvinparishchurch**

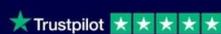
**4,300** online sites will give us a free donation when you shop with them - at no extra cost to you!



**Download the easyfundraising App**



£ Over £32 million raised



1.8 million users



**COME ON EVERYONE—WE NEED  
YOUR HELP**

**AND IT'S EASY**

IF YOU SHOP ONLINE, THIS IS EASY  
**FREE MONEY FOR CHURCH AT NO COST TO YOU  
YOU PAY EXACTLY THE SAME PRICE AS YOU  
WOULD NORMALLY DO.**

1. Go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/tarvinparishchurch](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/tarvinparishchurch)
2. Tarvin Parish Church page will come up
3. Click on **Support this Cause**
4. You will see that we have already raised nearly £100
5. Create an account by clicking **Continue with email**
6. Type in your name, email address and make up a password of at least eight characters.
7. Click **Create my Account**
8. Tick the consent box.

**ALL DONE!**

NEXT TIME YOU SHOP ONLINE, GO TO THE EASYFUNDRAISING WEBSITE AND SELECT [OR TYPE IN] THE STORE YOU WISH TO SHOP WITH EG TESCO, M&S THEN SHOP AS NORMAL AND THE STORE WILL GIVE US A SMALL DONATION TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR CUSTOM.

**PLEASE ASK FOR HELP** TO GET STARTED IF YOU NEED IT.

# zero dry time<sup>TM</sup>

Dry Carpet, Upholstery & Hard Floor Cleaners

*A Tarvin-based, family business*

## **For all your DRY carpet, upholstery and hard floor cleaning needs.**

Deep clean, sanitise, deodorise & stain protect your carpets & upholstery leaving them refreshed & smelling wonderful. Carpets immediately walk dry.



**Call Steve Jones  
0800 180 4925**

for a free, no obligation quote, or check out  
our 5\* reviews and latest offers on-line:

**[www.zerodrytime.com](http://www.zerodrytime.com)**

## St Peter's CE School, Duddon.

This is our church school and has a close relationship with our church community.

The school motto is:  
**"Be the Best you can be"**

The School has a nursery which is part of the Foundation Unit and Reception is taught alongside the nursery unit.

Treetops has a younger group 'Treetots' that meet weekly on Wednesdays at 9am,

For more information about the school please call:  
01829 781366

Falls rehabilitation - Respiratory Physiotherapy - General rehabilitation



If you are feeling unsteady or have had a fall. If you are chesty or short of breath. If you have just come out of hospital, we can **advise, improve**

**and help you to be your best!**

Providing home visits for assessment and treatment at your convenience. If you prefer a group setting to keep you motivated to improve your core strength and balance then join our falls prevention rehab group based in Tattenhall Physiotherapy and Sports Injury Clinic every Tuesday 10am advanced, 11am beginners. *Designed in accordance with NICE guidelines*

**Don't become a statistic this winter and get in touch today to book your first treatment!** Tel: 07840 130956



info@houlbrookphysio.co.uk

www.houlbrookphysio.co.uk

*The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy is the professional, educational and trade union body for the UK's 56,000 chartered physiotherapists, physiotherapy students and associates.*

## Village Fete 3rd July

### Tombola Stall

Once again Ruth and Jenny will be running the Tombola Stall at the Village Fete on 3<sup>rd</sup> July in aid of Church funds. Please would anyone wishing to donate bottles of any kind, alcohol included, either drop them off to Ruth and Jenny, or if preferred they will collect. Ruth's number is 741067 and Jenny's is 740319.

In past years, with your generosity, this has proved to be a very successful stall.

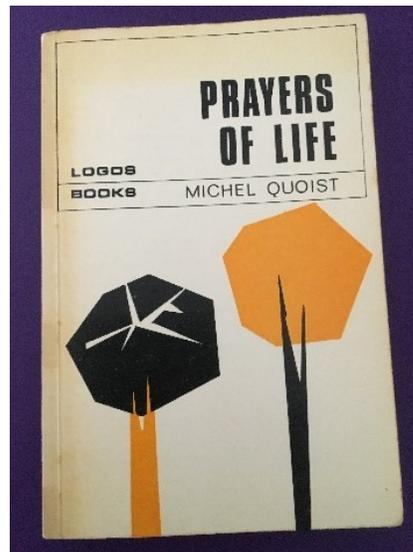
Thank you.

## Lockdown 'Watching and Reading'

During lockdown we have been revisiting several TV series via BBC I player one of which has been *The Vicar of Dibley*. It is worth watching for the Howard Goodall theme tune "The Lord is my shepherd".

"His intention in writing the theme had always been to write a piece of church music which could have a life of its own, beyond the series, and this has certainly been fulfilled in Psalm 23." ([www.howardgoodall.co.uk](http://www.howardgoodall.co.uk))

However, during one episode when the vicar was sitting at her desk I suddenly noticed this book on her right:  
It took me down memory lane as I bought the book in the late 1960's when I was at college. It is still on my bookshelf and as I began to read it again, I found a copy of an article I sent to Grapevine in 2019.



Although first published in 1954 many of the prayers are still appropriate today as Michel Quoist explains the pages are not 'set prayers' but 'meditations on life'.

#### **Copy sent to Grapevine in March 2019**

I recently re-read a book *Prayers of Life* by Michel Quoist that I had bought over 50 years ago whilst I was a student.

Wikipedia helped me to update my knowledge of the author:

**Michel Quoist**, born in 1921 and died in Le Havre on December 18, 1997, was a priest and a French writer.

*His father had died early. Therefore, Michel began to work at the age of 14. He sought the meaning of life. In 1947 he became a priest. His work as a chaplain and a writer was focused on young people.*

Many of the prayers are quite lengthy but this shorter one is typical of his thought-provoking style.

#### ***The Brick - Michel Quoist***

*The brick layer laid a brick on the bed of cement.  
Then, with a precise stroke of his trowel, spread another layer  
And without a by-your-leave, laid on another brick.  
The foundations grew visibly,  
The building rose, strong and tall, to shelter men.*

*I thought, Lord, of that poor brick buried in the darkness  
at the base of the big building.  
No one sees it, but it accomplishes its task,  
and the other bricks need it.  
Lord, what difference whether I am on the rooftop  
or in the foundations of your building,  
as long as I stand at the right place?"*

*Jane Holmes*

## Birds on the Farm

I was interested to read about the various birds spotted in the woodland earlier this year. It made me start listing all the birds that I see at home. I've easily reached 50 seeing at least 27 species every day. There are two oddities- a jackdaw with a damaged wing which drags on the ground (the others pick on him!) and a one-legged magpie which gets blown over on windy days. Both seem to manage to survive. Another strange visitor a few years ago was a white egret which overwintered here. It was a magnificent sight when it took off to roost in a tree for the night. How it was never caught by a fox we'll never know as it stood out so much.

One great sadness is that over the years the swallows have become less and less. This year none have returned even though all their usual nesting places are still there. They must not survive the journey to and from Africa. Also, I have not seen house martins or a spotted flycatcher yet or heard the cuckoo.

We are arable farmers who are often blamed for the decline in birds, which I feel is untrue. We grow plots all over the farm especially for birds to feed and nest. These attract flocks of bramblings which I have not seen before. We also find that hedges that are kept lower and therefore thicker are popular with black birds and yellow hammers. I think the cause of ground nesting birds declining is related to the large number of buzzards in this area (twenty years ago we never saw them here) and badgers. Young birds and eggs are easy prey from them both. Fortunately, we still see skylarks.

I'm no expert but I do love seeing and hearing all the beautiful birds that we have in this country. Let us hope that they continue to thrive.

Pat Briscoe



## Community Centre News

As the summer approaches and as the date of June 21<sup>st</sup> looms in our dairies, the Community Centre is poised to get back to normal. But like everyone else, we have our fingers crossed that all will be possible, and all will be well.

Since May 17<sup>th</sup> we have been delighted to welcome back some of the indoor exercise classes that join the children's activities that have been running for some weeks. In June we are looking forward to welcoming the following:

Slimming World will be returning, though on a slightly smaller scale than before. Over the last year there has been a change of Consultants and we now will be please to see them return on a Thursday morning.

At last, Bingo will be returning on a Thursday evening, the calendar seemed so empty without them.

Tarvin Silver Singers will be meeting on a Wednesday afternoon

A Baby Massage class is planning to start on a Monday morning

We are delighted to be able to host some children's parties, some of which were cancelled last year. At least birthdays come round every year.

At the time of writing, the success of our first film night is unknown, but all being well we shall get these going regularly again, with a family film as well as the 8.00pm show for grown-ups. So many of us are longing to be part of a communal activity again, just enjoying the same thing in the company of others. I was going to say the company of strangers, but really, the audience at the Community Centre is a 'company of friends.'

While some regular customers, W.I., Flower Class, Flower Club, Gardening Society and Toddlers are making plans for returning later in the year, some old friends are missing. The Civic Trust is no more, and both Tai Chi and Kung Fu will no longer be offered. We are yet to hear from the Library but are grateful for the service of the mobile library on a Thursday.

For details of all our activities go to [www.tarvincommunitycentre.org](http://www.tarvincommunitycentre.org) [www.facebook.com/tarvincc](https://www.facebook.com/tarvincc) or [www.tarvinonline.org](http://www.tarvinonline.org) There will also be posters in the Centre and on noticeboards including the A-frame in the High Street. To book the Centre call Sue on 01829 741962/07946 958831

# ***P Dodd Roofing And Building***

6 Millside Close Tarvin Chester Cheshire CH3 8DN Tel  
01829749160 mobile 07855782083

## **New To Tarvin Area**

35 years in the roofing business

From 1 loose tile to complete re-roof.

Guttering/pointing/fascia boards/flat roofing

Rubber roofing/fascias cleaned/windows cleaned

Rubbish removal

Tel works 07855782083

Home no 01829-749160

**Registered Office; 33 Chester Road West,  
Queensferry, Deeside, Flintshire, CH5 1SA  
Registered in England & Wales Number 4479466**



shutterstock.com • 198800569

**To advertise in this magazine please email:  
tarvingrapevine@gmail.com**

**Tarvin News and Post Office**

**Tel: 01829 458399**

- 7 day delivery of News and Magazines
- National Lottery Agent
- Stationary
- Office Stockists of Orchard Educational Toys and Puzzles
- Wide selection of greeting cards
- Banking Services
- Bill Payments
- Foreign Currency and Holiday Insurance
- Other usual Post Office Services

*Please support your Post Office*

**Dutton & Hallmark Funeral Services**

Chester's oldest established independent funeral directors.

A family business providing a professional funeral service from generation to generation.

- Rolls Royce & Bentley fleets
- Horse drawn funerals arranged
- Private Chapels of Rest
- 24 Hour Service

**80 Faulkner Street  
Hoole, Chester CH2 3BQ**

**Tel: 01244 310966**



**T.H.LIGHTFOOT & SONS  
FUNERAL SERVICE**

*A 24 hour personal and caring service giving  
dignity and respect with traditional values.  
Dedicated Chapel of Rest - Monumental Service  
Pre-arranged funeral and prepaid funeral plans.*



111 High Street  
Tarporley  
Cheshire  
CW6 0AY  
Telephone 01829 733808

**BRISCOE'S DAIRY  
TARVIN**



**FINEST QUALITY FARM FRESH MILK**  
*Finest quality milk including Organic Milk*  
**ALSO EGGS, BREAD, FRUIT JUICE, WATER ETC.**  
**YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT MILKMAN**  
*So don't delay call us today to set up your regular delivery*  
**Tel: TARVIN 01829 740272**

**C.R.F  
SWIMMING POOLS**

*Stockist and installers of:*  
Above Ground Pools Below Ground Pools  
Pool Enclosures Display Swimming Pools  
Pool Heating Systems  
Chemicals and Accessories Pool / Lake liners

**Duddon Lodge, Duddon, Nr Tarporley,  
Cheshire CW6 0EP  
Tel: 01829781379  
Www.crfswimmingpools.co.uk**

Greenacre Garage (TARVIN) Ltd.  
Church street - Tarvin - Chester CH3 8NA  
Tel: 01829-740340 Fax: 01829-740246

**Talking About Cars**



Petrol, Repairs, Servicing, MOT Testing  
Range of Car Spares and Assecories  
**Convenience Store** Groceries, cards,  
stamps, batteries, coal, sticks,  
Paypoint Agent, ATM cash machine,  
Lottery

Open : Monday - Friday 7.30am- 8pm  
Sturday 8am - 6pm  
Sunday 9am - 6pm



## Community Newsround

### **Ashton Hayes and Tarvin Flower Club:**

Do you like flowers and enjoy meeting people? Why not join us for an evening of entertainment as you watch a skilled flower arranger demonstrate their art. All arrangements are raffled so you may even take one home with you! We usually meet in Tarvin Community Centre, on the second Wednesday of every month at 7.30 p.m., (except August and December) and you would be assured of a friendly welcome. During the Covid lockdowns more Information from 01829 740832 or 01829 740473

### **Tarvin Women's Institute**

Tarvin WI are still unable to hold our regular monthly meetings but we are learning to navigate our way around the virtual world of Zoom and taking part in the various talks organised by the Cheshire Federation of WIs.

If you are interested and would like further details please contact Margaret Matthews telephone 01829 741081 - we would love to hear from you.

### **Tarvin Meeting Point.**

A group of lively minded women who meet fortnightly in members homes to discuss a wide variety of topics, both serious and light-hearted. Keep your mind buzzing! For Further information during the current lockdowns contact Sue Hardacre on 01829 741962

### **Ash-worth Time bank**

If you are either over 60, a carer, have recently suffered bereavement, are a single parent or maybe have been made redundant, you are welcome to attend our free therapy sessions which include For details Caroline or Sue on 01829 751398. [www.ash-worthtime.org.uk](http://www.ash-worthtime.org.uk) or email [ashworthtime@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ashworthtime@hotmail.co.uk)

## Woodland Notes — May

### Surveying the woodland's birds

You may already be aware that a small group of woodland volunteers go out each month to record the bird species (but not the numbers of the birds) that are seen or heard in the three parts of the woodland - and also seen over-flying the woodland and its adjacent areas. The results are interesting. For instance, during the three and a half years during which the survey has so far been conducted, around 50 different species of bird have been recorded. This article will focus on just the five surveys undertaken during 2021, during which time, birds of 39 of those species have been seen or heard in or from our woodland. Of these 39 species, there are about 17 which could be described as "ever presents", with the birds being seen or heard during every one of the surveys. On average, we have recorded 27 species each month this year, an increase on the approximately 24/25 species of a couple of years ago.

There are a number of success stories to report.

**Nuthatches** are seen and heard (a lot!) during every survey. Careful attention during a slow and quiet walk between Broomheath Lane and Townfield Lane should enable you to see them. As a result of our nest box surveys, we have the evidence of two pairs nesting in our bird boxes each year.

We can now claim to have a resident population of **Goldcrests**, because they are seen regularly during surveys, with seldom a month missed. For the first time this year, they are to be found at both ends of the original woodland, which leads to the question as to whether the wilding area has been playing a part in their apparent increase? It is a possibility but it is far too early for us to attempt to draw conclusions.

There are **Greater Spotted Woodpeckers** that use our woodland. They have been seen at the Austins Hill end of the Saxon Heath section, at Hockenhull Lane and at the top end at Townfield Lane. They are very shy and, consequently, noise or other disturbance (either human or canine) is likely to frighten them away, making them harder to spot.

The section behind the Saxon Heath estate between Broomheath Lane and Austins Hill now has quite dense growth, especially in places on the A51 side. It is here that **Black Caps** and **Whitethroats** are present. It is quite an achievement to have this happen so soon after the woodland's establishment.

The infrequently-seen birds include the hawks. While we might spot a Buzzard in perhaps 5 months out of 6, it is very seldom that we have seen a Kestrel - possibly on just 1 occasion out of the 6. And Peregrine Falcons have been seen only twice in the whole 3½ years! Tree creepers are also very occasional sightings. This may be because of their

excellent camouflage - and, although we suspect that they are in the woodland, they have been seen only once since the start of 2021. Coal tits have been equally elusive, although we have the strong feeling that they ought to have been there. Some species are so infrequent that their solitary appearance has been remarkable in itself - a Great White Egret has been spotted on just one occasion in 3½ years, and similarly a Garden Warbler has had only one sighting during the five months so far this year.

The birds that are missing but ought to be with us surely do deserve a mention. Surprisingly, we have rarely seen Pied Wagtails this year, although we feel that they ought now to be (and have previously been) present. The same has been true this year of Fieldfares. There are also total absences of some birds which we are led to believe should be present in a woodland such as ours. However, we have NEVER had any evidence of Bullfinches, Bramblings, Redstarts or Flycatchers, which is disappointing.

There is always consolation to be found and this comes from our true "residents", - the birds that are always with us. Some of these are birds which you might also frequently see in your garden, but others are truly woodland birds. It is from this list that the subjects for our occasional articles are taken. Thus far, we have written about the Great Tit, the Blue Tit and the Long-tailed Tit, the Nuthatch and the Goldcrest. Our future articles will feature (but not in any particular order) the Chiffchaff, Chaffinch, Jackdaw, Magpie, Wood Pigeon, Collared Dove, Jay, Carrion Crow, Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush, Dunnock, Wren, Blackbird, Robin, Starling and House Sparrow (yes - we get House Sparrows in the woodland as well!)

The A51 Tarvin Bypass was completed in 1984 and Tarvin Parish Council was issued with a Gardening Licence for the land that is now our woodland in 1997. So, it is less than 40 years ago that the land was open fields with very few species of birds to be seen - a part of what, for ornithologists, was a green desert. That we now have so many 'resident' birds; that so many species have made our woodland their home, is a real success story in itself. Ours may be an amenity woodland - and we have certainly seen many Tarvin folk using that amenity during the past 15 difficult months - but the Trustees' objective, "... to conserve, restore and re-establish native trees, plants and all types of native wildlife ...." is also gradually being realised. Developing a woodland may actually be the task of several lifetimes but it is clearly evident that, bit by bit, we are getting there. With a long-term project, that is always good to know!

### **The Plant Sale - 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**

The day dawned very wet - and got wetter as the morning progressed. However, that did not seem to deter the folk of Tarvin, who turned up in a steady stream to buy plants and to partake of what quickly became very soggy take-away refreshments. Heather Exell, who was selling planted baskets, planted pots and annuals at Church Cottages sold out quite early.

Jacqui Bradley's stock of herbaceous perennials, vegetables and herbs lasted longer but, by mid-afternoon, even these were looking hugely depleted! Huge thanks go to both ladies.

This year, the profit from the sale was being directed to help the appeal for funds made by Tarvin Methodist Church and, at the end of the proceedings, the ladies' plants had raised over £1,500 for the appeal. Simultaneously, the refreshments (which were free-of-charge but for which donations were welcomed) raised a further £150 - which can have an additional £37.50 added through the small donations scheme.

Thank you, Tarvin. Thank you for all the helpfulness, support, friendship and good, old-fashioned love that were directed towards us. It was a really marvellous outcome. And TMC is exceedingly grateful, too

#### Our website.

Everything that is going on in the woodland is well documented on our very extensive (and frequently updated - especially in pandemics!) website. Do 'visit' us at:- [www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org](http://www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org)

**Charles Bradley**  
4, Andrew's Close, Tarvin, Chester.  
CH3 8LN. (01829) 741172



## @ Grapevine

The front cover is a painting of St Andrews Church by Alison Jones. She writes ..... 'To all at the church, I was so moved to see the flag flying at half mast, at the news of the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Phillip. In some small way, it paid all our respects, so thank you. It inspired this small watercolour sketch.'

Copy deadline for the July edition is Sunday 20th June. Please send any news items, articles, events, diary entries to [tarvingrapevine@gmail.com](mailto:tarvingrapevine@gmail.com)

The Parish Calendar is available on the parish website [www.tarvinparish.com](http://www.tarvinparish.com)

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

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 MAY 2021



The last report from the Graveyard covered the idea of leaving uncut grass a mower width adjacent to the hedges and walls to enable wild flowers to grow and give small mammals an area to thrive and travel. This month, it is worth taking a look at what plants have grown naturally among the graves, especially as some of them are quite short lived.

Top left there are the Cowslips that we believe were planted about 10-15 years ago by the local Brownie group. These come up every year, and the area is left uncut until the flowers wither. To the right is a wonderful display of Blackthorn blossom from the hedge at the north-east end of the Graveyard. This hedge is trimmed every year, but still produces this beautiful display in May.



To the left is a display of Bluebells that flourish across a wide area, normally on the graves themselves where the mowers do not cut, and again these are left until the flowers have faded.

Finally, across many places, but especially the raised bed at the north-west corner of the

"new" graveyard are the profusion of blue Forget-me-nots. Whilst some believe these plants are a nuisance, and simply take over flower beds, they do provide us with both colour, and the message that summer is on it's way. After all, wild flowers are the most natural ones, and should be appreciated.

