

CHALLENGE



The Parish Magazine of St Mary Sandbach

February 2024 £1

Volume 60 No 700



Individual IT Tuition

Individual help
Heather Bottomley

hb-ability

Internet

E-mail

Word Processing

Spreadsheets

Tablets and iPads

Smart phones

plus Website design

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Church Information

There's plenty of information
on our new website

www.stmaryschurchsandbach.org

SandbachChurch

Office 07771 391667

St Mary's Church, High Street
Sandbach, CW11 1AN

St Mary's Thursday Teas

In the Church Hall, off the
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home made cakes

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Every Thursday
(except the first of
the month)



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February 2024

Sunday 4th February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
2 before Lent	10.00 am	Morning Worship
Sunday 11th February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
1 before Lent	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
Wednesday 14th February Ash Wednesday	6.30 pm	Service of Ashes
Sunday 18th February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
First of Lent	10.00 am	Family Worship and Communion
	3.30 pm	Choral Evensong
Sunday 25th February	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Lent 2	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 3rd March	8.00 am	Holy Communion
Lent 3	10.00 am	Morning Worship

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

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary Sandbach
St Mary's Church, High Street, Sandbach, CW11 1AN
Charity Number 1205356

Letter from Bee

This year I began my second temperature blanket. The idea is that I crochet a square of a blanket with a colour that is dependent on the weather for the day. It is a way of recording the temperature everyday and then seeing patterns or trends that you compare year on year. They are becoming quite popular as we get more focused on the climate and the changes that are occurring in our weather systems.

This year, as before, I am doing this alongside my friend who lives in London. What this means is that we regularly talk about the weather as we send temperature updates to each other and discuss colours and how we are getting on. What has particularly struck me this time is how quickly the temperatures can change, skipping over colours on our chart either up or down. Just yesterday it was 5°C and

today 11°C, meaning we missed out on several colours on route from one to the other. Not that it matters at all, but I did not notice the leaps as much last time, although I am sure they were still there.

As we move into February which feels relatively calm and sedate after the season of Advent and Christmas. Like the temperatures of my blanket I feel over the next few weeks we move rather swiftly into a different mood or mode.

As we had just recovered from Christmas and had a few long sleeps a clergy friend of mine asked 'who ordered Lent for next month?' I could not quite believe it. Yes, we journey from the awe, wonder and delight of Christmas into the sombre and reflective season of Lent in the blink of an eye. I wonder what colour you would pick for the day that is Ash Wednesday and Valentine's day combined?

Now that is a swift journey between moods isn't it? Sometimes it can be hard to travel the journey of the church calendar but I would really encourage you to get involved if you can. Easter is early this year but taking the time to step out and inward through this season before really does make the Easter story come alive and full of meaning.

How will you be spending Lent? Why not find a different way of praying or meditating? Perhaps you want to commit to coming to our Wednesday communion service for a moment of quiet

in your week.

Why not combine an activity with dedicated time of seeking God in the world around you and in your life?

You might decide you would like to join our Lent book group which meets on Wednesday after the communion service of a soup lunch and discussion on the chosen book (do ask for details).

However you enter into this season I pray that you can be in and really find God in the wilderness on the approach to Holy Week.

Bee

From the Editor

Welcome to the February edition (700th) of the magazine. There are a large variety of articles from many contributors and details of fun events.

John Higgins continues his series on the history of the church and Peter Merrill focuses on another of the memorials within the church.

As always there are a number of requests for help, without which our church and Christian Community would not survive - Cleaning, Children's Society, Lifeline Debt and Hall refurbishment.

cont....

We also look back to minutes of a PCC meeting in 2012 when fundraising and work was to begin on re-roofing the Nave and Side Aisles.

Throughout the previous year your PCC have been investigating how the leaks in the Vicar's vestry, which is now unusable when it rains, and the Bradwall Chapel can be stopped. They are awaiting a response from the Diocese.

Regular events and services		
Mondays	9.00 am	Tiddlers
Tuesday & Thursday	9.30 am	Morning Prayer in church
Tuesdays	7.00 pm	Prayer Meeting in church
Wednesdays	11.00 am	Holy Communion. After service, during Lent lunch followed by book group
Thursdays	9.00 am	Thursday Teas (except first Thursday of month)
Fridays	5.15 pm	Choir Practice - contact Kevin Birch (760778)
First Thursday of the month	10.30 am	Bereavement Group - contact Bee for details
First Sunday of the month	9.00 am	Music group practice before the service - contact Heather Bottomley (768744)

Coffee Rota	
4th February	Stella Craven and Angela Speedy
11th February	Kath Davies and Kath Beech
18th February	Janet Hides and Ellie Palfreman
25th February	Jim Thompson and Iris Kenilworth





Saturday 3rd February
Church Hall
7 pm

£5 per person for the night

Hot drinks and cakes available - donation on
the night

Raffle

Tickets from John and Heather, Thursday Teas,
Church and the Office

Is Christmas over?

Many people take down all their Christmas decorations on Boxing Day because they consider Christmas is finished - some say it is because they were fed up with the decorations, after all, they had been up since the end of October!

Sadly, these people, and many others, are missing the point of Christmas which is a Christian celebration to mark the first coming to Earth of God's only Son, Jesus.

Unfortunately, there is a great deal of confusion about the actual length of the Christmas season. Some church traditions recognise the Epiphany on 6th January, with the following Sunday celebrating the Baptism of Christ, as being the end of Christmas, while Eastern Church traditions tend to give the Christmas season 40 days in line with the 40 days of Lent.

Generally, the seasons in liturgical western Christianity

are Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time (Time after Epiphany), Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time (Time after Pentecost).

The 40 day Christmas season concludes with Candlemas (2nd February) which is also known as the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus Christ, the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or the Feast of the Holy Encounter. It commemorates the presentation of Jesus at the Temple as described in Luke



2:22–40. It was also the day, in years gone by when churches were lit by candles, that the candles to be burned in the coming year were purchased and blessed, hence the special service of Candlemas. The coming of electricity reduced the need for such huge supply of candles – and it also destroyed the local candlestick making industry!

To add to the confusion, some churches today mark Candlemas with a Christingle

service, the central candle of the Christingle representing the ‘light’ that the birth of Jesus brought into the world and which fits in well with the ‘Presentation of Christ in the Temple’, while other churches celebrate Christingle as part of their Christmas celebrations during December.

There is no right or wrong timing for Christingle, it is all down to our local liturgical calendar.

Sandbach concert series

Tickets: Adults: £12.00
Snr Citizens/
Concessions: £11.00
School Children: £3.00
Family Ticket : £25.00
Doors Open 6.30 pm

Wednesday 28th FEB 7 pm
Trish Clowes and Ross Stanley
A Jazz Duo

St Mary's Church Hall

and spotlight concert with local young musicians

www.sandbach-concert-series.co.uk

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

Tickets available on the door (cash only) or via WeGotTickets.

Looking for Volunteers

Lifeline debt advice now comes under the auspices of Community Money Advice, which is based in Shrewsbury. This change means that in Sandbach we provide a Money Mentor Service rather than actually debt advisers, which makes the role much less onerous.

Money Mentors act as a bridge between the client and the Community Money Advice hub. They collect all the information needed from the client in order to compile an income and expenditure sheet before sending the information on to the debt advisers at the hub in Shrewsbury.

The hub then gives the advice to the client.

We are seeking for more volunteers to be trained as Money Mentors and then be able to commit to a few hours of work per week, usually one morning a week but that can be flexible.

For more information please contact Kath Cliffe -
07747808874

Children's Society Boxes

Please could you bring your Children's Society boxes into church for counting.



If you have not got a box and would like one then please contact one of the church wardens.

Last year Stella Craven retired from this role after many years service. Currently the church wardens will cover this role but rather than increase their already hectic workload, we would really appreciate someone coming forward to co-ordinate this yearly event. It's not a big chore!

Outreach - 2023 Update

Over the past year we have been supporting the charity Water Aid and I am pleased to report that we are able to send them a cheque for £700.

The main objective of Water Aid is to bring clean water supplies and decent sanitation to people who would otherwise be left to collect water from a nearby source in which they may also wash themselves. In many communities their only water supply is from an unreliable bore hole which during drought conditions frequently runs dry. For families in this situation several visits will be needed each day to collect their water using a variety of plastic containers from their nearest water source which may be quite some distance from their communities. Quite a difficult scenario for people living in Sandbach to envisage where the average person uses 150 litres of clean

water a day and would unlikely be keen to wash in the Arclid Brook! Although not so long ago the water supply for Sandbach was based on the Dingle Lake now used for fishing.

Water Aid started in 1981 when they worked in just two countries namely Zambia and Sri Lanka. The number of countries has expanded covering 15 countries with supplies of clean water and decent toilets now reaching 27 million people and with this better hygiene they are able to avoid many of the dangerous waterborne diseases. Notwithstanding the hard work of the charity to bring these benefits there is an increasing number of countries, such as in the Horn of Africa, where the fundamental problem of insufficient rain makes sourcing the water more and more difficult. Therefore



donations to this charity are essential to maintain the improvements achieved so far.

Our next chosen charity is a little nearer to home and this year we will be supporting Petty Poole College which is based in Sandiway Northwich providing educational needs to approximately 100 young adults with a whole range of learning difficulties and

disabilities.

A big thank you to all those members of St Mary's who have helped with the coffee on Sunday morning in particular Jim Thompson; this being our main source of outreach funding. Please let Brian Day know of any charity you would like St Mary's to support in the future.

Brian Day

Ready for Spring

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to refurbishing the exterior of the church hall. The response has been very good and so far we have funds to refurbish:

16/20 large windows. 6/8 small windows. 3/3 large doors and 1/3 small doors.

The small team of volunteers are now in a really good position to recommence the outside work. All we need now is some decent weather.

If anyone is interested in helping with the painting could you please contact Brian Day (763716) or John Bottomley (768744).

giftaid

The next evensong is at the winter time of 3.30 pm:

Sunday 18th February

This article was written by Bob Peters (Association of Church Editors) and follows on nicely after Bee's letter.

The Season of Lent suddenly, all this is taken

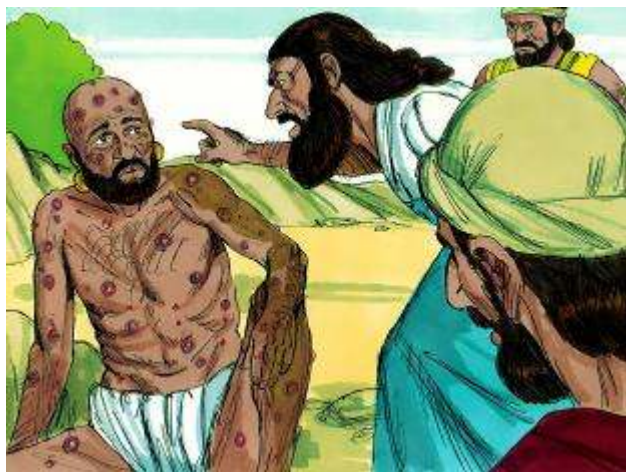
During Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday (14th February), we are called to take ourselves out of the comfortable zones we live in and experience discomfort to enable us to grow closer to God.

A good Biblical example of this is the Book of Job, written 500-600 years before Christ. Job enjoyed a very comfortable life for his time. He lived according to the ways of God and was subsequently blessed because of his righteousness.

He enjoyed good health, had a large happy family, and was one of the wealthiest men on earth with lots of land, huge herds of different animals, plentiful crops, and many willing servants. However,

away from him, and he experiences the most uncomfortable life imaginable.

Job, however, gets advice from his close friends who, like him, were God-fearing people. It's not a comfortable story to read, which makes it ideal for Lent because it can take you out of your comfort zone. His agony and lack of comforting words from his, at times, non-sympathetic friends, leads Job to seek help from God.



Sweet Publishing / FreeBibleimages.org

Today, we are more fortunate than Job because we have an arbitrator to seek help from, to comfort us and guide us through life. In fact, we don't have one, but two, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, who are one with God. But, even so, as followers of Jesus, we need to understand that our lives are not necessarily going to be comfortable all the time.

Like Job we have to learn to take the rough with the smooth because it is through the bad times that we can recognise the joy of the good times.

In his second letter to the Christians in Corinth, Paul tells us that we have to expect, as he did, to face hardships so that we can appreciate the joyful times – *'sorrowful, yet always rejoicing, poor yet making many rich,*

having nothing and yet possessing everything.'

The possessions that Paul refers to are not the worldly possessions we associate with Job, but the heavenly possessions that we can read about in Matthew's gospel:

'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'

This Lent, try not to do only those things designed to comfort you personally, such as changing your diet or taking more exercise, but seek to store up treasure in heaven by doing some of those things that make you feel uncomfortable but that will bring joy to others.

It's not what you gather, but what you scatter
that tells what kind of life you have

Come and join the Cleaning Group... we'd love to see you!

The cleaning group has recently been launched and is a monthly event to spruce up our wonderful Church, so as to do it proud, and appear welcoming to those who choose to visit and worship here.

St Mary's is a very special Church, both to ourselves, and to the community in Sandbach, and we are very fortunate to have this old and beautiful building at the heart of our Worship.

There are many ways we can live out our faith and to give service so be assured of a very warm welcome if you should feel able to come and join us in giving your precious time and talents.

We provide the tools, the coffee and the biscuits!

We would also like to thank the PCC for the lovely new vacuum cleaner which will enable us to do a really good job.



The next date for the diary is;

Thursday 1st February at 10am

Ruth Filletti

Candlemas Luke 2:25-32

Lord, now let your servant depart
In peace, desire of my heart
I have seen in your child Jesus
Born a Saviour unto us

So said Simeon in the Temple
He did true hear the Lord's call
That he would not this earth leave till
God did his promise did fulfil

'Twas that Simeon would see clear
The Lord's Christ, anointed, dear
Simeon took him in his arms
Gone now any doubts or qualms

He said, my eyes they have now seen
Your salvation, Lord, between
You and man you have provided
Salvation, as you have said

You have your Son prepared before
The face of all people, for
He a light to Gentiles lighten
Israel's glory revealed then

St Mary's Music Group

Any musicians who would like to join the music group please give Heather a call (768744) for more information.



We play the first Sunday of the month at 10 am with a practice earlier in the week.

QUIZ NIGHT



Saturday 9th March

7pm in the Hall

Join a team on arrival
(maximum 6 players)

Please bring your own snacks and drinks

Raffle

Tickets £5

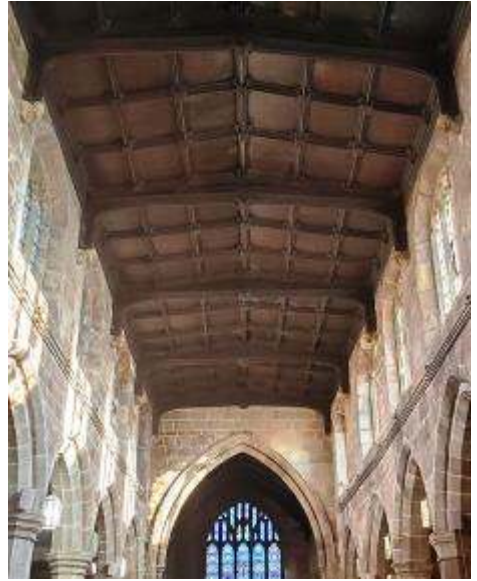
Tickets from Wardens, Thursday Teas
or Church Office

Open your eyes and look up.

I suspect that if visitors to the church were asked what they thought about the roof (ceiling), most would have to admit that they hadn't looked up. But up there are fine examples of woodwork which is older than nearly all the other woodwork in the church.

George Gilbert Scott's restoration of the church in 1847-49 included an instruction to the builder "to restore the roofs of the nave and aisles for the sum of £1,000" but no details exist which describe what was done, apart from re-leading the exterior. It may be that the inside of the roof was not altered greatly. He would, of course, have to put new roofs on the extension – the chancel and side chapels.

The timber roof is divided into square panels, with moulded sides and there are carved bosses (a decorated "knob") at the intersections. This was a distinctive feature



of many roofs in the medieval period. The evidence points to the roof being restored or replaced in the 17th century. New roofs were also constructed at Astbury and Barthomley around the same time.

An article in an architectural journal, written in 1846 – before Scott started his extensive restoration - says that the date when sections of the roof were completed is carved at intervals along the cornice (a carved moulding just below the roof) in the side aisles. The earliest is 1620 and the carpenter is

Ralph Sutton. Another indicates work done between 1638 and 1639 and the churchwarden is Rarmdell Lingard and another indicates 1661. The article says “the record closes not long before

the inscription “John Broome, Thomas Broome, Churchwardens. Ano Dmi 1661”. Whether this was originally the piece of cornice referred to bearing the date 1661, or had some other purpose, is not known.



In the north aisle roof there is an elaborately carved coat of arms of the Leversage family, lords of the manor of Wheelock from the 15th century. This is above where the original Wheelock Chapel was located before Scott moved it forward into his extension and is now named the Memorial

Chapel. 1688”. Nearly all the cornice has since been removed, but if you have a high-powered torch you can make out “1633” carved in a roof bracket just above the door to the south porch.

In the clergy vestry can be found some elaborately carved oak in use as a bookcase with



Along the length of the nave and of the north aisle, the oak roof brackets can be seen resting on stone supports (called corbels) projecting out from the wall which have been sculpted to represent the head of a person. In the chancel, above the choir stalls can be seen another six – bigger and more elaborate and placed at the intersection of the stone arches. Whilst the ones above the nave and the north aisle are likely to be in their original position and date from the 17th century restoration or earlier, the ones in the chancel are something of a mystery. They were obviously placed there by Scott but where did they come from?

It has been suggested that they are 13th century and that they represent Queen Berengaria, Edward I, Richard I (on the north wall) and Stephen Langton, Roger Bacon and Simon de Montfort (on the south). This is a complex answer to the question and there is a



simpler one. Everything else in the chancel - the stonework, the woodwork, etc. - was designed and built by Scott as copies of the Perpendicular Gothic style, so why not instruct the masons to carve six new stone figureheads, as they obviously did for the south porch? Just a thought.

Next time you are in church, spare a moment to look up. And if you end up with vertigo, let me know: I can recommend a good physiotherapist.

John Higgins

St Mary's Events



* **Saturday 3rd February**

Bingo night

* **Saturday 9th March**

Quiz Night

* **Saturday 4th May**

Ceilidh

If anyone would like to organise a social or fundraising event then please book the Hall through the office.

Lord God, you are the source of everlasting light.

Your son, our beloved Lord Jesus
was presented in the temple 40 days after his birth.

He was recognised by Simeon and Anna,
and welcomed as the promised Messiah.

May we like them, behold the glory of the Lord Jesus.

Grant that we may stand before you
with hearts cleansed by your forgiving love.

May we serve you all our days
and make your name known
as we worship you as our Lord.

So may we come by your grace
to eternal life. **Amen.**

Are you going soft on plastics?

Bag it, bin it, recycle it!

If you open your kitchen cupboard you will see packaging galore made of soft plastic – bread bags, pasta packets, biscuit wrappings, crisp bags, cereal liners, bubble wrap, carrier bags, etc., etc. But soft plastics are some of the most difficult to recycle, frequently contaminated with food and often made from different types of plastic that are not easy to recycle.

Most will have a symbol saying “Not yet recycled” or “Don’t recycle at home”. You shouldn’t put them in your silver bin - they will end up in landfill – but you can send them for recycling. IT’S EASY! Take them to your local supermarket! For some time it was only the Co-op which provided this service but you will now find soft plastic collection bins at Waitrose and Aldi in Sandbach– and others nearby you will know about.

Keep a bread bag, put your soft (and clean) plastics in there and when it’s full, drop it off next time you are in the store. (You don’t even need to be one of their regular customers.)

Our recycling scheme for blister packaging for tablets has been a great success, thanks to Eric Cowcill. Let us do our bit to SAVE THE PLANET by recycling soft plastic.

John Higgins



What's happened in the last 13 years

This sixth article, looking back into the recent history of the magazine, looks to a PCC meeting precis in the April 2012 edition.

NOTES FROM THE PCC MEETING

Rev Thomas Shepherd presided and 11 members attended with 4 apologies.

New Notice boards have been purchased and are now in place. The Financial results are complete subject to the examiner's certificate. 10% of the profit on the church income will be given to a charity chosen by the Outreach committee.

Preliminary measured survey drawings of the Nave and Aisle roofs are now complete and together with photographic evidence are being issued to English Heritage and Cheshire East Council. Urgent repairs are needed to the church hall roof, gutters and brickwork. At present an independent adviser is being sought.

On the 24th June Ministers of the town will exchange pulpits. Members of Wesley Avenue church will join us on Maundy Thursday. On 1st July Lynn Cullen will be ordained in Chester Cathedral at 11am. It is hoped that some members of St Mary will support her at this service.



The Annual Church Meeting will take place on Sunday **29th April** followed by a Faith Lunch.

Sylvia Watkins - Sec

Charles Ernest

Charles Ernest was born on 9th January 1880, (baptised 28th March) to Sarah and John William Minshaw, the youngest of 8 children. His father was a Chelsea pensioner having served in the Royal Navy and the family were living at 23 Verdin Street, Witton cum Twambrooks, Northwich.

By 1891, the family had moved home and were living at Brook Cottage, Factory Lane, Sandbach. His father had returned to work and was employed as a Shipping Clerk at the local chemical works and on 19th September 1893, 13-year-old Charles enrolled into Sandbach Grammar school.

On his 18th birthday Charles joined the Royal Navy 'signing-up' for 12 years' service.

His service record shows that from January 1885 to May 1896, he underwent basic training on board the training ships HMS Caledonia and HMS Boscawen, this included being trained alongside Royal Marines for land-based military action in either small detachments or larger units known as Naval Brigades. His end of course



report indicates that his character was very good.

His first tour of duty was six months aboard the cruiser HMS Galatea from May to October 1896, followed by the corvettes HMS Champion between October 1896 to May 1897.

Charles then spent two weeks (26th May to 7th June 1897) on another training vessels HMS Pembroke before joining the crew as an Ordinary Seaman on the newly commissioned HMS Powerful on 8th June.

Powerful was a protected cruiser and the lead ship of her class. Her first tour of duty was a year with the 'China Station' command, which had as its area

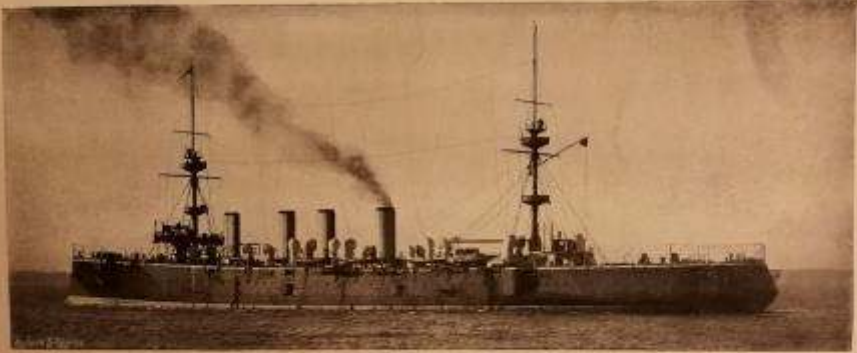


Photo. W. & A. G. & Co.

H.M. FIRST-CLASS CRUISER "POWERFUL"

Bathurst

of responsibility the coasts of China, its navigable rivers, the western part of the Pacific Ocean and the waters around the Dutch East Indies. The fleet formation had bases in Singapore, Hong Kong and at Wei Hai (at Liugong Island).

In September 1898, HMS Powerful came to the end of her tour of duty in the China Station and was due to be relieved by her sister ship HMS Terrible. HMS Powerful departed Hong Kong on 17th September but instead of taking the shorter route back to England through the Suez Canal she was ordered to travel via Mauritius, around the southern tip of Africa and meet HMS Terrible at the naval base

at Simonstown (Simon's Town) near Cape Town.

Around the same time as HMS Powerful was coming to the end of her tour of duty the rising tensions between the British and Boers in South Africa had escalated and the British army were under attack in the province of Natal and were being forced to retreat into its townships. It was against this background that HMS's Powerful and Terrible were diverted to Simonstown.

A key location in the Natal Province was the town of Ladysmith, known by the troops as the '*Aldershot of Natal*', and it had been the principle British supply base and training ground since 1897. However, it

was considered by many as a poor location for a military garrison in time of war because it was unsuitable for fortification. It was also a town known for its typhoid outbreaks.

The Commander of the troops in Natal was Lieutenant General White and by 11th October the Boers had forced his military column into the town of KwaZulu-Natal and another column under the command of Major General Yule was in retreat from the town of Dundee and was making its way to Ladysmith.

A few days later on 13th October HMS Powerful arrived in Simonstown having departed Mauritius with half a battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. The following day her sister ship HMS Terrible arrived in port and the next day on 15th October 1898, the Second Boer War began.

By then it was becoming clear to General White that if the Boers advance was not stopped the only remaining town under British control was Ladysmith and if it were to be occupied by the enemy then the war would be lost. So, on 25th October General White sent a telegram

to Simonstown requesting additional personnel and long-range artillery to reinforce his own artillery at Ladysmith. Immediately HMS Powerful organised a Naval Brigade consisting of 283 officers and men including Charles and ferried them and their artillery to the port of Durban where they travelled overnight to Ladysmith by train arriving at 6am on 30th October where they immediately came under attack from the Boer artillery who were attempting to besiege the town.

Whilst the Naval Brigade were making their way to Ladysmith on 26th October General Yule's column had arrived in the town and then on 2nd November General White's troops who had been forced out of KwaZulu-Natal also retired to the town and on that day telegraph communications were cut, and the garrison became isolated.

Rather than attack the town, the Boers tactic was to starve and bombard Ladysmith into surrender. It was expected to be a long siege as the garrison had two months' supply of food at normal consumption. The biggest problems for the

inhabitants were poor sanitation and the lack of a clean water supply as the town was dependent on purifying the muddy water from the Klip river. It was also very hot, with the daytime temperature described as unbearable with plagues of flies covering everything.

Conditions within the besieged town at first were not too bad. Despite daily shelling there were relatively few casualties, food was edible, and they even held sports events to keep the troops occupied and to prevent boredom.

But by January the coal needed to fuel the water condensers had been used-up and the lack of clean water and the poor sanitary conditions meant that of the 13,500 troops in the town only 9,500 were fit for duty with most suffering from enteric fever also known as Typhoid or dysentery.

In February the horses were killed for food and the number of new enteric and dysentery cases was rising, so much so that when the town was eventually relieved on 28th February there had been 10,673 cases of fever during the siege and 551 men had died.

Of the 283 men of the Naval Brigade 33 died from Typhoid and just six from enemy action. Amongst the casualties was Charles who died from fever on 25th February.

There was considerable national pride in the role of HMS Powerful and the Naval Brigade had provided at Ladysmith and the 'heroes of Ladysmith' were commemorated on monuments such as the HMS Powerful obelisk in Victoria Park in Portsmouth and on individual memorial tablets in churches across the land such as ours.

Peter Merrill

Regiment, died of dysentery, 24th.
The Secretary of the Admiralty informs us that Ordinary Seaman Charles Ernest Minshaw, 182,623, of her Majesty's ship Powerful, died of enteric fever at Ladysmith on Feb. 25.

London Evening standard 2nd March 1900

From the Archives



This month we are in the centre of town looking at Iceland with the Cod father on the right. In the lower image we are back to 1975 when the first occupants of this building were Tesco, with Hayden's (menswear) and Ash and Nephew (off-licence) next door. On the corner of the square, at this time; Williams and Glyn's Bank, Eachus (printers and stationery) and Shaws (painting and decorating). **Stephen Minshull**

A Yorkshire Genesis by Mike O 'Dowd

In't beginning there was nowt
and God said "Let theer be leet" and there was leet
And he could see fer miles.

On't fust day God created Yorkshire,
and he looked, and he sayeth, "It is good."

On't second day He created t'beeasts of t'field
and t'air – whippets, lurchers and pigeons –
And he sayeth "It is good"

On't third day he created Yorkshireman,
who was strong in t'arm and
could call a spade a shovel,
ter hold dominion over Yorkshire and
beeasts of t'field and t'fowls in t'air
and ter look out for Yorkshire,
and He sayeth "It is good ".

On't fourth day he created Yorkshirelass,
who were fair of face and strong in t'arm,
who could make Yorkshire puds,
and skivvy for Yorkshireman.
And he sayeth "It is good".

On't fifth day he created the oceans,
the fairest being t'North Sea,
thet filled the coastline of Yorkshire
with unlimited beauty and provided fish
for Yorkshireman and his Lass.
And he sayeth "It is good"

On't sixth day he created the rest of the world
and as he was running out of ideas
he created Lancashire.
And he looked, and he looked again
And he sayeth "By heck, after all this work
I think I need a day off."

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Challenge

If you have any information or events that need publicising, or you would like to write an article, please contact the editor.

Articles must be received by **Sunday 18th February**

www.stmaryschurchsandbach.org

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