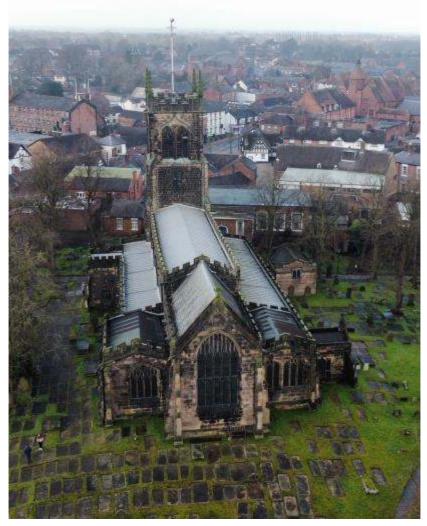
CHALLENGE



The Parish Magazine of St Mary Sandbach

June 2023 50p

Volume 59 No 693

Individual help **Heather Bottomley** hb-abillTv

Internet E-mail **Word Processing Spreadsheets** Tablets and iPads Smart phones

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MARY June 2023

Sunday 4th June Trinity Sunday	8.00 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion Family Worship and Baptism
Sunday 11th June Trinity 1	8.00 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion Parish Eucharist
Sunday 18th June Trinity 2	8.00 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion Family Worship and Communion
Sunday 25th June Trinity 3	8.00 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Parish Eucharist Choral Evensong
Sunday 2nd July Trinity 4	8.00 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion Family Worship

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

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

Vicar's Report - from the Annual Meeting

t's been another great year in the life of St Mary's church, with much to be thankful for whilst also acknowledging some of the challenges we have faced.

Something that has been confirmed to me several times over the course of this year is how well we mark special occasions both with reverence and celebration. We are a community that is opening its doors wider to the people of the parish and we are seeing the uptake of that invite increase with time.

Over the past year we have celebrated the Queen's Jubilee, Christmas, Easter, special Evensongs, weddings, many baptisms and most recently the Coronation of King Charles III. All these were celebrated with joyful worship, music and community events, often including food! Thank you for the times we have shared the good in life.

We have also held moments

of solemn respect and grief together, thinking particularly of the Queen's death and subsequent mourning time but also of the annual All Souls service, our Quiet Christmas Service and the many funerals held here. Church should be a place where we rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep (Romans 12:15), and we do that well and offer space for everybody to join us. We continually seek to strengthen these aspects of church life and to be an anchor for the times when people need this in their life.

We had a fruitful away morning with the PCC to think about our mission and vision, and although we have not formed any specific wording or documentation from that day, it was incredibly useful for me, particularly, to get a clearer understanding of the views and desires we hold for St Mary's and God's Kingdom. Please continue to pray for the

PCC and especially any new members joining, that they may be able to discern with me what God is calling us to and how we can help this place to grow in all areas.

We have had another brilliant year working alongside and encouraging each other in Church Together in Sandbach. This has proved to be of great value to me and something that we should nurture and continue to invest in. This year saw the start-up of the Pantry, working separately but alongside the Foodbank. Of course it is desperately sad that these enterprises are needed and I am so grateful that together we can offer them. In July we say farewell to Rev. Jeremy Tresise, His commitment and care have been much appreciated and I do hope that we can continue our friendship with the Methodist church going forward.

The Lord is gradually adding to our numbers and it is wonderful to see new faces

become regular members and joining in the life of the church. In the year ahead we will be asking how we can invite and encourage others to explore faith and worship with us. Do speak to me if you have any ideas or get a sense of how you might serve, whether you are new or wish to be involved in any aspects of church life.

The cost-of-living crisis has had a great effect on so many people and businesses in the area and we too have felt the squeeze. I am so thankful for all the work that has been done by Brian Day and John Bottomley with regard to studying the way we use our energy and how we can make much needed savings. You can read more about that in their report.

The other issues we have faced have been with the fabric of the building, having come through Covid this year we have been doing some evaluating and now are concentrating on prioritising works needing to be done on

both Church and Hall. Again, I am thankful to all those who are involved and I know there are many people in the local community who are also showing willingness to help us get some of the work achieved well and reasonably.

It is only right to mention with sadness that we welcomed Jayne Manfredi as our curate and unfortunately this was not to work out. It was an incredible affirmation of all that is happening at St Mary's that we were considered to be a placement church. We pray for Jayne and her family as they continue to discern what is next for them. As we work through our own sadness and disappointment, we trust God and pray that we might have further opportunities to welcome curates among us in

the future.

As we start the year ahead, I am looking forward to finding more ways to study the bible in greater depth together, to reading and sharing more in book group and exploring ways to provide contemporary worship whilst continuing to treasure and develop the traditions and services we already hold dear.

Thank you to Ruth and Sheenagh for their hard work and care and for PCC for your willingness to carry the responsibilities with me.

I am grateful to each of you for all your wisdom, support and fellowship.

Please be praying for me as I pray for you.

May we always seek God's guidance and provision in all that we do. **Bee**

	Coffee Rota
4th June	Jean Richardson and J Williams
11th June	Stella Craven and Angela Speedy
18th June	Kath Davies and Kath Beech
25th June	Janet Hides and Christine Hirst
2nd July	Jim Thompson

From the Editor

From the This month is all about events, in the past and in the future.

The cover picture is printed with kind permission of Steven Stoker who

took it using a very large ladder.

In this Issue.....

Last Concert Series of the Season Beetle Drive Coronation Church yard Ashton-on-Mersey Show Band

Sunday Services

The Sunday 10.00 am services have recently been revised.

Family Worship - 1st Sunday. 3rd Sunday with Communion. With a more accessible service suitable for all ages.

Parish Eucharist - 2nd and 4th Sunday

For those who love the more traditional liturgy with sung responses. All ages are welcome.

Pewsheet

We are currently thinking through how we share information, news and service details. So we may ask for feedback as we try new methods in the future.

If you have any questions please get in touch with me.

Bee

Registers Baptism

May

7th Marina Lily King Stone



Regular events and services				
Tuesday &	9.30 am	Morning Prayer in church		
Thursday				
Mondays	9.00 am	Tiddlers - Praise & Play		
Tuesdays	7.00 pm	Prayer Meeting in church		
Wednesdays	11.00 am	Holy Communion		
Thursdays	9.00 am	Thursday Teas (except first		
		Thursday of month)		
Fridays	6.15 pm	Choir Practice - contact		
		Kevin Birch for details		
		(760778)		
First	10.30 am	Bereavement Group -		
Thursday of		contact Bee for details		
month		2012000		
First	9.15 am	Music group practice		
Sunday of		before Family Worship -		
the month		contact Heather Bottomley		

Food to Share

The Bring & Share Lunch, to celebrate the coronation on the7th May, was a great success.

Plenty of people came along. Fantastic food, plenty of chat



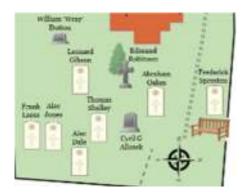
and lots of happy faces (see the photos on the next page).

The fantastic cake was made by Bee.



Spotlight on a casualty buried in St Mary's churchyard (by Pete Merrill)

with the Loyal Northern
Lancashire Regiment on the
Somme and transferred into
the Royal Flying Corps during
WWI. He died on 6th March
1918 aged 32 and is remembered on the Cobbles' War
Memorial, is registered with
the Commonwealth War
Graves Commission (CWGC)
as a war casualty and is buried
in the south-east area of St



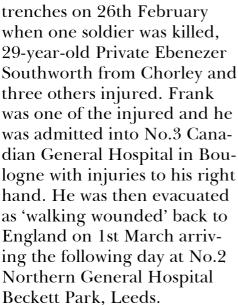
Mary's churchyard, Row 10, Grave 6.

Frank was born in 1886, to single mother Mary and he grew-up living with her and his Grandparents on Church Street, Sandbach. On leaving school he worked alongside his grandfather as a Brick Setters Labourer and when he enlisted into the army on 5th October 1916, he declared his occupation as a Market Gardener.

He first joined the 4/5 battalion of the Loyal Northern Lancashire Regiment (L.N.Lan.R). He was allocated the service number 244650 and was sent to Blackdown near Aldershot for basic training. After four months the battalion was sent to the western front in February 1917, to provide replacements for troops who had been killed and wounded on the Somme.

On 12th February 24 officers and 826 other ranks embarked from Folkestone to Boulogne where they joined the 51st Highland Division (the Lancashire Brigade had merged with the division the previous year). By 19th February the battalion were in the trenches at Fleurbaix in an area known then as Rough-de-Bout near the town of Ottersteene – the CWGC cemetery there is called Rue-Du-Bois.

The battalion's war diary reports that their first casualties came following an artillery bombardment and an attack on the German



Frank's injuries were principally to the fingers on his right hand, which resulted in his military fitness level being downgraded to B2. It appears from his service records that he then spent the next year in



England recuperating and because of his injuries had been expecting to be discharged. However, on 20th February 1918, he was trans-

ferred to the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) and allocated the Service Number 135053.

Two weeks later whilst undergoing training at Salamanca Barracks, Aldershot he was discovered in a latrine with his throat cut. He was taken to Aldershot's Cambridge Hospital where he died.

Frank's inquest heard evidence that he was worried because he did not get his discharge and that on several occasions, he had told fellow recruits that he was "fed up" and that he was going to do away with himself. The inquest ruled that his death was suicide whilst of unsound mind.

Ambitious people climb, but faithful people build. (Julia Ward Howe)

St Mary's Events



- Saturday 15th July 7:30pm
 Ashton-on-Mersey
 Showband
- * Sunday 30th July 12:30pm Summer Lunch
- Saturday 28th October
 Autumn Fair

If anyone would like to organise a social or fundraising event then please discuss your idea with Bee and book the Hall through the office.

Prayer for June 2023

Dear Father,

As we come to this beautiful time of year, the month of June, we thank you for the wonder of your creation and the way our spirits are lifted as we see all around us the freshness of a new summer.

This month we remember Barnabas, whose name means, *child of encouragement*. He was a good person, full of the Holy Spirit and faith. Lord, help each of us to be a *Barnabas* to someone today, to encourage and lift up, led by your Holy Spirit and full of faith.

Help us to share your love and goodness, especially with those whose circumstances are difficult. Help us all to trust you through good times and testing times, knowing you are always with us, always encouraging us, always faithful.

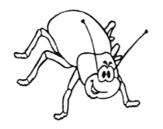
In Jesus' name.

Amen

By Daphne Kitching



St Mary's Church Sandbach



Beetle Drive

In St Mary's Church Hall

Saturday 10th June 2023

Tea / coffee and cake

Time 7.00 pm

Tickets. £6.00

Raffle.

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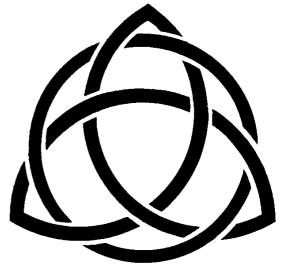
God - the Three in One

This month we celebrate Trinity Sunday. The doctrine of the Trinity is one of the most important of the Christian faith, for it goes to the very heart of what God is like. The Bible is quite clear: there is one God, but He is revealed in three 'persons' – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever wondered at what point in the Bible God is revealed as being more than one person? Well, you don't

have to read very far: only to Genesis 1:26, where God (Elohim – a plural noun) says: Let US make man in OUR image. (Gen. 1:26)

The Bible reveals a pattern: God the Father lives in heaven and has never been seen. God the Son became the incarnate Jesus Christ, who made known to us the Father,



and God the Holy Spirit, who is unseen, has been sent to live within and to equip His people, the Church.

The Trinity is basic to our salvation – for these three persons in the one Godhead have combined to save us from our sins: it is the WILL of the Father, the saving WORK of the Son, and the indwelling WITNESS of the Holy Spirit. (John 14:16, 23-26).

God is there whenever a human heart welcomes him in

Why is my Bible different from yours?

K V Beaumont.

Part 4 The Authorised Version

n our study of the Bible's history last month we reached the turn of the sixteenth and seventeenth century. We had a new king on the throne in James 1st of England who was anxious not to get dragged into the kind of religious disputes that had caused the demise of his mother Mary Queen of Scots some years earlier.

The Hampton Court Conference of 1604 had been intended to resolve many of

the difficulties between the various religious factions, the only concrete outcome was that it was decided "that a translation be made of the whole

Bible, as constant as can be to the original Hebrew and Greek: and this to be set out and printed, without any marginal notes, and only to be used in all Churches of England in time of Divine service"

The translation had been suggested by Dr John Reynolds from Oxford and one of the greatest scholars of his day. Whilst some of the bishops were unhappy, James was really behind the project and it was he who insisted on no marginal notes. These were not notes of explanation rather partisan comments on particular verses. James believed that the notes in the Geneva Bible were" very

partial, untrue, seditious and savouring too much of dangerous and traitorous conceits" One comment in the Geneva Bible

which really upset him was about 2 Chronicles 15v 16 which suggested the King's mother should have been executed, clearly not a topic to gain Jame's support.

James took a huge part in organising the work, which involved 47 scholars meeting in Oxford, Cambridge and Westminster not only translated the Old and New Testaments buy the Apocrypha too. Once this work was done it was reassessed by smaller groups.

James himself set some important rules in relation to the work. Proper names were given their forms in common use and also the same name was used through out the work, yet in one case Elijah in the Old Testament became Elias in the New.

Old ecclesiastical words were to be used instead of more modern equivalents thus church was used not congregation and the aim as stated by the translators in their notes to readers was to avoid the extremes represented by "popish persons at home or

abroad" and "self conceited Brethren of Puritan outlook or non conformist temper". Chapters were given headings which today might cause theological debate but then were acceptable to all.

Having gained the authority of the King and the Privy Council the translation was published in 1611, in all three parts: Old & New Testament and Apocrypha. Indeed in 1615, it was made a criminal offence to print a version without the Apocrypha, although this was overturned in 1644 and the Westminster

Confession of 1647 clearly stated that the Apocrypha was not part of canon. The situation from then on has remained unclear forwhen in

1902 the Bible Society wished to present a copy of the Bible to the new King for use in his Coronation without the Apocrypha the then Archbishop of Canterbury refused it on the grounds that "a mutilated Bible was unacceptable"

The translation itself has a poetical sense and flow because as the translators themselves said "they did not tie themselves to a uniformity of phrasing, or to an identity of words". In other words they used the variety of meaning that is within both Greek and Hebrew words when they produced an English translation.

There were no serious contenders to the position of the Authorised version for almost three hundred years and that says much about its value. With the changes which have taken place in the English language however, it is now less used than it was and there are many more up to date translations as we shall

see in future articles. However, in my view there are none which match the grandeur of the language of

the Authorised Version.

As a final thought many of us who have ever learnt scripture by rote will I suggest, have learnt the Authorised Version, it was always more easy to remember.

The translators wanted the reader to "harken when God speaketh to us" and to read the Word of God set before us in order " that we might know him and serve him that we might be acknowledged of him when he appears". A prayer which the Authorised version continues to help answer to this day.

Calligraphy

We are looking for somebody skilled in calligraphy. The church book of remembrance, which is always on display at the back of church needs updating.

Please contact **Sheenagh** if you can help.

Churchyard Maintenance

The church yard surrounding St Marys provides the perfect setting for the impressive church building sited on the top of a mound. When additional burial space was required in the 19th century, land to the east was acquired requiring the demolition of several cottages in Front Street and the termination of Front Street as we see it today which had originally met the High Street near the South Gate.

The graveyard extension was carried out in 1876 requiring a large amount of infill with the massive walls on the north and east boundaries constructed of local stone. The lime trees planted about a hundred years ago were placed around the perimeter of the churchyard and also either side of the main path leading from the High Street and Crown Bank. These were intended with regular pruning to outline the main areas

surrounding the church but instead they have been allowed to grow to such an extent that during the summer they nearly completely obscure the church and cause problems due to the accumulation of leaves in the church gutters. However early in the year, the blanket of spring bulbs beneath these leafless lime trees is a beautiful sight on a bright sunny cold morning.

The churchyard takes a large amount of effort to keep it looking tidy all year. It is not an easy site to maintain with significant slopes in all directions denying any use of ordinary mowing machines. Regularly weekly maintenance is carried out by a team of between 5 and 10 people from the Probation Service who, depending on the time of year, cut the grass which is quite tricky with all the various memorial structures throughout the graveyard requiring local cutting using hand held and machine mounted strimmers. During

the autumn they concentrate on clearing all the leaves and fallen branches and each year the arboreal growth around the base of each tree requires pruning. Whilst there is no charge for the weekly Probation Service team, St Mary's is expected to frequently supply expensive equipment for their use.

The paths leading up to church are mainly kept tidy thanks to Martin Colley who meticulously clears the weeds from between the flag stones each week. Also painting of the railings around the grave yard has been undertaken in the past by a team lead by Keith Merry.

Recently we found one of the trees overlooking Crown Bank was diseased and required felling which was undertaken at the beginning of April. The photos show this is progress – 'going



going gone'

Interestingly we have the same problem of the lack of space in the churchyard as they did in the 19th century with the current Remembrance Garden completely full. To provide some facility for the disposal of ashes close to church, we are planning to construct a small garden of remembrance at the base of the tower. This task will be carried out by the Probation Service team and should be ready by the end of June.



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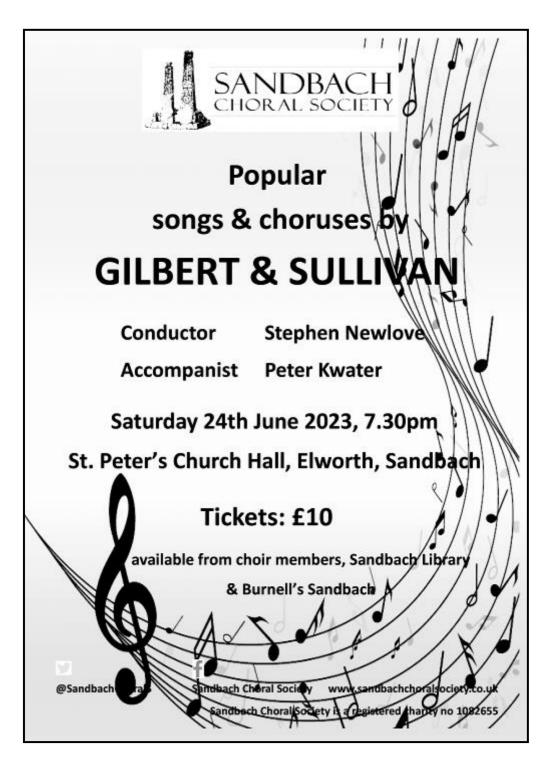
Under 12: £ 5.00

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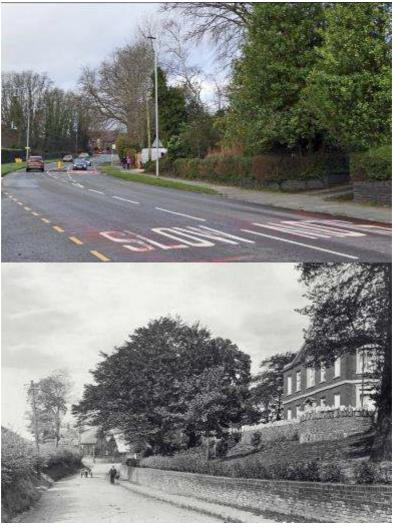
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From the Archives



This month we stay on Crewe Road in Wheelock looking up Wheelock Bank or as it used to be known Lightly Hill. In the bottom image we go back to 1910, when the road was narrower and quieter. At the top of the Hill we can see the Congregational Church built in 1892, on the left fields belonging to Lightly Farm. On the right a clear view of Wheelock House that was used in WWII to house evacuees from Belgium. **Stephen Minshull**



Church bulletin notices that didn't quite work...

- * The Revd John Adams spoke briefly, much to the delight of his audience.
- * The students will present Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' in the church on Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- * A new loudspeaker system has been installed in the church. It was given by one of our members in memory of his wife.
- * The Pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.
- * The audience is asked to remain seated until the end of the recession.

Miscellaneous observations on life

I burn about 2000 calories every time I put on fitted sheets by myself.

It's weird, being the same age as old people.

If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?

As long as there are exams, there will be prayer in schools.

Church Contacts

J.1.4. J.1. J.1.		
Vicar	Rev Bee Boyde	07872
	revbeeboyde@gmail.com	326008
Reader	Joan Plowman	768079
Churchwardens	Sheenagh Ashworth	529187
	Ruth Morrison warden.smcsandbach@gmail.com	$07411 \\ 610962$
Safeguarding	Joanna Blaiklock <u>safeguarding.smcsandbach@gmail.com</u>	$07725 \\ 989374$
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Baptisms	Ruth Morrison baptism.smcsandbach@gmail.com	$07411 \\ 610962$
Weddings	smcsandbach@gmail.com	$07771 \\ 391667$
Magazine Editor	John Bottomley jandhbottomley@gmail.com	768744

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 June

www.stmaryschurchsandbach.org

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Sunday 18th June

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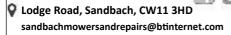


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