

February 2024

Tarporley Parish Magazine



The Done Room Renovation Project

Outside St Helen's Church;
a new board which will record our
progress towards the target sum.

ANDREW P. DEAN

Dip N.T.C., C.G.L.I., A.V.C.M.

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PARISH DIRECTORY – TARPORLEY

Services See Calendar tab on the website or page 5 in 'The Link'

Weekday Service At St Helen's each Wednesday at 10.00am Holy Communion

Rector: Jim Bridgman, Rectory, High St, Tarporley CW6 0AG **01829732491**

Email: revjimb1017@gmail.com 07526243702

Tarporley: St Helen

Churchwardens Phillip Posnett 01829260251

Liz Neely email: neelyeliza@hotmail.com 07890470899

Treasurer Dave Smithson

email tarporleyparishtreasurer@btinternet.com

P.C.C Secretary Paul Emerson 01829733147

Cotebrook: St John and the Holy Cross

Wardens Walter Gibson

Peter Copland 01829732618

Eaton: St Thomas

Warden Amelia McCourty aemccourty@btinternet.com 01829 730155

Link Editor Andy Jobson 01829732437

email jobsonajpj@btinternet.com items for 'The Link' should be emailed to the above by the 16th of the month.

Safeguarding Officer Liz Neely email StHelenssafeguarding@outlook.com

Contact points

Please do not hesitate to report cases of sickness, pastoral need to the Rector.

To make arrangements for a Funeral please contact the Rector. 01829732491

Done Room Booking Phillip Posnett 01829260251

To ask about Wedding arrangements, Baptisms or general enquiries

please contact our Rector Jim by email on

Email: revjimb1017@gmail.com

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org

SERVICES FOR THE MONTH FEBRUARY 2024

February 4th**THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John	11.15am	Holy Communion

11th**THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

St Helen	9.30am	Café Church
St Thomas	4.00pm	Holy Communion

14th**ASH WEDNESDAY**

St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion with ashing
St Helen	6.30 pm	Holy Communion with ashing

18th**LENT 1**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	4.00pm	Evensong

25th**LENT 2**

St Thomas	9.00am	Songs of Praise
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	4.00pm	Messy Church

Messy Church meets in the Done Room
behind St Helen's Church.

March 3rd**LENT 3**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John	11.15am	Holy Communion

Each Wednesday at 10.00am at St Helen's: Holy Communion.

Follow us on Facebook:-

Search:- [facebook.com/ParishOfTarporeley](https://www.facebook.com/ParishOfTarporeley)



**If you have time, please stay for refreshments after the service Every Sunday
at St Helen's, 1st and 4th Sundays at St Thomas', 1st Sunday of the month at
St John's**

The Rector Writes:-

With Lent coming very close on the heels of Christmas, we also have a very strange occurrence this year, when Ash Wednesday falls on St Valentine's day, 14th Feb. At first glance, there seems to be a big contrast between those two 'festivals': it is not often that restaurants on 14th Feb are filled with couples wearing sackcloth and ashes, loudly confessing their sins!! Similarly, I haven't been to many Ash Wednesday services where the decor is all red roses accompanied by popping champagne corks and heart shaped chocolates..!



But perhaps there is more in common than we first think.

Love is a confession, not in the sense of being sorry, but being willing to acknowledge a reality and state of feeling. As I said to this year's wedding couples recently at Marriage preparation, love is a choice, a free choice that can be made. Love that is forced is not love at all. When we say 'I love you' to another, it is a confession of our heart, and our deepest feelings, an acknowledgement of the choice that we have made.

On the other hand, confession, saying sorry, is also an act of love, not a negative thing. As Christians, we turn back to God in confession not because otherwise God would punish us, but because we have already seen the depth of God's love, the lengths God went to in order to forgive us: sending Jesus to live and die and rise again. In the face of that love and sacrifice, we too want to respond in love and thanks, to get rid of anything that might get in the way of God's love for us, especially our sin.

So when we come forward on Ash Wednesday to receive a mark of ash on our foreheads, it is a sign of repentance, and a willingness to turn our lives back to God, but it is supremely a symbol of love: God's love for us, and our returning love for God.

Perhaps this year, a candlelit dinner shared between two people with messy ash marks on their foreheads may not look too out of place... and may be the ultimate sign of love!

On Ash Wednesday there are two opportunities to receive communion and ashing – 10am and 6.30pm at St Helen's. If you've never done this before, why not come along and try something new as we start Lent??

Jim

ECO Church update

Walter Gibson and Nick Parker write:-

Greener Life Hacks

Welcome to the first of our series of “Greener Life Hacks” where we identify different areas of our lifestyles and share your ideas in helping us all to tread more lightly on our increasingly vulnerable planet.

The most importance statistic that climate scientists around the world are measuring is carbon parts per million, - (ppm). As of October 10th, the atmospheric carbon ppm was 420. The safe level is deemed to be 350ppm, so we are 70ppm above that level. *

During our lifetimes we've seen the impact that increasing global temperatures are having on the planet: increasing speed of melting ice caps and glaciers, more extreme and sometimes unexpected weather, leading to more floods, droughts and wildfires. These changing conditions impact on **all** life on our planet. The challenges ahead for our governments world-wide are huge and we may feel, that as individuals, we can do nothing. As people of faith, we should all try to do our bit, no matter how small our impact might be, to protect our planet. There is plenty we can do to make a difference. As St David was reputed to have said to his followers on his death bed; “Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things you have heard and seen me do.” (Continued overleaf)

So, what are the “little things” that we can do to reduce the amount of carbon that we are responsible for putting into the atmosphere?

1. Buy Renewable Energy
2. Save Energy

Buying Renewable Energy

There are two ways you can do this; firstly, check with your energy supplier to see how they generate their energy. If they use a number of sources including fossil fuels, you could switch to a company who supply electricity that is 100% generated from renewables. For more information on choosing a supplier of 100% renewable electricity please go to;

<https://www.renewableenergyhub.co.uk/blog/the-best-uk-green-energy-suppliers-in-2021-and-how-to-choose-one>

The above article was posted on July 23rd 2023.

The second option you could take to buy renewable energy is by sticking with your current supplier but asking them to switch you to a green, (or greener), tariff. All of the big six energy companies now have a green or a substantially green tariff. If you choose this option, it is important to check the energy mix you are buying; for example, is it really generated from 100% renewable sources, or is it a mix say of solar and coal where the coal proportion is offset in another way? Before making the decision to switch tariffs ask them to predict the costs based on the previous year's usage as you'll want to be aware if your decision to buy greener will increase your costs. For more information on choosing a green energy tariff click this link

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/energy-companies/article/best-and-worst-energy-companies/how-to-choose-the-best-energy-company-aOpXt2w0re4F>

Saving Energy (whatever company you are with or tariff you are on).

These energy saving ideas/hacks come from you and are listed in no particular order:

- ❖ Turn down your thermostat by 1 degree.
- ❖ Put on a jumper, use a furry blanket before turning on extra heating.

- ❖ Get to know your thermostat and make sure the heating is not on when you don't need it.
- ❖ Turn down/or off radiators in rooms you don't use regularly.
- ❖ Heat one room only don't use full central heating.
- ❖ Replace light bulbs with LED bulbs.
- ❖ Timing the use of electricity whether self-generated or grid to make the most of its use and make it more economical.
- ❖ Make double quantities of meals so as to maximise use of oven/ hob. Eat half, freeze the other half for later.
- ❖ Eliminate draughts from outside doors and use draught excluders on interior doors to keep heat in room.
- ❖ Use showers rather than baths so that you are not heating more water than you need.
- ❖ Wash laundry at a lower heat than previously to save on electricity.
- ❖ Use Eco setting on washing machine.
- ❖ Dry on a line rather than tumble dryer, (if weather allows).
- ❖ Use dishwasher on "Eco" and only switch on at night.
- ❖ Half fill kettle for small amounts of hot water.

Make sure the loft is fully insulated, recommended depth is now 270mm – Bigger Steps to save energy, generate your own electricity or change from fossil fuels to renewable.

Admittedly these are more considerable upfront investments and will not be possible for everyone. However, if you can afford the capital outlay, they are worth considering as they will reduce the amount of carbon we send into the atmosphere.....and our fuel bills.

Here are some of the things our respondents have done.

- ❖ Install double glazing.
- ❖ Install solar panels for water heating.
- ❖ Install solar panels with battery combination to generate your own electricity.
- ❖ Install Air or Ground source heat pumps instead of using oil or gas.
- ❖ In one case, change electric AGA for induction hob electric cooker.
- ❖ Cavity wall insulation.
- ❖ Interior wall and exterior wall insulation.

(Continued overleaf)

For more information on energy saving at home please click the following link:

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/>

Thank you for reading this, the first of our “Greener Life Hacks”. Over the next few months, we will continue to look at different ways we can save energy, reduce our bills and reduce the amount of carbon we are putting into the atmosphere. If you have any suggestions that are not mentioned here, then please do free to share them. We can all learn from each other. Finally, Jim is looking for somebody to lead the Eco Church programme on behalf of St Helen’s if you feel you would like to join the Eco Church team please get in touch.

*NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Walter Gibson and Nick Parker

The Children’s Society.

The Children’s Society is a national charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation, and neglect. The Society support them through their most serious life challenges and campaign tirelessly for the big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need hope most. They been doing this for 140 years and they will not stop until they have built a society where hope is alive in every child.

If you would like to know more about their work, please visit their website childrenssociety.org.uk.

There are three ways in which you can offer your support:-

- Attend the annual Christingle service and give to the collection
- Visit the website and donate online.
- **Be a St Helen’s parish box holder.**
To do the later please obtain a registration form from Pat Symms (01829 759120) and she will provide you with a box. These are usually emptied annually.

The Children’s Society will welcome your support.

Current Box holders

Please bring your boxes to church on the first two Sundays in February 2024.

Pat Symms St Helen's Parish coordinator.

We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:

John Scott

Ann Senior



There is a Saint's Day for Leap Years!

29 February - Oswald of Worcester

There is a saint for Leap Years: He is St Oswald of Worcester, who died on 29th February 992. His family story was extraordinary, and full of some surprising 'leaps', all by itself. It provides a tantalising glimpse of what happened to at least one of those pagan Viking warriors who settled in Anglo-Saxon Britain.

For Oswald's great-uncle had come to England c 865 AD, as part of the 'Great Heathen Army' of Viking invaders. But his son, Oswald's uncle, Oda, forsook paganism, and not only converted to Christianity, but actually ended up as Archbishop of Canterbury. From there, Oda was in a position to help his nephew, Oswald, which he did.

Oda sent young Oswald to be educated at the abbey of Fleury, then a great centre of learning. There Oswald absorbed the Benedictine ideals which would guide his later life and work. Back in England, he became bishop of Worcester in 961, and with the support of King Edgar, eagerly joined in major reforms of the Anglo-Saxon church. In 972 Oswald was made Archbishop of York, and seems to have taken a great interest in renewing the church in the Danelaw.

He founded Ramsey Abbey, which became one of the great Fenland monasteries.

(Continued Overleaf)

Oswald was popular as an archbishop, and always washed the feet of the poor every Lent. On 29th February 992 he had just completed this service at Worcester when he collapsed and died. In later years, Worcester adopted both him and Wulfstan to be its two chief saints: they flank the tomb of King John, which is before the high altar in the cathedral.

And a thousand years later; a 'smile line' about modern life and technology:-

"Last night our wifi stopped working, so I had to spend a few hours with my family. They seem like good people."

Editor's note; I wonder what aspect of 10th Century life could replace 'wifi' in the above sentence to make it relevant to those times?

The Done Room Renovation Project: Update.

If you've been outside St Helen's lately, you may have seen a new addition to the noticeboards! As of the start of the year, our grant applications have been sent in, thanks to the sterling work of Stephen Wright, so now we pray and wait! However, every contribution is really vital, and every little helps.

So if you have ever been in receipt of the good work of the Done Room, from pre-school to uniformed groups, children's parties or church events, please consider whether you could give in order to keep this much loved building a part of the Tarporley community for now and the future. You can give via the QR code, through internet banking, or cash or cheques. For further information, please contact Phillip Posnett or Revd Jim.

There is a raft of fundraising events planned too, so look out for more details, and spread the word! Above all please keep praying for the project, and for those groups who use the building!

Thank you.

Advanced notice.

The annual St Thomas' Quiz will be on Friday 19th April 7.00 for 7.30 start. £4 per person. BYO. There will be a raffle.

Tarporley War Memorial Hospital

A quick reminder of the new services to be offered from Tarporley War Memorial Hospital (Phase 1.) (Late Summer /Autumn2022)

The hospital will become a rural hub for the following:-

- Rapid Response Team enabling people to receive care and rehabilitation in their own homes.
- REACT Hospital at Home Team enabling improved access to patients in crisis who might otherwise need to go to hospital to receive treatment in their home.

**For further information or queries please email
fundraising@tarporleyhospital.co.uk**

Tarporley Flower Club

*Members of the Tarporley Flower Club
invite you to join them at their monthly*

meeting which is held at the

***Tarporley Community Centre between
1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m.***

***on the first Tuesday of each month
(except in January when the meeting is held
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There is no meeting in August).

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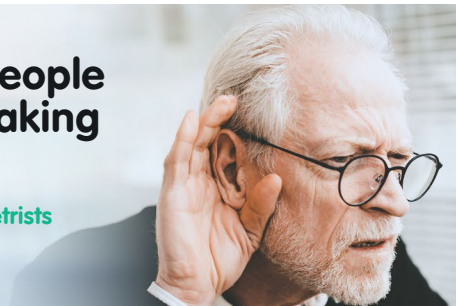
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