

October 2022

Tarporley Parish Magazine



Elizabeth II 1926 -2022

Tarporley Parish remembered and gave thanks for her life and years of service. Books of Condolence were signed by grateful parishioners at each of our churches.

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 Anita Langford 01829458351

email treasurer_tarporleyparishchurch@yahoo.com

P.C.C Secretary Paul Emerson 01829733147

Cotebrook: St John and the Holy Cross

Wardens Bill Spiegelberg 01829760336

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.

Electoral Roll: Mike Kiddle, 1 Woodlands Way, Tarporley, CW6 0TP
01829 733431

Safeguarding Officer Liz Neely email neelyeliza@hotmail.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 Jan by email on: admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.co.uk Email: admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk

CHURCH SERVICES

OCTOBER 2022

October 2nd	THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	St Thomas	9.00am Harvest Festival for all ages
	St Helen	10.00am Harvest Festival for all ages
	St John	11.15 Holy Communion and Harvest Festival
	St Helen	6.30pm Evensong
9th	THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	St Thomas	9.00am Holy Communion
	St Helen	10.00am Holy Communion
	St Helen	6.30pm A special service to mark 'Baby Loss Awareness Week' (9 th -15 th October).
	See 'The Rector Writes' on page 6 for further information.	
16th	THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	St Thomas	9.00am Holy Communion
	St Helen	10.00am Holy Communion
	St Helen	4.00pm Messy Church
	Messy Church meets in the Done Room Behind St Helen's Church Tarpорley	
23rd	THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	St Helen	10.00am A Joint Parish Communion service followed by refreshments and the 'Parish Vision' presentation
30th	THE FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT	
	St Thomas	9.00am Holy Communion
	St Helen	10.00am Holy Communion
November 6th	THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT	
	St Thomas	9.00am All-Age Worship
	St Helen	10.00am All-Age Worship
	St John	11.15 Holy Communion
	St Helen	3.30pm All Souls Service

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

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The Rector Writes:- I am writing this article in the aftermath of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. The timing of her death seems to coincide with a seasonal mark of transition: as October arrives, the focus for worship turns to Thanksgiving and Remembrance. In the coming months we will celebrate Harvest, All Saints and All Souls and Remembrance Sunday in quick succession, and in each of these events we do so with both a sense of **gratitude** for all that God has given us, loved ones have been to us, or servicemen and women have sacrificed for us, as well as a determination to ensure those lives and situations are **not forgotten**, and impact positively on how we continue to live. This has also been the focus of our mourning for her Majesty: we all have much to be thankful to her for her faithfulness and service, and her influence and faith will not be soon forgotten.



During this season of Remembering and Thanksgiving, we will also be holding a special service to mark Baby Loss Awareness Week (9th-15th October).

Led by the charity SANDS (the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death charity) throughout the week, bereaved parents, and their families and friends, unite with others across the world to commemorate the lives of babies who died during pregnancy, at or soon after birth, and in infancy, due to miscarriage, stillbirth or abortion.

In our previous parish, following our own experience of miscarriage, Jenny and I established a special memorial stone in the churchyard for those who had experienced abortion, miscarriage or stillbirth. It was to be a place for people to come to bring their questions and their grief in lieu of any resting place for the babies they lost, to offer reassurance that although these lost pregnancies did not end with earthly life, those lives are held within God's love and in God's mind. The memorial stone used a quotation from Isaiah 49:16: "See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands." While we were open about our experience, we found that many parishioners had also endured the same experience without any way to really process their grief, especially as in many cases there were no remains to dispose of reverently, and no opportunity to say goodbye or properly mourn.

For many women (and couples) there was an absence of a time to properly give thanks or to remember, and instead an altogether unhelpful assumption that 'things would just be different' next time.

Removing the stigma in society of miscarriage, stillbirth and abortion is an ongoing project, but acknowledging it in a special service is one way to start healing some of those wounds. This year, we will hold a short service on **Sunday 9th October at St Helen's at 6.30pm**, to which everyone is invited, but especially those who have experienced such loss.

One of the simplest but most profound of all human gestures is that of holding another's hands – from the fierce grasp of a newborn, clenched around a parental finger, to the toddler or child's eagerness to hold hands for safety and security, to the intimacy of lovers holding hands at a wedding service and on to the precious offering of physical contact with those close to death, holding hands conveys the vital reassurance that we are not alone. The realisation of God's continued presence with us, her hand-holding of us and engraving of us on the divine palm, is one that gives me strength through the hardest times. We are never alone, and never forgotten.

In this season of remembrance and thanksgiving, may we hold on to the reality that God holds each one of us by the hand.

Jim

Editor's note:

During the period immediately following the announcement of Queen Elizabeth the Second's death, all three of our churches were opened to allow parishioners to reflect on Her Majesty's years of service and to sign Books of Condolence.

In addition bells were rung at each church: with our full ring of eight bells at St Helen's being rung 'fully muffled' to befit the solemnity and significance of the occasion. The different sound of the bells on the High Street was clearly noticed and prompted a question.

Overleaf, Jenny Christian; the leader or 'Tower captain' of our group of bellringers writes:-

A QUESTION ANSWERED

I was very pleased when someone told me that a question had been asked in the pub over the weekend following the Queen's death - "How are the church bells muffled?" This confirmed the fact that people in Tarporley do listen to the bells and had noticed that things sounded different on Friday September 9th.

The answer – circles of leather (muffles) are attached to the clapper so that the sound is deadened when the clapper hits the actual bell. Usually there is no muffling and the metal clapper hits the metal of the bell. When required, bells are usually only half muffled, for example on Remembrance Day, and this produces an echo effect. On Sept 9th, the day following the Queen's death, the bells were fully muffled but the heaviest bell (the tenor) was only half muffled. This way of ringing is only done following the death of a monarch and so it was a new experience for all of the Tarporley ringers. The bells continued to be rung in this fashion until the day after the Queen's funeral.

Some people may have noticed that the bells were rung without muffles at 1.15pm on Saturday 10th Sept. This was following the Proclamation of Accession of King Charles and a cause for celebratory ringing.

As bellringers, we are very fortunate in being able to play an active role in historic occasions such as this and we also know that we are ringing at the same time and in union with Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral, St George's Chapel Windsor and many other churches. Would you like to take part in the future, for example the Coronation?

We are always looking for new recruits, so please get in touch with me if you are interested in finding out more about bellringing. It is good for your physical, mental and social wellbeing and we would be delighted to see you.

Jenny Christian

01829 732412

christian908@btinternet.com

From the Parish Bookshelf

How to Hear God

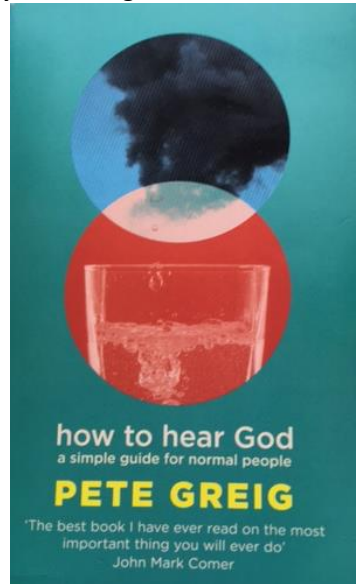
A simple guide for normal people.

By Pete Greig

Arresting title, isn't it?! The author, Pete Greig, is already known to 'Parish Bookshelf' readers – we previously reviewed his book 'How to Pray' (available to borrow at St Helen's). Now he has written a sequel, to help us listen to what God has to say *to us*. It draws on his personal experiences as a pastor and leader of the 24/7 prayer movement, as well as his deep knowledge of scripture. One aspect of his writing that I really like is that he is open to a wide range of teaching and practice from different traditions, and offers us the best of each.

The author bases his book around the story of the Road to Emmaus, when two disciples encounter the risen Jesus as they walk along the road, and they only realize who has been talking to them when he breaks bread with them at the end of their journey. It is used, along with many other examples from his own and his friends' lives, to illustrate the different ways that God is trying to reach us. These can be external – what he calls *God's Word* – or internal – what he calls *God's Whisper*. *God's Word* includes the Bible of course, but also prophecy. He introduces us to a different way of praying the Bible, the *lectio divina*, so that we can give ourselves more space to hear what God is trying to say. *God's Whisper* describes how while we might expect to hear God as a booming voice he is more likely to be a whisper or come to us in a dream or in the words of a friend.

There are helpful guides and thoughtful questions to go with each chapter and so the book is very practical. I would really recommend you read it. If you've ever wondered what God is trying to say to you, this could be the book for you.



Walter Gibson

Dates for your diary

All Age Worship

Each first Sunday of the month at St Thomas' and St Helen's

Please join us with the young children in your life for an age-appropriate service each first Sunday of the month at St Thomas' at 9am and St. Helens Church at 10 am. Prayers, songs, a short presentation and sometimes an activity too. There is time at the end of the service to chat and make new friends whilst sharing refreshments. Rev Jim had asked the congregation to bring bags to the September service so that we could attach a special luggage label as shown in the picture. We were asked to think about what to pack in our holiday luggage bags or school rucksacks? What are the important items we need to have on our list? A variety of suggestions were given. Of course, the presence of God was the most important as he would give joy, hope and strength to us every day whilst on holiday or during our daily routine. As I write, I am also preparing a holiday list ready to pack my bag. As you can see the label is firmly attached giving me the reassurance that God will be with me on my travels.

Elaine Meredith



Friday 7th October. Tarporley Community Centre

7.30 for an 8.00pm start; the famous "Bell Ringers' Quiz"

Tickets are £10pp, with teams of up to 8, and are available from Jenny Christian at

christian908@btinternet.com or on 01829 732412.

Proceeds will be split equally between St Helen's Church and St Luke's Hospice.

Tickets go fast so don't delay.





Harvest Festival for all ages



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St Helen's Tarporley

Donations for the Mid-Cheshire Foodbank

For more information, contact Revd Jim Bridgman

revjimbl017@gmail.com

01829 732491

07526243702

*A Service of Remembrance for all those
mourning lives lost through miscarriage,
abortion and stillbirth*

Baby Loss Memorial Service

Sunday 9th October, 6.30pm

St Helen's Tarporley



Tarporley Parish

Revd Jim Bridgman 732 491
revjimb1017@gmail.com

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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 on the second Tuesday.

There is no meeting in August).

Each month spectacular floral designs are created by a skilled demonstrator on the stage before an audience of members, guests and visitors.

New members and visitors are most welcome, there is an admission fee payable.

Annual membership fee is £40.

The Link magazine thanks Charles Hardy and

The Old Fire Station Chocolate Shop for

advertising in our magazine over many years and also of course for supplying such delicious 'sweets and treats'.

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A request for volunteers.
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OPAL Clubs are social clubs for older people who need support to get out and about.

Tarporley OPAL Club runs once a week on a Friday and we are currently short of volunteer drivers. The commitment would probably be once a month.

If you feel able to help or would like further information please contact:-

Sam Moggan mob:07856 095 611
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