

THE LINK

50p

June 2023

Tarporley Parish Magazine



"Each little flower that
opens"

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 treasurer_tarporleyparishchurch@yahoo.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.

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 our Rector Jim by email on

Email: revjimb1017@gmail.com

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org

SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

June 2023

June	4th	TRINITY SUNDAY		
		St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
		St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
		St John	11.15am	Holy Communion
	11th	THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
		St Helen	9.30am	Café Church
		St Thomas	4.00pm	Holy Communion.
	18th	THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
		St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
		St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
		St John	6.30pm	Evensong
	25th	THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
		St Thomas	9.00am	Songs of Praise followed by breakfast at the Jessie Hughes Hall
		St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
		The Done Room	4.00pm	Messy Church
July	2nd	St THOMAS' DAY		
		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.
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The Rector Writes:-

One of the psalms appointed for Morning Prayer on the day I write this is Psalm 147:1-12

Alleluia. How good it is to make music for our God, how joyful to honour him with praise.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up all their wounds.

He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his wisdom is beyond all telling.

The Lord lifts up the poor, but casts down the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the lyre;

Who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;

Who makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve our needs.

He gives the beasts their food and the young ravens when they cry.

He takes no pleasure in the power of a horse, no delight in human strength;

But the Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their trust in his steadfast love.



Not only is this psalm a song of praise to the goodness and justice of the God who turns the world upside down, supports the outcast and excluded, but it also draws together two themes in my life at the moment: music and the environment.

By the time you are reading this, Jenny and I will have finally experienced something that we have waited 5 years for – seeing Elton John in concert on his farewell tour. I booked the tickets as a Christmas present in 2018 for 2020, but between COVID and operations, the concert was pushed back three times, until finally happening at the end of May in Manchester (all being well...We do have a running joke that perhaps we're fated never to attend, and just our luck that Elton will fall ill again and have to postpone!).

Music is a big part of my life; although I don't play any instruments, I have been singing in choirs (and along to CDs!) for as long as I can remember, regularly annoying family, friends and strangers in the process! I have music on as I work, when travelling in the car, and at most opportunities. Despite the fact that

Jenny and I have very differing tastes in music, we are united in enjoying Elton John's catalogue.

It has been a joy to be part of a parish that also enjoys music – all three churches seem to love a good sing, and have got a good collective set of lungs! One of the encouragements of the last few months has been the new 'Songs of Praise' services at St Thomas' on the fourth Sunday of the month. Not only have we enjoyed a great range of hymns and songs to sing, but we have heard about how music (both church music and secular music) has helped to shape and accompany members of church during their journey with God. To echo the psalmist, it 'is good to make music for our God'!

For me, alongside music, one of the most natural ways to praise God is by considering creation, just as the psalmist moves to praise God from the inclusion of all people to the goodness of the creation that God sustains and loves.

As someone who loves summer, this time of year brings both more contentedness and a renewed connection with God as the creator. I find it hard to be thankful for creation when sheltering from incessant rain, or trudging through the snow, but when the sun shines full and the flowers erupt in colour, it's easy for me to thank God for the goodness and beauty God has brought to the world.

The theme for June's Cafe Church on June 11th is God's care for creation, and we have the great opportunity to hear from a speaker from the Christian environmental charity A Rocha, who have pioneered the 'Eco Church' initiative. I would encourage as many people as they can to come along, to pray for our world and our role in safeguarding creation.

As the summer arrives, it is a good time to consider again both the beauty of creation, as well as the impact of humanity on the natural world, for good and ill. While we may enjoy a 'good summer' and maybe curse the inconvenience of a hosepipe ban, there are areas of our world who will suffer the devastation of drought, failed crops, and famine, brought on by policies and lifestyles of the more advantaged. As ever, the poorest will suffer the most, and usually at the hands and as a by-product of the lifestyles of the wealthiest. Can we still sing

and make music to God when we see the impact of the climate crisis on our world? Will our joyful noise become the tune of lament?

Perhaps as we rejoice in the good that summer brings, and rightly praise God for it, we can also take time to renew our care for creation, considering our impact as individuals and communities. It may be helpful to do this by undertaking our own **personal Lifestyle Audit and measure our Carbon Footprint** (from <https://creationcare.org.uk/> and <https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/>), or by advocating for climate justice and changes of policy or by being committed to praying more regularly and intentionally for these issues.

I pray that we can enjoy the blessings of summer, turn it back to the music of praise to God, and continue to play our part in being good stewards of God's creation.

Jim

Book review:

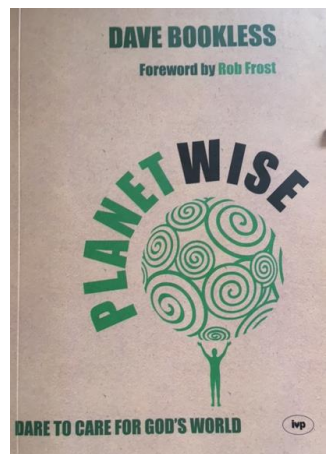
Walter Gibson reviews the book:-

'Planetwise'

Dare to care for God's World

By Dave Bookless

Dave Bookless is National Director of the charity A Rocha UK, who run the Eco Church programme to which we belong as a Parish. His book is born out of his faith and ministry, in which he has done much to care practically for God's creation. Perhaps you might be thinking, "do we need another book on the crisis in nature?" Perhaps like me you might find the changes to our world all a bit overwhelming sometimes and wonder what difference you can make? This book is different and may help. While the author doesn't shy away from the facts he takes a fresh approach: what does the Bible have to say about what is happening and why, and what should our response as Christians be?



A central theme throughout the book is a triangle of relationships between God, his creation, and humanity. Using passages from the Bible as a guide, he takes us through what God intended for his creation and our role in it, and how things have gone wrong. He makes the point that the environmental crisis is at its heart also a spiritual crisis. It's not just about humans damaging the world around us: it's about our relationship with God which has gone wrong too. Selfishness and greed, our lack of stewardship for God's world, have played their part: we have failed to live up to our duty of care in God's plan for his creation.

Helping readers to recognise and act on this interconnection between our relationship with God and our relationship with the planet is a central part of the book's message. Yes we need to look at our lifestyle and behaviours, doing more to reduce our 'footprint', but we also need to think about our spiritual response, one that honours God the creator. Only when these come together, around our faith in Jesus as the one who ultimately brings forgiveness for our failings and healing for the world, can the triangle of relationships be restored.

There is much practical advice and motivation in this book for those who wish to take new steps in that direction as individuals and communities. As a member of Eco Church, perhaps we can use it to help to build our own local 'triangle', where we all play our part to honour God and be better stewards of his creation, rooted here in this Parish.

Walter Gibson

Registry

We congratulate and pray for those baptised:

Florence Williams

We congratulate and pray for those recently married:

Duncan Gordon and Alison McFeely

Matthew Hulmes and Anna Furse



We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:

Patricia Davies

Doreen Hannon

Tarporley celebrates the Coronation of King Charles III.

Along with hundreds of other communities in the UK and around the World Tarporley Parish joined in with the celebrations, special services and party spirit as King Charles III was crowned our monarch at the beginning of May 2023.

Thanks are due and willingly offered to all the people and organisations that made this period in early May such an enjoyable and memorable event. The weather even blessed us with sunshine (following rather a damp start to the year) as the streets were converted into picnic areas and the roar of traffic stilled.

The bunting fluttered in the sunshine and our bells rang out for the King across the parish as we met new and old friends and celebrated together.

Some photos below try to capture some of the scenes.



Above:-The street party on Tarporley High Street by St Helen's Church

-and- below:- Twenty two of the twenty three bellringers who 'Rang for the King' in Tarporley St Helen's church tower in May. Thanks to Liz (number 23) for taking the photo.



Church bellringing is an absorbing hobby for people of all ages. If you are interested in learning, you would be welcomed. Please contact Jenny Christian, our tower captain on 01829 732412.

Tarporley Bellringers.



Elaine Meredith writes:



One of the teams at the Christian Aid Quiz

The Christian Aid Quiz held at the Chapel this year had the best ever turn out. Thank you to Richard and Catharine Line for organising the fun and friendly annual quiz.

As Coordinator of the Christian Aid Collection rounds for the Parish of St Helen for many years, I would like to thank all the collectors for their valued time and dedication to knocking on doors. Huge thanks to those who give generous donations to support this essential charity. 2023 is the final year for door to door collections in Tarporley so please contact me with your ideas for alternative fundraising events for 2024.

Elaine Meredith Tel. 01829 732104

Evensong - Summer schedule. A reminder:

With the lighter nights and better weather, Evensong has returned and is now held at 6.30pm on the third Sunday of the month.

We'll continue to worship round the parish at all three churches:-

May 21st - St Helen's. June 18th- St John and the Holy Cross.

July 16th St Thomas'. August 20th - St Helen's.

Evensong is a great way to end a Sunday, with singing, ancient liturgy and prayers - if you've never tried it, why not give it a go?!

And, speaking of Summer, has it arrived a last? It would appear that it has.

Our deferred ' Afternoon Tea in the Done Room' took place on the 20th May with the sun shining on a beautiful day.

Thank you to all those who joined in with the fun. We ate delicious cakes and enjoyed good company. A total of £654 was raised for St Helen's Church funds.



Delicious cakes and good company

Thank you to all supporters and helpers.

Elaine Meredith.

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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Jacqueline Wilson

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Volunteer to help older people in Tarporley!.

Working to reduce loneliness and isolation, Tarporley OPAL Club runs every Thursday with a hot lunch, entertainment and fun activities. We are looking for new volunteers to join our friendly team in a range of roles, from chatting and helping with activities, to driving or running errands.

No experience is necessary, we care a lot more about a smile and a desire to help others. To find out more, contact janet.handley@opalservices.org.uk

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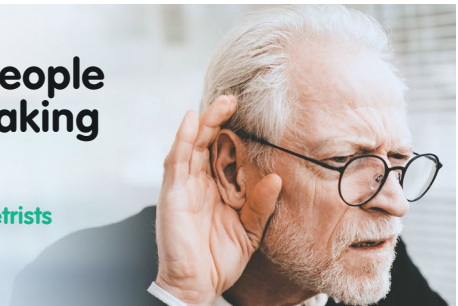
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