

From the Vicarage



As a Priest I am used to dealing with wedding couples who come to arrange a church service. I have all the

necessary forms and so far I have always been able to answer their many and varied questions. I have run marriage preparation courses and have worked with a number of different requests including incorporating part of a London Opera Company to sing extracts at the marriage of their principle female lead. All these things you might say are in a days work. What I have discovered from being involved with my own daughter's wedding is that there's a great deal more to it than just the service.

Getting it right for the big day draws on the talents of many different people, from the making of the dress, to the arranging of the flowers. Each talented individual is called upon to play their part in making the whole a day to remember. As if this were not enough, people keep changing their minds about various arrangements. It's a wonder that anyone manages to get through it all! Having said that, some members of the family seem to be enjoying themselves enormously.

We all rely at times on the skills of others to solve our problems be they medical, intellectual or financial. Yet how often do we stop to consider the talents that God has given us and how we are using them. In the Gospel of St. Matthew at the end of Chapter 28 Jesus issues a challenge to his Disciples. He calls on them to spread the Good News throughout the world. To do this they will

have to identify their talents and put them to use.

St. Paul in his first letter to the Church in Corinth Chapter 12 goes into detail about the 'Gifts of the Spirit' these are those given by God to each of us. Paul acknowledges that we all have different gifts and it is only when we come together that they can all contribute to the whole work of the church. He likens them to the Body which has many parts all with different functions that come together to make the complete person. The disciples worked together to create the early church by each of them contributing their gifts. So we today can pool our talents and work together to grow the Kingdom of God in our communities.

As we celebrate the feast of Pentecost this month let us remember how the Holy Spirit transformed the lives of the early believers. It gave them the courage to come out into the open and proclaim their faith to everyone they met. It encouraged them to work together to build up the early church. It enabled them to take on tasks that they would not have thought possible. Well, we too can reenergise our lives by opening our hearts and minds to the Spirit. If we are prepared to let him work in us we can combine our talents and grow our church.

This Pentecost let us pray together for a revival in our church. Let us ask God to add to our number that we might find the talent and inspiration to build a better world where everyone is not only created equal but is treated as such.

May God Bless you all

David

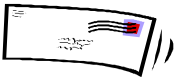
Benefice News

Local Police Number

08453 30 2010

For all non-emergency calls

Used postage stamps



These are collected and sent to various charities. Please trim the stamps leaving a narrow border of envelope. There are collecting bags at St. Bartholomew's, St. Luke's & St. Paul's Quarnford. The stamps represent a simple way for all of us to contribute to the welfare of others without cost to ourselves. Please collect your used stamps and put them in one of the church bags.

Teddies for Tragedies



Keep up the good work for all those children traumatised by conflict. If you would like to join in the scheme for knitting Teddies then please contact Janet McNicol who will be pleased to provide you with the necessary information. A further 64 teddies were sent to Eastern Europe at Easter. Thank you to all those involved.

Dates for your diary - May

5th Monday OatFest - Hollinsclough

5th Monday Open Day - Gradbach

10th Saturday Flash Rose Queen

17th Saturday Litter Pick - Hollinsclough

17th Saturday Mowing Day - Longnor

18th Sunday Race for Life - See Sheen

25th Sunday May - 1st June Flower Festival - Hollinsclough

Mobile Library

Quarnford/Flash	Springhead Road Junction	10.25 - 10.35
	Flash School	10.45 - 11.30
	Travellers Rest	11.35 - 11.55
	Lower Summerhill	12.00 - 12.15
Hollinsclough	Chapel	12.25 - 12.55
Longnor	The Square	2.05 - 2.35
	Old Saw Mill	2.40 - 2.45
Barrowmoor	Badgers Croft	2.50 - 3.00
Reapsmoor	Swallow Moss	3.20 - 3.25
	Park House	3.30 - 3.35

Friday 9th May, 23rd May

Sheen	Dovefield	12.35 - 12.45
	Cross Cottage	1.55 - 2.05
	Ball Ridge Farm	2.10 - 2.20
	Woolaway	2.25 - 2.40

Monday 19th May

Fly Tipping and Litter

To report to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council call Freephone 08001693159

Paid box adverts at £2/month (£20/year) to be in all editions of the Parish Magazine. Advertisements welcome.

The Bible

What do we know about the Bible we read every day? This month I am starting a series of articles about our Bible beginning with an outline of what it contains. I hope you will find it as interesting as I did. If there are other issues about the church that you would like to see included on this page then please let me know and I will try to put them in.

The Bible is not just one book, but an entire library, with stories, songs, poetry,

letters and history, as well as literature that might more obviously qualify as 'religious'. The Christian Bible has two main sections, the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament is the original Hebrew Bible, the sacred scriptures of the Jewish faith, written at different times between about 1200 and 165 BC. The New Testament books were written by Christians in the first century AD.

The Hebrew Bible has 39 books, written over a long period of time, and is the literary archive of the ancient nation of Israel. It was traditionally arranged in three sections.

The Law

The first five books, Genesis to Deuteronomy. They are not 'law' in a modern Western sense: Genesis is a book of stories, with nothing remotely like rules and regulations, and though the other four do contain community laws they also have many narratives. The Hebrew word for Law ('Torah') means 'guidance' or 'instruction', and that could include stories offering everyday examples of how people were meant to live as well as legal requirements. These books were later called the 'Pentateuch', and tradition attributed them to Moses. Some parts undoubtedly date from that period, but as things changed old laws were updated and new ones produced, and this was the work of later editors over several centuries.

The Prophets

The Prophets is the largest section of the Hebrew Bible, and has two parts ('former prophets' and 'latter prophets').

The books of 'latter prophets' preserve sayings and stories of religious and political activists ('prophets') who served as the spiritual conscience of the nation

throughout its history, reminding people of the social values that would reflect the character of God. Some books are substantial (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel), others are much shorter (Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi). Sometimes, the prophets could be mime artists and dramatists, accompanying their actions by short spoken messages, often delivered in poetic form. These were the sound bites of their day, which made it easy for others to remember them and then write them down. The 'former prophets' consist of Joshua, Judges, 1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Kings. They are history books, but what makes them also 'prophets' is that they not only record information, they interpret it, explaining its significance in relation to other events in the history of Israel, and of the wider world of their day.

The Writings

These include Psalms (songs, prayers and liturgies for worship), Proverbs (sayings of homespun wisdom), Job (a drama that explores the nature of suffering), plus the 'five scrolls' ('Megilloth') which were grouped together because each had associations with a particular religious festival: Ruth (the Jewish Feast of Weeks, also called Pentecost), Song of Solomon (Passover), Ecclesiastes (Tabernacles), Lamentations (Destruction of Jerusalem), and Esther (Purim). This section also includes the last books of the Hebrew Bible to be written: Ezra, Nehemiah, and 1-2 Chronicles (all history books), and Daniel (visions of a better world).

The New Testament has 27 books, written between about 50 and 100 AD, and falling naturally into two sections: the Gospels, which tell the story of Jesus (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John); and the Letters (or

epistles) - written by various Christian leaders to provide guidance for the earliest church communities.

The Letters

Letters were the natural way for itinerant church leaders to communicate with their converts, and the earliest ones were written before the Gospels. With some exceptions (Romans, Hebrews), they were not meant to be formal presentations of Christian belief, but offered advice to people who were working out how to express their commitment to Jesus in ways that would be relevant to the many different cultural contexts in which they found themselves throughout the Roman empire. Reading them can be like listening to one half of a conversation, as the writers give answers to questions sent to them either verbally or in writing. Paul was the most prolific writer of such letters, though he was not the only one.

The Gospels

The Gospels were written to present the life and teachings of Jesus in ways that would be appropriate to different readerships, and for that reason are not all the same. They were not intended to be biographies of Jesus, but selective accounts that would demonstrate his significance for different cultures. The first three are effectively different editions of the same materials, and for that reason are known as the 'synoptic gospels'. The writer of Luke also wrote the Acts of the Apostles, which tells the story of how Christianity spread from being a small group of Jewish believers in the time of Jesus to becoming a worldwide faith in less than a generation.

The New Testament concludes with the book of Revelation, which begins with a series of letters to seven churches in the

area of Asia Minor (modern Turkey), but then offers a visionary presentation of the meaning of all things, from creation to the end of the world.

The sheer diversity of literature in the Bible is one of the secrets of its continuing popularity through the centuries. There is something for all moods and many different cultures. Its message is not buried in religious jargon only accessible to either believers or scholars, but reflects the issues that people struggle with in daily life. Despite their different emphases, all its authors shared the conviction that this world and its affairs are not just a haphazard sequence of random coincidences, but are the forum of God's activity - a God who (unlike the God of the philosophers) is not remote or unknowable, but a personal being who can be known by ordinary people.

Council Tax Benefits

RESIDENTS are being urged to come forward if they think they are missing out on council tax benefits.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council cabinet member for regeneration Andrew Hart is reminding taxpayers if they are having difficulty with their bill that the council may be able to help. Councillor Hart said: "We're very aware that with bills being due from 1 April residents may face a financial strain. But if people are having difficulty paying their bill, it is very important that they don't ignore the problem.

"I'm urging residents to come and speak to us, because we may be able to help. If you pay council tax, have a low income and your savings and investments are £16,000 or below, you may be eligible for council tax benefit.

"Also, certain categories of resident such

as full-time students and patients resident in hospital for example, may qualify for a discount."

Nationally, up to 1.4 million eligible older people miss out on council tax benefit, resulting in up to £580million remaining unclaimed each year.

Councillor Gill Heath, cabinet member for finance and resources, said: "We set up a hotline for people to contact the council if they are having difficulty paying their council tax. Calls to the 0845 605 3011 number have been few, yet we know there are district residents who still have difficulties and haven't contacted us. Let me stress that - there are a number of council taxpayers who are eligible for assistance but do not apply. I'm urging people to come forward now - we're here to listen and help if we can."

The district council collected 99.07 per cent of council tax by 31 March, and in doing so is one of around 20 top performing local tax collection authorities amongst all 354 billing authorities in the country. It is committed to ensuring that those who pay their council tax regularly and promptly do not have to pay for those who won't pay.

Councillor Heath said: "We put in a lot of very hard work to ensure our council tax collection rates stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the best councils in the country. In doing so, we are able to keep administration costs down, which ultimately means we are able to keep council tax bills down. It is important that council tax is paid regularly and on time to help keep collection costs down for the benefit of all council taxpayers."

Residents who feel they might be eligible for council tax benefits should contact the council via 0845 605 3011, visit www.staffsmoorlands.gov.uk/missingout, or call in at one-stop shops in Biddulph, Cheadle or Leek to see if they qualify.

Deadline for the Magazine

All material should be delivered to Lynda by 20th ? Please send to Mrs. L. Bricklebank, Cottage of Content, Hollinsclough, Buxton, SK17 0RG Telephone 01298 83541 or email lynda@coatestown.freeserve.co.uk

Longnor

St. Bartholomew's Church News

On the 12th April I attended a rural day at



Alton Village Hall to listen to presentations made on country topics. One interesting piece of information came from the Rural Officer for the West

Midlands region. He told the meeting that as an area we were seeing young people leaving the villages to move into the towns and older people moving from the towns into our villages. I am sure this is nothing new to us but it does have implications for our schools. As numbers drop and young families move out so our schools stand in danger of being closed. We need to do all that we can to encourage young families to come to our village and not to move away when they are here. We need young people to keep our communities stable. I would ask you all to pray for an increase in young families in order to keep our school open for future generations.

Donations

In loving memory of a very dear Dad & Grandad from Les, Nanette & family

Mowing Day

There will be a churchyard mowing day on Saturday 17th May starting at 10.30am. Please come along and help us keep the New Churchyard tidy. Lunch is provided.



Longnor Luncheon Club

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at the Cheshire Cheese from 11.30 until about 2.30. We start with tea or coffee and biscuits followed by a speaker, a sing-song or a quiz or some other entertainment. We then have a cooked meal and a sweet and yet more tea or coffee. We have a raffle and also a lending library.

The cost is £6 and everyone is welcome.

On May 14th Mrs Belle Kerr is coming to tell us about her trip around Scotland.

There will be no meeting on May 28th as we are going on a trip to Bridgemere Garden Centre.

Please come along and join us.

We are also in need of volunteers to help out. For more information ring Margaret Massey. Tel 01298 84423

On June 28th we are going on an outing to Llandudno if you would like to join us please telephone Mrs J. Hollinshead 01298 83602

MINUTES OF LONGNOR ACTION GROUP MEETING

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 2008

PRESENT: Gaynor Parkinson, Sam Kidd, Peter Baker, David Nicol, John & Debbie O'Neil

CHAIR: Sam Kidd

APOLOGIES: None

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record and there were no matters arising.

CHURCH CLOCK

David has decided that they will go ahead with an application for the Heritage Lottery.

David and Gaynor to arrange a meeting to progress this funding application.

FUNDING APPLICATION FOR TABLES

David wants to apply again for funding and this will be included in the above meeting with Gaynor.

MARQUEE

Peter has made contact with Jackson's and REAP. Jackson's have given an offer and REAP want to discuss the possibility with Severn Trent before giving Peter a definite answer on Friday.

CONSTITUTION

- Up dated constitution to be emailed out before next meeting and agreed at the May meeting.

NEW PROJECT IDEAS-ALL ACTIONS MOVED OVER TO MAY MEETING.

Peter suggested an idea to further enhance the village by purchasing planters to be positioned in appropriate areas around the village.

- Sam to look into getting permission for this type of project
- Peter to look at costings
- Gaynor to source appropriate funding possibilities.

TREASURER

- Gaynor to source appropriate funding possibilities for a lap top-action moved over to May meeting.

WEBSITE & LEAFLET UPDATE

- Debbie and John O'Neil have volunteered to deal with these two areas, which is greatly appreciated.
- A re-print with little change will cost £646 and a full revamp would cost £946.
- It was decided that this year the brochure will be produced with little change and work will start on a re-vamp for 2009.
- Debbie and John will be writing/visiting all those advertised on the current leaflet to gain their support and advise them that the cost will be £25.00, which also includes the website.

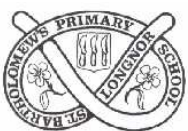
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Tina from REAP has asked if she can join our group and Gaynor has emailed her to say she would be very welcome.
- All meetings will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Balcony Room
- Please feel free to join us at any of our meetings, whether you have attended before or not.
- Contact details for Gaynor Parkinson of Staffordshire Moorlands CVS
01538381356
gaynorparkinson@smcvs.co.uk

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 14 May 2008 7.30pm

News from St Bartholomew's School ...



The playground has now been re-surfaced looks a lot better, and accidents have reduced.

Our Breathing Places garden and outdoor classroom is now taking shape. The whole area has been marked out and a pathway laid alongside the playing field by members

of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. The school children are now assisting them to plant trees and shrubs.

The opening of the Breathing Places garden will take place on Monday 19th May. Everyone welcome.

As part of the Infants topic PEOPLE WHO HELP US they have been on a visit to the Longnor Fire & Rescue Station. Mr. Allen and members of his team showed the children round the big red fire engine and marvellous facilities they can offer. We would like to thank them for giving up their time to show us all round and for the gifts they gave to the children.

The Junior children will visit West Park Museum at Macclesfield for the Egyptian Day where they will be as a conclusion to the topic papyrus making.

We have taken delivery of seven new computers which have now been installed in the classrooms as part of our ICT provision, and hope to install soon our video conferencing equipment enabling us to communicate with other schools.

Year 4 children are going to Laches Wood outdoor education centre 29th April - 2nd May along with children from the other cluster schools.

We are having an open day in our Nursery on Thursday 15th May 10 a.m. - 12 noon, please come along to have a look around and see what we can offer your child.

Phyllis Kirkham, School Secretary

We have seven days in the week, seven colours in the rainbow, seven wonders of the world and also seven deadly sins! Anger, Pride, Covetousness, Lust, Sloth, Envy and Greed.

New Book

To be sold at St. Paul's Church Flower Festival June 21st All proceeds will go towards the Church

FLASH BACK FLASH BACK



People and places in the history of
Flash and
the parish of Quarnford

Lots of old photographs and Flash & Quarnford history

Parish Share? What is it? How Much?

Someone in the parish recently asked this question and was amazed at the reply. Quarnford Church like all other parish churches has to pay an annual fee to the Diocese. Up until now Quarnford has always managed to do this but it is becoming increasingly difficult.

The amount to be paid in 2008 is £622.65 EACH MONTH. In addition to this is the day to day maintenance and running of the church and churchyard which regularly increases and will continue to do so with the repairs to the roof. Nobody likes paying the parish share but it has to be done.

Quarnford

St. Paul's Church News



At our APCM Miss Belfield our church treasurer resigned. We are all deeply grateful for the many years hard work that she has given to the church as its treasurer. Miss Belfield remains as our Organist and we look forward to her playing at our services. We are now, however, in urgent need of a new treasurer to continue where Miss Belfield has left off. At Present Miss McNicol is looking after the church accounts as our church warden. If you are interested in the vacant post please contact either Miss McNicol or the Vicar who will be pleased to give you an outline of what is involved. The Diocese offers training for new treasurers and Miss Belfield has indicated that she would be willing to give the new treasurer the benefit of her experience.

At the same meeting Mrs. Battram stepped down as church warden for a year and her place has been taken for 2008 by Mrs. Bessie Kidd. We are looking for more people to join our PCC and help us in the running of our beautiful Church. If you are interested and willing to attend 5 to 6 meetings a year please contact the Vicar who will be delighted to hear from you.

Rose Queen

Saturday 10th May

1.30 pm service in church
2pm Fete in the Village Hall

Quarnford Quest

Winners for April are:-

1 st	No. 50	D.M. Wood	£16
2 nd	No. 14	C.Taylor- Cockayne	£10
3 rd	No. 54	M. Frodsham	£9

Quarnford Quest was launched in June 2007 and now has 70 members. The quest is to find people to whom the parish church holds special memories or family associations.

No expenses have been claimed and so at the end of its first year the quest will

have raised £840. Half of this has been paid out in prize money and half will be used to maintain the church and churchyard.

We very much hope that everyone will renew their subscriptions which are due in June (for most people). Please encourage friends and relations to join the Quest for another year. A renewal form is printed below.

Thank you for supporting Quarnford Quest.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, QUARNFORD

Flash Village

(the highest village in Great Britain).

QUARNFORD QUEST

To help fund the maintenance of the Parish Church a 50/50 club has been formed, known as "Quarnford Quest". Monthly draws will be held and tickets are £1 per month i.e. £12 per year. Each ticket will entitle the member to one chance each draw.

Approximately 50% of all money will be paid out as prize money, the remaining money, less running expenses, will be used to help pay for the maintenance of the church and churchyard.

Assuming 100 tickets are sold, the level of prizes will be: First £20, Second £15, Third £10 and Fourth £5. With less than 100 tickets, each prize will be reduced proportionately.

PLEASE HELP, AND JOIN QUARNFORD QUEST BY RETURNING THE FORM BELOW.

QUARNFORD PARISH CHURCH, FLASH VILLAGE

I wish to apply for membership of "Quarnford Quest" and enclose £12 in order to be eligible for 12 monthly draws.

Please make cheques payable to "Quarnford Parochial Church Council: Quarnford Quest".

Note: cheques will not be presented until there are a viable number of members to justify a draw.

Signed

Date.....

Print Name &

Address.....
.....

Renewal/New Member

Send form and cheque to : J.McNicol, "Wellsdale", Mellor Lane, Chapel-en-le-Frith, High Peak SK23 9SA

Flash School

At the end of last term we said goodbye to Mrs Kincey who has taken up a new appointment. She was presented with a framed photograph of a much loved view from the office window at school. The children hope that she will return to open the refurbished cloakrooms she and the children designed.

We would also like to welcome Mrs Wendy Kenny who has joined our staff for this term.

The school is sponsoring a window in church for the Flower Festival in June.

All children up to the age of 11 can enter our flower colouring competition at a cost of £1 per entry.

Our first summer visit was linked to our Science work on Light and Sound. We arrived in Halifax to the same weather we had left in Flash! However the welcome we received at the Eureka museum made up for this. We travelled inside the ear and into the mouth as well exploring light and sound. A great day out enjoyed by all.

Our Rose Queen will be crowned on Saturday May 10th beginning at 1.30 pm in the church followed by a Summer Fair in the village hall. The school is providing a food hamper as a raffle prize, this we hope will be overflowing. We are also holding a photographic competition for children and adults based on the theme "Our Locality". Bring your photographs with you on the day.

Dehra Griffiths

Sheen

St. Luke's Church News



The PCC have drawn up a list of work to be carried out at the Church and we are now waiting for our Architect to help us draw up a Faculty Application so that we can get repairs under way over the summer. We are currently exploring how we might get grant funding to have our church repaired. As this is something that all the community can use we hope to be able to fund much of the work through community grants.

Sheen Parish Notices

ONE HUNDRED CLUB RESULTS

1 st No 112	M Allock	£20
2 nd No 87	K Cunning	£15
3 rd No 12	H Stubbs	£10
4 th No 80	D Oliver	£7
5 th No 68	A Spendelow	£5.50
6 th No 37	P Hall	£4

Thank you, to all 123 Members

PCC MEETING - 13th May at 7pm in Church. Anyone is welcome to attend the meeting.

FLOWER FESTIVAL MEETING - 5th June at 7.30pm in Church.

FLOWER FESTIVAL - The theme is **SIMPLY RED** we are opening on **SUNDAY MORNING 29TH JUNE** and finishing on Saturday Evening 5th July. Any help or sponsors would be very nice. This year's competition is for a butterfly made out of any materials of your choice. All ages welcome to enter.

THANK YOU – for all the photos, we have now filled our albums and they are now in church for anyone to look at.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – Gift Day Service 11th May, Benefice Service 29th June 7pm, Harvest Service 21st September 7pm, Wakes Service 19th October 7pm, Wakes Coffee Evenig in Sheen Village Hall 24th October , Carol Service 21 December 7pm.

VILLAGE HALL MEETING – 12th May at 8pm in Sheen Village Hall. Anybody is welcome to the meetings.

CHARITY WHIST DRIVE – 16th May at 8pm in Sheen Village Hall. If anyone would like to donate raffle or whist drive prizes please see George or Mona. Thank you for your support.

AEROBICS CLASS – Come and get in shape for Summer. Thursday night from 7pm first time free and after that £2.50 per session in Sheen Village Hall. For more information contact Pam 84809 or Julie 84507. All you need is loose fitting clothing, pair of trainers and a bottle of still water.



POST OFFICE OPENINGS IN SHEEN
Sheen Post office as moved and is now based in Sheen Village Hall. Opening times are Mondays 9am to 1pm.

Cancer Research UK - Race for Life

Many thousands of people and families are cruelly devastated by this disease, and last year 2 members of our close family were diagnosed with Cancer, both only in their forties. We have stood by helplessly watching and trying to give support. On

May 18th 2008 we will be taking part in the Race for Life at Bakewell Showground to help raise money for Cancer Research UK to fund its life-saving work into preventing, treating and diagnosing cancer. We do hope that as many people as possible will be able to sponsor us, this can be done through our fundraising pages online at:

www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/helencritchlow1

or

www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/jennyhurst

We also have a donation collection point at the Craft Centre in Longnor.

Many thanks for your support - together we will beat cancer.

Helen Critchlow & Jenny Hurst.

Hollinsclough Hollinsclough Chapel Flower Festival

Sunday, May 25th to June 1st

Opening service
10am Sunday, 25th May
Rev Colin Smith

Closing service
8pm Sunday, 1st June
Mr Ray Poole

Theme
"The Wonder of Herbs"
Refreshments available



Hollinsclough Action Group

Next meeting is May 12th at 7.30 pm in the Chapel Hall. Everyone welcome.

Litter Pick
Saturday May 17th
Lunch provided

Please meet in the village at 10 am

Planning for Real

The winner of the draw from returned questionnaires was Martin Burrell of Colshaw. Almost 50% were sent in and the results are being collated.

History Live

Our AGM is May 14th at 7.30 pm. All members are welcome at the Chapel Hall.

News from Hollinsclough School

Last year we applied to the Woodland Trust for a free hedge and copse tree planting kit. We were successful in our bid and a pack of about thirty plants arrived for us to put around the school grounds. Hazel Winder and Any Shaw, Peak Park Rangers, supported the children with this task showing them how to achieve the maximum benefit from the new plants.



Michelle Ibbotson, from Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, came in to talk to the children about the importance of recycling. Having already collected an average day's waste the children had to safely sort it into bags, weigh it and log the results onto a recording sheet. The results of the audit will now be used to determine which recycling bins the school will be issued with.

The PTA is busy planning for this year's school fete which will be on Saturday 21st June at 1p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend so please come along to enjoy all the fun. There will be a Fell Race, Pet Show, Fairground rides and lots of other interesting things.

June Wherry, Headteacher

Hollinsclough Chapel

Services for May



OatFest

Bank Holiday Monday

May 5th at 1pm



FREE PARKING & ADMISSION

Car Boot Sale

Loads of Activities including

Wool Spinning, Face Painting,

Oatcake Tossing

Crockery Smashing, Bouncy Castle &

Fun Races

Fire Brigade, Alternative Therapy &

Well Dressing Demos

See the Baby Eagle Owls & Ferrets

Locally Produced Specialities

Sausages, Bacon, Puddings, Preserves

Jewellery & Turned Wood Giftware

Knitwear & Children's Clothing,

Paintings & Candles

Volunteers needed, please contact

Victoria 01298 83721

Home produce needed, please get in

touch with Lynda 01298 83541 or

Betty 01298 83307

Newtown

St. Paul's Church News



Congratulations.

To John and Wendy Mellor on the occasion of their ruby

wedding, which they celebrated with a party at the Winking Man. At their request no presents were given but any donations given would be forwarded to charity. Some £1,200 was raised, £300 of which was given to St Paul's at Newtown, £300 to Monyash Chapel and £600 to the Air Ambulance. Many thanks to you both for this contribution to our church funds.

Donation

Thanks to Mr. Stan Riley for his Easter donation.

Thanks

Many thanks to Ewart, Pauline and family for all the hard work they have done in tidying up the trees in the churchyard. it really does look a lot better and what they have done is much appreciated.

Gradbach Chapel



Open Day

Bank Holiday Monday

May 5th

10am - 4pm

**Local Crafts and
Displays**

From the Readership

**A swarm of bees in May
Is worth a load of hay;
A swarm of bees in June
Is worth a silver spoon;
A swarm of bees in July
Is not worth a fly.**

May and June. Soft syllables, gentle names for the two best months in the garden year: cool, misty mornings gently burned away with a warming spring sun, followed by breezy afternoons and chilly nights. The discussion of philosophy is over; it's time for work to begin.

- Peter Loewer

From the Manse

Dear Friends,

It was cold and draughty standing in Spring Gardens in Buxton as I tried to persuade people to sign Amnesty International cards to be sent to China. People walked by muffled up. I couldn't blame them for not wanting to stop and find out more from this manic preacher who was shouting something about "human rights". Yet, despite the chill wind, some people did stop. They signed a card on behalf of AI's prisoners of conscience and spoke of their concern for what's happening in China.

China seems a long way from Staffordshire Moorlands. Those who are older will remember it as the country ruled over Chairman Mao. Hundreds of thousands died of hunger during the Cultural Revolution as agricultural production was disrupted. Today, it's good to see China emerging as a more prosperous country and becoming a major world power.

Yet, being a world power means that the spot-light is upon it, especially in the year it hosts the Olympics. It must expect the world to ask questions about its internal policies with regard to religious and civil freedom; its hostile attitude to the culture and religious life of Tibet's traditional inhabitants; its support for repressive regimes like Burma and the murder of Black Africans in the Darfur Region of the Sudan; and its policy with regard to CO2 emissions.

This is a long list. No doubt the Chinese government will say that these questions are purely internal matters. It will also ask, and rightly so, searching questions about the west and its engagement with the wider world. Despite this, we aren't separate from China and justice has no boundaries. We use Chinese products. Our environment is affected by Chinese decisions. Many people in many countries have their lives shaped by the decisions made in Beijing.

Christians in Britain will remember our fellow Christians in China, both those in the "officially authorised" churches and in the unofficial churches. For some Christians and some people of other faiths the Chinese state is still repressive. Too many are in jail either for their direct religious beliefs or the political views which stem from their beliefs.

So we engage in the long slog of praying for China, signing Amnesty cards, and applying political pressure. God's work of change often comes because an awkward squad aren't prepared to accept things as they are. My reading of the Bible, is that God is the Life-President of that awkward squad - and invites us to be members of it, too!

With warm greetings,

Colin Smith

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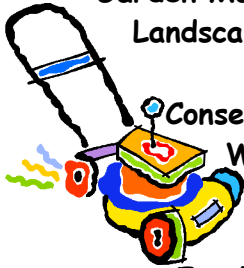
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The Strawberry Moon Festival at Tittesworth Water

**SATURDAY 28 JUNE (11am – 11pm) and
SUNDAY 29 JUNE (11am – 6pm)**

**A fun filled weekend for all the family - with live
music, local talent and all that the Arts can offer**

Once again REAP, in partnership with Severn Trent Water, is delighted to be
hosting The Strawberry Moon Festival - showcasing the very best local talent
in music, dance, drama and crafts.

REAP would like to hear from interesting local community organisations/
groups who want to set up their own display stand at the festival, so as to raise
their groups profile and celebrate the good work that they do. REAP are
offering free areas in which groups can set up.

To find out more or to purchase tickets, please contact us on:

T: 01298 83500 or e-mail enquiries@reapweb.org.uk

Or via our website: www.reapweb.org.uk

Fun-filled festival for all at beautiful Tittesworth Water again

Local talent, live music, and all that the arts can offer on
Saturday June 28 (11am-11pm) and Sunday June 29th (11am-6pm)

The **Strawberry Moon Festival** is a major 'REAP' (Rural Education &
Arts Project) project and will showcase the cream of local talent in
music, drama, dance, crafts and many more art forms at Severn Trent
Waters site, 'Tittesworth Water' near Leek, forming the perfect,
picturesque backdrop. It will additionally be home to a 'Makers
Market' which will be an opportunity to try, taste and buy from local
businesses, from weavers to jewellery makers to ceramicists.

To book tickets, contact us on:

T: 01298 83500 or email enquiries@reapweb.org.uk

or via our website: www.reapweb.org.uk

History Notes

Alstonfield Deanery Magazine

May 1918

LONGNOR.

At the Easter Vestry on April 4th, at Longnor. after the passing of the accounts, the retiring Wardens, MR J. H. Boulton, Mr. E. Malkin, were re-elected, and four Sidesmen appointed, Messrs. J. Bradbury, W. Robinson, F. Tunncliffe, J. Grindey. Votes of thanks were accorded them for their past kind services.

HOLLINSCLOUGH.

March 24th. A very successful Concert for our Soldiers at the Front. £9 8s. sent in gifts.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to Mr. Jas. Tunncliffe, our Hollinsclough Churchwarden, on the death of his wife, also to the relatives of Mr. G. Mellor, of Fawfieldhead, suddenly called Home. We are sorry to hear that Ptes. P. Beresford, John Cundy, G. Riley, are wounded. Corporal. J. and Pt. G. Wheeldon (brothers), and Victor Kidd are prisoners of war, and Pte Knowles is missing. In our family trials as well as in our Nation's, oh that they make us cling closer to our God, and really rely on His Word
My Grace is sufficient for thee.

WAR SAVINGS. Getting towards 2,000 from this parish, viz. Longnor, 1,409 Hollinsclough. 515 (in one month £174) Reapsmoor (in one month £71) Newtown (in six months 156 certificates).

BURIALS.

Mar. 25—Phyllis Mary Oliver, Booseley Grange, Longnor, aged 4 months.

Regretted death of Mrs. Oliver. Senr., the same day, buried at Sheen.

Apl. Tom Ball, Holly Grove, Fawfield Head, Longnor, aged 11 weeks.

30—Emilie Tunncliffe, of Wilshaw Bottom, Hollinsclough. aged 55 years.

30—At E. Sterndale G. Mellor, of Fawfieldhead, Longnor.

May 3—At Warslow, Esther Beresford. of Reaps-moor Top, aged 94 years.

BAPTISM.

Apl. 25—James, son of Robert and Agnes Ellis, Longnor.

A.E. H. STANHAM. B.A., Vicar, Surrogate.

QUARNFGRD AND RAMSHAW.

Funeral. March 22nd, Sarah Ann Downes, Old Hall. Gradbach, aged 66.

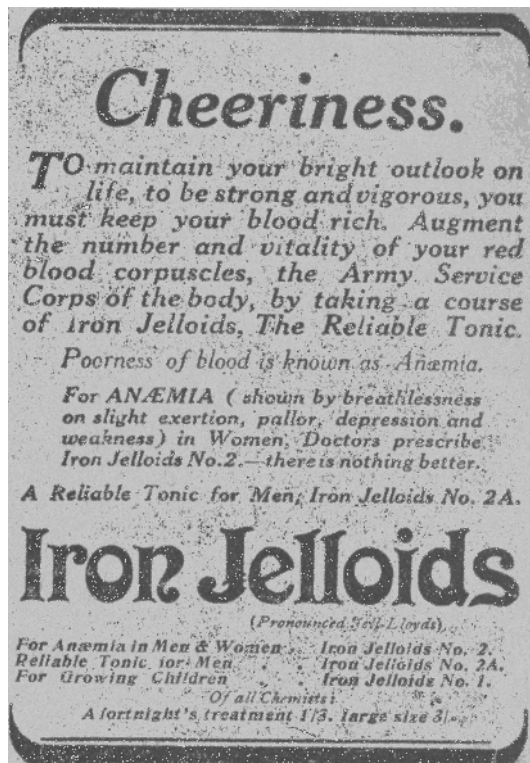
SHEEN.

Baptism. March 24th, Thomas Richard son of Thos. Edward and Martha Annie Cantrell. Crowdicote.

Burial. March 29th, Mary, wife of Thos. Oliver Boosley Grange, aged 53

We record with much regret the death of Mrs. Thos. Oliver. who, before her comparatively recent removal to Boosley Grange had been one of the most generous and regular attendants at our Church. Bodily affliction had struck her hard of late, and from that point of view her death was a merciful release.

God give her rest, refreshment, light and peace. Her husband and children have our deepest sympathy.



May 1958
 LONGNOR.

VESTRY AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL
 CHURCH

MEETING. This was held on the Wednesday of Easter Week. Mr. C. W. Mellor was re-elected Vicar's Warden, and Mr. T. H. Belfield People's Warden. The Vicar thanked them warmly for their work and support in the past year.

At the Annual Meeting the Conference Representatives, the Parochial Church Council and the Sidesmen were all re-elected. At the ensuing Meeting of the P.C.C. Mr. T. F. Meehan was re-elected Secretary and Mr. J. Coates. Treasurer. All were thanked for their support and encouragement during the past year.

HOLY BAPTISM. "Suffer the little children to come unto me." March 80th, Paul Turner.

BURIAL. "I am the Resurrection and the Life." March 24th, Lillian Horobin, aged 56 years.

THANKS. For donation in lieu of flowers in memory of Lillian Horobin :—Mr. and Mrs. W. Percival 10/-.

E. H. FINNEMORE,
 Vicar.

QUARNFORD.

CHURCH WARDENS. At the recent Vestry Meeting Mr. H. Bennett consented to be Vicar's Warden and Mr. C. Percival was elected as People's Warden. They will take their oaths in Leek Parish Church at 2-30 pm, on Wednesday, April 30th.

TROLLEY BIER. Tue Parochial Church Council decided that a trolley bier was necessary for funeral services in Church. The cost of such a bier will be almost forty pounds but it was proposed at the recent meeting that the sum could be raised by means of public subscription. Already the sum of ten pounds has been received.

Will anyone in the parish who feels that the need is worth while be prepared to give to the Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Scruton, or to the Church-wardens, or to myself. Donations would be most gratefully accepted.

BURIAL. Thomas Frederick Mellor. March 25th, aged 67 years.

Donations in Memoriam: Mr. G. F. Hodgkinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Findlow, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Findlow, Mr. and Mrs. F. Findlow, Mr. and Mrs. Heathcote, Mrs. Goodwin (Uttoxeter), Mr. and Mrs. J. Robinson, Mr. W. Wayne, each £1; Mrs. H. Porter, Mr. S Tunnicliffe, Mrs. E. Bodle, Mr. T. Shroud, each 10/-.

ALTAR FLOWERS. May 4th, Mrs. F. King; May 18th, Mrs. W. Wood.

R. W. THOMPSON,
 Vicar.

SHEEN.

Again, repeating my request in last months magazine, I hope ALL will help in the Gift Day on Whit-Sunday, when we want sufficient money to pay off the debt owing to the Midland Electricity Board for the Installation of the new heating apparatus.

NEW WHITE FRONTAL. This was given by Mr James Stubbs in memory of his wife, the late Annie Stubbs. The Frontal, which is a beautiful piece of work done by Wippell & Co., of Exeter, was dedicated on Easter Sunday, a most suitable day.

The money sent "in lieu of flowers"~ by several people already named, is by Mr. Stubbs wish, to be paid into the Electrical Account towards the Heating apparatus: £16 7s. 6d.

MARRIAGE. March 29th, 1958, between Arthur Howson, of this Parish, to Beryl Jones, of Earl Sterndale. May we wish them all good luck in their future life.

BURIAL April 12th, 1958, John Willy Riley, of "Westella," Sheen, aged 83. He will be much missed, for he was a regular visitor to one or two houses, and always he was not at a loss for words. Our sympathies go to those he left behind.

Money in lieu of Flowers: Mary Beswick, of Buxton, 70/-; Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Critchlow, Sheen, 10/-; Mr. and Mrs. H. Broomhead. of Hartington, £1; Mr. and

Mrs. E. Critchlow, Slate house, £1; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver and Reg., £1; Mr., Mrs. And Miss Stubbs, of Buxton, £1; Charlie, Edith and family, of Newhaven Cottage Farm, £1. Total, £6.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR. May -4th, Miss M. Bury; May 11th, Mrs. Jones; May 18th, Mrs. John Critchlow; May 25th, Mrs. L. Goodwin; June 1st, Mrs. H. Birch; June 8th, Mrs. May Gould; June 15th, Mrs. Sutton.

J.V.PHILP, Vicar

Tuesday's Sewing

Skirt.—When making a skirt, close both sides with zip fasteners instead of just one side. This not only looks smart, but the skirt can be worn back to front. This avoids "seating" the skirt, and there is no shiny patch through always sitting on the same part.—MRS. E. SMITH.

Jumper.—When knitting a jumper or cardigan, I always commence the sleeves from the shoulder; in this way they can be so easily lengthened, or the cuffs re-knitted when worn.—Mrs. DAVIES.

Wednesday's Nursing Substitute for ice.—It is not always possible to obtain ice when needed for an invalid. An excellent substitute is one part of milk and one of spirits of wine. Mix together and soak a cloth in it. Then use as you would the ice. It is for external application only.—Miss V. MANNERING.

From the Diocese

Community Spaces, a new £50m Lottery-funded grant programme, has just been launched. It will provide grants and support to community groups wanting to make their neighbourhoods cleaner and greener. Community Spaces will help local people improve and create play areas, community gardens, parks, wildlife areas, ponds, courts, village greens and churchyards. It is funded through the Big Lottery Fund and will make grants of between £10,000 and £49,999 - with some limited grants of up to £450,000. The small and medium grants will be available until January 2011. Applications for the large and flagship grants will be open from summer 2008. Not-for-profit community groups based in England are eligible to apply, including church-based and faith groups. Projects must be within two miles of a residential area and open to the public. For further information about Community Spaces, and to find out how to apply, telephone 0845 3671 671 or visit community-spaces.org.uk.

Connecting Faith and Work

The Black Country Urban Industrial Mission (BCUIM) DVD has been sent out to all rural deans, archdeacons and bishops, and many others besides! BCUIM hope you will see it and ask the questions of your parish: "How could we visit our local workplaces as part of our outreach"? And: "How could we help members of our congregation make better connections between their faith and their work"? The DVD addresses industrial/workplace chaplaincy and the connection between "Church" and "Work" and is of relevance outside the Black Country and in rural as well as urban settings.

To view the DVD ask to borrow your rural dean's copy or seek your own copy for your parish. You can also watch it on YouTube (in two parts) at youtube.com/DrakeGavin. There is also a study guide on the BCUIM website: bcuim.co.uk.

The BCUIM are keen to hear from anyone who is doing workplace visiting in places other than the Black Country so they can share experiences. And they are holding an exploration session: "Connecting Faith and Work" on Wednesday 30th April at St Luke's Church, Selborne Street, The Chuckery, Walsall WS1 2JN from 12.00 Midday until 4.00pm starting with lunch. The day costs £7.00, which includes the lunch.

For more details contact the Revd Olwen Smith in the BCUIM office on 01902 710407 or e-mail enquiries@bcuim.co.uk.

Mission Shaped Ministry One Year Course

The first Mission Shaped Ministry one year training course, run by Lichfield Diocese in conjunction with Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury and Stoke and Chester Methodist Districts, is currently under way and feedback from the first 30 participants has been very encouraging. The training course will start again from 20th September 2008.

It will equip leaders and potential leaders of fresh expressions of church and is for clergy, church leaders, teams and anybody involved in, or exploring, a pioneering initiative in mission.

The year-long programme consists of six evenings at a choice of two local venues (Stoke and Telford), three Saturdays held centrally in Stafford and a residential weekend. During the year participants will

complete 24 units ranging from a theology of mission to sustaining a fresh expression. Participants will be coached through the process of setting up a fresh expression and will form lasting learning networks to ensure the health and growth of fresh expressions. Teachers this year have included the Revd Dr Steve Croft, Archbishop's Missioner; and Bob & Mary Hopkins, from Anglican Church Planting Initiatives ; as well as pioneers and local leaders.

The cost per participant is £300 which includes all the course notes, refreshments at all the sessions including lunch on the Saturdays and the residential fees. To book a place, or for further information, please contact the course administrator, Mrs Diane Woolridge, on 01785 824965 or e-mail diwoolridge@btinternet.com. Further details, including a booking form, can also be downloaded from the Going for Growth section of the Intranet - intranet.lichfield.anglican.org/growth.

A celebration of Church / School links will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 3rd June in St Michael's CofE(c) First School's Hall, Weavers Lane, Stone. The evening will focus on the 'Adventurers' out of hours Christian Club which is supported and funded jointly by the school and the congregations of St Michael and St Wulfad, Stone with St Saviours, Aston. There will be an opportunity to meet some of the members, helpers and leaders of the club. The evening will show a 'snapshot' of the work that has been done and is ongoing. There will be a buffet supper and it is hoped that this will be a time for people to chat and share ideas. There will be a collection of resources on display and also a basic resource pack with suggested programs, ideas, useful contacts etc available to purchase (at a cost of £10.00).

This celebration marks the conclusion of a Farmington Fellowship grant from the Harris Manchester College of Oxford University. If you would like to attend or order a resource pack, please contact Paula Lloyd by e-mail: paula.lloyd@lichfield.anglican.org.

Faith groups in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent contribute more than £4.4 million each year in volunteer hours, according to a social action faith audit carried out by the Saltbox Christian Centre and the Diocese of Lichfield working with the Chester & Stoke-on-Trent Methodist District, Staffordshire Consortium of Infrastructure Organisations, Staffordshire County Council, Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service and the West Midlands Faiths' Forum. Some 551 projects took part in the audit which, in addition to Christian churches, included Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist, Baha'i, Hindu and multi-faith groups. The findings show that, when combined with the Stoke-on-Trent audit, some 64,000 people use faith-based community facilities each week. The facilities include Mums and Toddlers' groups and after-schools projects for children, detached work with young people, lunch clubs and activities for the elderly and support for vulnerable people, including the homeless, ex-offenders and refugees and asylum seekers. Full details of the Staffordshire audit, together with the earlier Stoke-on-Trent faith audit, can be seen online at saltbox.org.uk.

The St Jude's Hostel Fund was established by investing the proceeds of the sale of a hostel in Wolverhampton. The annual income of the fund is used for the "care and relief of young persons resident within the Diocese of Lichfield who are under 18 years of age, including the

prevention of youthful delinquency and the rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents" In practice, this means that modest grants (average £250, maximum £500) are available for church-based clubs and similar projects, and supporting church-sponsored holiday places for children and young people. Any parish-based Christian work with young people will be considered, especially in socially deprived areas. Further details and an application form are available from Mrs Jean Overton, St Jude's Hostel Fund, St Mary's House, The Close, Lichfield, WS13 7LD; or e-mail: jean.overton@lichfield.anglican.org.

Applications should be returned to Jean Overton by the end of May each year for mid-year projects, but applications at other times are acceptable.

The Independent on Sunday is planning a campaign celebrating the life and work of people who have made stunning contributions to their community and society at large. They are looking for potential nominees who have dedicated themselves to benefiting others. As an example, they're thinking of people like Mr and Mrs Whitbourn from York (recently honoured with an MBE for services to their community) who devoted 28 years to fostering 74 children or Anne Glover from Leicester who almost single-handedly transformed her crime-ridden estate into a safe a propseperous neighbourhood. However, we are also eager to show that there are fun and alternative ways to promote happiness and well-being (i.e. story tellers, clowns, fitness/yoga instructors who give free lessons, comedians or individuals who use comedy and fun as a means to raise money for good causes and so on). Please be as free as you like in interpreting the brief and coming up

with suggestions. The newspaper says they aim to "simply to bring into light interesting and inspiring stories that might help to promote the ideals of selflessness and public enrichment." If you would like to nominate anybody from your community please contact George Webster at the Independnt on Sunday on 020 70052630 or e- mail webstergeorgey@gmail.com.