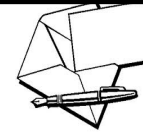




**St. John's Methodist Church
Whitchurch**

July/August 2019 Newsletter

Message from the Manse



Once upon a time, I did what some might call a "real job". I worked for Pilkington Glass, in their IT Department. I spent 13 years there in various roles. Towards the end of my time there, the IT Department was rehomed; instead of the offices we'd used for most of my career, we were moved into what had previously been the Pilkington Glass Museum - which was something of a dusty relic except for occasional exhibitions - one of them was by Buffy Robinson, the Batik Artist who lives at Grindley Brook! However, as the air conditioning could be rather fierce, one particularly hot summer saw the bizarre spectacle of people arriving at work in summer clothes, only to start putting on jumpers as they entered the building....

Part of the problem was that The Pavilion, as it was then renamed, was included in the Listed Building Status of the Pilkington Head Office. So we weren't allowed to just put a window in the back. It goes to show - it doesn't matter if you're a Multinational Company or a Church, being in a Listed Building has its pitfalls!

All of this is really to say that I'm still on Sabbatical, and in fact this letter is being written at the start of May. So I'm afraid I have no idea how the summer is going for any of you, any more than I could tell from my office what it was like outside back then. But I do hope and pray that you are having a good Summer, wherever and whatever you are doing, and I look forward to being back with you at the end of August.

God Bless

Rob

TEA & COFFEE ROTA for July & August 2019



July	7th.	Elizabeth & Peter Shingler
	14th.	Hazel & Mike Nimmo
	21st.	Sue Davies & Dorothy Faulkner
	28th.	Ruth Dawson & Einwen Kelly
August	4th.	Sue Davies & Dorothy Faulkner
	11th.	Linda Jenkins & Sarah Lunt
	18th.	Elizabeth & Peter Shingler
	25th,	Sheila Latham & Dot Charlesworth

Spick and Spanners for July & August 2019

4th July Einwen Kelly, Ruth Dawson & Sheila Latham

18th July Nancy Millington, Beryl Posniak &
Brenda Dudley

1st August: Elizabeth Shingler, Briony Miles-
Hook & Linda Jenkins



15th August Mike Nimmo, Vic Trigg & Dorothy Faulkner

Dear Friends

As my life enters a new Decade I have been reflecting on some of the changes that have taken place in my Christian life.

I was born into a Baptist family went to a well attended Church in Essex. On moving to Shropshire in 1961 I became part of the Methodist Family amongst a large congregation. On moving to Whitchurch I was welcomed into the life of St John's. As is seen throughout the country our congregation continues to decline despite efforts to spread the word amongst all the New Houses in Whitchurch. We have gained a few members as others pass on.

A lot of time is spent by your Stewards on thinking how we can meet the financial problems of a Grade II listed building & not on the Spiritual needs of you all.

We all need to consider how we can continue the dream of Mr Becket in providing Whitchurch with a wonderful Methodist Church. He left us a legacy which in today's terms provides a small income each year. We need to consider if we can increase our weekly giving & if we could provide a legacy to keep St John's for those who come after us. Now that we have completed the vision of others before us to provide access for all let it not be wasted.

I hope you enjoyed the wonderful series of lunch time concerts as much as I did. Thanks to Ruth & her team for all the years of organising them. Now we need to consider who can take up the mantle so as Ruth can have a well deserved rest from organising.

May the Lord Bless & Guide you as you contemplate these matters. There will be lots happening in ST John's during the coming year to spread the fellowship of the Lord amongst our town; we look forward to a successful future for Methodism in Whitchurch.

God Bless you All

Pete

FUTURE EVENTS AT ST JOHN'S

There is a flyer at the back of the Church showing future events at St John's over the Summer and Autumn. Please take one for your friends and neighbours and encourage them to come along.

JUMBLE & NEARLY NEW SALE – Saturday 6th July 10am-12

Please bring your Jumble and Nearly New items of clothing, bric a brac etc to the church on Friday 5th July between 2pm and 4pm. Everything and anything is welcome including shoes, bags, toys, books and small electrical items in working order. Please let us know if you have any clothes rails or spare hangers we could borrow. If you need anything to be collected, or if you can help to set up or assist on the day please speak to Briony or Lynn.

MESSY CHURCH Monday 22nd July 9.30-11.30am

Parents, Carers, Grandparents! Bring your children to our Church and stay for free holiday fun and food. Hear how Jesus fed 5000 people with one small basket of food and discover that a small action goes a long way.

Join in with craft activities, stories and games or come along and help. See Helen or Briony for more information

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2019

This year, Christian Aid week focussed on the needs of women experiencing pregnancy and birth without access to medical care.

£20 could buy a stethoscope to check on the health of mums and babies, £60 could fund a community worker's kit including a bicycle and torch so they can visit rural communities

£300 could pay for a delivery bed so women can give birth safely.

In Whitchurch we raised £2885 to make a huge difference to the lives of many women and their families by helping to make births safer.

Thank you to everyone who delivered envelopes, collected, gave and prayed.



Helen Trigg

REPORT OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – 12th June 2019

The Church Council meeting on 12th June was chaired by Deacon Jill Taylor as Rev Rob Weir is on Sabbatical. A copy of the minutes from this meeting can be seen on the noticeboard in the vestry and if you would like to look at the documents referred to, please ask! At the meeting, Gwen Reeves and Briony Myles-Hook were approved as new Pastoral Visitors. The **next Church Council meeting is on Wednesday 9th October at 7pm**. Anyone is welcome to attend.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

People from our Church Family are needed to fulfil the following roles:

- **Safeguarding Officer This is vital** (see Hazel Nimmo)
- A volunteer to join the **Hospital Chaplaincy** team (see Avril Bradfield)
- Volunteers to support **Parents & Toddlers** (see Janet Lees)

A new team to review the next stage of the refurbishment work and consider how to use the new spaces we have created inside and outside the church.

Please consider if you may be able to help in anyway.

OUTING TO LLANDUDNO on Sat 13th July

Each year St. Alkmund's runs a parish trip to Llandudno. This year they are extending the invitation to the other churches in the town. The coach leaves Whitchurch at 9.00am and sets off back from Llandudno at 4.00pm. The time in Llandudno is free for you to do as you wish.

To book: please ring Sheila Chase on 01948 662738 or Revd Judy on 01948 667253 or put your name on the list at the back of St Alkmund's Church

Cost: £10 / adult; £5.00 / child but church children free.

This has to be paid in advance. Payment by cash please – if before the day, in a marked envelope through the Rectory door or given to a St Alkmund's Church Officer.

On the way back from Llandudno, there will be a raffle in aid of the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust as well as a collection for the driver.

Ride & Stride Saturday 14th September

It seems a long way off but as there is no Newsletter in August, this is to remind you of the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust's annual fund raiser, which we usually support.

More information will appear in Pew News at the beginning of September but the usual format is for many churches in Shropshire to be open from 10am to 6pm so that walkers/cyclists or drivers can visit as many as they can and use sponsorship to raise money.

We usually have a coffee morning from 10am to 12 noon but I am hoping that some of you might get together and drive round with either individual or group sponsorship. If you would like more information beforehand please contact me, Chris Crowther, on 667282 or speak to me at Church or you can go on the SHCT website at www.shropshirehct.org.uk

Pray, Think, Act Meeting - Advance Notice

The next meeting of the Pray, Think, Act Group is on Thursday 11th July at 7.30 at Glebe House (Michael & Ruth Mulliner's home). As always, everyone is very welcome to join us - we would love to see you there. At the meeting we will be discussing the following:

- Prayer Initiatives - triplets & prayer chain
- Worship Review - gathering thoughts, views & insights
- Healthy Churches Questionnaire - September

If you are not able to make the meeting, we would really value your prayers. As we have said before, prayer is work just as much as practical action! Please do speak to me if you have any questions, or would like to discuss in more detail.

Jenny Marston

Quotes

"Life may not have been the party we'd hoped for, but we might As well dance whilst we are here."

"In life you make bouquets with the flowers within your reach."

"Rain falls because the clouds cannot hold the rain. Tears fall because the heart cannot handle the pain."

*"I believe in the sun even though it does not shine
I believe in love even though I don't feel it.
I believe in God even though he is absent."*

(Found written in a concentration Camp)

Most things are preserved well in alcohol. Dignity is not one of them. (!!)

Opening Ceremony

Our opening ceremony for the Access For All Project took place last Saturday 27th June.

It was a wonderful occasion, attended by many friends Past & Present. We were delighted to welcome some members of the Whitchurch Town Council, including the Mayor, Councillor Bev Duffy. We were also honoured by the presence of our local MP Owen Paterson. We hope that Brexit was not mentioned! However, the star of the show was our very own Reg Hall, who cut the ribbon to declare that the Access Project was well and truly open! Thanks also to Revd. Michael Parrott who addressed the gathering with some well chosen words.

Many thanks to all those who helped with all the arrangements.

FUNDRAISING!

Jumble / Nearly New Sale 10 -12 am Next Saturday 6th July (See poster on next page).

Please start collecting clothing, shoes, bags and bric-a-brac for our sale to raise money to repay the loan for the building work. Nearly new items will be hung on rails and jumble will be heaped on tables. Small electrical items that work e.g. lamps will be PAT tested by Lyn before the sale. Bags of Items can be brought to church from Sunday 30th June but if you need to clear them sooner or want them collected speak to Briony or Lyn. Items not sold will be donated to Charity Shops.

Offers to help on the day or set up on Friday 5th July would be much appreciated!

Art Show Friday 9th & Sat 10th August

There will be an Art Show again this year on Fri 9th & Sat 10th August. If you are able to help with setting up on Thurs 8th August or with teas and coffees or on the door during the show, please speak to Dot Charlesworth.

SALE

JUMBLE and NEARLY NEW

Saturday 6th July 10am-12

Tops Trousers Skirts Coats
Jackets Dressing Gowns
Swimwear

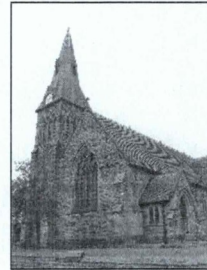
Jumble

Windsmoor Jack Wills
Hollister Zara Next M&S
Debenhams

Ladies

Ralph Lauren Calvin Klein
Superdry Next Zara M&S

Men



Bags Shoes Boots
Jewellery

Accessories

China Glass Lamps
Books Jigsaws

Home

St John's Methodist Church Whitchurch
(the one by Iceland!)

Entry £1 includes tea or coffee

Book Stewards for July & August

7th July Mary Scott
14th July Nancy Millington
21st July May Arthan
28th July Sarah Lunt

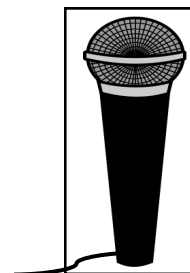


4th August Susan Davies
11th August Mary Scott
18th August Nancy Millington
25th August Sheila Walwyn

Sound System Operators for July & August

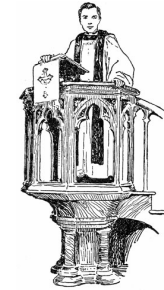
7th July David Whiteley
14th July Andrew Fawcett
21st July Gordon Davidson
28th July Mike Nimmo

4th August Gordon Davidson
11th August Mike Nimmo
18th August Andrew Fawcett
25th August Jim Walwyn



JULY/AUGUST SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S

7th Jul	Revd. Edna Perry (HC)
14th Jul	Revd. Jenny Arthurs (Baptism)
21st Jul	Fiona Weir
28th Jul	Michael Shingler
4th Aug	Reader's Service
11th Aug	Elizabeth Jennings
18th Aug	Jeanette Smith
25th Aug	Revd. Rob Weir (HC)



Network Outing to Wyndhurst

I am pleased to let you know that the July Network meeting on Tuesday 23rd, will once again be an outing to Wyndhurst, by kind invitation of Norman and Elaine Gollins. If you missed the last Network meeting, the list will be at the back of Church for a couple of Sundays beforehand. Please sign up and indicate whether you need transport or can provide transport.

Flowers Rota for July & August 2019

July 7th. Sheila Latham
 14th. Joan Morgan
 21st.. Susan Davies
 28th. Jean Fisher

August 4th. Brenda Dudley
 11th. Hazel Burlton
 18th Sheila Jones
 25th Gwen Reeves

September 1st. Brenda Aumeer



Stewards and Worship Leaders for July & August

<i>July</i>	<i>7th.</i>	<i>Avril Bradfield</i>	<i>Lucy Chidlow</i>
	<i>14th.</i>	<i>Maurice Latham</i>	<i>Rachel Dimelow</i>
	<i>21st.</i>	<i>Brian Faulkner</i>	<i>Lucy Chidlow</i>
	<i>28th.</i>	<i>Peter Shingler</i>	<i>Lucy Chidlow</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>4h.</i>	<i>Brian Faulkner</i>	<i>Rachel Dimelow</i>
	<i>11th.</i>	<i>Avril Bradfield</i>	<i>Rachel Dimelow</i>
	<i>18th.</i>	<i>Maurice Latham</i>	<i>Lucy Chidlow</i>
	<i>25th.</i>	<i>Peter Shingler</i>	<i>Rachel Dimelow</i>

Taxi Rota for July & August 2019

The following drivers are available during July & August to transport you to the services. Please 'phone before 9:30am.

July	7th.	Brian
	14th.	Sheila
	21st.	Avril
	28th.	Hazel
August	4th.	Sheila
	11th.	Brian
	18th.	Hazel
	25th.	Avril

Pastoral Matters

Sad to report that Derek Morris has had a fall and has fractured his thigh. He is currently in Leighton Hospital

Nancy Green has also had a fall. She is recovering at home.

Kay Kynaston has had a fall and is currently recovering in Whitchurch Hospital.

How Christ is made present in the world today.

Our world is in turmoil due to war, poverty, changing legislation and political unrest, where people want instant answers and think that happiness is something that can be bought. People are unhappy, struggling with mental health, financial pressures and where words are used on social media to influence, gain favour and destroy lives – Christ stands in their midst. The Methodist Church like other denominations are facing change, dwindling congregations populated with older people having to decide to continue as they are or close – Christ stands in their midst. Christ is in the conversations on street corners, in the towns and cities. Christ is in the hearts of those donating to foodbanks and trying to be a good neighbour. Christ is in the social action stories, standing up and speaking out to reduce poverty and hardship. Christ stands in the midst of all of this.

As a nation, there is a growing awareness of the need for stand up against injustice, to challenge the misconceptions and misinformation that floods our world. As Christians we are called to love our neighbours as ourselves (Matthew 28 v 39), as Methodists we are called to live out our faith demonstrating 'Our Calling' and helping communicate the Message of Christ and the 'Four All's – through worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism we keep Christ as the central focus of our faith and demonstrate this, building relationships and standing with people to make a difference through Christ, presenting Christ to the world within which we live, demonstrating Christ's presence in our world.

Methodism started at grass roots level with John Wesley, George Whitefield and others going to where people were, into fields, into towns, to the coal pit face, and telling them of the love of God. People who may have been classed as on the margins of society in John Wesley's time, throughout history and now in our time – need Christ. We need to be able to talk about our faith to others, to direct people to God through our actions and words. For some seeing faith lived out daily is a strong witness that enables conversations – enabling others to find their own voice to speak up.

God is bringing the church back to basics, to the important aspects of life, to the Gospel of Christ and Kingdom values, stripping away the baggage that we bring

with us to church and take home again. God is challenging the church to be the body of Christ and to meet the needs of those within our communities. Christ is not hidden in our communities, yet we don't always see him at work - perhaps we are not looking in the right places. Christ is in the relationships and the conversations at the bus stop or train station. Christ is in the opportunities that God gives us, Christ is in our actions.

For people to see Christ at work in the world, they need to be able to see Christ in us through our actions and our words, not just on a Sunday but through our daily journey and encounters. Christ is made present through relationships that we have and build with others.

In our communities where people are struggling to put food on the table or feed the children during the school holidays we can make Christ known, through our community links with Foodbanks, through helping support regular opportunities where food collections are completed in the supermarkets or by providing children's events during school holidays that include a meal.

For those that we know who are struggling financially we may be able to share with them the work of Christians Against Poverty and direct people to the nearest group or set one up in our community. We may be aware of a specific need that we are able to support, providing help to those in need. This might be specific and directed towards a person that we know through conversation or simply be through sharing a link on social media to raise awareness of a situation or a petition that is being brought before Parliament by the Joint Public Issues Team.

The church is a witness within the community, we have opportunities as Christians to demonstrate Christ's life to others through actions and words, through joint denominations events and being part of Churches Together in our areas. The partnership with other churches in our areas allows us to stand up against injustice to present a joined-up approach – to support and to stand with people in times of difficulty and joy. Christ is made present in our world through us the body of Christ.

Submitted by Fiona Weir

Future Events at St John's Methodist Church

Why not join us at one of the following events?



**Jumble Sale / Nearly New Sale
July 10am-12**

Sat 6th

Messy Church

**Mon 22nd July 9.30-
11.30am**

**(Free fun for Children aged 3-
10 years with an adult)**

**Art Exhibition
10th**

**Fri 9th August/Sat
Aug 10am -4pm**

Coffee morning for Ride & Stride

Sat 14th Sept 10am-12

Auction of promises/Attic Auction

Sat 28th Sept 7pm

Harvest Coffee morning

Sat 5th Oct 10am -12

Harvest Festival

Sun 6th Oct 10.30am

Concert by Newport Male Voice Choir Fri 18th Oct 7.30pm

Quiz and Fish & Chip Supper

Fri 1st Nov 7pm

**Games Night with mulled apple juice Fri 15th Nov
7pm**

Summer suns are glowing
Over land and sea
Happy light is flowing
Bountiful and free;

Everything rejoices
In the mellow rays,
All earth's thousand voices
Swell the psalm of praise.

Pray, Think, Act Meeting -11th July

The next meeting of the Pray, Think, Act Group is on Thursday 11th July at 7.30 pm at Glebe House (Michael & Ruth's home)

As always, everyone is very welcome to join us - we would love to see you there. At the meeting we will be discussing the following:

Prayer Initiatives - triplets & prayer chain

Worship Review - gathering thoughts, views & insights

Healthy Churches Questionnaire - September

If you are not able to make the meeting, we would really value your prayers. As we have said before, prayer is work just as much as practical action!

Please do speak to me if you have any questions, or would like to discuss in more detail.

Jenny Marston

THANKS

Our thanks go, once again, to Lynn Fowler, who very kindly invited us to stroll round her garden and to enjoy tea and cakes last Thursday. Her gardens, were, as usual, immaculate and we were blessed with good weather. Congratulations Lynn & Laurence - and thank you for asking us again!





Colour my world!

I love colour! Rarely will you see me wearing dowdy beige, grey or black unless of course it is especially called for of course. Think how terrible this world would be without our colours!

GREEN: A natural colour of nature it is everywhere around us – the lush green fields, the magnificent trees every shade from palest lime to deep forest green – the colour of new life and of promise! Indeed the line of one of my favourite hymns incorporates this colour 'Now the green blade rises from the hidden grain, love lives again that in the earth has been, love is come again like wheat that springs up green'

BLUE: One of my favourite colours. The sheer wonder and intensity of the sky on a summer day, the blue green ocean, bluebells and delphiniums, The innocent blue of a new babies eyes viewing the world for the first time – so very beautiful!

YELLOW: A happy colour! Of sunshine buttercups, the humble dandelion and magnificent daffodils at Easter time, of golden eggs and rich butter it is said that painting a room in this colour brings good feelings and happiness,

RED: A powerful colour, red roses on Valentines day, the poppies on remembrance day as they flow down reminding us of lives wasted and lost. Most importantly our life blood working every hour to keep us alive! The line of the hymn 'O love that wilt not let me go' has a verse that says 'And from the ground there blossoms red, life that shall endless be' so very moving if you think about it. Also red is the colour of danger of course and so important on our traffic lights to warn us of hazards,

PINK: Bubble gum and candy floss! Little girls and frills. A gently calming colour so very feminine and pretty Flamingos and shrimps, rosy cheeks of children.

ORANGE: A bold showy colour, of big ripe juicy oranges hanging from the trees. The flames in our bonfires in November – a bright and warming colour. A colour used in some of our Easter religions by hold men,

PURPLE: The most majestic of our colours. It is found in many churches for religious purposes, of bold iris so very elegant. The amethyst with it's dark heart from palest lilac to deepest purple. A contemplative colour used in meditation.

WHITE: The purest of our colours. The colour of snow and ice of bridal veils and baby shawls and nappies. Of milk that is so freely available to us to nourish us from our birth.

BLACK: The colour of night, of evils, the colour of death....
At my funeral I have requested no black to be worn as I have loved colour so much in my life – to celebrate this.

How sad it would be if our world was devoid of colour - the blind must find it so hard to imagine the colours of our world. Charlie Landsborough, a folk singer from many years ago had a song where a blind child asked 'What colour is the wind Daddy is it yellow red or blue?'

Maybe one comes to imagine things have a colour to identify them in the mind ,
We must celebrate the colours of our world and thank our God – whatever we imagine him to be for the beautiful world we live in with it's many colours of so many hues.

Sheila Walwyn

SAFEGUARDING FOUNDATION/REFRESHER COURSE

Please note that David Maidment, Circuit Safeguarding Co-ordinator, will run a Foundation/Refresher Safeguarding Course at St John's on Wednesday 11th September 2019.

Those who are required to attend a Safeguarding Course are members who are Stewards; Local Preachers; Pastoral Visitors; Junior Church Leaders, Parents & Toddlers Leaders or anyone who is involved with children, young people or vulnerable adults in any capacity within the church.

If you have take up a role which requires you to attend a Safeguarding Course, or you attended the Safeguarding Course held in Nantwich back in 2012 and have **not** attended a Refresher course since then, you should put this date in your diary and try your best to attend, particularly as this course is being held in Whitchurch which saves a trip to attend a course in Nantwich.

Hazel Nimmo

Our Prayer Board

Our Prayer Board allows us to ask for people who need our prayers.



There are postcards which you can fill in and pin to the board, or you can write prayers in the Prayer Book so that these can be mentioned during services.

Midday Concerts

The month of May at St John's has, for many years, meant "Midday Concert Time".



This year has been no different. We have met some new "artistes" and some old friends came back to support us as well. Everyone seems to enjoy coming back, and of course, we do love seeing them again! This picture is of the White House Choir who sang during our last concert.

We do thank everyone for helping us in so many ways—providing flowers, moving the piano and stage as well as organising and providing the food.

Thanks to the publicity team, and, in particular, thanks to Chris and all her kitchen teams for all their hard work.

Ruth Mulliner

A Date For Your Diary

Friday 18th October 2019 at 7.30pm

Newport Male Voice Choir

No entry fee. No Tickets

Donations welcome

PRAYER REQUESTS

St John's

Thank God for the many ways He continues to bless and encourage us at St John's.

Pray for those known to us personally who are in any kind of need: particularly members of St John's who are ill, housebound, in care, lonely or bereaved.



Ask that the Pray, Think, Act Group will be instrumental in moving us forward spiritually, according to God's will and purpose, and not according to our 'good ideas'. Pray that the worship review will supply us with the feedback we need to further enrich our worship. (Do get involved in the review!)

Pray for our minister, Rob Weir, that his time on sabbatical will be time well spent and that he returns to ministry refreshed and renewed by the Holy Spirit.

Our nation

At this time of confusion and turmoil let us bring our nation before God in prayer:

Continue to pray that MPs be given fresh vision and unity that they may work together for the good of our nation rather than from selfish ambition or other motives.

Give thanks for our Queen who continues to serve our nation faithfully and who is not afraid to say how important her Christian faith is to her.

Pray God's protection on family life, which is the building block of a stable society and which is being systematically under-

mined.

Pray that God will guard our freedom of speech and freedom of belief, and that Christians will be given understanding, perseverance and courage to stand up for, and defend our faith.

Our World

Thank God for the very many good things happening in our world, things that we often take for granted. Remember that God is Sovereign Lord over all and that His plans and purposes will prevail, even though in the short term it may not seem like it.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6), for truth and righteousness in Israeli politics and for God's purpose for the nation.

Give thanks for the 50,000 people who attended the various Pentecost celebrations in Germany on June 9th. A survey conducted in May 2019 showed that only 39% of the population believe in the 'existence of a god' – be it Christian, Jewish, Muslim or of another religion. Ask that these celebrations bring glory to God by bearing much fruit for His Kingdom.

Give thanks for that over 5000 people responded publicly to Gospel messages at recent events in Singapore – pray that these people will find a local church where they can be nurtured in their new found faith, and truly become disciples of Jesus Christ.

*Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.
Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.*

(Psalm 105:1-2)

Access is finished. Now what?

Well, so, it's all over and finished.
Over and done with.

Now what? Where do we go from here?

As I write this, on 21st June, I can't believe that the work is still not complete. The coping stones are being installed and next week the handrails will be in place. Wow! Just in time for the Opening Ceremony on 29th June! Don't forget, the work started way back on 7th January!



So what do you think now that the work has finished? Has it all been worthwhile? Our building is much more “friendly” and “fit for purpose” now. We have easier access around the building without going up and down steps and ramps. I wonder how many of you, like me, still want to go through the Vestry to get to the toilets/ Long Room/ Guild Room/kitchen? How much easier it is now!

The outside ramps mean easier access to our building. Easier for push chairs, prams, buggies, disability scooters and funeral gurneys. The building is so much brighter with lots of light – I'm told that our church is a beacon of light on a hill at night! Roll on the dark nights when I can see for myself!

When we get back to normal, when the Opening Ceremony is all over, then what? What will all the changes mean for our church? Will anything be different? What will we decide to do with the new space by our new door? Do you have any ideas? If so, please let one of the Stewards know. Unfortunately, one of the legacies of this project has been that we have had to borrow money to complete the job, so, our immediate task is to repay this debt. We have a series of events planned, the first of which is the Jumble Sale on 6th July. Also, please don't forget our Autumn Concert featuring the Newport Male Voice Choir on Friday 18th October 2019.

I pose the question again – will anything be different now that we

have such an easily accessible church? Hopefully, people will look at the outside and be curious about what is going on inside. Our mission must be to share our faith with friends who have yet to find Jesus. If we don't do that, then everything will have been a waste of time – wont it?

So what is the legacy of the Project? What are left with? We now have a bright, well – lit, easily accessible building. It is up to us as a church to decide how to go forward. Unfortunately, it has left the church in debt and that is an issue which Church Council will have to address. We have planned a series of money raising events so that we can re-pay our debts. Please do your best to support us in as many events as possible. You will recall that we had planned to push ahead with Phase II which is the refurbishment of the interior of the church, but Church Council have decided to shelve that for the time being. Let's get our feet back on the ground, take stock, and then decide how we move forward.

On a personal note, and as I said at the Annual Church General Meeting, it is time to hand over the reins to someone else, so I am stepping down. The journey has been a long one – and it's not just about me. I acknowledge all the pioneering work done by Michael Mulliner, and, more recently, Mike Nimmo.

JRW

From Maurice Latham, our Senior Steward

I am sad to say that at our last Church Council Meeting Jim Walwyn announced that he is resigning from Council. I am sure that you will all join me in offering our most grateful thanks for all the work he has done for our church over the years, especially over the last few months as project managing the Access Project.

Perhaps Jim will just take a Sabbatical! I hope you will have a long and happy break from church affairs, and remember that there will always be a chair at Church Council if you change your mind!

Maurice Latham, Senior Steward

Editor: Thanks Maurice! A bit embarrassing, but thanks for your kind words!

FARM VISIT

A number of us took up the opportunity to visit the Dimelow's Farm on Farm Monday. Graham & Rachel had gone to a lot of trouble to provide lots of information on the different aspects of the farm, slowing the milking process down in order that we could see it. Having large machinery that we could see close up, even Muller's were there giving out milk shakes! Refreshments were provided with donations to St. John's and Tallarn Green. £90 has been received towards our Access Fund. As we thank Graham & Rachel for allowing us to visit, they in turn thank you for making the effort to come into such a rural area.



DATA PROTECTION

As a Church, we are beginning to consider how we protect our member's personal information from identity theft. Therefore, you may notice some changes in what information appears in the Newsletter. The Circuit is also working through this process so the next Preaching Plan (September) may be a lot different, watch this space!

If you have any thoughts on this, can you please speak with one of the Church Stewards.

You can play your part by ensuring that this and every copy is disposed of correctly.

Quotes:

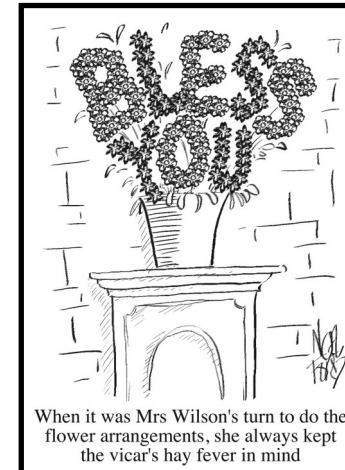
The sanctity of marriage and the family relation make the cornerstone of our society and civilisation. – *H Garfield*

No man ever became extremely wicked all at once. – *Juvenal*

It is not by the grey of the hair that one knows the age of the heart. – *Sir Henry Bulwer*

Try praising your wife – even if it does frighten her at first. *Billy Sunday*

Smile!



Signs found outside churches

- If you don't like the way you were born, try being born again.
- This is a ch_ _ch What is missing? (U R)
- Forbidden fruit creates many jams.
- In the dark? Follow the Son.
- Running low on faith? Stop in for a fill-up.
- If you can't sleep, don't count sheep. Talk to the Shepherd.

Nearly omnipotent

The curate was giving his young daughter a cuddle before she went to bed. As he picked her up and hugged her tight, she said: "Daddy, you're so strong! I really think you'll be God one day!"

Regular Church Activities

Mondays 9:30-11:30am Parents & Toddlers (Term time)

Thursdays 7pm: Music Group Practice

1st/3rd Tuesdays at 7.30pm: Bible Study at 7 Queen's Road

2nd/4th Thursdays at 7:30pm - Prayer Meeting at 7 Queen's Rd.

2nd Wednesday of the month - 2pm: Bible Study at St. John's

4th Thursday of the month - 7:30pm: Cafe Church

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 2nd July 7.30pm Worship Committee

Saturday 6th July 10-12 Jumble/Nearly New Sale at St. John's

Thursday 11th July 7:30pm Think Pray Act at Glebe House

Saturday 13th July St. Alkmund's Llandudno Outing

Friday/Saturday 9/10th August Art Exhibition at St. John's

September 2019 Newsletter

Please let Vic Trigg have all your submissions for the next Newsletter by 18th August 2019.

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Pictured (L to R) are Matt Leach (Foreman), Andy Chamberlain & Andy Cowell (Stone Edge) and Ian Lucas (Architect).

And finally.....

A sincere thanks to everyone for all their help during the Access Project.

Thanks to Stone Edge the Contractors. Thanks to the architects, Byrom Clark Roberts - in particular thanks to Ian Lucas for all his advice and guidance

We thank the local traders in the town who have supported us by placing an advert in our magazine.

Thanks to the Stewards for all their help & support - particularly Pete, Maurice and Brian.

And lastly, thanks to the church family for all their patience and understanding during the last six months.

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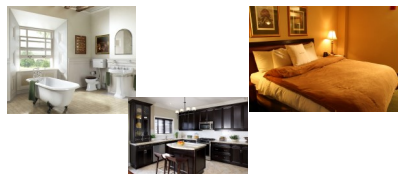
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WALKERS

