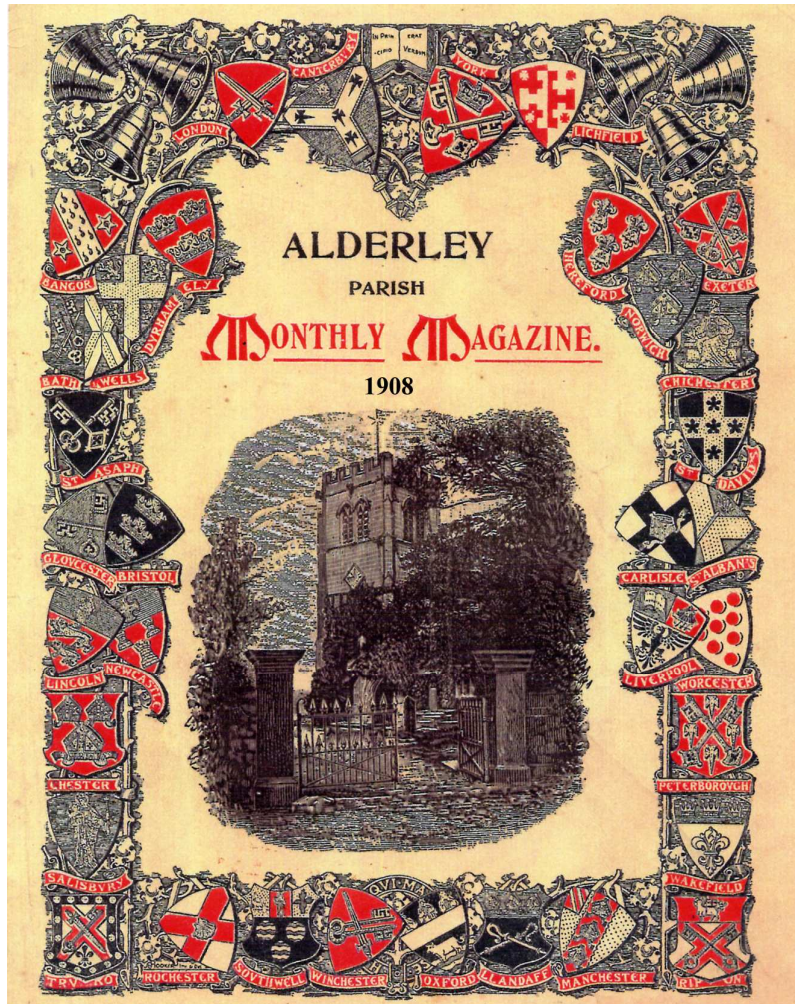


St.Mary, Alderley, Cheshire

Rector Writes:

July 2008



Here I am writing my first magazine preface the month of my collation. I am very much looking forward to getting involved in the life of St Mary's and to slowly begin to put faces to names and of course learn a great many new names, although some of this has happened already towards the end of June.

I have found people very encouraging and welcoming which certainly bodes well for settling in easily. It has been rather fun to meet the various people who make St Mary's what it is. I guess any Church is three dimensional and I'm making the transition from reading and hearing all about St Mary's to actually experiencing and living what St Mary's is.

The day I moved into the Rectory Noni Watkins gave me a set of keys for the Rectory and the Church. That evening I went across to Church to say my prayers. I had very mixed feelings; on the one hand I felt an overwhelming sense of blessing that God had brought me to this place. I never want to forget just how lucky I am to be serving St Mary's. Yet on the other hand I had a real sense of responsibility and expectation. St Mary's has had men of God serve as Rectors since the 14th century. I now stand in that line with an investment of trust to lead the Church for a good number of years. I not only ask for your prayers I need them.

St Mary's has a good group of people dedicated to its well being and its future. My hope and prayer is that God would enable me to contribute to the superb work that has been done by former generations and continues to be done in this generation.

James

July 2008
(Centenary Year)



DIARY FOR JULY 2008

Sat 5th 10.00am St.Mary's Walking Group
Sun. 6th 7th after Trinity
 8am Holy Communion at Birtles
 9.30am Family Service at Alderley
 10.15am Family Service at Birtles
 11.15am Holy Communion at Alderley
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley
 Wed. 9th 7.30pm **Collation and Induction of Revd. James Clark Milnes**
 Sat.12th 3.30pm Holy Matrimony at Alderley

Sun. 13th 8th after Trinity
 8am Holy Communion at Alderley
 9.30am Holy Communion at Alderley
 10.15am Holy Communion at Birtles
 11.15am Mattins at Alderley
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley
 Wed. 16th 2.00pm Alderley Mothers' Union - Holy Communion
 Thur.17th 5.00pm Antiques Roadshow

Sun. 20th 9th after Trinity
 8am Holy Communion at Alderley
 9.30am Family Service at Alderley
 10.15am Mattins at Birtles
 11.15am Mattins at Alderley
 6.30pm Holy Communion at Alderley
 Thur.24th 8.00pm Alderley Parochial Church Council

Sun. 27th 10th after Trinity
 8am Holy Communion at Alderley
 9.30am Family Service at Alderley
 10.15am Holy Communion at Birtles
 11.15am Mattins at Alderley
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

August
Sun.3rd 11th after Trinity
 8am Holy Communion at Birtles
 9.30am Family Service at Alderley
 11.15am Holy Communion at Alderley
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

COFFEE is available in the Parish Hall after the 9.30am Family Service.
 Donations to charity.

COLLECTION TOTALS

Date	Gift Aid Envelopes	Non-Gift Aid Envelopes	Misc. Cash	Standing Orders	Total
May 4 th	375.05	41.50	29.06		445.61
May 11 th	444.00	10.50	101.31		555.81
May 18 th	331.00	16.50	42.95		390.45
May 25 th	299.30	22.50	50.05		301.85
				996.00	996.00
Total	1449.35	91.00	223.37	996.00	2759.72

It costs £5915 per month to keep your church going, so you can see that there is a substantial shortfall. Can you see your way to increasing your weekly giving?

During the interregnum, if anyone is hospitalised or wants to be mentioned in the prayers for the sick, could Noni Watkins please be notified?

The Collation and Induction of Revd. James Clark Milnes
 will take place on
 Wednesday 9th July at 7.30pm
 in St. Mary's Church, Alderley.
 Due to the limited amount of space, tickets will be required.
 They will be available from **Terry Fones**

CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION
 Many thanks to all collectors and helpers
 St MARY's team raised £1259.
 This contributed to the Grand Total of £3734
 collected by the ALDERLEY CHURCHES
 WELL DONE EVERYONE and THANK YOU

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Just a reminder about forthcoming future dates this month.

The next Bridge Drive is on **Monday August 4th**. Please put the date in your diaries. To make these events successful we need your support so please ask your friends to join us. If you don't play Bridge, there is always help needed with the tea.

In association with our tea parties and by popular request, we have set a date for an outing. We are going to have a fun lunch at Blaze farm with lots to see and do. The date is **Wednesday August 13th**.

Do join us if you are able, it would be good to have some new faces. We shall be organising transport by car and probably set off around midday. Lunch will cost £10. Do let me know if you would like to join us.

For further information about either of the above events, please phone:

Janet Adamson

A SPECIAL ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

Thursday 17th July

from 5.00pm – 9.30pm

In the Churchyard and Parish Hall

Tickets: £10

The Assessor – Messrs Frank Marshall & Co

led by Peter J. Ashburner FRICS, FAAV

Bring those hand-me downs from past generations, those items discovered in dusty attics, those gems picked up in a Car-Boot sale and engage our assessors in an evaluation. You may be pleasantly surprised!

Admission includes an evaluation of one item and one glass of wine.
(Other articles can be assessed at a cost of £5 each.)

Light refreshments will be on sale.

Tickets available from Philip Webb

All profits to the: "Tower & Organ Appeal"

CHESTER MYSTERY PLAYS ORIGINATED NEARLY 700 YEARS AGO.



Church services were conducted in Latin and the monks at the Abbey of St Werburgh (now [Chester Cathedral](#)) enacted stories from the Bible to help those who couldn't otherwise follow or understand. Eventually this proved too disruptive and the plays were moved outside, after which individual companies of Chester Guilds adopted them. For example, the Grocers, Bakers and Millers performed The Last Supper, and the Ironmongers undertook The Crucifixion.

The Freemen and Guilds of Chester, a united group of trade companies, had been in existence for more than 100 years by then.

A powerful force in the city, they protected the interests and welfare of fellow merchants and craftsmen while playing a major part in social, political and economic life. Their influence extended to organising major events, one of which became Chester Mystery Plays.

The guilds staged the plays on open pageant waggons. Each waggon trundled through the streets to 'stations' where the audience gathered. The first station was outside Abbey Gate - audiences today pass through the same place to see the modern version of the plays. The medieval route continued down Northgate to the Cross then along Watergate, cutting next into Bridge Street then Eastgate.

Few town guilds in medieval Britain were able to afford such pageantry but of those who did, original scripts survive from only five cities, Chester's being the most complete in existence with a near-complete text of 24 plays.

Mystery plays were banned nationally in the 16th century. Chester was the last to concede in 1578 and so became the longest-running cycle in medieval times. Revived in 1951 for the Festival of Britain, they have since been staged every five years, JUNE 26th - JULY 19th 2008 being the next performance.

ADVANCED NOTICE FOR YOUR DIARIES

"ST.MARY'S GOLF CLASSIC"
Thursday 11th September

At Alderley Edge Golf Club, with their kind permission. Teams of 3 players, Stableford competition and Dinner in the Club House afterwards at which non-golfers will be welcome.
More information from Philip Webb

THE STORY OF ALDERLEY CHURCH

told by C.B.Welland, adapted by J.Youatt

(Part 17) The coming to Alderley of Edward Stanley was like a breath of fresh air to a weary land. He had great opportunities. In the youthful vigour of his 26 years, fresh from his studies at Cambridge, where he had obtained a Wranglership, (a wrangler is a student who completed the third year of the Mathematical Tripos with first-class honours) with an active and eager brain, brother to the first Lord Stanley of Alderley, he entered on an uncultivated field and in a few years had filled it with ripening corn. Alderley Parish owes him an incalculable debt.

He was an earnest Pastor, visiting the homes of his flock; a new behaviour on the part of a Rector, which for a while made him slightly unpopular among the neighbouring clergy. But Edward Stanley had the ideals which were soon to freshen the whole Church of England. He saw to it that every household in the parish had a Bible. An appeal to the people to attend the Holy Communion was placed in the Porch. The Sunday School awoke to life, the parishioners came to church. Intensely interested in education, he erected by his own generosity a spacious addition to the little school. He also enlarged the Rectory. Alderley became vital at his touch. The Stanley Alderley Lodge, today incorporated in the Oddfellows, was founded in 1814.

Mr. Stanley's industry was remarkable. The books in which day by day he wrote down in neat and elaborate care, the changes in the temperature, the conduct of the wind, the amount of the rainfall, are still preserved at Chester. At one time he was concerned with a sailing-boat on the Mere, at another with a Book on Birds. Books and pamphlets poured from his pen. In 1829 he published "A Few Words in Favour of our Roman Catholic Brethren; an Address to his Parishioners," which went through nine editions.

In 1837 Mr. Stanley wrote for his parishioners an Address of Farewell. He had been appointed Bishop of Norwich. But he never forgot Alderley. In February, 1849, he preached his last sermon here at Alderley. He died a few months later, and was buried at Norwich Cathedral, "a very imposing and touching ceremony." A window was placed in the Cathedral to his memory.

Beneath our aged yew in the churchyard is the grave of his wife and daughter.

.....(to be continued

CHURCHES AROUND THE DEANERY

(At the July 2007 meeting of the Deanery Synod it was agreed that, in an effort for the people of the Deanery to get to know the Deanery better, each of the 20 churches, in rotation, would produce a written article about themselves which will appear in all parish magazines or news sheets.

It is envisaged that at the end of this exercise all the articles can be collated into a small booklet which can be sold at cost in the various churches of the deanery).

ST CROSS CHURCH, KNUTSFORD



Travel from Knutsford town centre towards Mobberley and you can't miss our church on the left. Our parish covers the eastern half of Knutsford to the boundary with Mobberley in one direction and both sides of the Chelford Road in another. The River Lily forms the other main boundary in the town.

The building of a church and establishment of the parish were greatly influenced by the Pennington Legh family of Booths Hall - a descendant of the family is our present Patron. The first church was consecrated in 1858: we will be celebrating our 150th anniversary later this year. The area was formerly part of the parish of Rostherne. The builders of the first church were clearly

not totally familiar with the scriptures: it was built on shaky foundations, became dangerously unsafe and had to be demolished.

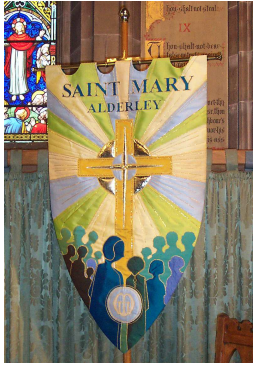
The present church was designed by Paley and Austin of Lancaster. Lord Egerton of Tatton laid the foundation stone in July 1880 and the church was consecrated on 14 September 1881 (Holy Cross Day). The tower was completed in 1887 and the aisles in 1887. An upper vestry was added slightly later. The church is now 2* listed.

The parish was originally quite rural but not nowadays! It contains much of the Italianate architecture of Richard Harding Watt, extensive housing built both by the former Knutsford U D Council and the City of Manchester and numerous private estates.

Our Sunday services usually comprise Eucharists at 9 am (said) and 10 am (choral) and a 6.30 pm Choral Evensong though on the first Sunday of the month 10 am changes to an All-Age Worship service and 6.30 brings a Celtic Eucharist. Midweek services happen on Wednesdays, Saints' and other Holy Days etc. We have a strong and lively MU branch and a "Sentinels" group for people with various difficulties.

We make every effort to be welcoming to all who come here, are ecumenically minded and look forward to the next 150 years.

St.Mary's Mother's Union Banner



On Mothering Sunday 2005, Canon Brian Reeve, Rector here from 1994 – 2001, returned to St.Mary's to dedicate our beautiful Banner. Since that date it has stood proudly beside our altar but on Wednesday May 21st 2008 it was taken on its first outing!

Nancy Morton and Edna Shepherd, representing our branch, took it to Chester Cathedral for the Diocesan Festival. It was the turn of the Macclesfield Archdeaconry to parade their deanery and branch banners and this only happens once every three years.

There was a lovely service with an interesting sermon given by the Rt. Revd. Keith Sinclair, Bishop of Birkenhead.

So on behalf of our branch, a very big thank you to Nancy and Edna, you must have felt very proud.

Anne Cockburn
(Branch Leader)

St Mary's Walking Group

Will Ablett is trying to set up a walking group for St Mary's. He is proposing that a walk is organised once a month on the first Saturday.

The walks will start at 10.00 am **prompt** and be approximately 7 – 8 miles long of easy to moderate grading. You will need boots and appropriate weather gear.

To join all you have to do is get to the starting point by 10.00 am latest along with a flask and lunch. Bring any friends you want. Dogs are welcome but will have to respect the Country Code. Details of each walk will be left at the back of the Church.

The next two walks are scheduled for 5th July and 2nd August.

If you want any further details please contact Will Ablett.

(see page 10 for an account of the Walking Group's first venture)

NETHER ALDERLEY PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2008

The past year has seen changes in relation to the Code of Conduct and Other Procedures.

The Mausoleum has been valued and insured, this is another Parish Council asset which attracts ongoing maintenance costs.

We have had discussions with the Highways Department regarding replacement of road signs which have fallen into disrepair at various locations in the Parish.

Carolyn Andrew and Marc Asquith have kept us updated regarding the Cheshire East changes.

The Parish Council was instrumental in requesting United Utilities and Network Rail to paint green the electricity substation on Artists Lane and the Gatley Green railway bridge railings to blend in with the surroundings

The Parish Council continued to respond to a large number of planning applications which inevitably resulted in site visits and some personal attendances at Planning meetings to reinforce the Parish Council's opinion.

The Police Community Team Officer for this area is PC Alex McMillan who is based at Knutsford. He has attended one of our meetings and we receive Emails re crime updates.

The Parish Council undertook Trade Waste payments for the Parish Hall and negotiated a refund when promised services were not provided.

We successfully negotiated with the Council for 2 metal kissing gates to replace dilapidated stiles.

Chelford Road bus shelter has been prone to flooding and Cheshire Highways have now accepted responsibility for the cause of the flooding and will take remedial action.

The Parish Council gives active support for a footbridge over the proposed bypass at Footpath No: 33. We have had a number of liaison meetings with Andy Buckley and the proposed contractors for the bypass. Work is due to commence Autumn 2008, with the closure of Welsh Row in the New Year of 2009 for approximately one year.

I would like to thank Mrs Penny Langham for her sterling work as Parish Clerk. She has now kindly relieved me of the duties of Burial Board Secretary. My thanks go to all the Parish Councillors for their hard work and support throughout the year. I would also like to convey my thanks to Mr Norman Moore, who, in addition to his official duties, can be relied upon to assist in any emergency.

Geoff Windsor

Nether Alderley Parish Council - Parish Councillor Vacancy

Nether Alderley Parish Council comprises 8 local Parishioners, who give their time, voluntarily, to address and deal with various local issues. There is, currently, a vacancy for one Parish Councillor and the Parish Council are looking to recruit somebody with an interest in serving the local community in this way.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Penny Langham, on 01625 861942, before 31st July 2008.

St Mary's Walking Group



The inaugural walk of the group was on the 7th June. Eight members of the group led by Fiona and Will assembled outside the Mermaid public house on the Staffordshire Moorlands at Tittesworth near Leek. We admired the pub sign which was cut from iron, rusting nicely, and seemed to be a fabulous bird topped by a beacon brazier.

Like all good walks it began with a down hill stretch. Across an area on my map classed as a danger area. It's a firing range for the army and they fly a red flag when they are shooting at you. Strangely the flag pole was at the furthest point of the area and we had crossed it before we saw it!

The weather was dry and although the sky seemed to be promising rain, we only encountered a few spots and managed without waterproofs during the day. Having descended the valley we had of course to ascend the other side to reach the rocks known as the Roaches. Sadly the mist and cloud cover prevented us getting the full views from the top. I was up there again a few days later on a clear evening and the views in all directions are staggering.

No wallabies in sight, however, Terry and Alan righted a ewe lying on its back and unable to get up again to the consternation of its twin lambs. Truly a righteous deed. Then we descended the valley again and then up again the other side. Heavy going for a bit, wading through deep heather, to be met by some very (over?) friendly horses, one or two being rather large, blocking our passage. The highest spot we reached was a trig point that did dual purpose as a war memorial. Still with its wreaths from Remembrance Sunday wired to it, valiantly resisting the not inconsiderable winds. Like all good walks it finished with a downhill stretch back to the Mermaid.

Many thanks to Will and Fiona for organising the walk. The next walk planned is for the first Saturday in July, details in church, all welcome.

Jamie Smith

ROTA FOR JULY 2008 LADY SIDESMEN / SIDESMEN / LECTORS

DATE	TIME	SIDESMEN	LECTOR
6 th	9.30am	Mr & Mrs W.Ablett	
	11.15am	Mr G.Hilton & Mr R. Shiers	Mr R. Shiers
	6.30pm	Mrs D. Barber	Mr G.Davis
13 th	8.00am	Mr R.Walker	
	9.30am	Mr M. Stonehewer	
	11.15am	Mr G. Barrie & Mr A Claridge	Mr P.Bean
	6.30pm	Mr S.Maynard	Mrs Cockburn
20 th	8.00am	Mrs A.Cockburn	
	9.30am	Mrs A.Robinson	
	11.15am	Mrs R. Dyas & Mrs W. Liddle	Mrs W. Liddle
	6.30pm	Mrs D. Dearden	Mrs S. Hine
27 th	8.00am	Mrs B.Essayan	
	9.30am	Mrs J.Robinson	
	11.15am	Mrs Adamson & Mr Akester	Mr R.Akester
	6.30pm	Mr A. Cockitt	Mrs J.Lee
AUG. 3 rd	9.30am	Mrs J. Martin	
	11.15am	Mr & Mrs J.Stephenson	Mrs Stephenson
	6.30pm	Mr J.Cocker	Mrs S.Hine

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Matrimony

May 30th Aleck Joel Aspinall to Julie Elizabeth Wilkinson
May 31st Nolan William Ward to Sarah Louise Howson
June 7th James Edward Bridgeman to Amy Jennifer Hargreaves
June 21st Douglas Robert Jones to Anna Jane Louise Morton

Memorial Service

June 5th Robin Ernest Hampton Pritchard

FLOWER ROTA

July 6th Marie Stonehewer
July 13th Wedding
July 20th Anne Cockburn
July 27th Anne Cockburn

READERS ROTA FOR THE FAMILY SERVICE

July 6th Mark Reynolds
July 13th Alice White
July 20th Joe / Katie Morum
July 27th Ella Davis

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 12th July 2008**

Please send all copy to:

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& Distribution: Peter Bean:

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