

St.Mary, Alderley Cheshire



Parish Magazine
November 2009

30p

Rector Writes:

November 2009

Our first Catechism class went very well. It actually looks like thirty people will be Confirmed by Bishop Willy rather than an expected twenty. What has been interesting is the questions people raise. Admittedly our first Catechism class hasn't afforded much time for questions but that hasn't stopped an inquisitive young mind asking if we can prove Jesus was a man. This seems all the more opportune as we prepare to celebrate God become man at Christmas - Jesus Christ the incarnate deity. Unfortunately no two thousand year old swab tests are known to exist. The Christian belief in Christ's bodily ascension into heaven means we are unable to scientifically prove Jesus' gender from any bodily remains. Though all known written sources both biblical and non-biblical don't seem to entertain Jesus being anything other than a man.

I think it is wonderful to enter into another person's thought processes just for a brief moment. Jesus the man isn't something I have particularly questioned for myself. However I must give respect to the questions of others. It is valuable to stand in another's shoes in order to appreciate a point of view different from our own. It seems a good observation that until you have walked a mile in another's shoes you are not in a position to criticise. I hope we are a Church that values individuality and celebrates the uniqueness of each person. The slogan "I do not want to be like you - I want to be me" is a corrective against conformity. We are called to be united as Christ's body, we are not called to be the same.

Catechism has taught me the need to allow people to be themselves. I wonder whether we need to provide more space, more opportunity and give greater attention to the potential other in our Church. What is clear is that my way is not the only way. The way things have been done in one generation may not be appropriate in another. I think there is a challenge for us to let go and let others. But where are the others?

The others are there but are doing things differently, living their lives differently to mine, having expectations and questions different from me and needing space to be different from me. I hope the Church allows that space.

James

DIARY FOR NOVEMBER 2009

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Sun 1st | 21st after Trinity | |
| | 8.00am | 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 |
| Sat. 7 th | 10.00am | St.Mary's Walking Group |
| Sun 8th | 22nd after Trinity | |
| | 8.00am | Holy Communion at Alderley |
| | 10.45am | Remembrance Service at Birtles |
| | 10.45am | Combined Remembrance Service at Alderley |
| | 6.30pm | Evensong at Alderley |
| Sun. 15th | 23rd after Trinity | |
| | 8.00am | Holy Communion at Alderley |
| | 9.30am | Family Service at Alderley |
| | 10.15am | Holy Communion at Birtles |
| | 11.15am | Mattins at Alderley |
| | 6.30pm | Holy Communion at Alderley |
| Wed. 18 th | 2.00pm | Alderley Mothers' Union |
| Thur. 19 th | 8.00pm | Alderley PCC Meeting |
| Sun. 22nd | Next before Advent | |
| | 8.00am | 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 |
| Wed. 25 th | | 'Tea Party Group' – Visit to Woodford Garden Centre |
| Thur. 26 th | 7.30pm | Friends of St.Mary's |
| Sun 29th | 1st Sunday in Advent | |
| | 8.00am | Holy Communion at Birtles |
| | 9.30am | Family Service at Alderley |
| | 10.15am | Mattins at Birtles |
| | 11.15am | Advent Carol Service at Alderley |
| | 6.30pm | St.Boniface Service at Alderley |
| December | | |
| Sat. 5 th | 10.00am | Christmas Coffee Morning at Alderley |

(continued)

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sun. 6th | 2nd in Advent | |
| | 8.00am | 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 |

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

NB £60 from the above donations has just been sent to East Cheshire Hospice

COLLECTION TOTALS

| Date | Gift Aid Envelopes | Non-Gift Aid Envelopes | Misc. Cash | Standing Orders | Total |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Sept 6 th | 356.00 | 10.50 | 71.00 | | 437.50 |
| Sept 13 th | 412.50 | 10.50 | 32.10 | | 455.10 |
| Sept 20 th | 432.09 | 6.50 | 41.21 | | 479.80 |
| Sept 27 th | 557.33 | 96.00 | 46.41 | | 699.74 |
| TOTAL | 1757.92 | 123.50 | 190.72 | 1116.00 | 3188.14 |

It costs £6000 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?

The Association of Church Fellowship

Advent Carol Service

3.00pm

Sunday 6th December at Christ Church, Woodford

Refreshments will be served after the service

The Mothers' Union

Advent Carol Service

7.30pm

Thursday 26th November at St.Cross Church, Knutsford

All are welcome to either of the above services.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The **Harvest Lunch** following the Harvest Festival appeared to be enjoyed by all and we made a profit of £279. Thank you to everybody who supported the occasion. Special thanks you to all the helpers in whatever capacity.

If the noise level at the **Tea Party** on October 7th was anything to go by it was a resounding success. If you would like to join us on these occasions, especially if you have not been before, do let me know.

The assembled company decided we should go out for a Christmas lunch. We are intending to go to Woodford Park Garden Centre on Wednesday November 25th. The decorations are really good there, and people might like to Christmas shop!

Christmas Coffee Morning - Saturday Dec. 5th 10.00am - 1.00pm (approx.)

We are going to give the morning a special new look, hopefully more interesting. Some members of the Barnby Choir from Wilmslow will sing carols for us during two slots. The first at 10.30am at coffee time and the second at 12.00noon, with a glass of wine and a mince pie. They may sing in the hall or the church, this has yet to be clarified. My daughter Helen has been instrumental in organising this. They will do some of their own advertising and bring a small following. We shall also be having our usual activities - good acceptable gifts for the 'Gift Stall' would be welcome but please no white elephants and no books. Also, any produce for the 'Produce Stall'. **Please support us, and bring your friends** - we need your full backing!

Janet Adamson (01625 583320)

ST MARY'S WALKING GROUP

Walk – 12th December **start 9.30 am** prompt.

Big Low and Berristall Dale

Starting point: Car park opposite the Spinners Pub in Upper Bollington

Grid Ref: SJ937779

Maps: Outdoor Leisure 24 – Peak District, White Peak

Length: 5 miles – easy/moderate

Further information: Please note earlier start time due to leader's afternoon commitments. Walk should finish in Bollington by lunchtime – no packed lunch needed. Contact: **Will Ablett (01625 585180)** with any questions



Thank You St. Mary's.....Saturday 13th June 2009

Lovely weather and a warm welcome greeted members when they assembled for refreshments in the early seventeenth-century school in the corner of the churchyard at St Mary's, Alderley. The school had started life as a one-room boys' school, with a room above for the master. In the nineteenth century a Sunday School was added to the rear and this, with the original school, is now the parish centre.

The churchyard at Alderley contains a yew tree that is at least 1200 years old — what stories could it tell? - as well as the remains of a very early preaching cross. The nave of the present church dates from 1300, the tower from the sixteenth century and the chancel from the mid nineteenth century. The Historic Society visitors were treated to a careful guided tour of the interior of the church, including the recently refurbished and very elaborate Stanley pew dating to 1605. On display in the church there was a 1607 edition of the 'Breeches' Bible and the 1717 'Vinegar' Bible. The problems of proof-reading are certainly not new!

Later in the day there was opportunity to visit the corn mill at Nether Alderley, now in the care of the National Trust and kindly opened by a volunteer. A mill on this site was recorded in the thirteenth century, although the existing building dates from 1490 and its roof to c. 1595, making it the second oldest working corn mill in England (the oldest is at Boot in Cumbria).

The stone walls and timbers of the mill are covered in historic graffiti. The mill was built against the dam that created a mill pond from the only stream in the village and essentially (despite some nineteenth century machinery) the mill works as it did in the sixteenth century with water over two wheels in tandem and then under a third wheel. The arrangement, apparently, still generates engineering debate, as well as power to the mill stones. The mill closed in 1937.

Thank you St.Mary's for arranging such a lovely day for our group.

Janet Hollinshead (Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire)



MOTHERS' UNION

Our next speaker is –

Vivienne Arnold



"The Story of American Patchwork Quilts"

Wednesday 18th October at 2.00pm

ALL ARE WELCOME SO PLEASE DO JOIN US!

Friends of St Mary's

Please note that our Speaker on Thursday November 26th will now be Yvonne Edge from The Pankhurst Society in Manchester. The Pankhurst ladies, mother Christabel and her daughters, Emmeline, Adela and Sylvia, became famous, or infamous, when they confronted the authorities with unconventional tactics in the early part of the 20th Century to fight for womens rights. Their story is astonishing and will be related with illustrations by Yvonne who will also answer questions. Those Pankhurst Ladies have a lot to answer for!!

Also we have engaged the Internationally famous organist Nigel Ogden on Friday 21st May for an Organ Recital 'with a difference'. Nigel has recently performed in Knutsford a recital in which he arranges to project 2 famous old silent movies – Laurel & Hardy and Charlie Chaplin. Ingeniously, he plays the organ accompaniment to those movies so the audience gets the real feeling that audiences 100 years ago got when they saw the films in those circumstances. That is part of his recital and should result in an interesting and entertaining evening – Knutsford audiences certainly enjoyed it.

Please apply to join through Judy Swales (01625 582259).

Philip E Webb (Tel No: 01625 861342)

The Birth of Alderley Edge



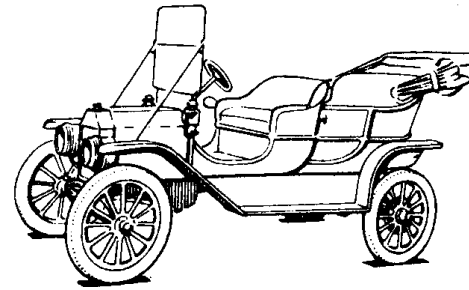
The modern railway system started in the north-west with the opening of the Liverpool to Manchester line in 1830. Its success stimulated the first railway boom of the 1830s; businessmen were keen to speculate and this led to a rash of Railway Acts.

One of the new companies, the Manchester and Birmingham Railway had a bill passed in 1837 permitting a railway to be built from Manchester, via Stockport to Wilmslow, and on to Stoke on Trent and Birmingham. They also proposed a branch line to Crewe with a junction in Chorley (now Alderley Edge) where the new railway would cross the old turnpike road. By the time that the railway was built the line to Stoke via Congleton had been abandoned, and the only line that was built was the line to Crewe via Holmes Chapel.

The railway opened on 10th May 1842. However, the alterations to the original plan left the railway company with a seemingly superfluous station between Wilmslow and Chelford at Chorley. This is the genesis for the development of the first planned railway commuter village in the north-west, Alderley Edge village.

(to be continued)

London to Brighton Veteran Car Run - Sunday November 1st



Why is the Run, run on a November Sunday rather than a Sunday in the summer or when it is warmer?

It all dates back to November 14th 1896, from just past midnight that day, the "Locomotives on the Highway Act" came into force.

Saturday 14th saw the first Run and it is now known as a red-letter day in the history of British motoring. The Emancipation Run from London to Brighton celebrates the passing into law of the "Locomotives on the Highway Act", which raised the speed limit for 'Light Locomotives' from 4 miles per hour to 14 mph. This was reduced to 12 mph before the act came into force. The act abolished the requirement for the car to be preceded by a man on foot.

At the start of the 1896 Run, a red flag was symbolically destroyed by Lord Winchilsea. In 1996 a re-enactment of the start saw a red flag destroyed by the current Lord Winchilsea. It was repeated in 2007 by the Run's Steering Committee and is likely to be a part of all future Runs. The act of destroying a red flag had been undertaken on a few Runs before 1996 and being either before the Run or after.

The Run on Saturday 14th 1896 was a demonstration that the automobile had come to stay. The organisers' instructions stated: "*Owners and drivers should remember that motor cars are on trial in England and that any rashness or carelessness might injure the industry in this country.*"

The First Run had 58 vehicles listed to start but 25 dropped out before the day. Only 13 or 14 reached Brighton, although it was hinted that one car or possible more had been taken down to Brighton by train and covered with mud before crossing the finishing line!

In 1903 the speed limit was raised to "the lightning velocity of 20mph" and with no further need to celebrate a 12mph limit the Runs stopped.

In 1927 the Run, keeping as close to the original 1896 day as possible, was reintroduced by the DAILY SKETCH and the SUNDAY GRAPHIC. The Run has been run annually ever since with the exception of the war years (1939-45) and petrol rationing (1947). It has been reported that one car did the Run in 1947 using his precious petrol ration.

To this day there is still limit of an average speed of 20mph and only cars built before 1st January 1905 are eligible to take part

Lost in the Dark Peal

Twyford Church, Hampshire

On a dark October night in 1754 William Davis became lost in the Hampshire countryside. He was just about to ride his horse over a cliff when the sound of Twyford's church bells rang out. As they did so William realised he was heading in the wrong direction and pulled up to take stock. It was then he noted he was on the edge of a deep quarry and had he not stopped would have plunged to certain death. In gratitude he left a pound for a peal of bells to be rung annually with a feast provided for the bell ringers. The funds ran out long ago but the tradition remains.

Twitter? Your great-grandparents did it first

The current craze for writing short messages and sending them back and forth rapidly is perhaps not so new as you'd think. Nowadays you may use the microblogging website Twitter, but actually, your great-grandparents had another method of 'tweeting' more than 100 years ago – the Edwardian postcard!

The postcard was first launched in 1902, and it was an instant smash hit. Almost six BILLION postcards were posted in Britain between 1901 and 1910 – that is 200 for every man, woman and child. In those days, most major cities had up to ten deliveries of post per day, so people could indeed write and respond very quickly.

The study, carried out by Lancaster and Manchester Metropolitan Universities, concludes: "The low price and efficiency of the Edwardian postcard has meant that as an informal written communications technology it was not equalled subsequently until the 21st century."

What happened in 1909?

- Woolworths opened its first UK store.
- Unemployment stood at 698,000, 7.7 per cent of the working population
- A manual worker earned 23 shillings a week, with 12 eggs costing a shilling, a pound of butter 1s 2d and a pint of beer two shillings. A pair of ladies' shoes cost 7s 11d, a man's suit 6s 11d and a girl's school dress 2s 8d.
- Louis Bleriot became the first man to fly across the English Channel, completing the 22 mile journey from Calais to Dover in 37 minutes. He received a prize of £1,000 for his achievement.
- Manchester United won the FA Cup for the first time, beating Bristol City 1-0 in front of 71,000 people at Crystal Palace.

ADVENT SUNDAY

'SAINT BONIFACE SERVICE'

29th November at 6:30pm

A completely candlelit Service appropriate for the whole family that recalls the legend of the first Christmas Tree and looks forward to the birth of the Saviour.



LET CHRIST BE YOUR COMFORT AND GUIDE

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word
was with God, and the Word
The same was in the beginning with God.
All things were made by him; and without him
was not any thing made that was made.
In him was life; and the life was the light of men.*

John 1:1-4

Combined Charities Christmas Card Shops

100% to over 50 charities

Wilmslow Library

31 October – 12 December

Altrincham Library

31 October – 30 November

Knutsford Tourist Information Centre

7 November – 5 December

Sale Town Hall (Waterside)

10 November – 24 November

Macclesfield Town Hall

27 October – 25 November

* cards * toys * gifts *

www.christmas-cards.org.uk



On the ferocity of the church's Bridge drive

The Rectory
St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren,

Your suggestion that we should hold a sponsored hymn-singing bicycle ride through the village as a way of raising money was well-meant, but I am not wholly convinced it would suit our clientele here at St. James the Least. While you certainly raised some money, I feel that £5.43, along with assorted foreign coins no longer in use, may mean that the purchase of your pneumatically adjustable stage for liturgical dance, along with equipment for producing holograms of the Holy Land to illustrate sermons, may be somewhat delayed. It makes our fund-raising to repair the tea urn seem somewhat mundane.

You may have musical bike rides, but we have Bridge drives, which are generally as amiable and peaceful as bear baiting. Half of those attending will see the afternoon as an opportunity to catch up on local gossip and to exchange knitting patterns, the game of cards being a minor hindrance to these other activities. The other half arrive primed for a battle to the death, reluctantly conceding that eye-gouging is not allowed. They will demand total silence – which is wholly ignored by those at the tables discovering what Mrs Trumpington confided to Lady Driver half way through “Onward Christian Soldiers” at last Sunday’s Mattins. The congregation is eternally grateful to Mrs Mitchell, who as a former mill worker is able to lip read.

Refreshments are regarded by one half as an opportunity to put jam on the cards, spill tea on the score cards and make sure that the other tables get the egg and cress sandwiches while they corner the boiled ham; the others see it as an unwelcome interruption to the serious business of slaughtering their opponents.

Drawing the raffle is the adult equivalent of ringing the school bell at going-home time. Half the players will immediately dash off to relay newly-mined seams of gossip throughout the village, leaving the others holding reproachful post-mortems with their partners over their bidding mistakes.

Reproaches are never too violent, however, since the chances are that they will all be meeting again the following afternoon round card tables at another location for yet another re-enactment of the slaughter at Agincourt, the only difference being that the French and English were not entertained with tea and sandwiches at half time.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

ROTA FOR NOVEMBER 2009
LADY SIDESMEN / SIDESMEN / LECTOR

| DATE | TIME | SIDESMEN | LECTOR |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 st | 9.30am | Mr M.Stonehewer | |
| | 11.15am | Messrs W.Ablett & J.Morum | Mr R.Shiers |
| | 6.30pm | Mr D.Dearden | Mr P.Bean |
| 8 th | 8.00am | Mrs B.Essayan | |
| | 10.45am | Messrs A.Claridge & G.Hilton | |
| | 6.30pm | Mr G.Barrie | Mrs J.Lee |
| 15 th | 8.00am | Mr H.A.Wright | |
| | 9.30am | Ms L.Marsh | |
| | 11.15am | Messrs R.Shiers & S.Welsh | Mrs S.Hine |
| | 6.30pm | Mr S.Maynard | Mr & Mrs Davis |
| 22 nd | 8.00am | Mr R.Walker | |
| | 9.30am | Mrs A.Robinson | |
| | 11.15am | Messrs R.Akester & J.Ratchford | Mr R.Akester |
| | 6.30pm | Mrs D.Barber | Mr P.Bean |
| 29 th | 8.00am | Mrs A.Cockburn | |
| | 9.30am | Mrs J.Debinson | |
| | 11.15am | Mrs R.Dyas & Mr J.Haigh | Mrs V.Muir |
| | 6.30pm | Mrs Z.Theofilopoulos | Mrs Theo'poulos |
| Dec. 6 th | 9.30am | Mrs J.Martin | |
| | 11.15am | Mesdames Adamson & Liddle | Mrs W.Liddle |
| | 6.30pm | Mr A.Cockitt | Mrs A.Cockburn |

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

Sun. 18th October Isabel Katie Rose Maunder

Holy Matrimony

Sat. 2nd October Caroline Rylands and David Hawkes

FLOWER ROTA

Nov 1st Mary Stonehewer
Nov.8th Remembrance Sunday
Nov.15th ditto
Nov. 22nd Frances Ambrose
Nov. 29th Advent 1

READERS' ROTA FOR THE FAMILY SERVICE

Nov 1st Sophie Vardon
Nov.8th Combined Service at 10.30am
Nov.15th Ella / Nancy Davis
Nov. 22nd William Vardon
Nov. 29th Isabel Clarke

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 19th November 2009**

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