



**Christ Church Walmersley
and
St John with St Mark Bury
in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road**



Psalm 121

June 2016



50p



REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 st Holy Communion 2 nd Family and Parade 3 rd Holy Communion 4 th Service of the Word 5 th Holy Communion	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 2 nd Parade Service	St John w St Mark

Monday

	Monday@2	49 Fairlands Road
7.30 p.m.	1 st Listening Prayer	150 Walmersley Road

Wednesday

10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
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Thursday

2.00 p.m.	1 st First Thursday Prayer	Christ Church Hall
7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark

Saints days and other services as announced
Evening Prayer will be said in St John w St Mark's Church
Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m.

If you need transport to church please contact the wardens.



Both churches have the Child Friendly Church award

Both churches have Fairtrade status



Thoughts of church and potatoes

May I start by saying that hope that all of you reading this are in good health or as best that can be expected? I would also like to thank you for the support and help to me and my family after the death of my mum towards the end of last year. We were left heart broken and devastated beyond words when it happened, but the gift of faith family and church family have been a true gift to us so a true THANK YOU ALL for the support and concern you all gave us.

So back to church and potatoes - you are probably at this point thinking what's he on about again, or yes he's lost it again; not so.

Church is very much like a potato and I will make my point in a minute or two. For those who do know, Amanda and I are quite avid fruit and vegetable growers in the (laugh) spare time that we have. I even grow various crops at my garage; in fact I have a very rare Miles Platting lemon variety - yes I'm managing to grow lemons outside in Manchester; the third lot are almost ready.

But potatoes are still my favourite because as previously stated they're just like church to me. Each year I dig my beds over and caringly plant my potatoes one at a time. Then after a few months I excitingly dig them up to see how many I have got.

But church? How does that fit in?

Simply, the Church of England is so varied and diverse in all its different forms of service and worship, its variations are huge although they are all still the Church of England.

So we might like certain services or forms of worship. We might agree or disagree with what other people do in the name of God. But at the end of the day they are still Christians, our Brothers and Sisters in the spirit of faith.

There are hundreds of potato varieties and colours of potatoes, but they are still a potato at the end of the day.

Secondly, I would like to add the potential of potatoes and their usage. Potatoes are a crop that has spread around the world from country to country. Just like the Church and Christianity has also done. One seed potato can produce many potatoes from itself and so on spreading from one to hundreds. Sounds familiar doesn't it?

Also a lot of people don't realise that potatoes are a major world food group that is in danger of disease. Imagine a life without potato products. Christian values are under constant attack and our beliefs are being more and more eroded from our daily live. Imagine a world without faith and hope.

I don't know about you but I think it's time to go and do some careful gardening and try to plant some seeds of hope and ideas.

But be careful and kind in doing so, as any potato grower will tell you if you plant a bad seed you can destroy a whole crop.

God bless you all

Darren





Celebrating Gill's ordination
to the priesthood

SUNDAY 26 JUNE

A joint service
10.30am

St.John with St.Mark Church

THERE WILL BE NO OTHER SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE THAT DAY



BIBLE READINGS FOR JUNE

Jun 5 Second after Trinity

1 Kings 17: 17-24 Galatians 1: 11-24 Luke 7: 11-17

Jun 12 Third after Trinity

2 Samuel 11:26-12:10 Galatians 2: 15-21 Luke 7:36-8:3

Jun 19 Fourth after Trinity

Isaiah 65: 1-9 Galatians 3: 23-29 Luke 8: 26-39

Jun 26 Fifth after Trinity

1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21 Galatians 5: 1, 13-25 Luke 9: 51-62

FLOWERS AT CHRIST CHURCH

June 5	Mr & Mrs N Silvester
June 12	Vacant
June 19	Mrs J Wood
June 26	In memory of Mr & Mrs Dutton and Mr & Mrs Annis

Anyone who would like to donate flowers for church,
or is interested in helping with flower arranging
please contact Betty Winterbottom



FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

Apr 24	James Parkes
May 1	Emmy Bailey
May 15	Joseph, Nathan and Oliver Fenton

"In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit"

Funerals

May 3	Joyce Greenhalgh
May 9	Jeffrey Holt
May 10	Pat Mongey
May 12	Elizabeth Mather

Interment of Ashes

May 1	Pamela Baumber
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"I am the resurrection and the life....."

CHRIST CHURCH APCM NOTES

There were 38 members of the church present.

The meeting was opened with prayers by the Revd. David Thompson.

A minutes silence was held in memory of Pat Mongey.

Apologies for Absence were received

Minutes of the APCM held 29th April 2015 were read and approved as a true and correct record. There were no matters arising.

Treasurers Report: The book-keeper's report was included in the report to the meeting. Cath Black has been the book-keeper for the last 12 months and is retiring. The parish share for the 2016 financial year is £33,927. The accounts were approved as a true and correct record.

Mr Alastair Gillian DipFS ACIB was re-appointed as the Independent Examiner

105 persons were on the Electoral Roll when it closed.

The written reports were considered and copies can be obtained from the back of church.

Election of Wardens: Jennifer Wood and Brian Crow were elected as wardens. Jennifer Wood will act temporarily as booking secretary for the church hall.

Election of PCC members: Geoff Stokes and Alison Fewtrell were elected to serve on the PCC.

Election of Sidespersons: All those who had agreed to be sidespersons were elected. They are:

Messrs J Edwards, G Hamilton, W Noble, D J Peters, I Riddick, Mesdames S Fryer, J Slater, B Walker, Miss P J Hoyle

The Archdeacons visitation is on Wednesday the 4th of May at St Paul's Ramsbottom.

Appointment of Verger: The vicar gave thanks to George Fryer for his work as verger; George agreed to continue as verger.

Ratification of Child Protection Policy: The Vicar is the Child Protection co-ordinator. The policy has been approved by the PCC and is included in the Annual Report.

Margery Spencer was elected as a Reader representative to serve on the PCC.

Vicar's Remarks: The vicar gave examples from the worship questionnaire that has been completed. The results will be analysed

further at the joint PCC in summer. The vicar stated that we have made a decision that we can only maintain one church building for the future and the PCC is in discussion with architects regarding the future of the church buildings. The vicar referred to a newspaper article which outlined the soaring costs of maintaining old buildings, which are issues facing PCCs and the wider community. We at Christ Church Walmersley cannot continue the status quo; our buildings are no longer fit for purpose. We have an opportunity to serve this community in many ways and we must get it right as in the diocese vision of a worshipping, transforming, Christian presence.

ST JOHN WITH ST MARK APCM NOTES

This was held after the Sunday Service on 24th April 2016, the second time we have now held this meeting on a Sunday.

Prior to the main meeting, Ray and Rosemarie were once again elected as Church Wardens, with Keith appointed Deputy.

After approving the Child Protection Policy statement, there was an opportunity to discuss the PCC report.

Treasurer's report. Once again the detailed report was presented extremely well for us and explained fully the incomes and expenditures for the last year. Obviously we have seen some major items of expenditure over the last 12 months, particularly on the west window and the installation of a new Chapel heater. We were reminded of the importance of considering our own regular giving.

There was an opportunity for Gill to explain the findings of the Parish Questionnaire that recently took place. These findings will be discussed in more detail at a joint PCC meeting in the summer.

After the appointment of PCC members and sidespeople, there was also the regular opportunity to review reports from the various Church groups and organisations, and the events they participated in during 2015.

Items included under other business:

Dave made us aware of an Archdeacon's Parish Visitation that would take place on Wednesday 1st June, the purposes of which are to ensure the Parish is in good running order and also to reflect on the life and mission of the Parish.

The new west window will be dedicated in the family service on Sunday 12th June.

Gill's ordination takes place at the Cathedral on Saturday 25th June, with her first communion taking place at a joint service the following Sunday at St. John with St. Mark.

For pastoral care reasons, a proposed Parish Boundary change on The Rock area has been put forward, and more discussions will take place about this at the next PCC.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCILS

Following the Annual Parochial Church Meetings in April, these are the full list of the elected Parochial Church Councils.

SERVING ON BOTH COUNCILS

The Revd. Dave Thompson (Chairman)

The Revd. Paul Sanderson

The Revd. Gill Barnett

CHRIST CHURCH.

The Revd. Don Altham

Margery Spencer – *Reader Representative*

Brian Crow, Jennifer Wood - *Church Wardens*

Sheelagh Beetson , Barbara Taylor - *Deanery Synod*

Cath Hilton – *Diocesan Synod*

Sybil Fryer Ian Riddick Geoff Hamilton Julie Tyrer

Pam Hoyle Alison Fewtrell Anne Nuttall David Peters

Geoff Stokes Patricia Stokes

ST.JOHN with ST.MARK

Darren Dunn – *Licensed Reader*

Rosemarie Ashworth , Ray Smith - *Church Wardens*

Keith Duckworth – *Deputy Warden*

Ian Banks, June Banks, Helen Mallinson, David Robinson
–*Deanery Synod*

David Andrew Stuart Ashworth John Brennan

Margaret Brennan Debbie Cooper Nickie Kelley

Mary Howarth Jane Gorton Marjorie Evans Vicky Senior

FROM THE VICARAGE

* Gill's ordination to the priesthood will take place at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday 25 June, beginning at 2.30pm. Please pray for her as she takes this important step in her Christian ministry. The following day, she will be presiding at the Holy Communion service for the first time at a joint benefice service at St.John with St.Mark Church, beginning at 10.30am. There will be a buffet in the hall after the service. On that day, there will be no other service in the benefice. Please join with Gill to celebrate this special event.

* The Bolton Archdeaconry Roadshows – "Church for a different world" takes place on Saturday 18 June at Bolton Road Methodist Church. The Bishop of Manchester, the Archdeacon and officials from Church House will be spending time during the day with church representatives looking at how the church for a different world should look like. There will be worship, workshops and lunch. If you would to attend, please have a word with me.

* The Porch project are currently struggling to meet demand and asking for more foodstuff. Both churches have a box at the back of church to support this worthy cause.

* On the weekend of June 11/12 the nation will be celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday with a series of events. The Summer Fair at St.John with St.Mark on Saturday 11 June will have a royal theme and both Parade services the day after will reflect the Queen's birthday and also her role as a Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Also on that day at St.John with St.Mark we will be dedicating our new West Window.

* The Ministry Team consisting of all the Clergy, Licensed Readers and our Authorised Lay Minister meet every month – usually on the first Monday evening. If you have an issue that you would like us to discuss, please have a word with me.

* Any enquiries about baptisms or weddings / marriage banns etc should be made at the Parish Office at St.John with St.Mark's Hall any Wednesday evening between 6.30-7.00.

*Regular attenders to church are encouraged to join our planned giving scheme. If you would like to do so or would like some further information, please speak to one of the wardens.

* The Diocesan publication, CRUX is looking for lay people who would be willing to share their story of how God has been moving in their life in the Brief Encounter section of the diocesan magazine. If you would like to share your own story please contact me.

* Both of our Church Halls are available for a whole range of activities for use by church and community groups. Please however check with the bookings officers if the building is otherwise occupied before anything is arranged. The contact details are at the back of this magazine.

* Material for the parish magazine should be given in by the 14th day of the previous month. Articles may be sent via email to wrub@live.co.uk



Many thanks to our team of "stonemasons" at Christ Church - Ian, Geoff and Jason who have repaired the wall between the churchyard and the field. It has taken some extremely hard work, especially lifting the top stones into place.

Next stop Westminster Abbey?

In Memoriam – ELIZABETH MATHER

Doris Elizabeth Mather died in Fairfield Hospital on 29 April 2016 at the age of 88. Elizabeth had suffered with poor health for a number of years and her funeral reflected the fact that this “good and faithful servant” had been called home. There would no more pain and no more suffering.

At the funeral Margery Spencer spoke about her former teaching colleague and friend who she had known for so many years at Christ Church. Elizabeth was a deputy Head Teacher whose influence upon the lives of the children she taught was long lasting.

Her son-in-law Alan, read the passage from John 14 where Jesus speaks of Himself as the way, the truth and the life. A poem written by her granddaughter was read explaining how Betty was so special. Prayers were said for Bert, Philip and Kathryn and all the family.

Betty was born in Preesall, and moved to Widnes before moving to Walmersley as a teenager. She was a long-standing member of the Christ Church community. She had played tennis for Christ Church, acted in the church pantomimes and latterly enjoyed the fellowship of the TeaTimers and the various social events and church services.

She would devour puzzle and crossword books, and was wonderfully supported by Bert at the family home on Brierfield Drive until just a few days before her death.

Betty leaves us with lots of happy memories and will be missed by lots of people who knew her in Walmersley and beyond.

We give thanks to God for the life of Betty Mather.
May She Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory.

In Memoriam – PAT MONGEY

Pat Mongey died at her home on Humber Drive on Monday 25 April 2016 after a short illness. Two weeks later a church service celebrated her life and in tribute to the lady herself Christ Church was almost full with people wishing to say farewell.

At the beginning of March, Pat had helped out at a Coffee Morning in Christ Church hall, raising funds for McMillan Nurses in memory of a young lady who had died. How sad and poignant, that within 7 weeks Pat herself had succumbed to that same illness.

At the funeral Margery Spencer spoke eloquently about her friend of many years and extolled Pat's life of service. Pat entered church to the sound of "The Scout Hymn" reflecting her years of service to the Scout Movement as Akela to the cub pack. Her work as a teacher inspiring the lives of so many children in her career was also praised.

But the major focus of her life was that of her family. Pat was a wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother. Always there for help, support and friendship. The Vicar described her as the matriarch of that family unit. We pray for Bill, Rosemary and Tessa and all the members of her beloved family.

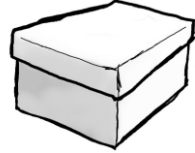
A founder member of the Christ Church Young Wives, Pat was a faithful member of the church community. She attended Mothers' Union, Study Groups, and helped with the flowers in church. At her funeral, the flower team donated and arranged white flowers in church in loving memory of their colleague. Pat will be sorely missed by all who knew her in Walmersley and beyond.

We give thanks to God for the life of Pat Mongey.
May She Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory.

Week One

The Peace of the Lord

I have in my hands two boxes,
which God gave me to hold
He said, "Put all your sorrows in the black,
and all your joys in the gold."



I heeded his words, and in the two boxes,
both my joys and sorrows I store.
But though the gold became heavier each day,
the black was as light as before.

With curiosity, I opened the black box.
I wanted to find out why
and I saw, in the base of the box, a hole which my sorrows-
stored had fallen out.

I showed the hole to God, and mused aloud,
"I wonder where my sorrows could be."
He smiled a gentle smile at me.
"My child, they're all here with me."



I asked, "God, why give me the boxes?
Why the gold, and the black with the hole?"
"My child, the gold is for you to count your
blessings,
the black is for you to let go."

We thank Gill for this, who used it in a sermon.

Week Two

Four steps to achievement:

Plan purposefully

Prepare prayerfully,

Proceed positively,

Pursue persistently.

William A Ward

(perhaps this is a reminder to the new PCCs)

Week Three prayer for homeless people

Lord Jesus,

You made time for the forgotten people,
the unfashionable people,
the discarded people.

We pray in your name

For those who lie like refuse

In the streets and cities of the world,

In alleyways, in hovels, in gutters.

Cleanse us of all that would turn us away from their need,
friends to support them, legislation to protect them,
and love to surround them, day by day. Amen



Week Four A prayer in bereavement

Those we love don't go away

They walk beside us every day

Unseen – unheard but always near,

Still loved, still missed but very dear.

We like to vary the format of branch meetings from practical occasions, social occasions - usually with food! - and evenings with invited speakers. We are fortunate to have home grown talent to entertain us and we look forward to welcoming Geoff Hamilton to speak on May 18th. We started off the month by welcoming an old friend of mine, Revd George Lane who is currently the Co-ordinating Chaplain at Manchester Airport. George and Libby used to live next door to us in Beverley, E Yorks where George was the Associate Vicar. Time has passed and both George and Libby have new roles - Libby was in the news as the first woman Bishop (Bishop of Stockport). However George didn't dwell on his famous wife but gave an excellent presentation of what life at the airport is all about. There are many more challenges than most of us are aware of when we pass through en route to our holiday destinations. George coordinates a large team of chaplains and volunteers so he can call on them if an emergency occurs to have more resources on hand. The chaplaincy team are there to support enable and encourage travellers when they need help most.

Looking ahead we have a Communion service followed by our Strawberry sparkle, and we are delighted to welcome Revd Simon Cook - Area Dean, to help us think through our theme this year 'Celebrating our faith' - in this our 140th anniversary year.

In recognition of this milestone anniversary we are encouraged to think how we could facilitate a 'Big summer appeal' event. Formerly known as the Wheels Appeal it has moved on to this new title and suggestions are to host a coffee/cake event - always popular and we did this last year, a garden party to celebrate the Queen's milestone birthday, an evening of entertainment or a clothes swapping night, to name but a few!

We will be considering in our branch how we can best respond to this so, as they say, 'watch this space' for details! There are projects all over the world which are supported by this event from South Sudan where Mothers' Union members are helping local women to run their own business, to Burundi where women who are affected by Gender based violence are cared for whilst they recover, to sending a family on a holiday in the UK. All very worthwhile projects which make a difference to those involved.

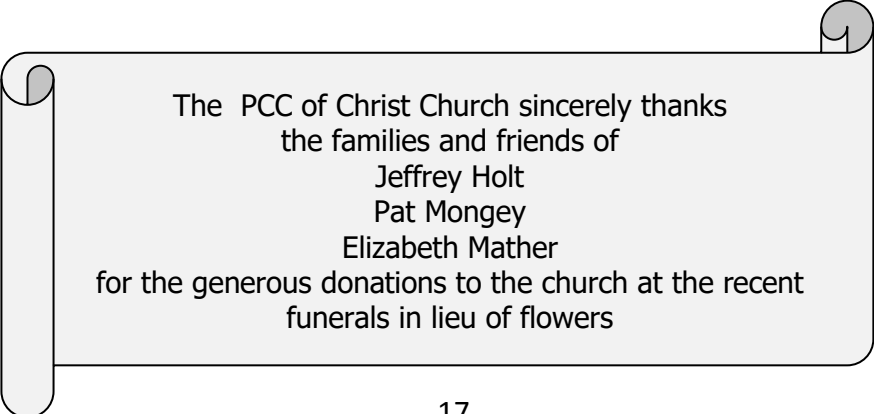
And just to mention that attending the Royal birthday party picnic in the Mall on June 12th is our Diocesan President (and branch member) Cath Hilton whose name was drawn to represent Mothers' Union. Enjoy the day Cath and come and tell us all about the experience of a lifetime!

Dates for the diary

June 1	Communion and Strawberry Sparkle
June 15	Celebrating our faith - Revd Simon Cook

We welcome everyone to our meetings so please join us for an evening or two!

Kathryn Bailey
Branch leader



The PCC of Christ Church sincerely thanks
the families and friends of
Jeffrey Holt
Pat Mongey
Elizabeth Mather
for the generous donations to the church at the recent
funerals in lieu of flowers

BENEFICE PRAYER WALK



The walking group have now established the first Saturday in May as the annual walk around the boundaries of the two Parishes in the Benefice of Walmersley Road.

This year's walk though, on 7th May, was slightly different in that it coincided with the Archbishops of Canterbury and York's call for a Week of Prayer in the week leading up to Pentecost.

In their letter to Parishes, the Archbishops encouraged people to focus particularly on the Lord's Prayer. Therefore this formed the basis of our prayer walk for the day. At various timed intervals, there was an opportunity for us to pause for two minutes of silent prayer and reflection and then we would recite the Lord's Prayer together as a group.

It is worth noting that the week before our walk we had endured some April snow. Only a week later and we could not have hoped for anything better, with beautiful sunshine all day. Spring was certainly evident in both the wildlife and atmosphere.

We met at the Lych Gate at 9.00am and had silent prayer for the Parish and people of Christ Church. Re-enacting our journey we made when we formed as a United Benefice in 2010, we made our way down Walmersley Road to St. John with St Mark Hall, where we prayed for the people of this Parish.

Down through The Burrs and Woodhill Road, we paused at the fire station at 10.20am for prayers for the emergency services and then to the Brunswick memorial garden at Tesco for prayers for those involved in commerce.



Past The Rock shopping centre and St. John's garden we continued to the top of Chesham Road next to Walker's field, where we paused for refreshments and prayers for recreation.

We crossed the motorway bridge, past Walmersley golf club and along Scotland Lane aiming to be at Buckhurst Farm at 12.30pm. This was the only time during the day that our timing went out of sync, therefore we said our 12.30pm prayer for farming and rural life a little before we had reached the farm. Upon reaching the farm, Gill said Grace before we ate our packed lunch.

We made our way through the farming communities to the Lord Raglan, where we were joined by Nigel and Barbara for our 1.30pm prayer for the whole of Bury MBC – suitable location, as you can see the whole of Bury MBC from the Raglan car park.

Making our way along Bass Lane to Summerseat we paused for refreshment at the Waterside Bridge at 2.30pm (the damage caused by the Boxing Day floods was still evident here) and we held up prayers for local communities.

We made our way through Summerseat and past the garden centre before crossing the East Lancs Railway and heading back into the Burrs for our final prayer for the Entertainment and Leisure industry at the Brown Cow at 3.30pm, where we enjoyed some refreshment.

We had a final quiet time of reflection as a group in The Burrs before saying the Grace and heading home.

Thank you to all who participated in this walk in anyway and to Paul for his (almost) immaculate time keeping and planning. Thank you also to those who were following us in Spirit at home during the various stages of the day. It was a very enjoyable day and made us appreciate the Benefice that we have.

Best Foot Forward, David Robinson



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

An extract from a story by Rozina

Begum, a tea farmer in Bangladesh, who tells how Traidcraft and tea plants have helped her to make her dreams become a reality.

"From my childhood I knew that poor people had only one dream - to be able to eat three times a day. I dreamt the same. I thought I would get to eat if I could get married to someone. I got married when I was thirteen. My mother-in-law had five sons including my husband. My father-in-law died when my youngest brother-in-law was just five. My in-laws were in terrible poverty; a kind of poverty which is not describable in words. When the men of the house were seated for dinner, my heart kept on trembling and I was worried they would ask us to get one more spoonful of rice. I would have to disclose that there was no more rice in the pot. When my husband used to ask me if I had had my dinner or not, I reluctantly nodded my head so he would not know that my mother-in-law and I ate only once a day. Our dream was limited to eating something good like vegetables instead of rice and salt. We continued to fight against cruel poverty. I had never imagined we had to lose a life in that battle.

My youngest brother-in-law Faruk (10) had fallen ill. He used to be with me all the time. I had brought him up as my mother-in-law was always outside for work. We had no money for his treatment. He used to ask for better food, often saying, 'Bhabi (sister-in-law), I want to have a sweet.' I used to weep while sitting on the corner of his bed. He left us with an empty stomach. I could not give him food or medicine. It still haunts me all the time. Without treatment Faruk went away for stomach pain but poverty did not. There was no house, nor ducks nor hens; we had no cows or any furniture. We were fighting against poverty with empty hands.

After that I got pregnant with our eldest daughter. I often went to sleep after starving a whole day. My husband used to give me courage saying that one day our days would change. He said that one

day we would see the rare face of happiness. I left my daughter home with my mother-in-law and both my husband and I started working as labourers in tea gardens. Together we could earn 100 – 130 taka a day (around £1.15).

We got to know that there is profit in tea planting. I heard about Traidcraft. My husband and I decided to use our land for growing tea plants. Our soil is very good for tea planting. If we can dedicate 1-1.5 years of growing tea in the garden, it will give us leaves for 80-100 years. I received six training sessions from Traidcraft. The wheel of our life then started turning.

After 1.5 years we are now able to see the face of happiness. Now we have electricity. We built a house for 30 thousand taka and we built a kitchen. I have hens and ducks and five cows. Everything has changed miraculously. The tea plant is a miracle in our life. Now we have beds to sleep in. My mother-in-law has a separate room and I made furniture for the house. I bought a tea pot and nicely decorated the room. Now I can buy a saree when I wish. We are providing all expenses for my two brothers-in-law. My daughter is going to school. I bought a new gold earring and my mother-in-law and I now eat meat most days. My husband says that I am a big dreamer. Yes, I like to dream. Dreaming is hope; hope for an incredible tomorrow. I want to buy a red refrigerator so I can give everyone cold water in the summer. My self-esteem and willpower have multiplied many times now. I am confident about my success and inspire to do more. I am one of the elected women members of our small tea growers association. I not only dream about myself or my family, I also think about my locality for my community. I want more people to be self-sufficient so no one goes to sleep with an empty stomach. Now people look at me with respect. They say though I had neither education nor experience I become one of their heroes. That makes me very proud. And this makes me responsible for them too. I want to educate my children and believe one day they will come forward to change the hope of the hopeless. My dream has come true, poverty has to be defeated.”

FAREWELL TO BISHOP CHRIS



The Right Revd. Chris Edmondson, the Bishop of Bolton retires at the end of June. Consecrated on 25 April 2008, Bishop Chris has served over 8 years as Area Bishop and is moving to his native Yorkshire.

At a packed farewell service in Bolton Parish Church on Pentecost Sunday, the Bishop's ministry was acknowledged by all sections of the community.

He has been in the forefront of inter-faith relationships in the area as well as being Chair of Diocesan Lahore Link Committee. One of his major roles has been to encourage Fresh Expressions of ministry as well as embarking on the traditional role of a Bishop in the established church.

At his farewell service recognition was also given of his wife Susan's support and the ministry of her own especially in relation to clergy spouses.

All in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road wish to express our thanks for the ministry of Bishop Chris and give thanks to God for his positive impact here.

Please pray for those involved in the selection process that will lead to the appointment of his replacement.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND NEWS

THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS

*play a vital role in supporting the Church of England
to be a Christian presence in every community.*

Their guiding principles are:

MISSION – supporting the Church to grow

STEWARDSHIP – investing for future generations

WISDOM – investing ethically with responsible governance

The Commissioners contribute 15% towards the costs of the ministry and mission of the Church of England, including grants for community projects across the country.

Last year this amounted to £218.5m making them one of the largest charitable givers in the country.

SATURDAY WALKING GROUP



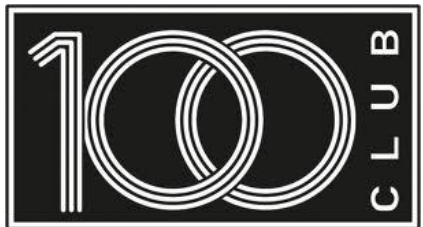
The June Walk will be on Saturday June 4th taking in Ryeburn Reservoir to Blackstone Edge and Dog Hill. Meet at St John with St Mark Hall at 9.30. As you will need transport let us know if you are joining us.

APRIL 2016 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ Phyllis Holt

2nd Prize ~ Sandra Evans

3rd Prize ~ Laura Clarke



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL



ST JOHN WITH ST MARK OPEN GROUP

On 11th May, the Open Group welcomed Pat White & June Leeming, members of the Bury Street Pastors Team. Pat is a member of the Christ Church Walshaw congregation, whilst June attends Brandlesholme Methodist.

Pat gave us a history of the origins of the Street Pastors, which is an interdenominational Church response to urban problems. An initiative of the Ascension Trust, the first group was set up in London in 2003, with the aim of engaging with people on the streets and in night-time venues, to care, listen and offer practical help. The Bury team's first night was in 2008.

We were given an outline as to the training, qualities and requirements necessary to become a Street Pastor. Although you must be over 18 the key thing is that there is no upper age limit.

At present there are just short of 30 in the team, who volunteer their services on Friday and Saturday night and sometimes Bank Holiday's (in all types of weather of course). Pat advised that they work on a rota of at least one night a month.

Many people have always associated the Street Pastors with the flip-flop shoes they provide to ladies who are unable to walk home from evenings out in high-heels, and Pat & June provided a practical demonstration of this, as well as filling us in with what a Street Pastor takes out with them for the night; including a dust pan and brush for sweeping broken bottles, mints for club doormen, and also lollipops, which prove useful in calming down a potentially hostile situation.

The ladies filled us in on some of the experiences they each encounter during their work, and how the Street Pastor's presence makes a big difference to their own lives, the lives of the people they meet and the local community. Although the work has some challenges, Pat and June both clearly enjoy their work, and it is rewarding to know that a simple deed can make such a huge difference.

The talk ended with a video of the Street Pastors song, featuring the Isle of Wight team.

If you are interested in joining the Bury Street Pastors, they are always looking to recruit new members. They can be contacted at The Manna House, Irwell Street, Bury, BL9 0HE or by E-Mail at pastors@spbury.org

Thank you, Pat and June, for joining us for an enlightening evening.



Our next meeting
Wednesday 8th June
at 7.30pm in the Library

'Origins of Local Place Names' – Led by Ian Banks

**Please remember, the Open Group is just that, open to all.
We would love you to join us for our meetings.**

Please also remember our stall at the Summer Fair on Saturday 11th June. If you have any items, please bring to the meeting on 8th June, or hand to a member of the Open Group committee prior to the Fair.

Thank You



NEWS FROM THE SCOUT GROUP

Congratulations and well done to Scouters, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers of our Benefice who have received awards at this year's St. George's Day service:

Silver Acorn ~ Keith & Margaret Duckworth

45 years service ~ Margaret Duckworth

From the only group in the county with a scouter receiving this award, Matthew went on parade at Windsor for the Queen on St George's Day.

Queen's Scout Award ~ Matthew Smith

The Mayor presented these awards in a ceremony at the Town Hall.

Chief Scout Gold Award ~ Harry Smith, Sam Devenport, James Weston and Freddie & Archie Nicol

At a county event in Middleton the highest number of cubs from one group received their awards.

Chief Scout Silver Award ~ William Tyrer, Harrison Barnes-Crossley, James Bowe, Hugh Wyatt, Jack Richardson, Scott Headley-Price, Jake Lowe, Oliver Platt, Isaac Robinson, Reuben Underhill, Marc Reynolds, Matthew Williams, Wesley and Joshua Kennedy, Hasnain Sheriff, Alex Thornton, Zac Whiteley & Adam Walsh

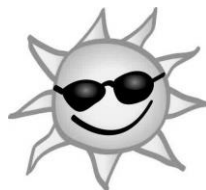
Chief Scout Bronze Award ~ Aayan Iqbal, Daniel Edgar, Harry Crawford & Christopher Barker

See the back page for photographs

ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK SUMMER FAIR

SATURDAY 11th JUNE 2016

**11am to 2pm
in the Church Hall**



Tombolas Traidcraft

Books

White Elephant

Cakes
Goods

Knitted & Household

Cards & Gifts
Raffle & much more

Jigsaws

LUNCHES ALSO AVAILABLE

**Please come along and support this event
and enjoy our friendship.**

**If you have any new ideas for stalls or attractions please speak
to the wardens or clergy in advance.**

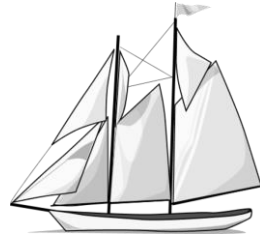
A PRAYER – mis-attributed to Sir Francis Drake

*This prayer was read out at the recent Archdeacon's Visitation
and is repeated here by request.*

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true,
Because we have dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.....

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wider seas
Where storms will show your mastery;
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.

We ask you to push back
The horizons of our hopes;
And to push into the future
In strength, courage, hope and love.



*“Hope is being able to
see that there is light
despite all of the
darkness”*

Desmond Tutu



THIRD THURSDAY LIGHT LUNCH

Soup, sandwiches, salad or similar with tea/coffee.

Come and meet up and chat over a friendly snack!



WALMERSLEY
CHRIST CHURCH
HALL

ONCE A MONTH ON
THE THIRD
THURSDAY –
NOON TILL 1.30PM

FIRST DATES -
APRIL 21ST, MAY 19,
JUNE 16

NO SET CHARGE –
JUST GIVE A
DONATION

ANY PROFITS WILL
GO TO CHURCH
FUNDS

Further information,
or if you want to help
out, please contact
Barbara & Nigel via
www.ccwalmersleybury.org.uk

WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

Wed 1		Archdeacon's Parish Visitation
	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Thu 2	2.00pm	Thursday Prayers (CC)
Sat 4	9.30am	Walking Group (meet SJM hall)
Sun 5		Second after Trinity Services as usual
Wed 8	7.30pm	Open Group (SJM)
Sat 11	11.00am	Summer Fair (SJM)
Sun 12		Third after Trinity Services as usual
Wed 15	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Thu 16	12noon	Thursday Lunch (CC)
Sat 18	9.45am	Bolton Archdeaconry Day
Sun 19		Fourth after Trinity Services as usual
Sat 25	2.30pm	Ordination of Priests - Manchester Cathedral
Sun 26	10.30am	Fifth after Trinity Celebratory Service (SJM) No other services

CAFÉ CHURCH SERVICES 2016

3 July	Christ Church
11 Sept	Christ Church
25 Sept	St.John with St.Mark
27 Nov	Christ Church





Chief Scout Silver award - the highest award for a cub

CONGRATULATIONS!

Chief Scout Gold award - the highest award for a scout

