



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



Pentecost

MAY 2018

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 | Christ Church |
| 10.30 a.m. | Sung Eucharist 2 nd Parade Service | St John w St Mark |
| 10.30 a.m. | 5 th United Service | Alternately CC/SJM |

Monday

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 7.30 p.m. | 1 st Listening Prayer | 150 Walmersley Road |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---------------------|

Tuesday

| | | |
|--------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 7.30pm | Christian Meditation | St John w St Mark |
|--------|----------------------|-------------------|

Wednesday

| | | |
|------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 10.00 a.m. | Holy Communion | St John w St Mark |
|------------|----------------|-------------------|

Thursday

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

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 Fairtrade status



RIGHTS THINGS, RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

In my wanderings around the benefice I see many interesting and amusing things which give me food for thought. For example, the other day, I walked past a locked-up builder's yard or scrap yard, I couldn't really say which, and I saw a boat that had obviously been there for some time but which was undoubtedly sea-worthy. I knew this for a fact because even though the ground around it was bone-dry, this boat was brimful of water with not a leak in sight!

It made me giggle a bit and on the return home I stopped for a short while and studied it. It was all wrong! The boat was sound and fit for purpose – this was proven by the fact that it didn't let water out. But actually it shouldn't have been *holding water* at all. It wasn't a bucket or a sink or a bath, it was a boat and for this very reason it was doing its job wrong! It was using its very design, its 'reason for being' in the wrong way – and ultimately serving no useful purpose.

As Christians, we are given roles in the world. Each of us is uniquely designed by a loving creator with gifts that we may or may not recognise. Some of the gifts we read people had in the Bible seem very insignificant:

- The widow had a penny
- Rahab had a rope
- Moses had a stammer
- David had a sling
- The boy had some fish and bread
- Peter had 'opinions'

None of these things on their own were going to set the world alight. None of these things used in the wrong way were going to be of use. But in the right hands, with the right person, under the right guidance – each of them made a difference.

Spring is a time for new beginnings – for clearing out and taking stock.

- Do you know what your gift is; however small it may seem in your eyes?
- Are you using your gift in the right way? Or, like the unused boat, does it lie dormant and frankly ridiculous.

Remember the parable of the stewards? God expects you to be the person He designed you to be - to the full and to his glory!

“Do not despise this small beginning, for the eyes of the Lord
rejoice to see the work begin.” Zechariah 4 v10

Every blessing
Gill

Prayer Chain for the Benefice



Sometimes we need to bring our prayers urgently to the Lord. A prayer chain is one way of doing that with the voices and support of other Christians.

The prayer chain was designed to work quite literally as a chain of phone calls but recently we have found that a short group text message works just as efficiently.

If you would like to be part of this active ministry, you need to think about whether you are easily contactable during the day or would you be better being on an evening list.

Your name and phone number will only be published to the members of the prayer chain.

Please speak to Gill if you have any questions or would like to join in this ministry.

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. James 5: 16



BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY

May 6 **Sixth of Easter**

Acts 10: 44-48

1 John 5: 1-6

John 15: 9-17

May 13 **Seventh of Easter**

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-
end

1 John 5: 9-13

John 17: 6-19

May 20 **Pentecost**

Acts 2: 1-21

Romans 8: 22-27

John 15: 26-
27, 16: 4b-15

May 27 **Trinity Sunday**

Isaiah 6: 1-8

Romans 8: 12-17

John 3: 1-17

June 3 **Trinity 1**

Deuteronomy 5:
12-15

2 Corinthians 4:
5-12

Mark 2: 23 -3:6

ASCENSION DAY

40 days after Easter Sunday, we celebrate the day Jesus left this earth and returned to His Father in heaven.

Thursday 10 May
7.30pm

*Services at both
St. John with St. Mark & Christ Church*

"So we in heart and mind may also ascend...."



FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

March 25 Poppy Rose Longden Melody Longden
 Rebecca Rigg

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

Weddings

April 6 Christopher Brown & Anne Thorpe Charlotte Seddon

"Those who God has joined together let no one put asunder"

Funerals

April 12 Doreen Sutherst

Interment of ashes in the garden of remembrance:

March 25 Wendy Riggs

"I am the resurrection and the life....."



FLOWERS IN CHURCH

At Christ Church
May 6 In memory of the Booth family
May 13 Mr Derek Schofield in memory of his mother Bessie
May 20 Vacant
May 27 In memory of Margaret Dutton and Alex Farnworth

If you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers in church, perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, please speak to Betty Winterbottom (Christ Church) or Rosemarie Ashworth (St.John with St.Mark).

ASCENSION DAY – By Malcolm Guite

*We saw his light break through the cloud of glory
Whilst we were rooted still in time and place
As earth became a part of Heaven's story
And heaven opened to his human face.
We saw him go and yet we were not parted
He took us with him to the heart of things
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted
Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,
Whilst we ourselves become his clouds of witness
And sing the waning darkness into light,
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,
Which all creation waits to see revealed.*

FORMBY RETREAT 2018



The annual retreat to the St. Joseph's Prayer Centre in Formby will take place from Wednesday 23rd to Saturday 26th May inclusive. The centre is situated in beautiful grounds surrounded by the National Trust pine forest and red squirrel reserve.

As with previous years there will be an opportunity for reflection, study, relaxation and also free time for your own leisure.

The cost of the trip includes accommodation and meals, which are provided at the centre.

We do not currently have many people signed up this year, so if you have never previously attended and feel like giving it a try then please contact Ian Banks or speak to a member of the Clergy.

From the Vicarage

- * Thanks to all those who decorated our churches for Easter Sunday. As always they were an impressive array of flowers and imaginative designs – especially after the starkness of the Lenten season. A lot of the work in getting the buildings ready for worship goes unseen but is always very much appreciated.
- * This month's meeting of the MOB – Men of the Benefice – will be an evening walk led by Geoff Hamilton. The date planned is Friday 18 May. Exact details can be found in the News sheet / Bulletin nearer that date.
- * The Ministry Team consisting of all the Clergy, Licensed Readers and our Authorised Lay Minister meet every month – usually on the second Monday evening. If you have an issue that you would like us to discuss, please have a word with me.
- * Porch Boxes are desperately in need of food items to meet the current demand. A box is available at the back of both churches. Please support this worthy cause.
- * 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.
- * Meals are provided for anyone in need, every Saturday afternoon between 4 – 5.30pm at the Manna House, Irwell Street, the home of Bury Christian Fellowship. Help is needed in the kitchen, serving and upfrontchatting. If anyone could offer some assistance, please contact Gill.
- * Both the churches in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road are now on Facebook! Search for both Christ Church, Walmersley and St.John with St.Mark, Bury and "like" and "follow" to receive messages from the site.

- * Regular attenders to church are encouraged to join our planned giving scheme. Thanks to those who responded to this as a result of our recent Stewardship Campaign. If you would like to do so or would like some further information, please speak to one of the wardens.
- * If you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers in church, perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, please speak to Betty Winterbottom (Christ Church) or Rosemarie Ashworth (St.John with St.Mark).
- * 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 (June Banks for St.John with St.Mark and Jennifer Wood for Christ Church) if the building is otherwise occupied before anything is arranged.
- * 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

ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION

Tuesday 22 May
7.30pm

St. Mary's Bury (Bury Parish Church)

for Wardens and Sidespersons

PCC members are encouraged to attend
and everyone is welcome

SETTING GOD'S PEOPLE FREE

Both churches have begun the series for this year's Cafe Church based on the Archbishops' Council Feb 2017 report, '**Setting God's People Free**'. The report looks at "*how does what we do as a church, **ordained and lay together**, enable God's people to grow in their capacity to live out the Good News of Jesus in all of life – in service in the church and in the world?*"

To kick-off this exciting challenge, we looked at the human body and thought about how each part of it works (or doesn't work) and how each part is complementary to the whole. Everyone was asked to make comments about the part of the body (cardboard, not real!) they were given on their table. Here is a sample of those comments:

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| If it doesn't work, you can't sit, bend, walk or kneel. | To hug people, protect them, control them, show generosity. | There would be no babies without the body. | Personality shows through. |
| Need a foot to walk and be useful in the world. | Stand, dance, balance, skip, run play games. | Support movement of other parts. | The blood to flow through every part of your body. |
| Helping hand - to shake a hand to reassure, to drive, to walk. | The rib cage for all round protection. | Torso - stops all the other parts falling apart. | Lungs give the breath of life. |
| Arm and hand are needed together - without it you can't scratch your back. | Liver removes bad stuff. Kidneys also remove bad stuff. | Expressing emotion. | The backbone for stability and strength. |



No single part of the body is complete in itself nor can any one part fulfil its own purpose with the support of the rest. We are looking to *“live richer lives in Christ in all of life, it is an opportunity to serve our nation, to be the people that our God calls us to be and that our nation desperately needs us to be for their sake and for God’s glory.”*

So why not come along to the next in the series and see where this challenge will take you?

Worship is the work of all God’s people!

Future Dates

| | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| CCW | 20 th May* | 9 th September | 18 th November |
| SJM | 17 th June | 23 rd September | 9 th December* |

(* indicates Holy Communion)

DID YOU KNOW? - WEDDINGS

According to a recent survey of over a thousand people aged between 18-35, almost three quarters (72%) intend to get married in the future.

Of those 72% just under half (47%) would prefer the ceremony to take place in a church or chapel, with 34% opting for a register office.



The majority of those who would choose a church building agreed with the statement that “marrying before God” felt like a proper wedding.

St John with St Mark PCC Meeting on 21st of March 2018

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults – Joan Wild is currently working through the outstanding CRB's. The policy statement needs to be updated to now include Adults at Risk.

Upcoming social dates – Afternoon Tea & Book Fair 28th April, Benefice Walk 5th May and Christian Aid Lunch 13th May.

Website & Social Media - The new site is now operational having solved the calendar problem. The address is

<https://stjohnstmarkchurchbury.com> and is being run in parallel with the old one. The link has been changed from 'A Church near You' and 'Find a Church' to the new site. The home page of the new site is like a blog so as new items are added the page changes to convey a sense of the many things that are going on, rather than a static home page where it looks like nothing much changes. The old site continues to get visitors and someone has recently contacted us with details of one of the soldiers commemorated on the St Mark's WWI memorial.

Stewardship Time & Talents – Madge Evans is now helping in Sunday school, Ian Banks has had the opportunity to preach on a Sunday and Derek Ryan has volunteered for flower arranging. All those who pledged to increase their giving have done so.

Quinquennial - We need to look at the priority actions identified by Paul Vipond, put together a programme of work and get it costed out. The new PCC will prioritise the actions. Rosemarie advised we have spoken to David Sharples regarding the houses on Seedfield Road, which have encroached onto our land. We have drafted a letter to be sent to all relevant home owners/occupiers to make them aware of the encroachment of their fence and ask if the fence is renewed to return it to the correct position. If the property is sold they should ensure this is included during conveyance. The letter will be issued on letter headed paper.

Archdeacon's report - Disabled access to church & toilet facilities should be on the priority list. The option of a lift being installed by the corridor steps next to the table store has been looked into, to allow wheelchair access from Church to Hall. Ian is to contact the Red Hall Hotel who have something similar to what we would be considering.

OLM & ALM ministry needs some proper thought since nothing much has happened since Elizabeth & Janet. It was noted that the new Archdeacon will take up her post on 25th March with a service at the Parish Church.

Finance - We have received a thank you from the Bishop for paying our 2017 Parish share in full. Pantomime raised £2020, PCC Coffee morning raised £254 & Buffet Dance raised £595. The West Window is currently being repaired and the damp patch being dealt with.

The PCC report ahead of the APCM was reviewed and approved.

Setting God's People Free - This new initiative will form the basis of our Café Church services for 2018 and its aim is to see if we can better recognise other forms of ministry.

Vicar's Report - The details of the new MAP are in the April magazine and will be reviewed at the Summer joint PCC. Diocesan Director of Vocations Nick Smeeton is to preach at the joint Benefice service at Christ Church on 29th April.

Health and Safety - We need to look at including signage along the wall on the back street asking people not to park their cars directly outside the exit gate as this blocks the escape route from the Hall in the event of emergency. The signage for the assembly points also needs to be updated. The Vicar also raised a point about the number of leaves outside Church on Sunny Avenue.

Ray has suggested we have a look at getting a new carpet in the Chapel as the existing one contains a few waxy marks. Ray will look into this and see what options are available.

Following recent incidents of ant-social behaviour in the area Rosemarie felt we could benefit from applying for funding from the police to hold community Friday film shows on occasional evenings to be staffed by Church volunteers. The money applied for would cover the cost of the evening. This will be looked into. On the same note, Debbie is to attend a funding session at the Freedom Church on 24th March for application for additional pantomime funds. A brief presentation is to be rehearsed for this session.

The APCM is on Sunday 22nd April after the 10.30am service.

THY KINGDOM COME

Joining with the family of God the Father to pray "Come Holy Spirit"

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

From 10 - 20 May, the time between Ascension Day and Pentecost, churches around the world are being encouraged to join this initiative. The aim is simple and threefold:

- **To join in prayer with the whole family of God the Father**
- **To pray for the empowering of God the Holy Spirit**
- **That we may be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ, God the Son**

We begin our celebrations with the Benefice Boundary Walk on Saturday 5 May, where once again we will be stopping at various places on the walk for prayer. This begins at 9.00am and further details can be found elsewhere in this magazine. In the week beginning Monday 14 May, it is hoped that both our churches will be open in the afternoon until a service of Evening Prayer which will be held at 5.00pm. Please use this opportunity to pray in church.

During the days of Thy Kingdom Come, it is hoped that everyone who participates will deepen their friendship with Jesus, bring other to know Jesus or know him better, and come to know that every aspect of their life is the stuff of prayer.

PLEASE JOIN IN WITH THIS GLOBAL EVENT
AND PRAY THY KINGDOM COME.

BENEFICE BOUNDARY WALK

Our annual Benefice walk around the Boundary of the two Parishes will take place this year on Saturday 5th May. As with previous years, we have produced a timetable of where we expect to be at a given time therefore if you do not fancy joining us for the whole thing (13 miles) then you may meet us at a given point and complete a section or two. We may say a prayer or have a brief reflection at certain key landmarks along the way.

If you are thinking of joining us at any of the spots, please let Paul Sanderson or David Robinson know in advance just in case the timings go a bit awry and we can provide you with an update. A mobile phone number may be useful so we can update you with a location.

Remember you will need good footwear and packed lunch etc. If you are not able to join us on the day, you may wish to follow us in spirit with the help of the times below:

Times and Places



9.00am – Start, Christ Church Lych Gate

9.30 – St. John with St. Mark Church Hall

10.20 – Bury Community Fire Station,
Magdalene Road

10.30 – Tesco Car Park Memorial Garden (near the car wash)

11.30 – Top of Chesham Road / Walker's Field

12.30pm – Buckhurst (*Lunch Stop*)

1.40 – Lord Raglan Car Park

2.30 – Summerseat (Waterside Bridge)

3.30 – Brown Cow (*Afternoon Refreshment*)

4.30 (approx) – Finish & Home.



A Prayer for peace

If there is to be peace in the world,
There must be peace in the nations.
If there is to be peace in the nations,
There must be peace in the cities.
If there is to be peace in the cities,
There must be peace between neighbors.
If there is to be peace between neighbors,
There must be peace in the home.
If there is to be peace in the home,
There must be peace in the heart.

(Lao-Tse - 6th Century BCE)

A Prayer for Christian Aid Week



Lord,

We live in a world in which some have plenty and others nothing.

We live in a world where some are full and others hungry,

We live in a world where some live in peace others in warfare,

We live in a world where some know safety and others disaster.

Bless the work of Christian Aid as they seek to bring about change which will enable all to live in plenty, in peace, and in safety. we especially ask your blessing on their work in Haiti. Make us generous in our support of their work.

Prayer for Pentecost

The Spirit came
and your Church was born,
in wind and fire
and words of power.

The Spirit came
blowing fear aside,
and in its place
weak hearts were stronger.

The Spirit came
as your word foretold,
with dreams and signs,
visions and wonders.

The Spirit came
and is here today,
to feed the hearts
of a world that hungers.

Faith and Worship.com



The Church

Guide and direct, O Lord us and all those who work for the
development of your church.

Restore our faith and vision,

Renew our energies and our love,

Revive us to new life and power,

So that we may live and speak for Christ each and every day.



Christian Aid Week is the single biggest act of Christian witness in Britain and Ireland

During Christian Aid Week, people come together from all walks of life to step out in support of the world's poorest communities.

Christian Aid have more than 70 years' experience of working in partnership to support communities to thrive. They tackle the root causes of poverty so that women, men and children the world over are strengthened against future knocks. And if disasters happen, they get people the help they want straight away.

"Everyone is equal in the sight of God. Yet we live in a world where poverty still persists. Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive. But together we have the power to transform lives." *From the Christian Aid website*

If you would like to donate to the work of Christian Aid there will be donation envelopes at the back of church. If you would like to know more about Christian Aid or to donate online visit www.christianaid.org.uk

*Please sign up for the Christian Aid Lunch
at St. John with St. Mark
on Sunday 13 May
after the Parade Service.
Adults £5.00 Children £3.00*

Contact John, Rosemarie or members of the clergy.

Our Area Dean Revd Simon Cook led us in our second Lenten reflection and took Mark's gospel as his subject.

At our next meeting we held a Quiz night, with nibbles and soft drinks provided to keep the brain cells active. There were 50 questions on Eggs, Women in the Old Testament, Games and Dingbats. I'm pleased to say the highest scoring round was Women in the Old Testament – wouldn't have expected anything else! The winning team scored 33 points and they were Joan Riggs, Colin Riggs, Pamela Hoyle and David Andrew. Their reward was chocolate goodies.

Margery and Alan Spencer kindly hosted an "open house" evening of food and drink to celebrate the recent marriage of member Karen (née Hawkins) and John. A most enjoyable occasion.

Our meetings in May are an evening of Poetry and Prose readings led by the members on 2nd and on the 16th the Bury Deanery AGM is to be held in the hall, followed by a Strawberry Sparkle at which other members from the deanery will join us.

Everyone is welcome to our meetings held at 7.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

Bob Taylor
Branch Leader

RAINBOW STALL – APPEAL

Prizes are needed for the Rainbow Stall (prize each time tombola) at the Summer Fair at St. John with St. Mark on Saturday 2nd June.

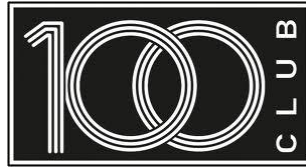
Suggested items include:

Toiletries, kitchen goods, small household items, gifts, children's toys

If you can provide anything, please bring to Church for the attention of Margaret & John Brennan. Thank You

MARCH 2018 WINNERS

1. Betty Alty
2. George Hall



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

PANTOMIME FUNDING

The young people involved in the Pantomime pitched for money in the Bury East 'Give Back Funding' on Saturday 24th March. It was a great event, and they won the pitch by getting the most votes and coming first, so they got the money asked for.

Congratulations to all involved.





It wouldn't be an Open Group year without a talk from our Treasurer Ian Banks, who led our meeting on 11th April. The selected subject this time around was - himself. Believe me, there is always something new to discover about Ian and this year was no different. The purpose of the evening was to find out what he does during the day when he is not around Church but before that we heard a little about Ian's early life; born in Aberdeen in fact and spent most of the early part of his life around the South coast regions of England. There was an opportunity for us to see photographs of family from those early days.

Ian spent some time in France in the early 1980's at University and brought along his student card from that time. We didn't get a lesson in the French he had picked up during that time but we had an assurance that he knew enough to get by on holidays. The locals always appreciate you trying to have a go than not at all.

We heard about Ian's move to Bury in the late 1980's and his settling into St. John with St. Mark Parish. He was asked to help out with the Treasurer's role for a short while! There was a recollection of times and experiences with former Incumbents and Parishioners, which stirred up memories and discussion for other members of the Open Group.

The latter part of the meeting allowed us to hear about Ian's day job at Schawk!, where he is the Sales Director for the Manchester office based in Salford. The company is responsible for the design brand packaging for several well-know companies, including Walkers. The next time you buy a packet of Walkers crisps or snacks have a look at the design. The chances are Ian had a part to play in the packaging. We were told how the job sends Ian across the world to other sites to help with requirements for countries such as India, where a lot of the produce is sold on outdoor street kiosks. Several pieces of equipment were brought along so we could see the effects of different types of light on colours and we had a look at some of the printing plates used in the process. Some snacks were brought along so we could see the different designs on packets across the globe but as tempting as they looked, sadly they were not for consumption tonight.

We enjoyed an informative talk from Ian and learnt a lot during the evening.

NEXT MONTH – Geoff Stokes will lead us on a musical journey. Geoff has previously presented this talk for Men of the Benefice, but for those who were not there, you will have the opportunity to hear it again on Wednesday 9th May at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room. All are welcome.

David Robinson.



SATURDAY WALKING GROUP

Our walk on 14th April was led by Geoff Hamilton and was also an educational adventure of industrial mill ruins of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. We were aided by the Bury & District Local History Society book titled 'The Forgotten Valley', which tells the story of the rise and subsequent decline of the Cheesden Valley industry and community, along with route maps of the way. We were pleased to be joined for the first time by Roy & Maureen Nuttall's daughter Marie.

Our starting point was Christ Church Walmersley and we headed up towards Nangreaves before beginning our descent into the Cheesden Valley. After a few miles crossing the moors we approached Owd Betts and Ashworth Moor Reservoir and the nearby ruins of the Four Acre Mill. The banks of a lodge, which helped power a huge waterwheel, is still noticeable around these ruins. We continued our walk past the former Cheesden Pasture Mill and through the valley alongside the edge of Scout Moor, until we arrived at our lunch stop, which was at the ruins of the Cheesden Lumb Mill.

A large part of the mill facade is still visible next to the waterfall and we paused here for a short while for lunch and to reflect on what would have gone on here over a century ago. I heard stories of disputes between mill owners resulting in water supplies being blocked and charging other owners for the use of their water.

After lunch we headed towards the former Buckhurst School and into Deeply Vale to see the remains of the mills in this area. One of the noticeable features here was the large oval shape on the ground, which housed a large gas tower. There were also recollections by some of us of the free music festivals that took place in Deeply Vale in the 1970's & 1980's. (Do you remember them?)

As we continued below Deeply Vale, we came to the former Washwheel bleachworks. This was the last of the Cheesden mills to close in 1919 and its final job was the bleaching of khaki cotton for the war troop uniforms. The chimney stack is still present today.

Our final stop of the tour was the site of the Birtle Dene Mill before we made the descent back up to the Rochdale & Bury Bridleway and across Walmersley Golf Club and the M66 motorway bridge to make our separate ways home.

Along the way, Geoff pointed out various other features including the routes of former tramways and the locations and remains of what would have been former rows of terraced cottages for the mill workers. It was clear there was a great industrial village here a few generations back.

It was a good time of year to complete this walk as the trees were still bare, so we had some great views of the ruins. It was an enjoyable and informative day and we covered 12 miles overall. The weather was also extremely favourable as well with some nice Spring sunshine for the majority of the day. Thanks to Geoff for showing us around 'The Forgotten Valley'.

Best foot forward, David Robinson

SUNDAY @ SEVEN

We next meet for our regular Sunday evening informal worship (song/reflection/prayer) on –

Sunday May 27th at 7pm
in the Barritt Room, St John with St Mark's Hall



Do come and join us – it lasts about an hour - you will be most welcome!

LIGHT LUNCH



The next **Light Lunch** will be on May 17th
at 12.00 noon in the Hall at Christ Church

Everyone is welcome to share food and fellowship
– so please bring your friends.

EXPLORER BELT CHALLENGE

9th Walmersley Scouts would like to invite you to a "Whisky tasting evening" with a Ladies Prosecco and beauty party running alongside. *See back page*

What Can You Look Forward to ?

A guided tasting of six totally different styles of Scottish malt whisky:

Highlands, Speyside, Islands, Islay, Lowlands, Campbeltown

The evening promises to be informative about the distilleries history, location and production methods giving you a relaxed, informative evening with the warm evening glow achieved only by good quality whisky.

Why are we fund raising? Well we have some very exciting news at 9th Walmersley Scout Group in that three of our Explorers Freddie and Archie Nicol and James Weston, all of whom have been with 9th Walmersley since they started Beavers when they were 6 years old, are doing the Explorer Belt challenge.

In short, the Explorer Belt is a year long programme of fundraising and training culminating in a 10 day expedition to Switzerland in July this year. On this expedition the boys will be dropped off in the Swiss village of Olten from which they will then walk for 10 days for a distance of 100 miles to arrive at Neuchatel. They will only have the equivalent of £3 per day to afford "water and bread" and have campsites booked for 5 nights. They will therefore have to ask members of the communities they pass through to fill up their water bottles, offer food and even a place to sleep.

This is all means that they will be undertaking many weekends of training before the expedition in order to develop skills, including learning basic German. Once the expedition has been completed they will then have to present a short talk and slide show to an audience including the Mayor, in September 2018.

Please help support our young men in the next exciting step of their Scouting lives. For tickets please contact me.

Carole Nicol

Group Scout Leader 9th Walmersley Scout Troop.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

RNLI RAMSBOTTOM BRANCH

COFFEE MORNING



Tuesday 22nd May 2018
10.30 - 12 noon
Christ Church Walmersley

Tickets £2.50
(includes coffee and cake)
Souvenirs, Cakes, Chocolate Tombola

ST JOHN WITH ST MARK SUMMER FAIR



SATURDAY 2nd JUNE 2018
11am to 2pm in the Church Hall

Tombolas Traidcraft Books White Elephant Cakes
Knitted & Household Goods Cards & Gifts Jigsaws



Raffle & much more
LUNCHES/REFRESHMENTS
ALSO AVAILABLE



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

SOFT TOYS & TEDDIES required.

Please speak to Jackie Yates or bring to Church. If you have any
new ideas for stalls and attractions, or you do not
normally help and would like to be involved (either on the day or
setting up on the Friday), please speak to the wardens or clergy.

Thank You

WHAT'S ON IN MAY

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|---|
| Wed 2 | 7.30pm | Mothers' Union (CC) |
| Sat 5 | 9.00am | Benefice Walk (Lych Gate CC) |
| Sun 6 | | Sixth of Easter Services as usual |
| Tue 8 | 8.00pm | PCC (SJM) |
| Wed 9 | 7.30pm | Open Group (SJM) |
| Thu 10 | 7.30pm | Ascension Day Service (CC, SJM) |
| Sun 13 | | Seventh of Easter Services as usual |
| | 12.00noon | Christian Aid Lunch |
| Wed 16 | 7.30pm | Mothers' Union (CC) |
| Thu 17 | 12.00noon | Light Lunch (CC) |
| Fri 18 | | Men of the Benefice |
| Sat 19 | 7.00pm | Whisky Tasting and Prosecco Sampling (CC) |
| Sun 20 | | Pentecost Services as usual |
| Tue 22 | 10.30am | RNLI Coffee Morning (CC) |
| | 7.30pm | Archdeacon's Visitation (Bury Parish Church) |
| Wed-Sat 23-26 | | Formby Retreat |
| Sun 27 | | Trinity Services as usual |
| | 7.00pm | Sunday @ Seven (CC) |

9th Walmersley Scout Group

Join us for a whisky tasting night...

*...as we take a guided tour of Scotland with whiskies from each of the 6 malt whisky regions, where we learn about the distilleries, their history and processes.
A wonderfully informative evening with a glow that can only be achieved by good quality whisky.*



Whisky
Tasting
£25

Running alongside will be a Prosecco & Ladies Beauty Party

*If you don't like whisky, come and join the fun next door.
An opportunity to discuss beauty products and try them out while your glass fizzes with Prosecco.
£5 per ticket including a free glass of Prosecco.
Further glasses available at £5 per glass*



The Hall, Christ Church Walmersley, School Lane, Bury, BL9 5JU
19th May 2018, Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start

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