

# *The Messenger*

## **Parish Magazine of**



**St George  
and**



**All Saints'  
Chorley**

October 2025

## Parish Clergy

	<p>Main Contact for St George's during the "Vacancy"          Revd Peter Smith  <a href="mailto:frpeter@stgeorgechorley.co.uk">frpeter@stgeorgechorley.co.uk</a></p>	
	<p>Main Contact for All Saints' Assistant Curate          The Revd Jordan Bentliff MA (Hons)          Tel: 01257438000 / 07450 269010          Email: <a href="mailto:cjbentliff@hotmail.co.uk">cjbentliff@hotmail.co.uk</a></p>	
	<p>Retired Clergy with Permission to Officiate          The Revd Peter Smith BA (Hons) PTO          Tel: 07412 624931          Email: <a href="mailto:ordinand07@gmail.com">ordinand07@gmail.com</a></p>	

## Regular Services

<p>The Parish Church of St George</p> <p>Sunday 9:30am Family Eucharist          Wednesday 10:00am Eucharist</p> <p><a href="http://www.stgeorgechorley.co.uk">www.stgeorgechorley.co.uk</a></p>	<p>The Parish Church of All Saints'</p> <p>Sunday 11:00am Family Eucharist          Sunday 4:00pm Closer Service          Thursday 10:30am Eucharist</p> <p><a href="http://www.allsaintschorley.com">www.allsaintschorley.com</a></p>
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## Parish Contacts

Parish Safeguarding Officer	Dr Victoria Gibson <a href="mailto:safeguarding@stgeorgechorley.co.uk">safeguarding@stgeorgechorley.co.uk</a>	07921 010900
Parish Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Sara Shingler <a href="mailto:shinglebelly@yahoo.com">shinglebelly@yahoo.com</a>	
Parish Treasurer	Mr Stephen Pollard <a href="mailto:treasurer@stgeorgechorley.co.uk">treasurer@stgeorgechorley.co.uk</a>	07568 5027780
Parish Magazine Editor	Mrs Chris Gibson <a href="mailto:acvgibson@outlook.com">acvgibson@outlook.com</a>	01257 260555
Parish Health & Safety Officer	Mr John Bradley <a href="mailto:jm30.bradley@gmail.com">jm30.bradley@gmail.com</a>	07375 047982
Parish Visiting & Lay Ministry Team	Mrs Carol Pearson <a href="mailto:carolpearson@outlook.com">carolpearson@outlook.com</a>	07981 021288
Parish Youth Group	Meet every Friday 5:30pm to 7:00pm at All Saints' Church (contact Fr Jordan)	07450 269010

## *St George's Contacts*

Churchwardens	Mr John Bradley jm30.bradley@gmail.com Mrs Lorraine Smith lorraine54@me.com	07375 047982 07729 8866401
Organist & Choirmaster	Mr Gordon Blackledge ARCO FTCL	01257 274922
Verger	"Vacancy"	
Flower Guild Secretary	Mrs Freda Armstrong	01257 262918
Bell tower Captain	Dr Victoria Gibson drvigibson@outlook.com	07921 010900
Church Hall	Mrs Sian Phillipson Manager / Booking churchhall@stgeorgechorley.co.uk	07734 232684
St George's Primary School	Mr Andy Purcell Head Teacher	01257 2623230
Sunday Club	We meet in the Church Hall 9:25am on a normal Sunday	
Men's Fellowship	2nd Wednesday 7:30pm Church Hall	01257 263245
Mothers' Union	2nd & last Thursday 7:30pm Church Hall	
Thursday Ladies Circle	1st & 3rd Thursday 7:30pm Church Hall	
Dramatic & Musical Society	Friday 7:00pm Church Hall	
Badminton Club	Monday 8:00pm Church Hall	
Church Institute	Monday - Thursday 2:00pm - 11:00pm Friday & Saturday 2:00pm - 12:00 midnight Sunday 12:00 noon - 11:00pm	01257 413107
Toddler & Baby Group	Little Steps meet Wednesday (term time) 10:30am-11:30am Church Hall	

### ***St George's Uniformed Organisations Meet at Church Hall (Term time)***

Rainbows	Kathryn Winters Tuesday 8:00pm	07701 353429
Brownies	Kathryn Winters Tuesday 6:15pm	07701 353429
Guides	Sarah Glover Tuesday 7:15pm	07974 687541

### **Red Bank Uniformed Organisations Meet at Red Bank Mission Hall (Term Time)**

Beaver Scouts Scouts Cub Scouts	Monday 6:15pm Monday 7:30pm Jackie Beesley (GSL) Tuesday 6:50pm	01257 270770
Rainbows	Wednesday 5:30pm Kaitlinn Hunter	
Brownies	Wednesday 6:45pm Lynsey Torrens	
Guides	Thursday 6:45pm Jackie Beesley	01257 270770

### **All Saints' Contacts**

Church Wardens	Mrs Shirley Starkey churchwarden.allsaints@yahoo.com Mrs Joyce Jolly joycejolly21@gmail.com	07806 682946 01257 278057
Verger	Mrs Christine Ireland	01257 273291 07596 443163
All Saints' Primary School and Nursery Unit	Mrs Sarah Partington Head Teacher	01257 262489
Flower Guild Secretary	Mrs Marjorie Holland d_holland1@sky.com	01257 271830
Mothers' Union	Mrs Marjorie Holland d_holland1@sky.com Meet every 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 2:00pm (locations vary)	01257 271830
Ladies Friendship Group	Mrs Rachael Anders-Kay rachaelanderskay@gmail.com	07851 210120
Men's Social Group	Mr Michael Anders-Kay michaelanderderskay@gmail.com	07923 255326

**Please notify the Parish Magazine Editor of any changes/updates  
Mrs Christine Gibson acvgibson@outlook.com 01257 260555**

**I now cast this little Publication into your hands earnestly  
hoping that it may meet with your approbation, and enable  
you to spend a happy and profitable hour whilst reading  
over its pages".**

**Rev. John Stock 1863, The Messenger first issue**

## **Harvest of Memories: Celebrating 200 Years of St George's Church.**

Dear fellow members of Christ's family

On the 12th of October, we will celebrate and commemorate the 200 years of our wonderful church building here at St George's. Our bicentennial service will be attended by our diocesan bishop, Rt Revd Philip North, who will preside at the 9:30am Eucharist and rededicate our restored reredos panels behind the high altar. I hope to see as many of you celebrate this auspicious occasion with us; two hundred years of faith, fellowship, and service at the heart of our community.

October is of course a season of abundance and of thanksgiving. We celebrated our Harvest Thanksgiving service in September, but it is good to remind ourselves that there is something profoundly spiritual about autumn too. The fields are heavy with the bounty of the year's labour; and as the days grow shorter and the evenings draw in, we are invited to pause and reflect on the gifts we have received—both seen and unseen. It is a time to remember that all we have comes from God, and to offer thanks by sharing our abundance with our neighbours.

How fitting, then, that this October we also gather to give thanks for a different kind of harvest: the lives touched, the prayers whispered, the friendships forged, and the legacy built over two centuries within the walls of St George's Church. It is almost impossible to imagine the world as it was when the doors of St George's first creaked open in 1825. The parish was smaller and the world beyond our fields (as there was then) was much further away. Yet, amid all the changes wrought by time—the industrial revolution, world wars, social upheavals, and moments of national joy and sorrow—this church has stood as a beacon of hope and a gathering place for all.

The bicentennial is not simply a commemoration of our building's age. It is a celebration of the faith that built it, the people who filled its pews, and the generations who have carried its mission into the world. For

two hundred years, St George's has been a sanctuary through storms and sunlit days, a place where new life is welcomed, vows are spoken, and sad farewells are gently given. The spirited hymns that have echoed through the stone walls, and the quiet prayers offered, all are woven into the fabric of our church's story.

We honour not just the clergy who have led with wisdom and grace, but also the lay people—the flower arrangers, bell ringers, vestry members, and countless volunteers—who have kept the flame of service burning bright.

As we celebrate a bicentennial in the embrace of autumn, we are reminded of the parallels between the season and our life of faith. Autumn teaches us about change, resilience, and hope. Just as trees shed their leaves, trusting in the promise of spring, so too are we called to let go of what no longer serves us and to prepare for God's new growth in our hearts.

Celebrating two hundred years is not only about looking back; it is also about looking forward. What seeds are we planting today that will bear fruit for generations to come? How can we ensure that St George's remains a place of welcome, compassion, and inspiration?

This autumn, as we gather for our special bicentennial service, let us renew our commitment to serve God and the mission of his Son. Our world is changing faster than ever, and the needs of our community are many. Let us be bold in our hospitality, creative in our outreach, and steadfast in our prayers.

As we reflect on the legacy handed down to us, and as we plan and hope for the future, let us put our trust in a: "God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20).

***Our Vision - Closer to Christ; further out for Christ.***

As we mark this season of change and this bicentennial of faith, let us pray:

God of all seasons,

We thank you for the harvest of memories, love, and service that fills our lives through the ministry of St George's Church.

Grant us wisdom to honour the past,  
courage to embrace the present,  
and hope to plant seeds for the future.

As leaves turn and the world prepares for rest,  
renew our spirits and strengthen our bonds,  
that we may continue to shine as a beacon of your love  
for generations to come.

Amen. Rev Peter



*Coffee Morning*  
**in aid of the M.S TRUST**  
on  
**Saturday, 1st November 2025, 10am-Noon**  
at  
**Saint Michael's High School and Academy**  
**Astley Road, Chorley PR7 1RS**  
**Admission £4.00, Children free**  
Also  
**Cake Stall, Bricabrac, Raffle.**

## *St George's Church Congregation Numbers*

<b><i>Week Beginning</i></b>	<b><i>Children Attending</i></b>	<b><i>Adults Attending</i></b>	<b><i>Communicant</i></b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	20	109	97
10 <sup>th</sup> Aug	13	85	82
17 <sup>th</sup> Aug	35	126	102
24 <sup>th</sup> Aug	20	104	94
31 <sup>st</sup> Aug	19	105	99

**Note - The attendance numbers include all the services  
within the week**

<b>Holy Baptism</b>	<b>Holy Matrimony</b>
<b>Elliott Michael Bertie Sharpes</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Jax James Cursley</b>	
<b>Joey Christopher Cursley</b>	

**Please pray for those struggling with illnesses of any sort, and  
especially for:**

***Alan Fairclough, Marian Crossthwaite, Harold Dunseath, Linda  
Eubank, Richard Wilk, Simon Newell, Margaret Salisbury,  
John Hobbiss, Norman Whittaker, Revd. Robert Moore and  
Dorothy Treadwell.***

**And for the families of those who have died recently  
*Hilary Lowe, Steven Bound, Bill Baxendale & Mary Edwards***

**We remember all those who are currently housebound and unable  
to be with us in Church.**





## **Spotlight on Safeguarding**

Every year our Parish Safeguarding Policy is renewed – this is an important document that sets out why safeguarding is important and how our Parish will ensure that we keep everyone safe. In accordance with the Church of

England Safeguarding Policy our Church is committed to:

### **Promoting a safer environment and culture.**

- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

### ***The Parish will:***

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.

- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in Church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this Church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

## **Victoria**

Dr Victoria Gibson, Parish Safeguarding Officer, 0792 1010 900  
safeguarding@stgeorgechorley.co.uk

## **International Aid Shoebox Appeal 2025**

I would like to start by thanking ,once again, everyone who took part in last year's shoebox appeal. 100 boxes was quite something!

This year we are running the Appeal from 28th September to 2nd November.

The shoebox appeal brings joy and hope each year to many thousands of people of all ages. These gifts have brought smiles to children and adults living in poverty in Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America and even the UK.

When you send a shoebox you are sending more than just a box filled with useful and fun items; it's a personal gift just for the person receiving it, a message of hope and love, reflecting the love of Jesus.

It's also personal for those of us filling a shoebox; choosing who the box is for, selecting appropriate items to send, wrapping the box, maybe writing a greetings card, all help us to care about the person who will receive the gift.

Letting people in desperate circumstances know that someone cares and they are not forgotten is so important. That's why shoeboxes are sent to people of all ages from babies to elderly people, and why they are delivered throughout the year, not just at Christmas. These gifts are distributed by International Aid's own teams and local churches who know their communities well and reach out with Christ's love to those in need.

Last Christmas, the church at Motovylyvka, in Ukraine, shared the good news of Jesus' birth through drama, songs and fun. These services were attended by hundreds of children and young people who all received a shoebox. I include a message from Pastor Andrei, "We are very grateful for you sending these wonderful gifts. We give the shoeboxes to children who might not have anything else, kids whose parents are in the military, kids whose parents might have died. May

Join in the fun >>

## FILL A BOX OR TWO

- 1) Gift wrap the box and lid separately
  - Use an elastic band to keep the box together.
- 2) Fill out the label (overleaf)
  - Choose the age and gender of the person you want to receive your shoebox.
  - Fill out the label overleaf and stick it onto the top of your shoebox.
- 3) Fill your shoebox with appropriate gifts
  - Don't wrap individual items.
  - See below for a list of suitable/unsuitable gift ideas.



## IDEAS FOR WHAT TO INCLUDE

**TOILETRIES** ✓ Toothbrush ✓ Toothpaste ✓ Soap ✓ Flannel or sponge  
✓ Comb ✓ Hair bobbles ✓ Roll on deodorant ☒ No sprays  
☒ No medicines, vitamins or tablets

**TOYS** ✓ Small toys ✓ Cuddly toys ✓ Balls ✓ Skipping rope ✓ Games  
✓ Small jigsaws etc ☒ No guns or war toys

**CLOTHES** ✓ Socks ✓ T-shirts ✓ Hats ✓ Scarves ✓ Gloves ✓ Underwear  
✓ Babygro (for little ones)

**STATIONERY** ✓ Pens ✓ Pencils ✓ Crayons ✓ Eraser ✓ Sharpener ✓ Notebooks  
✓ Colouring books ✓ Scissors (*round-ended safety type for children*)

**PRACTICAL** ✓ Plastic bowl & cup ✓ Cutlery ✓ Safety Pins\* ✓ Mini sewing kit\*  
✓ String\* ✓ Wind-up torch\* ✓ Plasters\* ☒ No matches \*For teens & adults

**Did you know...** It costs us £2 to collect, store, transport and distribute each shoebox? In a time of increasing costs, your contributions are very welcome. Please do not put money inside or attached to boxes. Donations can be made through our website or by cheque.

the Lord bless you and return it to you one hundred fold”

At the beginning of this year a team from IAT went out to Sierra Leone, to coincide with the arrival of a container from the Lancashire warehouse, loaded with aid and shoeboxes. One of the sites they were distributed at was the New Hope Church where they held a special Shoebox Sunday. Over 200 boxes were given out at this one church and they were received with much joy and amazement, many of the children playing with the toys straight away. One little girl, Haja, was keen to share her enjoyment of everything in her shoebox and to say “thank you very much”.

There are two ways you can send a shoebox, the traditional way of filling a box, wrapping and labelling it and bringing it to church or send a virtual shoebox. The virtual shoebox scheme enables you to make a donation for a box to be filled full of useful and fun items. You can choose the area of the world and age and gender of the person you would like the gift to go to. Gifts are packed and distributed by local teams, which, in turn, helps to support local economies. Should you wish to donate by this method visit [www.internationalaidtrust.org.uk/shoeboxes/virtual](http://www.internationalaidtrust.org.uk/shoeboxes/virtual)

Details of what to put in the shoeboxes and how to wrap them are on the photo below. Leaflets are also available in church. Please donate what you are able, maybe join forces with other family members to fill a box and return to church by Sunday 2nd November.

If you would like to contribute to the cost of transporting the boxes there will be a donation box by the Shoebox display at the back of church where you will also find some specially printed shoeboxes for International Aid if you haven't got one.

More information on these projects can be found on [www.internationalaidtrust.org.uk](http://www.internationalaidtrust.org.uk) and videos of their exploits on @internationalAidOrg International Aid Trust – You Tube

Elizabeth Wilding on behalf of the Mission and Discipleship Team.

## **St. George's Church - Bicentenary Celebration Year**

This year, 2025, is the bicentenary of St. George's Church. One special activity, among various other events and activities to celebrate the bicentenary, is to create a time capsule.

The primary purpose of a time capsule is to preserve objects and information from a specific point in time for future discovery and reflection. It serves as a snapshot of the present, intended to be opened and examined by people in the future, often with the aim of providing insights into our life experiences from the past.

It is intended that the time capsule will be completed in time for our Celebration Service in October.

One consideration has been regarding how long a time span before the capsule should be opened. The longer it is sealed, the more difficult it can be to choose items to be included. A span of 100 years is often a popular choice, however, previous experience has proved choosing a shorter time such as 50 years allows some of the original participants to experience the opening, and for the items included to bring back memories. As such, it is planned for the capsule to be opened in the year 2075.

It is planned to collect a number of appropriate items to include within the time capsule that will provide a view of what life was like in 2025, with an emphasis on our local community, parish life and St George's Church.

If you wish to include any items, please discuss with me. It is hoped as many appropriate items offered will be included, but space will be limited, and items will need to be suitable to avoid deterioration or damage over the next 50 years.

Stephen Pollard

## **St George's Christmas Fair 2025**

You are invited to join us on Saturday 29th November for the annual Christmas Fair, held this year inside the Church Hall only. The fair opens at 10.30am by very special guests and closes at 1.30pm.

You will find all the usual fun and games, as well as a great selection of stalls including:

Bottle tombola, Crafts and festive gifts, Cakes and Preserves, Children's toys, Scouts & Guides games and gifts, Pop-up café, a visit from Santa, Children's Crafts, Teddy and Chocolate tombola and Mothers Union Gift Bag stall.

There will also be 'Guess the weight of the Christmas Cake' competition. Amazing prizes in our Grand raffle, the £50 note game and the usual program raffle along with the Mothers Union raffle.

### **Run-up to the big day:**

You could help us make the fair a really successful event (and our main fundraiser for the year) by bringing in the following in the weeks running up to the fair:

- Bottles (all types, including toiletries and alcoholic/non-alcoholic)
- Chocolate for the chocolate tombola  
Great condition teddies, children's toys.

Also - can you help us find some raffle prizes? We would be grateful for a raffle prize to add to the Grand raffle. Would your hairdresser donate a haircut, your garage a free MOT, your favourite restaurant a meal for 2?

## On the day:

- Please come and support the fair and bring your friends and family for a lovely festive event!

In Summary: Drop off at back of church and please follow the notices directing where each type of contributions are to be left.

<b>October</b>	Bottles - all bottles, including shampoo, wine, fizzy pop - for the bottle tombola
	Teddies/soft toys-for the Teddy tombola
	Chocolate - for the Chocolate tombola (Sunday club are also requesting these from the children)
<b>November</b>	New/good used condition toys
<b>For on the day</b>	
	Cakes & bakes for the cake stall

Thank you

*Sara Shingler*

**Take love and loyalty  
Mix thoroughly with Faith  
Blend it with tenderness  
Kindness and understanding  
Add friendship and hope  
Sprinkle abundantly with laughter  
Bake it with sunshine  
Serve daily with generous helpings**

*Christine Ireland*



## Mothers' Union

Our first meeting back after the summer recess was a wonderful occasion when two new members were enrolled to swell our ranks. Carol Pearson was on hand to carry out the enrolment (which was a first for her as well), but hopefully not the last.

On the left is Pamela Lees receiving her membership card from myself and Joanna Salisbury receiving hers from Carol.



At our meeting on 11th September the speaker was P.S. Daunton, author of *The Dove Stone*. Pam is a Christian author writing books for kids and teens and she used to be a teacher. This particular book has a 'Bullying' element running through it and is set in post-Roman Britain. It's been written with children aged 7 – 11 years in mind. Without giving anything away it's a very good read and story.

Pam is also a member at Balderstone MU branch and is a Canon and Lay Reader at Blackburn Cathedral. She doesn't take a fee for her talks, just asks that groups buy 2 of her books and gives them to a junior school of their choice. We decided to buy 4 books, 2 each for St. George's and All Saints Schools, but members also bought for their own grandchildren and great grandchildren.

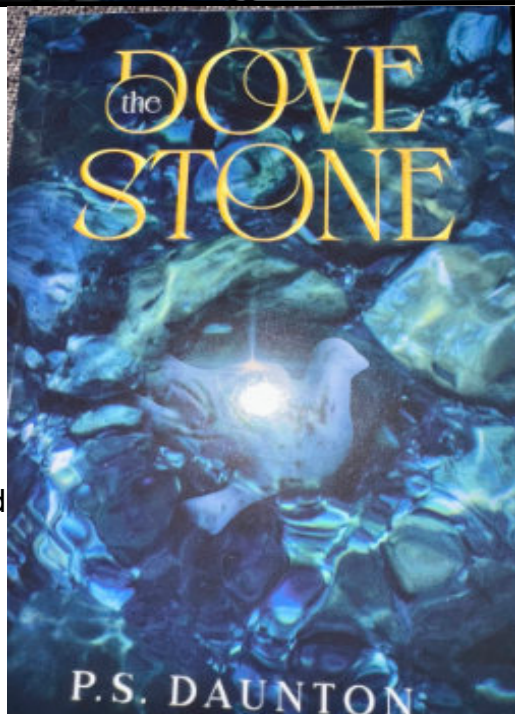
A second book of possibly three is in the pipeline which she hopes the publishers will accept shortly.



The photo shows some of the members that came along on the night holding *The Dove Stone*, with Pam Daunton standing at the back. I must admit the other ladies were washing up after we had had the obligatory tea and coffee.

## MU LITERATURE TABLE

On your way out of Church you may have noticed that we have a new pop-up poster that is dedicated to the Mothers' Union, and on the table next to it there are various pieces of literature about the MU and also items to purchase. There are also magazines which please feel free to take away, read and



perhaps pass on to family or friends. They will have a sticker on them so you'll know which they are, but have a look at the cards and other items for sale as well. The Christmas catalogues are placed there so if you want anything ordering just let me know or indeed any MU member.

## **FAITH IN THE NORTH – 10th October 2025**

The Lord's Prayer Tour event led by the Archbishop of York in Blackburn Cathedral 7pm – 9pm

Free tickets obtainable online from Eventbrite Please support this event. Wear your MU scarf or Tee shirt to show we're there!

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

9th Oct - Speaker Cath Cole - 'My Writing Journey' MF invited to join us

## **PLEASE NOTE OUR NEXT MEETING HAS BEEN MOVED TO**

WED 29th Oct Joining with Men' Fellowship

Speaker David Smith (Fr Peter's Brother) –'From Hendon to Ramallah'

Gloria Dunseath

Branch Leader

## **Standard Time**

**Don't forget to put your clocks back 1 hour on 26<sup>th</sup> October**

## **Thursday Ladies Circle**

We enjoyed a lovely evening at Chorley Little Theatre for our first meeting in September. We saw, The Importance of being Ernest by Oscar Wilde. It was a brilliant play and extremely well acted.

Our next meeting in September was a Jacob's join and quiz evening. We had some lovely food, and a quiz organised by Elaine, thank you for that Elaine. We also welcomed three new members to our group which was lovely.

## **Future meetings.**

2nd Oct Frances Raferty. A talk on the Crown Jewels.

16th Oct. AGM & Making up shoe boxes.

Everyone is welcome, why not come and give us a try.

Cath Jolly

## **Christmas Trees For Sale**

**(Like last year and at the same price!)**

**Nordman, non-drip ( nor drop), 4 feet high,**

**with free stand**

**Only £25**

**Buy one to brighten Christmas 2025 and support your Church funds. All proceeds to St George's.**

**Please order by November 29th. Trees will be available from end November and you choose delivery date.**

**See Bill Walker, or leave a message on 07951079359, including name, address and telephone number.**

## Heritage Open Days, 12-14 September

This special Bicentenary Year saw this annual event extended into Sunday, with the Church bedecked for Harvest. Friday included the most welcome visit of the Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr and Mrs Morwood. They showed great interest in St George's and Chorley. Saturday was a busy day with David's talk on The Angel Font revealing many new details about the original designer Thorvaldson. There followed the Continuous Peal of Bells and a truly accomplished organ recital by John Hosking, organist in residence at Blackburn Cathedral. Sunday's highlight was a visit from the Brownies and Rainbows, who proved bright and well behaved throughout their tour and bellringing.

Many thanks to all who volunteered or visited. Special mention is due to Alan for his many media contributions, Barbara's refreshment team and Victoria's tower room team who served throughout and also to Gillian who quietly went about additional cleaning duties in order to keep the church in splendid order for the Sunday. Bill Walker



### The First Public Service at St George's Chapel of Ease, 9th October 1825

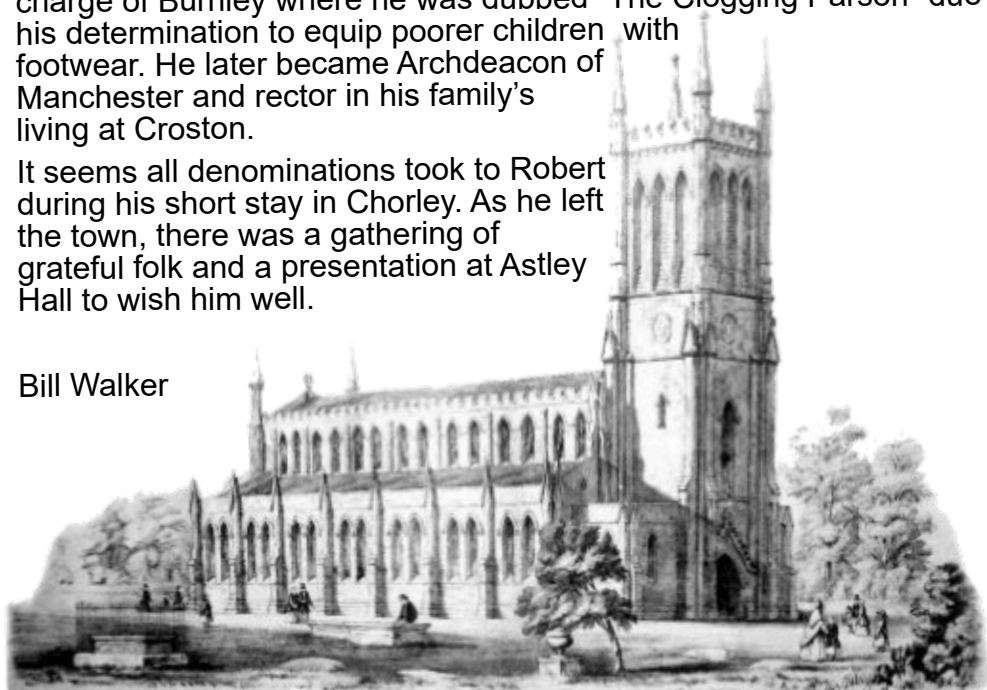
This month will see a special commemoration of the first Sunday service at St George's Church. The service would use the 1824 Service Book which is still held in our archive. Proceedings would likely centre around Morning Prayer, with Collect, Epistle and Gospel for the nineteenth Sunday after Trinity. This would be followed by a sermon, possibly of great length. There may have been a celebration of the Eucharist, although such were held sparingly at the time.

At some stage The Old Hundreth Psalm would be said or sung unaccompanied. There was no organ at St George's until 1837 and no mention of an "orchestra" - a polite way of referring to the two or three players who appeared at church or tavern in those days.

The service was conducted by Robert Mosley Master, then doing duty at the mother church St Laurence's, in the absence of his uncle John Whalley Master, the rector. Robert was shortly to become curate in charge of Burnley where he was dubbed "The Clogging Parson" due to his determination to equip poorer children with footwear. He later became Archdeacon of Manchester and rector in his family's living at Croston.

It seems all denominations took to Robert during his short stay in Chorley. As he left the town, there was a gathering of grateful folk and a presentation at Astley Hall to wish him well.

Bill Walker



ST GEORGE'S CHORLEY



## Two Hundred Not Out

The DAMS' October Show will be at 7pm, Friday 17th and 18th October. This year sees an original revue- "Two Hundred Not Out"- with dance, songs, scenes and sketches, selected or written for this very special year.

It will be a remarkable event. This may be the largest company to have performed for DAMS since its origins in 1913, for the cast is happily swelled by our All Saints Members. Rehearsals have been in hand, without a break, since June, and everyone has worked tremendously hard at the varied and exciting show. The Society is fortunate in its battle hardened musical directors and also with the emergence of younger creative choreographers, actors and songsters. The programme is being ably and industriously shaped by Sian Phillipson.

So, if you have a family member in the cast, are interested in St George's or simply enjoy a right gradely show for all ages with all ages, ensure you can attend on the Friday or Saturday by ordering your tickets on 01257 276540. Hurry- for you may not see the like of this for another two centuries!





## ***TWO HUNDRED NOT OUT!!***

Songs, scenes, sketches and dance,  
a special show for the Bicentenary  
by St. George's D.A.M.S.

in the Church Hall, Halliwell St.

**7pm Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October, *and***

**7pm Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

Please order tickets on 01257 276540

**£7 (£6 for concessions)**



## Bicentenary Bells Celebration

On Saturday 13th September 2025 I held a special Bicentenary Bells Celebration in the Tower Room at Noon with many volunteers ringing the bells for a continuous peal! I had written a special Bicentenary Peal, and it was wonderful to see so many people enjoying themselves and taking part. Everyone received a special certificate and commemorative badge. Official photo below:



I look forward to playing the special peal at the Bicentenary service soon.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the bells, please make contact with me.

Dr Victoria Gibson

Tower Captain

0792 1010 900 [drvigibson@outlook.com](mailto:drvigibson@outlook.com)



*From 10.30am - 11.30am  
on Wednesdays (term time)*



*Toddler & Baby Group at St George's Church Hall*

Are you a parent, carer, childminder of a preschool child? We'd love you to come and join us at our friendly group on a Wednesday morning. We restart after the summer break on 3<sup>rd</sup> September@ 10:30am. Hope to see you there! Elizabeth Wilding

## **St George's Church Institute**

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Sunday 12 noon - 11pm

## **Parish Magazine 2025 Dates**

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Deadline (Sunday)</i>	<i>Available (Sunday)</i>
November	19th October	2nd November
December/January	23rd November	7th December
<b>Contributions for inclusion in the Messenger can be given to Chris Gibson or be emailed to <a href="mailto:acvgibson@outlook.com">acvgibson@outlook.com</a></b>		

**As we are in our very special bicentenary year, I would like to submit this poem for your attention, which I first came across many years ago when I was small.**

**Inscribed on a clock-case in Chester Cathedral, is a poem, Time's Paces, attributed to Henry Twells. It reads:**

**‘When as a child I laughed and wept, Time crept;**

**When as a youth I waxed more bold, Time strolled.**

**When I became a full-grown man, Time ran.**

**When older still I daily grew, Time flew.**

**Soon I shall find, in passing on, Time gone.**

**Will Christ have saved my soul by then?**

Time is indeed passing a lot quicker, or so it seems - Christmas decorations are appearing earlier and earlier! Anyways, here's to the next 200 years at St. George's!

Nicola & Small Gordy

<https://smallgordy.carrrd.co>

## ***All Saints' Church Congregation Numbers***

<b><i>Week Beginning</i></b>	<b><i>Children Attending</i></b>	<b><i>Adults Attending</i></b>	<b><i>Communicant</i></b>
3rd Aug	26	52	26
10th Aug	17	47	23
17th Aug	20	71	44
24th Aug	10	53	34
31st Aug	38	55	27

### **All Saints' Church**

Holy Baptism None  
Holy Matrimony None

***Please pray for those struggling with illnesses of any sort, and  
especially for:***

**Paul Catterall, Linda Eubank, Ken Starkey, Christine Gothard,  
Michael Baxendale, Michael & Pam McLachlan, Linda  
Carrara, Sandra & Mike Downey, Anita Campbell and all the  
residents of Gillibrand Hall and Coniston House**

**And for the families of those who have died recently  
None**

**We remember all those who are currently housebound and unable to  
be with us in Church.**

## 2025 Flower Rota St George's

<i>Date</i>	<i>One Pedestal</i>	<i>Lady Chapel</i>
5th Oct	Mr Fairclough	
12th Oct		
19th Oct	Mrs Baxendale	
26th Oct	Miss B Smith	
2nd Nov	Mrs Hobbiss	Miss B Smith
9th Nov	Mrs Mason	Mrs Ellison
16th Nov	Mrs Heartfield	
23rd Nov		
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Advent	
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Advent	
14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Advent	
21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Advent	
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christamas	
28 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas 1	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026</b>		
11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Mrs Wilding	
18 <sup>th</sup> Jan		
25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Mrs Lorraine Smith	
1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Mr Birkett	
8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mrs Heartfield	
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb		
22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Lent	



ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
**CLOSER**

TO GOD | TO OUR COMMUNITY | TO ONE ANOTHER

---

**EVERY SUNDAY @ 4PM**

JOIN US FOR CRAFTS, FUN, MUSIC, PRAYER AND  
PRAISE AS WE WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER IN OUR  
NEW GATHERING FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG  
PEOPLE!

***Revd. Jordan Bentliff***

**Assistant Curate in the Parish of St George, Chorley and  
the Parish of All Saints, Chorley**

**Tel: 01257438000**

**Mob: 07450269010**

**All Saints Vicarage  
89 Moor Road  
Chorley  
PR7 2LR**



*You are all so welcome to  
come and join All Saints' new*

# **SUNDAY SCHOOL!**

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