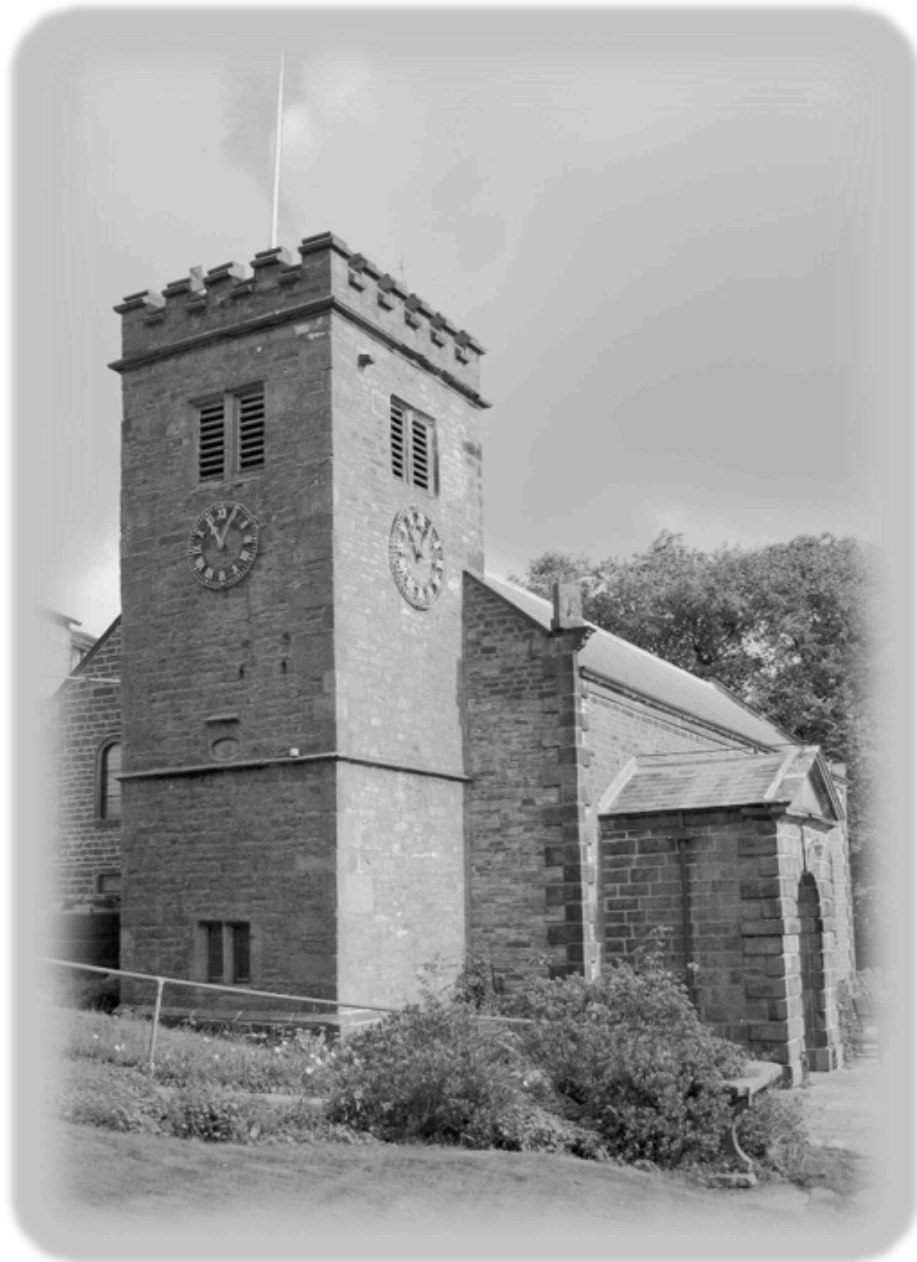


Parish News

Barley - Newchurch - Roughlee - Sabden Fold - Spenbrook

October 2020



St. Mary's Church

Newchurch in Pendle BB12 9JR

The Vicar's Letter

(ALMOST) THE CURATE's LETTER

I've been a great fan of Doctor Who ever since I watched that first episode way back in 1963, on the day following President Kennedy's assassination. (Yes, I am that old, and yes, the good Doctor's adventures did make rather more of an impression on me than the good President's death.)

As I write this, I feel more than ever in need of the Doctor's TARDIS, as you will know rather more about what has happened over the last few weeks than I currently do!

The problem is that I'm writing this to meet a deadline of 21st, but that you almost certainly won't be reading it until the beginning of October.

Between these two dates, my world should have been turned upside down following my ordination as a Deacon on Sunday 27th September. But then, may be I wasn't? Perhaps another lockdown was implemented in the fight against the recent surge in Covid cases? Perhaps the Service had to be postponed again, just as it was in June? As you read this letter, you probably know what happened, whereas – as I write it - I don't. Oh, if only I had the TARDIS to hand, it would make writing this article so much simpler!

As things stand, my emotions are all over the place. There is of course a growing sense of excitement and anticipation, that more than four years of preparation and training may at last be brought to fulfilment. But there's also unease and worry: not just as to whether it will actually happen, but over questions such as: Am I good enough? Am I well enough prepared? Am I worthy of this amazing honour? How will I bear all the responsibility that ordination entails?

You may well be asking: but what is a Deacon? What are their responsibilities? They're excellent questions. To answer them, I can think of nothing better than words that Bishop Philip North, the Bishop of Burnley, will/should/did use on the 27th:

"Deacons ..are to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, as agents of God's purpose of love. They are to serve the community ..bringing to the Church the needs and hopes of all the people. They are ..to seek out the poor and weak, the sick and lonely and those who are oppressed and powerless, reaching into the forgotten corners of the world. ..They accompany those searching for faith and bring them to baptism."

That's some job spec and I certainly can't do it on my own. Fortunately, I don't have to; because I know our Lord will be there beside me every step of the way, holding my hand and guiding my footsteps along the path. Just as He has always been. Just as He was when He appeared to the disciples in the Upper Room on that first Easter Day and later on the road to Emmaeus.

And I also have you, dear readers. I will need your continuing support, your help, your guidance and - above all - your prayers. Regrettably, Covid restrictions mean that very few of you can be/were able to be with me at Haslingden St James'. But I do hope that many of you will be/were with me spiritually on that day. You may even be/have been able to join the service electronically, through the wonders of Facebook Live.

It has been a long and hard journey to get to this day; an equally long and difficult road lies ahead. But of one thing I am certain: that God is calling me to take this path and that I must follow.

God bless you all.

David

Barley

Covid 19 continues to dominate most of our lives and at the time of writing, with reported infection rates rising to almost 6,000 per day, we are all wondering if another full lock down is coming. Across the country people are restricted to meeting in groups no more than six whilst local more stringent restrictions, already in place in Blackburn, Bolton and parts of Pendle, preventing meetings with people from other households, are being extended throughout Lancashire, Merseyside and other areas. Pubs and restaurants now have to close from 10pm and the requirement to wear face coverings has been extended to staff in retail, people in taxis and everyone using indoor public areas including hospitality. With schools and work places remaining open, the government strategy is to keep the economy moving whilst hoping, by restricting social interactions, it will be sufficient to slow the spread of the virus. Let's hope so.

The owner of Whitehough Bridge has undertaken some temporary repairs to the structure involving pushing arch springer stones back in to place and grouting them in position and also grouting gaps in the lower parts of masonry structure where mortar had been washed out by the river. It is hoped these temporary repairs will stabilise the structure through the winter period so allowing time for the preparation of plans to undertake more permanent repairs. The County Council have now erected signs on each side of the bridge stating "Weak Bridge – Do Not Use" and do not intend to change their advice that the bridge should not be used and the bridleway remains closed. This is obviously an anxious time for all affected and the Parish Council will continue to offer support as a communications facilitator and sharing information with residents.

The PHLP Board met on the 16th September (by Zoom) to discuss the Heys Lane project following on from the consultation meeting with residents Margaret Wilkinson, and Chris Turner as lead objectors to the project, Ian Hargreaves as a land owner and myself representing the PC. There was a lengthy discussion but the outcome was that the PHLP were walking away from the project as they had other pressing matters to deal with. Some members were left frustrated since grant funding

had been raised and a lot of time had been put in to site investigation, design and planning. To appease these views, it was agreed to look at the position again in twelve months.

I always suspected it would be all or nothing and, in the end, it may well be nothing. I am certain that the vast majority of residents will be pleased we have avoided an additional visitor attraction to the village. But some will also be disappointed there was not a compromise deal to be had with essential drainage and mud removal work being undertaken to stop the route further deteriorating along with some wall rebuilding which is unlikely to be done by others.

They had been living in the hospital for a while but Alice and Edith eventually made it home to Barley a couple of weeks ago. Congratulations to Tom & Rebecca on the safe arrival of their twins and joining that elite parent group. Armfuls and handfuls for the future and we will all be watching how they develop with great interest. With a few new babies in Barley over the last twelve months come new grand-parents and Caroline and I have just joined the granny club with the arrival of Alfred in early September.

Derek Heap

Barley Chapel

Can you help
by donating items for the food bank?

Items for the food bank can be left in
the front porch of Barley Chapel.

The door is open.

Any non perishable food items and
toiletries would be welcome.

Angie Hargreaves 605090
Minister Revd Phil Taylor 01282 613165

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council is still unable to hold physical meetings due to the ongoing restrictions which now include the rule of six, and no households to meet with others either indoors or outside in gardens due to the increase in cases of COVID-19. The council continues to operate through email but there is very little happening and therefore nothing to report in this month's magazine.

We are still looking to recruit a Parish Councillor and therefore if anyone feels that they would like to fulfil this role then please contact either myself or Jennifer Sutcliffe Parish Council Clerk for further details.

Bob Donovan

St. Mary's Academy

Hello everyone,

Coming back to a full school in September has been wonderful. Both the children and staff have embraced all aspects of school life and being with their friends and colleagues once again. Luckily our school community has remained COVID free during lockdown and the summer holiday period - fingers crossed it remains this way.

Our 9 new EYFS pupils have quickly settled into their new routines and it is amazing to see how much progress they have made already! 😊

During the first two week of school the curriculum focused around pupil wellbeing. This was due to the length of time our children had had away from school and because of the COVID-19 restrictions they have had to adjust to a lot of changes to our daily routines, e.g. one way systems, regular hand washing, staggered start/finish times etc. The success of this has been twofold - we now have happy, confident learners who are now ready to take on the challenges of a more formal curriculum. A big thank you goes out to our very supportive parents who have adhered to the changes without question.

Due to these strange times we are unable to celebrate Harvest Festival with our usual church service. Instead we are supporting the Blackburn

Diocese Harvest charity 'Tearfund,' by doing a whole school sponsored walk on Wednesday 30th September. If you wish to sponsor a child/ren please go to our Just Giving link on our school facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysnewchurchpendle>.

Thank you.

We said farewell to Mrs Buksh at the end of the summer term. After working at St Mary's for 14 years, Mrs Buksh was a much loved member of staff and will be greatly missed. She is now very busy looking after her family and we wish her all the very best for the future.

If you know anyone who is looking for a school place in EYFS for September 2021, please let them know that we will be advertising our Open Day very soon.

Best wishes,

Mrs P Nightingale

The 100 club

draw on behalf of St Mary's School took place for September. Winners were:

- Sam Hooper with number 51, winning £25
- Maureen Stopforth with number 14, winning £20
- Ian Duxbury with number 53, winning £15

Thanks to everyone who supports the school with this. This fantastic scheme has raised so much money for our lovely little school, which enables our children to be provided with the best possible resources in order for them to learn. Last month and for the first time ever, we officially had 100 numbers in the draw. I achieved for 1 month, what I set out to do 4 years ago just before I am handing this over to my successor, Pia Lyle. We are back down to 99 numbers for the moment, but that's better for school! If anybody wants details about the fundraiser, Pia will be glad to assist. She will inform you of her contact details next month. For now, it's a goodbye from me and again, thanks for all your support. Rosie Hudson.

Roughlee Parish Council

Another month and still no sign of a return to normality. The Parish Council have been meeting on Zoom as necessary but we have yet to return to our regular schedule of meetings.

One unfortunate consequence is that we have decided that this year's SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS LUNCH HAS BEEN CANCELLED. We have taken this decision with much regret but the safety of all concerned must be the first consideration.

On a more positive note the Village Centre Committee have decided that the Halloween Festival will be held this year on 31st October. This will be an outside only event centered on scarecrows around the village on the actual day. The plan is to have prizes for the best area and an overall winner. The Bay Horse will be the central hub to this year's event and will theme up for the occasion. Please let's put on a good show, it gives a great focus for isolated homes and will cheer up the children.

We are disappointed to hear that the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership have decided not to proceed with proposals to improve Heys Lane, otherwise known as Barley Old Road. The Lane links Roughlee to Barley and is in a very poor condition. The proposed scheme would have improved drainage and resurfaced parts of the Lane which are currently quite dangerous. There would have been clear benefits for local people who are deterred from using the Lane because of its condition. Unfortunately the scheme was opposed by some Barley residents who feared that the improvements would attract more visitors to Barley which at times is inundated. Whilst understanding the fears of Barley residents it is regrettable that the investment will now be lost to the disadvantage of other local people.

Meanwhile Roughlee Parish Council will continue to improve aspects of the village including notice boards and footpath gates. It

is also very pleasing to see that the village flowerbeds and planting boxes have been maintained to their usual high standard. Very many thanks to all who have given their time and donated plants. These efforts are very much appreciated.

Andrew Walker

Pendle Forest History Group

Meetings have been cancelled for the present but as the BBC used to say
"Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible."

joan@spenbrook.co.uk or

wendy.stansfield@live.co.uk

Remember...Hands, face, space

It is critical that everybody continues to observe the following key behaviours:

- **Hands** - Wash your hands regularly and for at least 20 seconds.
- **Face** - Cover your face in enclosed spaces, especially where social distancing may be difficult and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.
- **Space** - Stay 2 metres apart where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place.

Time to plan your Spooky Scarecrows...

Pendle Halloween Festival

Saturday 31st October 2020

Get them up by 10am, judging at 11.30am

This year Roughlee Village Centre is closed but we hope to see plenty of spooky scarecrows around the village to cheer us all up.

Prizes for Best Area plus Overall Winner. If you don't live on the route, scarecrows can be placed at bus stops, benches or railings.



Full info at www.roughlee.org.uk/scarecrows



Latest Covid restrictions in Lancashire

- You must not socialise with people outside of your household or support bubble in private homes or gardens.
- Hospitality venues for food and drink must operate table service only.
- Leisure and entertainment venues, including restaurants, pubs and cinemas, must close between 10pm and 5am.
- Only use public transport for essential journeys – such as travelling to school or work, or medical appointments.
- A face covering must be worn on public transport unless you are exempt.
- Avoid attending amateur and semi-professional sporting events as spectators.
- Residents are urged to only visit indoor locations such as restaurants and pubs with other members of their household or support bubble.
- People should work from home where possible.
- A maximum of six people can take part in indoor team sports.
- Large sports events and conferences, planned from 1 October will not now take place.
- From Monday 28 September, only 15 people can attend a wedding service and reception - 30 people can still attend a funeral.

Parish Contacts

Residents are welcome to attend their local Parish Council meetings. There is a Public Question Time at the

Barley with Wheatley Booth www.barleyparish.uk www.barleyvillagehall.org.uk

Council meetings are held at 7.30pm in Barley Village Hall on 2nd Wednesday in the month

Parish Council Chairman	Derek Heap	692264	derekheap1@googlemail.com
Parish Council Clerk	Leona Commons-Wicks		
BVH Secretary	Sue Burnett		07971371602

Goldshaw Booth (Newchurch, Sabden Fold & Spenbrook) www.goldshawbooth.org.uk

Council meetings are held at 7pm in St. Mary's School on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Parish Council Chairman	Bob Donovan	07449399838	bobdon1612@gmail.com
Council Clerk	Jennifer Sutcliffe		clerk@goldshawbooth.org.uk

Roughlee Booth www.roughlee.org.uk

Council meetings are held at 7pm in Roughlee Village Centre on the 1st Monday of the month.

Parish Council Chairman	Andrew Walker	07808 003035	ajwplanning@hotmail.com
Parish Council Clerk	Mary Reed	611126	roughleeclerk591@gmail.com
Village Centre Chairman			

MP & Councillors

MP for Pendle

Andrew Stephenson	01282 614748	andrew.stephenson.mp@parliament.uk
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St. Mary's Church

Vicar	Rev. Julie Smith	613206	jls446439@gmail.com
Curate	David Hargreaves		da_hargreaves@hotmail.com
Warden	Kathleen Wilkinson	617971	brianwilco@tiscali.co.uk
Warden	Douglas Bull		douglas@douglasbull.co.uk
Secretary	Virginia Crewe		familycrewe@hotmail.com
Treasurer	John Parsons	699580	john@spenbrook.co.uk
MESSY CHURCH	Mandy Culshaw	696635	a.culshaw635@btinternet.com
Safeguarding Officer	Lesley Muffitt	694575	3muf@talktalk.net



St. Mary's Church

Our Parish Church exists to be the people of God, through faith in Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit , worshipping Him, making disciples and serving others.

Services at St Mary's Newchurch in Pendle

All services are at 9.30am

4th October- All Age Communion Service for Harvest

11th October- Common Worship Holy Communion Service

18th October- (St Luke's Day) A Service of Healing (No Communion)

25th October- (Bible Sunday) Said Holy Communion Service followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Advance notice

All Souls (Commemoration of the Faithful Departed) Service for this year, will be at St Thomas' Church, Barrowford.at 3pm on Sunday 1st November

Social distancing and hygiene measures will be in place.

Please remember that it is now the law that face coverings should be worn in places of worship (unless you are exempt).

Everyone welcome but please be advised that we will need to record your name and a contact telephone number.

Our Facebook page can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Church-Newchurch-in-Pendle-111894550353183/>

or by going to www.facebook.com and searching for St. Mary's Newchurch in Pendle.

(Our Facebook page has replaced the old church website.)

Articles for the November issue to be sent by **noon on 21th October 2020**

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