

Outlook

ONLINE EDITION

See P 34



**October
2020**

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Articles for Outlook should be sent to the Editor (preferably by email).

The deadline for the November edition is 15th October

Vicar's Viewpoint

HARVEST. Last week as I was watching the news the presenter was talking about how people are already starting to plan for...wait for it... Christmas!! The apparent reasoning behind this was that we have all had such an awful year (which is very true) and we need to have something unchanging, unmovable to look forward to. I could actually see her point but there are also so many other things before Christmas that we can still enjoy.

In times of rapid change and uncertainty it is true that people look for anchors of stability. Traditions take on a much more significant role and become important focuses in our lives. They help us to remember and give thanks for less turbulent times. But we don't need to wait until December to enjoy seasonal traditions. Autumn is full of great ways to mark the changes happening all around us. The supermarkets will soon be filled with large orange pumpkins for carving into lanterns for Hallowe'en. They are also delicious to eat too!

There will be smokey bonfires as gardeners start tidying the garden of leaves and if you are lucky enough to have fruit trees, it's time to collect in the crops of apples, pears, plums etc. The nights are also drawing in quickly and we will, all too soon, be turning the clocks back an hour nearer the end of the month.

Another tradition that happens in October is decorating the church with displays of flowers and fruit as we get ready to celebrate Harvest Sunday on the 4th October. It's a time for us to temporarily stop and remember to say thank you. Traditionally we say thank you to God for the blessing of a good harvest whether that is produced by our farmers or the food we may have grown ourselves. We bring gifts of food and other produce up to church to say thank you for God's provision in our lives throughout the whole of the year and we also remember that we are called in turn to be a blessing to others.

Harvest donations are distributed to the Wellspring, the Booth Centre and Wood Street Mission who work tirelessly to support the needs of local people who may be struggling throughout the year. This year has been an exceptionally difficult time for many people and now more than ever our charities need our support. If you feel that you would like to contribute in any way to help their work please leave any donations either at our Parish Centre or bring them up to church on Saturday afternoon, 3rd October, where there will be a box for any donations. Also do please come and celebrate with us Harvest 2020 at Mellor Church on 4th October at 10.00am. The church will be looking her best filled with beautiful flowers and harvest produce. Come and sing along with our choir those familiar harvest hymns. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, spaces at services in church are limited but please telephone our Parish office on 0161 484 5079 if you would like to reserve a place. You will receive a very warm welcome.

All my very best wishes Tracy x

Harvest Festival Sunday 4th October 2020

Lynda Gwyther

The virus has changed all our lives in so many different ways and it looks like the new normal will be the future for some time to come. This horrid virus must be mastered however and this will only happen if we get a vaccine or a suitable treatment or both. We can all do our bit though by following the rules regarding hand washing, hand sanitising, distancing and keeping to the numbers allowed to meet together. Some things never change though and that is the Harvest Gift collection. Because of numbers allowed in church, Chris Mann is masterminding a very special service. As well as the allocated number of people at the service, there will be flowers, fruits and vegetables alongside a small display of the usual tins for the disadvantaged. The tins, packages and other offerings can be dropped off at either the Parish Centre or my house, 31 Townscliffe Lane and left in the porch the week before the service. As usual, they will be distributed amongst the Booth Centre, the Wellspring and Wood Street Mission. All goods, hopefully in date, will be happily received with many thanks. Take care all of you, and keep safe.

Plant Sale Sunday 4th October 10 am—12 noon, Parish Centre

No summer fête this year, but you can still buy plants to cheer up your house or garden There will be a plant sale at the **Parish Centre**. Some jam and chutney will also be available. Proceeds will go towards church funds.

The Wellspring

Judith Shiel

The Wellspring building has been closed since March, but staff have still been providing hot meals and emergency food parcels to homeless people so support is still needed. You can donate clothes at the building on Saturdays and Sundays from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. Food or toiletries can be taken there on Mondays-Fridays from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from 8.00 am – 3.00 pm. The Wellspring is at Harvey Street, Stockport, SK1 1YD. Donations of money can be made via their website www.thewellspring.co.uk.

Important date for your diary!

Annual Church Parochial Meeting (APCM)

Monday 12th October 7.30

On Zoom

Contact the Parish Office (0161 484 5079) for logging-on details

The Women's Evening Fellowship meets on the second Wednesday at 8.00 pm (Parish Centre)

The Choir practises each week on Friday at 6.30 pm

Tea and Friendship meets on the first Wednesday 1.45pm to 3.45pm (Parish Centre)

Toddlers Group meets on Thursday each week 10.00-11.30am (Parish Centre)

Prayer Group meets on Monday each week 10.30am (Parish Centre)



The Children's Society

Every autumn for almost two decades we have held the annual box opening day as 'Open House' with a Coffee Morning. Restrictions in 2020 make it impossible to have that usual routine with all the friendly chat it generates. Instead, this year it will be

OPEN GARAGE DAY on Thursday 15th October

from 10am to noon, and from 2pm to 4pm

at 33 Seven Stiles Drive, Marple SK6 6LT

Our garage door will be wide open and I shall be there to receive your boxes. There will also be the usual Raffle Basket and a modest sales table to tempt you.

The boxes will be opened later, counted and then returned to you. I am well aware that during lockdown loose change has not been accumulating as it once did. Your box may only be half full but the risks and difficulties facing the children whom the Society works so hard to help have increased alarmingly during this stressful time. Our support is needed more than ever before.

Knowing the past generosity of all our supporters I am bold enough, and optimistic enough, to suggest that you might feel able to top your box up to its usual level or to write a cheque made payable to The Children's Society.

If you are unable to call by on 15th October, please let me have your box and/or cheque by the end of the month. Even if you are not already a registered box holder, you may like to send me a cheque in support of the important work which the Society does to help our disadvantaged children. Children and young people have already suffered considerably throughout this pandemic. I shall be happy to see our usual level of financial support maintained.

Thank you in anticipation of your continuing generosity.

Jenny Johnson 427 1348

Editorial Meanderings

Good morning, Gentle Readers. Here follows, very reluctantly, the latest lockdown Scrabble report from number 18 and I am still smarting from the result. It was not just a defeat, it was complete annihilation. My opponent was, of course, Mrs. Editor, against whom, since the result, I have trebled our social distancing, and introduced vocal distancing and started divorce proceedings. As if lockdown wasn't enough, we can now add *knock-down* because that is how serious I consider this debacle to have been. There was an early sign of what was to come when I thrust my hand confidently into the scrabble bag to commence battle and picked out my seven starting letters amongst which, ominously, there was not a vowel to be seen. Fortunately, Mrs. Editor was first to go and started confidently. The battle from then on was not pretty to watch as Mrs. Editor's onslaught was relentless - like a logophile possessed. I fought valiantly, Gentle Readers, and you would have been proud of me. However, t'was all in vain. Never in my whole Scrabble career have I suffered such an ignominious defeat. Vowels did eventually start appearing my side of the board, but not many I could do much with and Mrs. Editor just kept increasing her lead. I'm sure I detected the occasional maniacal laughter coming from her side and it was all very worrying. At one point I put down the word 'Lent' (not exactly a game-changer but at least it had a vowel). Mrs. Editor's next move was to use the 'e' of that word to put down 'Thine'. I contested this, asking my opponent if we were now just playing Biblical Scrabble. She told me that it was in the dictionary and that is the final arbiter. She was right, of course (as usual) and it was at this point that 'No prisoners' became the order of the day. It got so desperate that at one point Mrs. E. put down the simple word 'Far' and at the end of that word on the board was an empty red 'triple word' square glaring at me, followed by a few more blank squares. Amongst my letters, I had a 't' and an 's' and was sorely tempted to utilise these and lengthen that word by two letters. After all, the particular word I had in mind is in the dictionary - admittedly listed as course slang - but it is still there and could be pluralised. However, never let it be said that the proletariat will stoop to any excesses of vulgarity in their eternal struggle against the bourgeoisie. The final result, I do not wish to discuss. However, a redemptive game of Scrabble is already scheduled and I have made up my mind that if I lose again I shall challenge Mrs. E. to a bout of arm-wrestling (knowing my luck I'll probably lose that as well). I may have been a heart-throb superstar once but the ravages of time and Scrabble have taken their toll and I have a sneaky feeling those days are over. However, please feel free to write in and contest the issue. I would like to conclude this pointless revelation by thanking my readership for their kind and devoted following and I can enrich their lives in no better way than to proffer the following advice. If you want to live a happy and contented family existence and maintain loving friendships, stay away from the game of 'Scrabble'. Pour a glass of whisky instead (and invite me).

Mellor Birds

The highlight of my holiday away was seeing a Hobby, falco subbuteo, from my bedroom window. I have never seen one properly before. It looked like a sparrowhawk with a prominent black moustache on white cheeks.

They like to eat hirundines - baby swifts, swallows house martins etc., so nests can be found near swallow roosts.

It spent a lot of time sitting on posts by the car park to the Elmley Nature Reserve on the Isle of Sheppey.

About 5 years ago Catherine told me she had seen one in Mellor at the back of Red Row on a gate post where swifts, swallows and house martins often fly.

Interestingly the game of Subbuteo (tabletop football) got its name as a result of Peter Adolph its inventor in 1947 applying to have his new game called 'Hobby' at the Patent Office. They would not allow 'Hobby' as you might as well call a game 'Game'. So instead he took the Latin name of his favourite bird of prey and called it Subbuteo. A decade later he was a millionaire.

The hobbies spend winter in Africa and return to Britain in May. After an exhausting flight they go to places such as the Somerset Levels or Cotswold Water Park to gorge on dragonflies. The hobby needs a high level of agility and so it sweeps its wings back and zig zags across the sky. It is this jerky flight that gave the species its name from the Old French verb 'hober' meaning 'to jump about'.

It's this time of year I like to go to the far end of Brabyns by the river to see the autumn crocus / meadow saffron – colchicums and possibly a kingfisher. Last week I saw a kingfisher by the weir by the viaduct on Lakes Road.

Maggie Williams



Laughs with Lynda

Lynda Gwyther

According to a recent survey, substituting words in sentences for musical instruments often goes unnoticed.

Breaking News: Eight nouns, three adjectives, a verb, two commas and an exclamation mark appeared in court today. They are due to be sentenced next week.

Someone threw a giant bottle of Omega 3 pills at me. I'm fine though, as I only suffered super fish oil injuries.

On a trip through Wales recently, we came to a place called *llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch* where we stopped for lunch. When the waitress came, I asked her if she would pronounce the name of where we were very slowly. She leaned over and said *Bur...ger....King.*

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[Quote 'Mellor Parish']

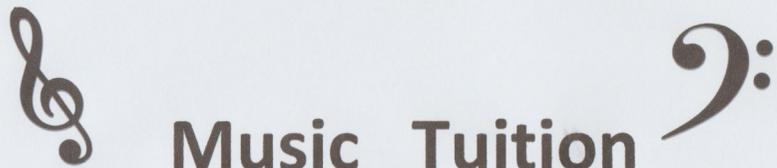
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Canterbury Tart

Jill Baker

This makes a large tart. It is based on a Mary Berry recipe but I have reduced the lemon as it seemed to take away from the apple flavour, A new recipe for me and an interesting way to use what looks like a bumper apple crop. Do scale it down if you have fewer to feed.



Make a pastry case with your usual pastry mix or buy a tart case or the pastry. The filling is sufficient for a 28cm/11inch (3.5cm/1 ½inch deep) flan tin.

Your pastry case does not need to be baked blind so once it is ready chill in the fridge and preheat the oven to 200C Gas Mark 6

For the filling

4 eggs

200g/8oz caster sugar

1 large or 1 ½ lemons juice and rind

100g /4oz melted butter

2 large Bramley apples (12oz/350g in weight) peeled

2 dessert apples peeled and thinly sliced

25g/1oz demerara sugar

Beat the eggs, caster sugar, lemon rind and juice together. Stir in the warm melted butter.

Coarsely grate the Bramley apples into the mixture and mix well.

Spread this runny mixture over the tart base and level with the back of a spoon.

Arrange the dessert apple slices around the top and sprinkle with demerara sugar. Put on a heavy baking tray and bake for 40 to 50 mins until the centre is just firm to the touch and the apples tinged gold.



Mellor War Memorial Garden

Hilary Humphrey-Taylor

Who would have thought that a pandemic would strike let alone be the cause of some wonderful attention from so many volunteers in the last few months?

There have always been a hardy band of gardeners who tend the beds on Thursday afternoons and one Saturday morning each month. However, the garden is huge and although we don't have to cut the perimeter hedges or cut the grass (but see below), it is always a 'work in progress'.

At the start of lockdown in March, the garden fell very quiet and it wasn't until the easing of restrictions that we felt that we could go to work and get our exercise yet keep plenty of distance from each other. We noticed that the garden was increasingly visited by families, dog walkers and children on bikes. Some older folk just came to sit on the benches to enjoy the sunshine.

The big bonus was that many more local residents have come along to do some gardening and it has paid dividends. Lots more of the overgrown vegetation has been removed to show off the shrubs to best effect. Weeding and deadheading the roses is a weekly task. The lawn got special treatment from Diana Cole who took on the huge task of cutting it during lockdown. So the garden has rarely looked better.

Earlier this year Moor End WI donated an Acer palmatum tree to mark the Cheshire Women's Institute Centenary and gave some money towards the erection of an information board. The board is situated next to the top gate and details the history of the garden and points out some of the more interesting shrubs.

If you would like to help in the garden just turn up on a Thursday afternoon from about 2.00 pm and from 10.00 am on the second Saturday of the month. No experience is necessary – but a few basic gardening tools are!

Spare Seeds

Judith Shiel

Most gardeners have spare seeds from time to time, and I have found a really good destination for any that you don't want to keep. The Lemon Tree Trust (LTT) works with refugees and internally displaced people by arranging gardening projects for groups and communities. Gardening helps to provide dignity and hope – growing flowers cheers people up, and vegetable seeds obviously provide really useful food. Seeds can be sent to the charity at: LTT Seed Donations, c/o 26 Monmouth Road, Bristol, BS7 8LG. You can find more information about their work at the website: www.lemontreustrust.org.

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Choice of the Month

Crémant, the other French Fizz

William Hejbroek

While we have been enjoying the sunny days of late, it's good to remind ourselves that celebrations deserve bubbly wine to put us in the right mood. The medieval monk Dom Perignon famously once said he was “..tasting the stars” and ‘star’ occasions are always helped by sharing a great sparkling wine. For extra special occasions, like the graduation of our children, many will say we cannot avoid a feeling of exclusivity in the moment and, from time to time, things don't feel comfortable if the wine doesn't go without a premium price-tag, a fact that plays into the hands of the market-manipulating Champagne Houses – another story! Aside from these very human foibles, at the personal level, celebration doesn't have to be an expensive habit.

The other sparkling wine the French call Crémant could be said to be the people's bubbly. It doesn't have the glitz and glamour appropriate for Grand Prix events, Nobel prizes and the launch of super-yachts. Yet in France Crémant is consumed on many small and intimate occasions in small family groups, an ideal drink for these times of Covid blues. Because of the current restrictions, instead of tasting personally, I resort as before to notes in the public domain by acknowledging gratefully this month's selection of tasters.

The Crémant wines are made by the Traditional Method, the same as is used by makers of Champagne, with the Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes key constituents, as in Champagne, but with added individuality provided by local grape varieties. The Loire, Alsace in the north and Bordeaux and Limoux in the south provide something different in each part of France. Blanquette de Limoux is a special case of the Crémant style made from one local variety only, the Mauzac grape with its honeyed and green apple flavours, by one of the oldest sparkling wine-making methods in France, the Méthode Ancestrale, at the Abbey of St. Hilaire in Limoux in 1531 – how is it the monks get all the interesting jobs?

My choice of the month are four wines that represent interesting aspects of the style. Firstly my best value choice is Calvet Crémant De Bordeaux Brut at only £8 from Tesco. This is made from an unusual alliance of Cabernet Franc and Semillon; ‘Crisp, sherbety and instantly light and appealing’ according to Tom Canavan, ‘akin to a rather serious Prosecco, with a little more yeastiness, but bags of citrus and apple fruit and a long, clean finish.’ Yes, Crémant can add extra complexity that is sometimes missed in similar-priced Prosecco. Next up is Lacheteau Crémant de Loire Brut at £10.16 (reduced from £15.25) from www.ocado.com produced principally from Chenin Blanc; ‘excellently made wine for a relaxing moment in the garden’, is *Vinum* magazine's take, translated from

the German! What better than a fine aperitif 'with quince and walnut flavours and a lemon-zest aftertaste' notes Roger Voss from *Wine Enthusiast*.

To experience the most special wine in this group, one travels to Limoux and my choice for this style is Antech's Blanquette de Limoux Méthode Ancestrale NV at £10.95 from the Wine Society (which is worth joining alone for this opportunity). The doyen of good taste Jancis Robinson finds this 100% Mauzac curiosity 'Big and round and then chewy' with 'usefully low alcohol. Definitely for the end of a meal.' While Cheesybee from Cellar Tracker describes this as 'Light, playful, fun, great for end of meal/fruit-based dessert', alluding to the wine's spritzzy and slightly sweet nature in her inimitable way.

Next we go to the region where Crémant began in 1976, in the northern French province of Alsace; a wine which accounts for more than half of the output of all Crémant. My aspirational choice is made in a rosé style from Pinot Noir and is Cave de Turckheim's Crémant D'Alsace Mayerling Brut Rosé at £15.99 from Bury-based www.kwoff.com. 'Tart red currant and red apple mingle with tangy citrus' which sounds like pleasant acidity for good food pairing; thereafter 'very frothy lively mousse fizzes across the palate, making it refreshing and appetizing'. In my opinion that's what all sparkling wines should be and with the Mayerling Brut Rosé one has the right fizz and fruitiness for those special occasions.

Champagne has its place at graduation ceremonies and continues to be wasted on the sides of super-yachts and on FI podiums. Any other style of bubbly surely serves us better chilled in a nice fluted glass in the company of our family group, and with Crémant you get the benefits of decent bubbly without worrying about your bank balance.

Outlook Staff Biography

William Heijbroek – wine correspondent

I was born in London's Westminster Hospital on a fleeting visit of my English mother to the UK, while my parents were living in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. For a while I had dual nationality up until my 18th birthday when I chose to be British (mainly to avoid Dutch National Service) and because I had lived in England anyhow since 1952 - my father having immigrated to Bradford then Manchester - while for my mother it was a home-coming. My first school was Baycliffe School Lymm, a private school run as part of the P.N.E.U. movement, which was started in the 19th century by Harriet Franklin, famous educationalist and suffragette. My following and secondary education was decided private, being local then boarding school (for no reason it seems other than my Dutch humanist grandparents insisted on it). Still living with my family in Lymm, Cheshire, I was dispatched accordingly to Eastbourne College, a public school on the Sussex coast for the main reason that it was a favourite school of my mother's south-coast-based

Continued on page 25

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As seen from Cow Corner

Silly Point



As we are all aware, this cricket season has been very strange, as after thinking that no cricket would take place, who would believe that a truncated season would be allowed to happen for both seniors and juniors.

Matches are being played beyond the usual end to the season, with the added problem that the daylight becomes less, but, as they say, the show must go on!

Despite the possibility of bad light curtailing play, the start times have been brought forward, and also because of the restriction of gatherings in the club house, it has been necessary to dispense with the traditional cricket teas, which has allowed more playing time in which to bowl the maximum overs.

Mellor welcomed a team from Cheadle Hulme who, on looking at the very benign wicket, decided to bat first. It was a good decision, as they took command of the rather pedestrian Mellor bowling and scored a very respectable 180 for the loss of nine wickets. In reply the home side did not get anywhere near to the target and were brushed aside for an ignominious 83.

The following week was lost to rain but for the next two weeks there were back-to-back games against a combined eleven from Poynton and Disley. Unfortunately, on neither occasion did Mellor provide an adequate opposition, and were bundled out for just about 100 each time. The visitors reached their target both times with the loss of a couple of wickets.

One of Mellor's problems has not been able to field a consistent team each week, although there appears to be a sufficient number of players available, to enable consideration to be given to fielding a second team next season. This would be a very satisfactory achievement in view of all the difficulties experienced over the course of the last few years.

Whilst the seniors have not won a match in recent weeks, there is hope for the future from the junior teams. There are three age groups playing under different formats, which does seem to work well.

In recent weeks games have been played and won against visiting sides from the immediate area, but just one game has been lost against Stockport.

Particular pleasure was achieved against a strong team visiting from Macclesfield. Mellor batted first, and with three batsmen retiring on maximum scores of 25, posted a commanding total, which the visitors could not get anywhere near, with the result that Mellor won by over 100 runs.

With the obvious increase in ages next year, some of the juniors will be eligible for the senior sides next year, hence the prospect of a second team.

Head Chorister's Report



After many months of not being together as a choir, on Friday 1st September we finally met to hold a socially distanced cricket match. With Matthew Howling running the games it was a fun evening for all, but for some the swings held a greater attraction than the cricket. Many of the younger trebles joined in enthusiastically whilst us head choristers 'supervised' from our comfy chairs! One of our highlights was watching the players get rather muddy while the rest of us enjoyed snacks and refreshments. Fortunately there was also cake as we celebrated Emily Britton's 12th birthday, with sparklers and a tuneful happy birthday. Other entertainment was provided by some of our talented altos as they amazed us all with their recorder skills, accompanying Mrs. Kennedy's singing. Later on, after an eventful game of cricket, the team and the rest of the choir retired to the beer garden at the Devvy. It was lovely to be back with the choir family after such a long time. Hopefully we can continue the fun and do this again soon, weather and restrictions permitting.





Senior choristers Laura and Molly swing back into action.



Some of our young choristers also eager to get under way.

Captain Ken

Ken Owen

Visiting Shanghai in the fifties and sixties, following Mao Tse-tung's defeat of the Nationalist Party, was an incredible experience. The city was absolutely dead, with no road traffic at all, save for myriads of bicycles and very old electric trams which were constantly overloaded, I was invited by the Chinese Indoctrination Officer, appointed to our ship, to accompany him on a tram journey from our berth on the river to the city centre. I was amazed by the strength and efficiency of these old trams and delighted when I read the maker's brass plate. It read 'Metropolitan Vickers - Manchester and Sheffield'. On a later voyage, as things progressed in China and during a heat wave in Shanghai, some of us were taken on a tour to see how the Communist party was improving the conditions of the workers. First we were shown around an old traditional factory, which had a Chinese tiled roof over which ran constantly flowing water. This was followed by a visit to a new factory which had new electric fans. We were reluctant to comment that the traditional Chinese factory was, in fact, the cooler of the two. We were then shown around the new workers' accommodation, which seemed to have no form of heating whatsoever and knowing how very cold Shanghai can be in winter, I asked how the workers would keep warm in such an unheated building. The Commissar thought for a moment and I waited for an answer of proud technical achievement and innovation. 'They wear extra jumper.' he replied. Some thirty years later when I was captain of the *Peninsular Bay*, we were bound from Hong Kong to Busan in South Korea and were in the Taiwan Straits. We spotted a drifting Chinese military navy river patrol craft. At that time many Chinese were trying to flee the Communist regime and were attempting to get to Taiwan or countries in the west. It was a large open boat completely covered with a tarpaulin which was being held down all around the boat by scores of hands. All we could see of these people were their hands. The craft had two huge outboard motors, but neither was working and they were just drifting. The boat was near the Taiwan coast so we tried, unsuccessfully, to contact the Taiwan authorities. I was slightly concerned during all this as for all I knew, this might have been a pirate trap which was not unusual in those parts. We also had an important schedule to maintain so any delay was, of course, likely to prove very expensive for the company. However, knowing the phone number of the Hong Kong Rescue Co-ordination Centre, I called them on the satellite phone and gave them the exact GPS position of the boat and decided to leave any rescue or investigation in their capable hands. As we resumed our course and speed to Busan, the unfortunate souls undercover in their boat on seeing us sail away, began a loud and mournful wailing which sounded quite uncanny and very disturbing. On reaching our destination in South Korea, I contacted our agent in Taiwan and asked if the refugees had been rescued and felt absolutely devastated when he said he knew nothing about the matter. However, when I called Hong Kong, they confirmed that all the people in the boat had been rescued and were now safely in a refugee camp in Taiwan.



Dear Mr Editor,

Greetings from Australia. I have just discovered a new thing to do in a pandemic lockdown - type *Mellor Church Outlook* into Google and sit back for the afternoon. This I have just done, reading the last four issues at a sitting. I did this in reverse order - August, July, June, May - which I thoroughly recommend, as I was able to answer all the quizzes that had been set the previous month. It has been good to meet up with old friends from across the years, and I send my greetings to you all. I laughed at Lynda's jokes. The one about IM LIVID was particularly good, and I shall use it in my weekly letter, if I may (see below). I am now the Locum Vicar of the nearby Co-operating Parish of Neerim South. That means that when there is no lockdown I range the foothills of the Great Dividing Range in my trusty Hyundai i30, bringing comfort to the weary, the languid, and the sore-distressed. As we have been in lockdown for many weeks, I now am restricted to doing this by telephone and by sending out a (lengthy) weekly digital broadsheet to the weary and the unwearied alike. No services allowed. There has been a second wave of the virus in Melbourne, but here it is almost unknown. There are three active cases in our 50,000-strong Local Government area. 'Co-operating Parish' means that there is one minister and one congregation for both the Anglican and Uniting Churches. Uniting Church out here includes all former Methodists and most former Presbyterians.

On the personal front, Mrs Correspondent is to have a knee replacement on 16 September, after a year of waiting. You can have a baby in less time than that!

(Anne has now had a successful operation. Ed)

I have written two books this year. The first is about Gippsland (this region of Victoria) and the second - forty short stories about a parish vicar - I expect it to sell well in the English market, particularly in the north-west! Thanks for the *Outlook*. It was full of fun, wise words, and memories. We shall read it more regularly from now on.

To all your gentle readers we send our love and blessings.

Jim (and Anne) Connelly.

Dear Mr Editor,

Like many others during lockdown I've been sorting through accumulated stuff - in this case old diaries. I came across an entry for June 1994 saying that I had typed up a piece that my mother had written about her early nursing experiences in Oxford and London. She had written this for the 'I remember when' series in the Parish Magazine.

Continued from p21

I would love a copy of what she wrote if you still have the 1994 Parish Magazines in the archives. Or, if you don't, maybe you could pass this email on to whoever might know. My mother was Louisa Mason.

I do enjoy reading your Meanderings - keep well and please keep writing.

Best wishes,

Ann Papageorgiou

Editor's comment: Mrs Editor found the relevant back copy of *Outlook* and we were pleased to let Ann have a copy of the item she requested. Thanks for your email, Ann, and your kind comment therein.

Revd Jim and Anne Connelly

Gordon Johnson

Revd Jim Connelly and his wife Anne first came to Mellor from Australia in spring 1991. Anne had been awarded a Churchill Memorial Scholarship to study ecclesiastical embroidery at MMU. Jim was at the time vicar of Maffra - 150 miles east of Melbourne in Victoria - and he and Revd Robin Phillips had made a provisional arrangement to swap livings for a year. In the event Ethelda Phillips was not well enough to go, but Jim and Anne came over as arranged, lived in the vicarage for three months, took the services and very much entered into the life of the parish. Following their visit, several of us from the congregation of Mellor Church visited Jim and Anne who had 'retired' to a 19 acre 'ranch' in Buln Buln East. Some of us have kept in regular contact with them over nearly 30 years. Jim and Anne are indefatigable travellers and have criss-crossed the world with various house exchanges. They came to Europe again in 2012, visiting various family contacts and friends up and down the UK as well as making serious coach tours in Turkey, Spain, Czech Republic and Scandinavia - over several weeks they stayed with us between these trips. In 2019 they confined their tour to the UK and Ireland but managed to fit in a prodigious number of visits, including 2/3 nostalgic days in the Peak District, with Anne especially in search of bluebells! Jim's attachment to Mellor stems in part from his initial awareness that priests and people had worshipped in our church for centuries and now it was his turn to offer the sacrament in the ancient chancel.





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Continued from page 15

family and moderately priced at the time - Manchester Grammar would have done but sadly non-negotiable! I remember many long journeys on steam trains at the time and curiously an avid desire to train-spot in the holidays at Manchester, Liverpool, and Crewe with my younger brother. Train travel gave way to hitch-hiking as a favourite way of getting around in the 1960s and while at York University I learnt to play the folk guitar, was an avid attendee of our college Bar Sports Festivals (when beer was cheap), and in between work, managed somehow to hold down Arts Editor role on the University Newspaper meeting Pink Floyd once on stage as 'progressive rock' reporter, as well as gaining a Chemistry degree. From there I was projected into a science career finally earning a PhD from Surrey University and working in Clinical Pharmacology researching pharmaceutical kinetics and efficacy - how prescription medicines make you better. I briefly worked at St Barts Hospital on the first clinical trial of Aspartame in the elderly - something about concern over OAPs getting mild poisoning by drinking too much Coca-Cola. (Those were the days of vanity projects of dubious practicality!) My other work was on morphine and was once looked at by the American FDA. While at Welwyn Garden City, I first met and married Mary and we settled in the charming Hertfordshire village of Tewin. When my job situation became parlous due to 'merger mania', I relocated to Manchester to join the University Pharmacy Department and while in the North (for the second time round) loved the area so much I joined Astra Zeneca and worked at Alderley Edge. Nicholas, our first-born attended Chetham's School as a chorister and our Laurence and Antonia both attended Stockport Grammar School, Nicholas joining them in the sixth form. We started attending St Thomas' around 2000 while Peter Jenner was in charge and Mr. Harle ran the choir. Nicholas and Antonia both joined and in 2005 when Marc Hall became choirmaster Mary and I joined the choir. Nicholas was by then away at Manchester University and Laurence was in the serving team. Antonia was singing with 'us grown-ups' which must have been a considerable adjustment for her! I am currently on the PCC, still singing and enjoying it immensely, as well as being Fabric Committee chairman. I was first turned on to wine at a *Chemistry in Britain* wine-tasting evening in Cambridge during the early 1980s - an evening of fermentation chemistry and wine tasting. It was a Chateau Margaux and I had not tasted anything like it before (i.e. I was blown away). In 2012 I passed the WSET (Wine and Spirits Education Trust) Level one exam and started thinking about progressing a late career in wine. With a Level Two exam passed in 2013 I was offered but turned down a simple sales assistant job in a Bramhall wine shop because it didn't bear the salary I needed at the time. After retiring from my day job in August 2014 I had the idea of starting my own wine business The Clear Wine Company and began my mission to find '3D' wines.

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Easy Walks for the Winter

Judy Cooper

Over the next 6 issues of *Outlook* there will be a walk each month for all the family. The walks will be as level as possible and I will indicate the suitability for taking a child's pushchair.

Walk 1. Goyt Valley Woodland Walk. White Peak Explorer Map OL24 approx 3 miles allow 2hrs

This walk has a well signposted footpath diversion until November 2020. This is due to Forestry work taking place. It turned out to be such an interesting walk amongst the felled trees that I thought I would share it.

Travel Directions Whaley Bridge to Buxton Road (Long Hill). A5004. Goyt Valley is signposted. Turn right and go down to the bottom of the road.

Parking At the bottom of the steep road (Bunsall Incline) there is small Car Park on the right (no charge). If this is full you would have to go over the Dam and find a parking place and walk back.

Walking route

- 1 Walk past the car park heading downhill, turn right at the large metal gate. Go through and join a well-made road. Follow this for about ½ mile and you will reach the Fernilee Reservoir Dam. Turn left across the dam and enjoy the view. (*Push chairs would have to turn back at this point*).
- 2 Cross over the Dam wall. Follow the narrow road round to the left. You are now on the other side of the reservoir.
- 3 You will now pick up the Temporary Footpath signs. This will take you on a well-made track uphill. Follow this round to the left and through a metal gate. You will now walk through a temporary Timber Yard.
- 4 Keep going amongst the piles of logs until you see a yellow Temporary Footpath sign that indicates a path to the left.
- 5 Follow this path down into the woods (muddy in places). In a woodland glade go through a gap in the stone wall. Follow path down some steps and over a little bridge. You will now rejoin the original footpath. Turn right and follow the path to the Dam.
- 6 Go through the gate and take the path to the bottom of the Dam - this is a bit of a scramble. Follow the footpath below the Dam. Look up and marvel at how they cut the grass on the Dam wall.
- 7 Go through a gate. turn right and head up the hill to the starting point. Turn left to get back to the Car Park.

Walk 2. A Half Term Activity walk to Marple Aqueduct 1 mile

allow 1Hr 30 mins

This is a popular walk for families with pushchairs. I have included the position of the metal roundels depicting images of Oldknow's influence on Marple. They are to be used to make a rubbing onto paper. So take paper and crayons with you on this walk. There are 4 roundels on this stretch of canal but there are 19 scattered around Marple. There is a map showing the location of all of these. It costs £1 (money goes to Mellor Archeological Trust). A map can be ordered by contacting Judy Cooper judecoopurr@hotmail.com. Leave your address and I will deliver to your door.

Travel Directions The walk starts at Lock 9 which is at the top of Brabyn's Brow.

Parking A few options depending on how well you know the area. a) Park in the Brabyn's Park car park, easy to get children and pushchairs out of the car but you would have to walk up Brabyns Brow, b) Park in the library car park (Charge) . Cross Station Road and walk down to Lock 9.

Walking Route and points of interest

1 If parking at Brabyn's Park leave by the path that is to the right and you will see a small burial area - this is where the owners of Brabyn's Hall buried their pets. Turn right and continue uphill to lock 9 to join the canal.

2 Look out for Lock 7. Look to the right and you should see a post with a roundel on it (a narrow boat). Get out your paper and crayons and make a rubbing.

3 Continue to the Aqueduct. As you pass Aqueduct House look for the Beehive in the garden.

4 Go under the railway bridge, head for the Information Board and you will find another roundel to do a rubbing on. (Pickaxe).

5 Continue to the end of the Aqueduct look for the wooden bench and try to locate the roundel on it (horse and man).

6 Continue for another 10 metres and you will find a post with another image to do a rubbing on (The Aqueduct). Turn round and walk back. Maybe stop and have a snack at the bench.

Have fun and don't forget your paper and crayons.



Children's Thoughts for Harvest Festival

H is for the Harvest.

Farmers work hard, hour by hour,
to cut and store the golden grain that's then made into flour.

A is for apples, pears and plums,
all hanging from the tree.

They're fresh and sweet and juicy - a treat for you and me.

R is for red and yellow, orange, gold and green,
the trees so full of colour as nature paints the scene.

V is for vegetables, gathered and safely stored away.
Potatoes, carrots, sprouts and peas, so there's some for every day.

E is for the earth, providing all our food,
with sun and rain to make things grow to give us all that's good.

S is for seeds, so gently twirling to the ground,
settling deep within the soil where new growth will be found.

T - So it's a big Thank You we must not forget to say
to God above who shows his love in caring day by day.

(Part of an article written by Janet Wilson for the Children's Page in 1915)

Give and Take Every year we have a harvest festival in our schools and churches. Do you know why we do this? September is the time when all the crops are being harvested and our harvest festival is a celebration of the food which has been grown. Here is the story of what might have been the first harvest festival. On the coast of North Cornwall is a small village called Morwenstow. There are high cliffs and huge jagged rocks and this part of the coast is famous for shipwrecks. In the past the people of the village looked forward to storms because if a ship was wrecked then they could steal its cargo. The villagers always seemed to be taking rather than giving! Their vicar, Reverend Hawker, believed that, when plants and crops grew, it was a gift from God and we should say thank you. So in 1843 he 'invented' the first celebration of a harvest festival. By doing this the people of the village began to learn that giving was more important than taking.

This was all a long time ago but new ideas are always happening. In 2013 the first National Harvest Service was held in Westminster Abbey. This was the first harvest festival in the Abbey for nearly 50 years. A special torch was made by Andy Hall, a blacksmith from Devon. It is 'The Love British Food Harvest Torch' and is a very special sculpture which now moves from one city to another rather like the Olympic torch does.

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Bible Sunday 25th October 2020

Judith Shiel

We have all had to do things very differently during this difficult year, and are having to think differently about lots of things. Among other changes, we have had to 'do church' differently with our access being online, and we are probably all aware of the difference this has made in our church finances. No 'money in the plate' on Sundays, and no contributions from people who drop into church at other times. Many charities have also been obliged to act differently, with charity shops being closed, and possibly fewer donations as people's income is less certain. This certainly applies to Bible Society – many of their shops around the world have been closed and this means there has been no income from the sale of Bibles and no possibility of communicating with 'droppers-in'. Now many Bible Society bookshops and centres are faced with continued or permanent closure as there is no money to pay staff and the other costs. Meanwhile the work of the Society is being extended. We take for granted its work in translating and distributing Bibles, but the Society has also been responding to situations in other ways. For example those working with Palestinian Christians in the Holy Land have also been giving hygiene kits, face masks, food packs and medicine. Many Palestinians are in desperate situations, having lost land or jobs, and having no means of support. Also sudden emergencies such as the explosion in Beirut demand quick action. At the same time the traditional work is continuing. In August this year, the 700 milestone was reached – the full Bible is now available in 700 languages. There are some 7000 languages in the world, but many of them are spoken by comparatively small numbers of people, so the 700 mark means that 70-80% of people in the world now have the complete Bible in their own tongue. Bible Society also continues to make the Scriptures available in different ways - the Digital Bible Library enables hundreds of millions of people to access Scripture through websites and apps, and has recently reached the milestone of bringing together 2,500 texts in 1,622 languages used by over 5.7 billion people. There are also some difficult situations in Britain. Many people in prison here have been confined to their cells 23 hours a day because of the Covid crisis, and Bible Society is extending the work in prisons which has always been part of its outreach, and is not only providing Bibles to prisoners, but running the Bible Course, in some prisons broadcast into prisoners' cells. Bible Society is really worth supporting – in thanks for the resources and freedom to us them that we enjoy, and to extend these blessings to others. An easy way to do this is to join the Bible-a-Month club. A few pounds every month does add up without making a large dent in our personal finances, and you receive a regular bulletin giving information about the work. There is lots of information on the Society's website (biblesociety.org.uk), and you can make a donation via this, or by post to Bible Society, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon, SN5 7DG.

From the Registers

Baptisms

We welcomed into God's family

Emilia Rose Henderson on 30th August

Layla Beckett on 6th September

Prayer for the Month

Eternal God, I thank you that I am growing old. It is a privilege that many have been denied. Awareness of this mercy gives fresh wonder to every day.... I thank you for the joys I can now grasp because age has prised my fingers loose from trivial things - for simpler life; for unhurried moments to nourish faith on thoughts of your past mercies; for sacred instants when all things that once seemed disjointed fall into place and the sad things of earth are swallowed up in holy joy.

Heavenly Father, grant us awareness of the beauties of life's autumn, a time of fulfilment and harvest. May age be seen as part of your design for the world and for us, so that the years may rest less like a burden and more like a benediction. Spare us from self-pity that shrivels the soul. Though our wrinkles multiply and our bodies tire, may there be no withering of our spirit.... Though our money may be limited, let us be spendthrifts with love... And grant us daily some moments on our tiptoes, lured by the eternal city just beyond the hills of time.

Fête Donations

Following the wonderful response from members of the Women's Evening Fellowship for donations to compensate for the loss of income from this year's Fête, which had to be cancelled, further donations from the wider community have been received. With all the donations and the gift aid claimed, together with the proceeds from selling books and plants, the total raised is now almost £3,000. This is a very welcome boost to the church funds in a difficult year and the PCC members would like to thank everyone involved for their generosity.



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