

OUTLOOK



October
2023

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The Parish of St. Thomas, Mellor

Registered Charity No. 1130414

Vicar: Revd Andrew Tawn , The Vicarage , 51 Church Road, Mellor

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Of PCC Richard Elliott, Kate Higgins, David Horsfall, Sylvia Knight,
Angie Stanton, Sian Yeowell.

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Churches Together in Marple Representative Helen Kennedy

*Articles for Outlook should be submitted to the editor (preferably by email)
melloroutlooksubmissions@gmail.com.*

The deadline for the November issue is October15th please.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2023

1 Sun	8.30 am	Holy Communion
17th Sunday	10.00 am	Parish Communion
after Trinity	6.30 pm	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
Harvest Festival		

4 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
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8 Sun	8.30 am	Holy Communion
18th Sunday	10.00 am	Parish Communion
after Trinity	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer (Parish Centre)

9 Mon	10.45-12 noon	Coffee & Chat (Parish Centre)
11 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)

15 Sun	8.30 am	Holy Communion
19th Sunday	10.00 am	Parish Communion
after Trinity	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer (Parish Centre)

18 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
21 Sat	12 noon	Wedding James Gavin & Amy Moore

22 Sun	8.30 am	Holy Communion
20th Sunday	10.00 am	Parish Communion
after Trinity	6.30 pm	Choral Evensong

25 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
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29 Sun	8.30 am	Holy Communion
Last Sunday	10.00 am	Parish Communion
after Trinity	4.00pm	All Souls Service
Bible Sunday	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer (Parish Centre)

Coffee and Chat with the Vicar is on the 2nd Monday of the month

Prayer Group meets every Monday 10.30 to 11.00 am (Parish Centre)

Women's Evening Fellowship meets on the second Wednesday at 7.30 pm (Parish Centre)

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

Knit and Natter meets on Thursday each week 10.30 am to 12 noon (Parish Centre)

The Choir practises each week on Friday at 6.30 pm



Vicar's Viewpoint

October 2023

Cycle of the seasons

As a gardener, you need to experience the cycle of a whole year to see what stock is already in the garden, and watch what comes up where. We arrived at a quiet time in the church year, just after the Fête, and we have enjoyed settling in during less busy weeks over the summer. Now we approach the first major seasonal event, with our Harvest Festival on October 1st. After that comes All Souls (in the afternoon of 29th October), All Saints (5th November), Remembrance (with an exciting choir concert planned for the evening of 12th November). Then Advent will be upon us. I am looking forward to seeing the church in candlelight. The very first service from St. Thomas' that I watched on-line was Christmas morning last year; to share our first Christmas here with you in person will be a special moment..

Our new ordinand on placement

I am thrilled that Clare Jackson has been invited to stay at St. Thomas' for her placement as part of her ordination training. This means that Clare will be contributing to the ministry of St. Thomas' both on Sundays and midweek (though she will also have some weekends away on her training course and plenty of coursework to do). I already know that Clare is a very willing helper, but it is important to remember that the purpose of her placement is not for her to be a resource for us, but for us to be a resource for her as she prepares for her future ministry.

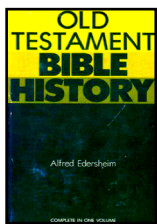
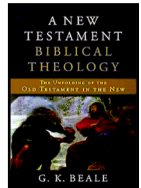
Ministry team

We are blessed to have a large and gifted team of licensed ministers here: as well as Clare, we have Dave Shercliff, our Reader, the Revds Ann Hyde and Barbara Webb who have been taking services here for a good while, and the Revds Giselle Rusted and Angie Stanton who have joined us more recently. Then we also have the Revd. Canon Liz Shercliff who, though busy with her paid work as theological educator, has helped out here on occasions. I really value having colleagues, not so much because they are a help to me (though they certainly are) but because of the range of complementary gifts and perspectives such a team brings. As St. Paul says, 'We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us' (Romans 12.6). That applies to each one of us, lay and ordained. It is when we are all playing a part, and using our different gifts, that we most truly represent the body of Christ. 'For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ' (1 Corinthians 12.12).

God bless you,

Andrew

What do we believe and what should we do? We do believe that the Bible is our source of knowledge and guide to right living of the Christian faith – we particularly attend to the teaching of Jesus, both his direct teaching and his parables. This particularly applies to the teaching on love, forgiveness, perseverance, prayer and so on. However we do ‘cherry-pick’ – most of us do not now regard the ban on divorce in Matthew ch. 19 and Mark ch. 10 as binding, as used to be the case when marriage of divorced people in church was totally impossible. We also take the injunction in Luke 14.25 to hate our fathers and mothers with a large pinch of salt. It’s a question of individual interpretation and reflection, and we frequently find that other Christians have very different views from the ones we each take for granted and our own views change during our lifetimes. It’s more difficult when reading, for example, Paul’s epistles, when he makes observations which are rooted in the circumstances and background of the specific epistle, about which we don’t know enough detail. The



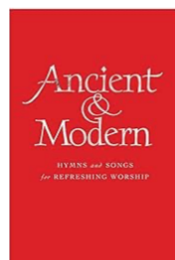
Old Testament makes it even more complicated – written over hundreds of years, by many different people in cultures vastly different to our own. Often we feel that the OT is full of ‘blood and thunder’ and not very helpful, but such passages are a record of life as it was – a violent world then as it still is. Much more encouraging are all the passages recommending generosity, kindness and care for the ‘stranger within your gates’ – that is a message we could do with incorporating in our lives, locally and nationally. For other lived experiences the Psalms are wonderful – again written by individuals in specific circumstances which we can only speculate about, but which do speak to the ups and downs in our own lives.

Meanwhile, let’s remember that very many people around the world would love to have the difficulties of interpretation that we have, without the extra complication of reading in a language which is not their own – their ‘language of the heart’ as Bible Society puts it. There are an estimated 7,000-plus languages in the world, so there may be a little way to go, but the full Bible has now been translated into 700 of them.

This means the Bible is now available in languages spoken by around 80 per cent of the world's population, but many minority languages are still waiting. Bible Society not only translates, but makes the translations available to those who want them – some 75% of Bible translations have been supplied by Bible Societies, in Britain and around the world. This all needs support – prayer, certainly, but also money. The easiest way to contribute is to join the 'Bible a Month' scheme. A small regular contribution will enable the Society's work to continue, and communities in Africa and other countries to experience Scripture in their own language. Bible Society also works to get the Bible to those in this country who have not engaged with it, such as prisoners in England and Wales who want to change their lives. Our support will ensure that chaplains have enough Bibles to give to the many people they're ministering to: Look at the website: www.biblesociety.org.uk for details, or by post to Bible Society, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon, SN5 7DG.

Music hymn books in church

If you can read music you might like to avail yourself of the melody-line hymn books that are available alongside the "words only" books when you come into church. They are particularly useful when we have an unfamiliar tune, so just ask the stewards for one.



Churches Together



The sum raised from the Christian Aid collection in our area during May was **£4,528**. Thank you to everyone who contributed either by returning an envelope or donating online.

Harvest Festival October 1st 2023

Please bring to the Harvest Services on the **1st October, tinned and packet foods.**



These will be then distributed to homeless charities. Sadly our support is needed more than ever so thank you in advance for your generous support.



Mellor Parish Centre

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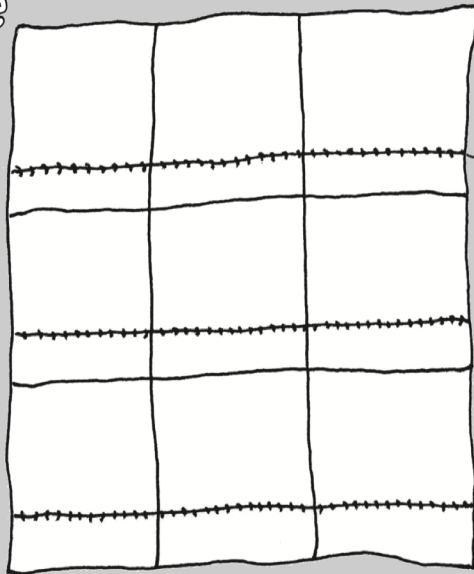
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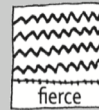
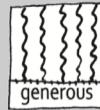
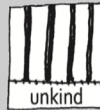
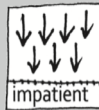
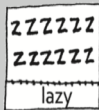
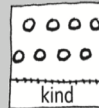
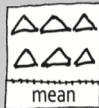
Dorcas made clothes and blankets for others.

Make up a patchwork of all Dorcas' good characteristics. Draw the pattern in the box and write the characteristic.



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Anyone know who Dorcas was? Acts ch. 9 v 36

Patchwork quilt

How many words can you make from the letters in patchwork quilt?

watch

Outlook report on PCC meeting July 2023

This was our first PCC meeting with Andrew Tawn, our new vicar, and so, of course, he was warmly welcomed.

MELLOR
PARISH
CENTRE

The first item on the agenda was the proposed renaming of the Parish Centre. The Parish Centre Management Committee (PCMC) and the Friends of the Parish Centre, which are the

THE
MELLOR
CENTRE

bodies who work extremely hard to keep the Centre running, have both been asking for some time for a renaming of the Centre. Their feeling is that the current title suggests an old-fashioned Church Hall rather than the modern facility that it is and may put off some potential customers who are looking for a venue for conferences, events, etc. Peter Lowe, the Chair of the PCMC, attended the PCC meeting in June to discuss this with members, and discuss an alternative name. It was made clear that the nature of the relationship between the Church and the Centre will not change in any way as a result of a name change. Some suggestions were made, for the PCMC to consider. Subsequently, at the PCC meeting in July we heard that the PCMC had met again, and they and the Friends were clear they wished the name to be changed to 'The Mellor Centre'. The joint aim, of the PCC and the bodies that run the Centre, is to promote the Centre more widely, as a community resource, and to increase the income of the Centre by attracting more events and conferences. The members of the PCC considered the issues, and were happy to accept the views of the bodies running the Centre. There followed a vote on the proposal for the name change and it was passed unanimously. Since the PCC meeting in July, I have been informed there is a plan for an **Arts and Crafts Exhibition, in October**, which will showcase the activities of the Centre and its users. There will be further discussions, at the September PCC meeting, as to how this event may be used as a platform to 'relaunch' the Centre and its new name, and details will be advertised once they're confirmed. Other issues discussed at the July meeting included the William Whittam window, broken during the recent break-in, and how it may be repaired. Also, an update on our ongoing work with children in church, and a consideration of the half-yearly state of the Church's Finances. There are never any PCC meetings during August, so the next meeting will be on 25th September.

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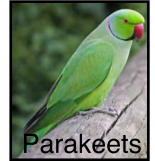
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Mellor Birds

Maggie Williams

I have written about **Parakeets** being seen in Woodbank Park, Brabyns park, and High Lane gardens but never actually within the Mellor Parish boundary. When I was at Knit and Natter one Thursday morning recently at Mellor Centre, Helen K excitedly came in from the Toddler Group, who meet next door in the Arkwright Hall, to tell me she had seen several



Parakeets

parakeets in the top of her trees at the top of Townscliffe Lane. Meanwhile, Pat and Ann O. from Mill Brow had seen something extraordinary at the beginning of September. This year they had unusually not seen any **swallows**, *Hirundo rustica*, flying around; but a couple of weeks ago they saw high up in the sky a hundred or so swallows swirling about.



They could only think that they were eating flying ants.

Since our dog, Sprocket, died last week Peter has been taking me out for morning walks instead and going past Knowle Farm we saw two **pie**



pie wagtail

wagtails, *Motacilla alba*, on the barn roof running about. I don't think I have seen pied wagtails in Mellor before. They are black and white and constantly wag their tails. They have a very easy call to recognise. It goes "Chisick, Chisick". They are often seen in car parks and running around on short grass in parks and gardens eating insects and seeds. I often see **grey wagtails**, *Motacilla*



grey wagtail



cinerea, running along the edge of the River Goyt. They are grey and yellow. Tonight about 8 pm, I heard two **little owls** calling to each other over Meadows Farm. With a plaintive "kiu." Also Helen G. and myself hear them near the Royal Oak at night. Indeed, Sue H., while walking her dog near Meadows Farm, came face to face with a little owl on a stone trough.



AS SEEN FROM COW CORNER

The end of the season is looming and the local cricket team is still desperate to gain further points to avoid the ignominy of remaining in the relegation zone.

The first match in the run up to the last in the middle of September was at home against Cheadle Hulme Ladybridge. The confidence shown by the Mellor captain was borne out by asking the visitors to bat first. Scoring runs was tedious to watch, but fortunately the Mellor bowlers were taking opposition wickets regularly, resulting in an all out total of 75 runs. The confidence of the bowlers was not maintained by the batsmen who succumbed to mundane bowling as the score became 32 for the loss of four wickets. Events were rectified when one of the more seasoned performers and a junior elevated from the junior eleven, put on a stand of 40 runs for the fifth wicket, leaving Mellor victors by six wickets in just over 26 overs. The following week, at home, the visitors were Trafford Metrovicks, who were asked to bat first. The batting was ponderous, but wickets fell at regular intervals until the ninth wicket fell on 60. Try as they might the bowlers could not dislodge the final pair who battled it out for a further six overs, eventually being all out for 79. However, during the break between innings, storm clouds were brewing from the west. With thunder and flashes of lightning getting ever closer, the Mellor batsmen knew they had to score quicker than they were used to, but did manage to get to 70 for the loss of three wickets before the rain had the last say and sent the players scurrying for shelter to the Pavilion. This was an opportunity for an early drink and to chew the cud. It was then that it was realised that, as 20 overs had been bowled in the second innings, that this in itself constituted a match and therefore the provisions laid out in the Duckworth/ Lewis formula would apply. Mellor had reached 70 runs and there were nearly twenty overs to be bowled in which to get 10 runs. It was therefore deemed certain; almost certain! that Mellor would achieve this and thus Mellor were declared winners. Obviously there were no complaints from the home side!

The next week Mellor travelled to the furthest club away, Holmes Chapel. On winning the toss and with the usual lack of confidence in the Mellor batting, the home side were asked to bat first. The batsmen seemed to relish the opening bowling and they soon reached a score of 64 with three wickets down. It was at this stage that Mellor introduced their tall medium pacer, who was in good form, having got eleven wickets in the previous two games. He proceeded to tear through the batting adding another eight wicket haul to his season's tally, and leaving Holmes Chapel all out for 76. This should have been an easy target to get, but on a dubious pitch Mellor found themselves on 14 for five. The innings was steadied, but the last man in missed a straight ball and was bowled with the total on 76. A tie!

Mellor Juniors completed their season when they hosted Hyde, a team which boasted five county players, in comparison with Mellor's one, to decide on the title for the league. Hyde batted slowly to start with but eventually accelerated to reach 98 in their 20 overs. After a promising start by Mellor, the Hyde bowling attack were just too good and Mellor were all out for 60 leaving Hyde the winners and with the title.

Silly Point

Mellor Church Women's Evening Fellowship

Following hard on the heels of a fascinating talk in September on the history of **Stockport Garrick Theatre** comes another one on October 11th at 7:30 pm which is sure to be popular. We look forward to welcoming Frank Pleszak back to the Fellowship, this time, to give us

A virtual tour of the mills within the parish boundary of Mellor

Anyone who heard him before knows what an excellent speaker he is and we anticipate having a large audience.

Looking even further ahead we would like to invite all members, families, and friends to join us for our

November fund-raising event in aid of St. Ann's Hospice New Building fund.

Bakes & Bingo afternoon

2 to 4pm on

November 15th

and will include (of course) **cakes, bingo, a raffle, and a Christmas stall.**

Tickets price £7.50

will be available after Church and at the October meeting.

Please note that this event is happening on the third Wednesday of the month, not the second as previously advertised. The Parish Centre is a much sought-after venue and sometimes changes are necessary to accommodate all the groups who want to use it.





Greenbelt 2023

What a treat to spend a weekend camping on a Bank Holiday, mostly in sunshine reuniting with friends and family from St Thomas’.

Greenbelt, for the experienced festival-goer, is a classic free-flowing hypermarket of ideas, happenings, conversations and music; but with a core ethos of faith-infused social action and spiritual enrichment. A place to fuel your heart, mind and soul.

Using the combined experience of road trippers Kate and Beth and Seth, the Scout, we aced the Camp Build on the first afternoon, even though Rebecca and Eleanor hadn’t practised their tent before. Sylvia, Rebecca and Pippa had hardly anything to do as their kit was super lightweight, which was lucky because I had brought the ultimate expedition heavy weight, the 7m Bell Tent named “John” (Iona reference). With The D’Ambra’s nestling cosily beneath its eaves we quickly had a magnificent corral which could be seen from the other side of the loos two fields away.



The whole event is really just a magical mystery tour of discovery; maybe Gordon Brown talking about turning the tide of poverty, or the return of an old favourite band Fat And Frantic who hadn’t played for years. I had laughter therapy from Josie Long and challenged climate change with Operation Noah. Whether willow craft activity or a Goth Eucharist or Taizé worship, or watching the main stage headliner Ezra Furman or Balaklava Blues with a Ukranian Youth Choir, always in a wonderful safe atmosphere of enthusiastic diversity and common purpose of peace and inclusion. Later, Rebecca and Ella reflected “Greenbelt is like home. It is one big welcoming community, everybody is really friendly and enjoys the amazing music, atmosphere, circus, comedy, activism and even the compost loos!”



So perhaps no surprise to bump into old St.Thomas’ friends, Peter and Pat Harrison, located in Oakham these days. I always appreciated their outward looking faith, and find it refreshingly in spades at this amazing festival, Greenbelt. Here’s to the next 50 years.



Anyone for “Beer And Hymns”
at the Jesus Arms?

MML Ed. *Our teenage grandsons and family attend GreenBelt each year and have a whale of a time. Highly recommended!*

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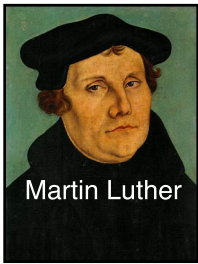
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A Date To Remember - October 31st 1517



Those who ← opposed

A divided country →

History Key Stage 3 Bitesize

Henry and Catherine have several children, but only one, Mary, survives

Henry becomes desperate for a male heir, but only one, Harry, survives

Henry and Cardinal Wolsey seek an annulment from the Pope

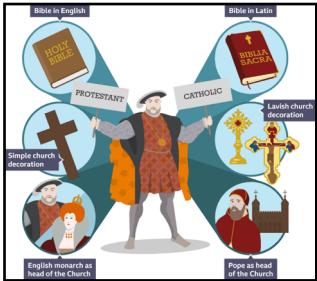
The Pope is taken prisoner by Catherine of Aragon's nephew, Charles V, in 1527

In 1529, Henry and Catherine get divorced as a result of their marriage

The Pope rules that Henry will not be allowed to annul his marriage to Catherine

A German monk called Martin Luther is credited with the beginning of the Reformation. In 1517 Luther wrote a document called **The Ninety-five Theses** and nailed it on to the door of his local church in Wittenberg. He was particularly concerned at the Catholic Church selling **indulgences** - payments to the Church that bought forgiveness for sins. As a result of his teaching Martin Luther was condemned as a heretic. Many heretics faced terrible deaths,

being burnt alive. Soon afterwards Luther set up his own church. The general name for those who broke from the Catholic Church was **Protestant**. This led Henry VIII to divorce or behead 5 of his wives and in 1534 he became Head of The Church of England so replacing the Pope as head. Two years later, in 1536, after Sir Thomas More and Tyndale had been executed, Cromwell and the King started the dissolution of the monasteries and 3 years after that The Book of Common Prayer was written and is still in use today. **So just over 500 years ago our lives were changed by a nail and a hammer on a church door similar to some nails on a cross 2000 years ago.** *I wish History had been as interesting as this in my school days and I would have taken more notice. Ed MML*



Mellor Art Society

We are a self-help group of amateur artists who meet every Wednesday 7.30pm-9.30pm

At St Martin's Church Hall,
Brabyns Brow, Marple Bridge

We also have speakers and workshops in many diverse and inspirational techniques.



If you would like to join us
Please contact our membership secretary on
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Or
val@thehemingways.co.uk



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Captain Ken

Ken Owen

It feels strange to note that in my early teens, my long standing enthusiasm for a seagoing career was greatly enhanced by the wonderful collection of boats on Marple's Roman Bridge Lakes. (where I was fortunate to be a staff member). This included some 40 beautiful mahogany clinker built rowing boats, and just one deep sea sailing dinghy, called 'Curlew'. Strangely we really did learn to sail in this craft, but with countless capsize.

I really did think sailing must be in my blood, so when I attended the Outward Bound School in Aberdovey, as was a requirement for all those who planned to join the Blue Funnel Line, I was delighted to find that part of the course included sailing in the Irish sea, as crew of the Ketch. 'Warspite'. She was a beautiful craft built as a private yacht by the Singer family of Sewing machine fame, and often skippered by the **nautical author Alan Villiers**. (See name on certificate on next page) The Outward Bound School, Aberdovey also crewed the lovely fishing ketch from Brittany the 'Garibaldi'.



Outward Bound School

Although this was now the early fifties, working sailing ships were not quite finished. I remember feeling very proud to learn that the senior Midshipman on my first Blue Funnel ship had actually transferred from the 'Nellie Bywater', Britain's last sailing coastal sailing ship.



At this time Germany was determined to prove that pure sailing ships could be still viable; and the huge sailing barques, Pamir and Passat were running between Hamburg and South America.

With agreement with our owners several of our Midshipmen were signed on these wonderful ships to gain sailing experience. I was very excited to be told I would be joining the Pamir when she returned from South America but very disappointed when the company went broke before this could take place.

The Passat owners went broke on her second voyage and

my best friend who was aboard told me they had no money to store the ship properly and they actually arrived home with scurvy which of course those signed on a British ship would not suffer from as they were bound by law to carry concentrated lime juice (that's why we British are called Limeys).

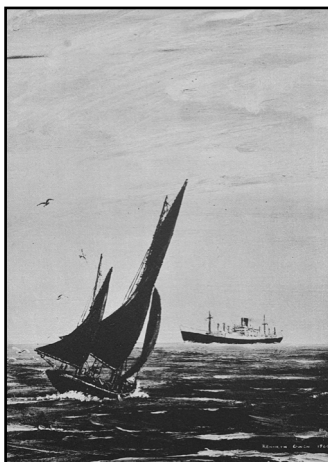
The 'Passat' is still preserved along side the river at Travemünde in Germany, but sadly the 'Pamir' under her new owners was struck by a hurricane off the Azores and sank with a big loss of life.



Passat - German sailing ship



Pamir beautiful sailing ship



SEASCAPE
 s.s. Theseus and a fishing ketch
 in the Western Approaches
 by
 Kenneth J. Owen
 Second Officer, Alfred Holt & Company

Ken wants us to note the name on his certificate.

Alan Villiers



WHAT DID WE DO?

Watching the children of today sit with their iPads in cafes and being pushed along by their mothers who are on the phone prompted me to write **'What did we do'**.



Life seemed to revolve around the seasons.

Spring usually inspired us to go to water - making mud pies, fishing or damming up a stream. Parents were happy for us to go out with friends and return for our meals.

Better weather and lighter evenings made our thoughts turn to outdoor games. Whip and tops were found and armed with a tin of chalks to decorate the tops and a new piece of string on the whip. We



spent happy hours on Longhurst Lane (not many cars around in those days). Hopscotch patterns



were chalked on the road and skipping ropes produced.

Longhurst Lane seemed to have a smooth surface due I think to more tar than pebbles. On really hot days the tar used to bubble up and Mother wasn't too pleased when I arrived home with tarred shoes after we had been jumping on the bubbles

to pop them.

The garden provided things to occupy ourselves. Collecting rose petals to make perfume although I must admit it was not very sweet smelling. Making daisy chains was popular as were dolls' picnics.

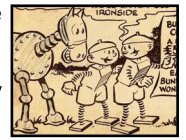


Visiting my Uncle's farm next door took

up a lot of our time. We used to help by taking refreshments to the workers gathering the hay. We used to rake all the left over hay as every bit was precious in those hard times. Everyone was pleased when the weather was good and a good hay harvest was safely in the barn.

The farm yard was another space for playing in. We used to play 'tin can tommy'.

A form of hide and seek. A can was kicked by someone and



someone else had to retrieve it whilst all the others went to hide. The farm was a wonderful place to hide in the shippons and haystack.

Rounders and cricket were played in the hen run and when

the threshing machine arrived in the Autumn there was great excitement as we watched rats run out of the corn stack.

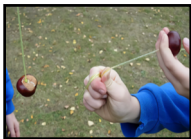


We were lucky that my Father had a car. Our usual outings were to Derbyshire but there was great excitement when it was announced we would be going to St. Annes and Blackpool.

Our favourite day out was to Bellevue Zoo. We had to catch the train and looked forward to it all year. The most exciting thing was a ride on the elephant.



Collecting conkers was another of our favourite activities. I never had much success with the conkers game but it was lovely collecting the shiny nuts.



As **Autumn** turned to **Winter** we had to find other things to occupy our time. If it was snowing and cold out came the sledges and when we were young sledged at the farm and later on the Golf Course. If it was cold I used to make orange lollipops on the back step.



We all sat in the same room in Winter to keep warm round the fire. Tea was usually 5 o'clock and we



had to be there to listen to *Dick Barton Special Agent*. Every episode left us in suspense so we had to be there the next night.



After the meal my Sister would get out her Royal scrap book. She collected pictures of the Royal Family and spent the evening sticking them in her book. I was more practical and loved making models. I remember I made a rather good Viking Ship. Mother and I would sit on either side of the fireplace knitting and crocheting. There was a magazine which published patterns every week for a little doll I had. I couldn't wait for the next copy to add to



my dolls wardrobe.



All the family joined in making a rag rug. Material was cut into strips and poked through a canvas base. With no TV or central heating it was early to bed with our hot water bottle.

As Christmas approached we hoped that we got the toy we had asked for. I remember waiting all year for a pair of roller skates. The highlight was the Christmas Party at St Sebastian's. After many games and refreshments we were presented with a book.

We still had food rationing, but we still hoped for some treats at the Christmas dinner. We were perhaps lucky to have a chicken from the farm and Mother used to get out her hidden collection of tinned salmon and fruit from the wardrobe.

With many cousins and Aunties and Uncles we celebrated with a singsong around the piano and looked forward to Spring.



Joan Combey *Ed Thank you for all the happy memories!*

FRIDAY STROLLERS

13th October. Friday Strollers Autumn Walk New Mills.
This is an easy level walk along the River Goyt to Mousley Bottom and back.

Meet at 10.30a.m. at the CO OP car park in New Mills.

Contact Judy Cooper for more information. 0785 5290958



Friday Strollers Winter Walks
Friday 3rd November
Friday 17 November
Friday 8 th December

Meet at 10 am in Brabyns Park car park.





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Knutsford's Great Race for Penny-farthings 2023.

On September 10th Mellor's very own Paul Gwyther took part in Knutsford's Great Race with 110 other competitors from all over the world including New Zealand, Belgium and Germany. The race takes place every 10 years, but this 5th one had been postponed from 2020 because of Covid.

It is the Penny-farthing circuit's toughest endurance race, lasting three hours around the ancient town's windy streets and alleys. With no gears, no chain

and no brakes it is said to be a smooth ride. You can enter as a team, which Patrick, David and Simon Burgess did, or on your own which Paul did. (His team mate unfortunately could not ride due to an injury) so Paul, riding on his own for three hours came second.

WELL DONE Paul.



Laughs with Lynda



Never write with a broken pencil because it is pointless.

I know lots of jokes about retired people, but apparently none of them work.

Teacher: "There are two words I do not allow in my class.

One is gross and the other cool."

Johnny: "So what are the words?"

Apple, Raisin and Oatmeal cookies

Jill Baker

135g (5oz) butter softened

80g (3oz) caster sugar

80g (3oz) light brown sugar

1 large egg

½ tsp. vanilla essence

190g (7oz) plain flour

Pinch of cinnamon ¼ tsp

½ tsp bicarbonate of soda

2 granny smith sized apples peeled and grated

60g (2oz) rolled oats

60g (2oz) sultanas or raisins

A new one to me - apples in a cookie, it is quite soft so definitely not a biscuit but very good to eat.

Heat the oven to 17°C GM3 and line two baking sheets with parchment,

Cream the butter and both types of sugar, add the egg and vanilla essence and mix well. Sift in the flour, cinnamon and bicarb. Add the peeled and grated apple along with sultanas/raisins and oatmeal. Stir well.

Break off pieces of dough in pieces of a round tbsp. in size, makes about 15. Space well putting a maximum of five per baking sheet.

Bake for 15 to 20 minutes until light golden. Cool for ten minutes and then transfer to a wire rack.

Ed MW: I found these quick to make and they were quickly eaten.



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Magna Carta

FREEDOM

*“And it’s through that there Magna Carta
As were signed by the barons of old,
That in England today we can do as we like,
As long as we do as we’re told..”*

Stanley Holloway monologue

Those lines are from a poem by Marriott Edgar composed in 1934, and speaks of the sense of freedom here in the years before the WWII

There are two aspects to freedom – free will and freedom of choice. Free will is a concept which has occupied philosophers for centuries, and is divided between those who feel that we are ruled by the law of cause and effect, and those who discount the effect of such a law on our choices. The former school believes that our actions are governed by our past and that we often have little choice about what to do next because of the force of our history, whilst the latter pooh-pooh such restraint upon our behaviour.

One must ask just how much freedom one enjoys today. Certainly we still are free to choose what to do, and what we do not want to do, but once one has made a choice we find our actions restricted by a plethora of rules, regulations and laws; most of those are made to keep us safe and to protect us from danger.

For instance, if we wish to drive a car, go to the shops, go through an airport, or send a child to school we are bound by laws. We are free to worship where and when we wish, and to read whatever we want, but we are no longer free to say what we think! Part of the restriction on our freedom of speech is because we now live in a multi-racial and multi-ethnic nation.

However, the recent wave of ‘woke’ thought means that many people have found that their lives have become intolerable because what they have said or written has offended some people to the extent that they wish to silence that person permanently. We cannot allow our freedom of speech to be curtailed due to the activities of an anonymous, unelected, unrepresentative minority. It is up to all of us to defeat this tendency.

Freedom of Speech



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Act of Advancement of True Religion was passed by Parliament in 1542 by Henry VIII

It restricted the reading of the Bible (which had been translated into English by Wycliffe by 1535) to clerics, noblemen, the gentry and rich merchants. Women below gentry, ranks, servants, apprentices, and generally poor people were forbidden to read it.

Women of the gentry and nobility, were only allowed to read it in private. The Act was repealed in 1547 by Edward VI.

It had been written under **Section 2 of the Treason Act**

How Times have changed.....



Marin Alsop, Last night of the Proms, 2023,

"It is the 10th anniversary of the first woman to conduct the last night of the Proms. We have come a long way, but there is still a more equitable world for the next generations to build. We have more female conductors incredibly gifted women, but we're still living in a world where some women are denied education - a basic human right. We need to remain vigilant for equality in all things musical and the other arts for diversity and representation.

*For music brings us **JOY.**
We are stronger when we stand together.*

I want to say to all the young women out there, as I say to all young people: believe in yourselves, follow your passion and never give up because you will create a future filled with possibility.

Religion that God, accepts as pure and faultless (in James & Matthew) is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress.....

Jesus said, "I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was homeless, and you gave me a room. I was shivering, and you gave me clothes. I was sick and you stopped to visit me. I was in prison, and you came to see me."

This excerpt is from the film 'Barbie' and is a conversation between 2 girls in 2023

"You are beautiful and smart, and it kills me that you don't think you're good enough. Like, we have to always be extraordinary, but somehow we're always doing it wrong. And you can never say you want to be thin. You have to say you want to be healthy, but also you have to be thin. You have to have money, but you can't ask for money because that's crass. You have to be a boss, but you can't be mean. You have to lead, but you can't squash other people's ideas. You're supposed to love being a mother but don't talk about your kids all the time. You have to be a career woman, but also always be looking out for other people. But always stand out and always be grateful. You have never to be rude, never show off, never be selfish, never fail, never show fear, never get out of line. It's too hard! It's too contradictory and nobody gives you a medal or says thank you. And it turns out in fact that not only are you doing everything wrong, but also everything is your fault."





Prayer of the Month

**Bread is a lovely thing to eat.
God bless the barley and the wheat.
A lovely thing to breathe is air,
God bless the sunshine everywhere.
The world is a lovely place to know,
God bless the folk who come and go.
Alive is a lovely thing to be,
Giver of life, we say Bless Thee.**

*(from David Adam, **The Open Gate**)*



From the Registers



Baptism

We welcomed into God's family
Isla Jane Stanton on 3rd September
Eddie William Leigh on 10th September
Ralphie Lee Eyre on 10th September
Louie Martyn Eyre on 10th September

Weddings

We offer our congratulations and best wishes to
William Houghton & Charlotte Bateson on 2nd September

Funerals

We remember before God and commend to his love and mercy:
Phyllis West on Tuesday 29th August
Ian Rogerson on Thursday 31st August



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Jenny Johnson

My thoughts have turned again to Ronald Blythe, to quote his eloquent and evocative prose, and to **his** thoughts for this festival month.....

At harvest festival, the new commuters (to the Suffolk villages) sit in the ancient pews and the old farmers walk to the lectern to read about Ruth gleaning and about Christ’s seed parables, nodding comfortably to the altar en route.

There is a home made loaf on the altar and some especially grown long-stalked wheat to make a proper sheath. And a positive



supermarket display of fruit and veg for the churchwardens to take to Saint Saviour’s, Hoxton, where the holy women will turn it into soup and I don’t know what, for poor lads on the street.

In the pulpit I do my best to reconcile agribusiness, as they now describe it, with yesterday’s reaping, binding and stooking. We sing the 65th psalm in which God ‘provideth for the earth’ and crowns the year with his goodness and it’s elemental language strips away all the agri-tech, if only for a moment.



What is harder and harder to get across to modern congregations is that harvest festivals are not about charity but gratitude or what grows, what flows, what climaxes in the autumn.

“While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest shall never cease”.

So say, “Thank you.”

So grateful was Egypt for the Nile harvest that the divine Pharaoh, himself, helped to cut it and and to bring it in.

“So come ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home.”



Church Rotas

Steward's Rota

Date	8.30am	10.00am	6.30pm
1 Oct	P Cooke	S McAllister & C Starling	R Holt
8 Oct	A Mason	C Langford & M Lowe	J Shiel
15 Oct	J Butterworth	S Knight & M Williams	R Holt
22 Oct	P Cunningham	L Forbes & P Forbes	A Shah
29 Oct	A Mason	J Elliott & R Elliott	J Shiel
5 Nov	P Cooke	D Jelleyman & A Sanders	R Holt

Please arrange your own substitute. If this is not possible email Rachel- redwards@nhs.net

Flower Rota

1 Oct Harvest flowers	5 Nov Maggie Williams
8 Oct Harvest Flowers	12 Nov Cathie Lowe Remembrance Sunday
15 Oct Jill Baker	19 Nov Lesley Futchter
22 Oct Wedding Flowers	26 Nov Margaret Lowe
29 Oct Flowers for All Souls	

If you wish to change a date, need a key or have any query, please contact Jill Baker (07881 902533 or jillbaker427@hotmail.com).

Holy Dusters

Brass Cleaning

1 Oct	P Cunningham & I Morris	L Driver & M Heijbroek
8 Oct	M Williams & S McAllister	
15 Oct	J Cooper & A Muller	
22 Oct	A Mason & C Starling	
29 Oct	J & D Butterworth	
5 Nov	A Allcard & J Jones	

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