

OUTLOOK



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July 2024

£1

The Parish of St. Thomas, Mellor

Registered Charity No. 1130414

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

Phone 0161 604 4993 Vicarage

Email revandrewtawn@gmail.com

Parish Office The Mellor Centre, Church Road, Mellor, Stockport SK6 5LX

For all enquiries and bookings for the church & Mellor Centre
contact phone 0161 484 5079 or email office@mellorchurch.org

The Office is open Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm

Parish Office Admin. Val Wallace (Mon, Wed & Thurs mornings)

Reader Dave Shercliff 56 Ernocroft Rd, Marple Bridge, 07519931219

Church Wardens Mary Heijbroek 0161 427 3241

Alex Eggeman 07772849657

Dep Church Warden Rachel Howling 0161 427 5891

PCC Treasurer Richard Elliott contact via Parish Office

Assistant David Butterworth

Treasurers Andrew Sanders

Gift Aid Secretary Karen Greenough

PCC Secretary Julie Elliott 64 Ernocroft Road 427 5981

Director of Music Tom Howling (email:t.howling@nhs.net)

Editors of Outlook Magazine Maggie Williams and Margaret Leng

Elected Members Ian Dayes, Alison Dowdeswell, Alex Eggeman, Julie Elliott,

Of PCC Richard Elliott, Kate Higgins, David Horsfall, Sylvia Knight,

Kathryn Maxwell Angie Stanton, Sian Yeowell.

Emma Wilson (Safeguarding Officer)

Deanery / Diocesan Judith Shiel / Mary Heijbroek

Churches Together in Marple Representative Helen Kennedy

Pastoral Care Group Coordinator Lesley Fitcher 449 0977

Articles for Outlook should be submitted to the editor (preferably by email)

melloroutlooksubmissions@gmail.com.

The deadline for the September issue is August 15th please

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JULY 2024

2 Tues	7 or 7.30 pm tbc	Exploring our Faith (Mellor Centre)
3 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)
6 Sat	3.00 pm	Wedding Michael Harper & Cecily Holt
7 Sun 6th Sunday after Trinity	8.30 am 10.00 am 3.00 pm 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Parish Communion Messy Church (Mellor Centre) Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)
8 Mon	10.45-12 noon	Coffee and Chat (Mellor Centre)
9 Tues	7 or 7.30 tbc	Exploring our Faith (Mellor Centre)
10 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)
14 Sun 7th Sunday after Trinity	8.30 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Parish Communion Evening Prayer (Mellor Centre)
16 Tues	7 or 7.30 tbc	Exploring our Faith (Mellor Centre)
17 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)
21 Sun 8th Sunday after Trinity	8.30 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Parish Communion Choral Evensong
24 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)
28 Sun 9th Sunday after Trinity	8.30 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Mellor Communion Evening Prayer (Mellor Centre)
31 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Mellor 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 (The Mellor Centre)

Women's Evening Fellowship meets on the second Wednesday 7:30pm (The Mellor Centre)

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

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

The Choir practises each week on Friday at 6.30 pm

Vicar's Viewpoint July 2024



Church Fête

As I look out of the window it is raining - again! Surely this rain has to stop sometime? I am praying that the skies will all be rained out and the clouds empty in time for a glorious day on Saturday 29th June, for the Church Fête. Over the years I have been involved in many church fêtes, but this is the biggest and most ambitious of all of them. I will save my thanks for the numerous helpers until the day itself has happened. However, I do want to say a special word of thanks at this point to the Fête Committee who have been working hard for many weeks to prepare for the big day.

Well-dressing

At the Fête, the Mellor Well Dressing will also be on display - and it will be blessed the following morning after the 10am service. Having seen pictures of the amazing displays in past years I am very much looking forward to seeing this year's creation.

Exploring Faith Course

Would you be interested in joining a short course, exploring the Christian faith? This is open to anyone - total newcomers to the faith, those who would like a 'refresher' and anyone who wants to ask questions about what we believe. There is no presupposition about what you believe and no expectation that this course will lead to any commitment. It is simply a chance for you to ask questions and to learn more about the Bible and some of the central practices of the church.

Here are some of the questions I want to explore:

- Does God exist? - arguments for and against
- How and when was the Bible written?
- Are these ancient texts relevant to us today?
- Who was Jesus?
- Does God answer prayer?
- What is the meaning of baptism?
- What are the various ways of understanding Holy Communion?
- What difference does being a Christian make to the way we live our lives?

I already know of at least 7 people who will be attending so we have the core of a really good group.

The following is a draft outline, but I will also leave room for your questions. Often your questions lead to the most interesting discussions. We'll make a start on the course before the summer holiday break, and then resume in September:

Tuesday evenings starting 7 pm in the Mellor Centre:

2nd July : the Old Testament - does God exist?

9th July : the New Testament - how and when were the gospels written?

16th July: the life of Jesus and the church year - who was Jesus?

Who is he to us now?

Summer break

10th September : Prayer

17th September : Baptism

24th September : Holy Communion

1st October : a Christian way of living

You are welcome to come for one session to see if you want to carry on. If you know you would like to come please do let me know so I can prepare for the appropriate numbers.

God bless you,

Andrew

Mellor March

A huge thank you to Reverend Andrew for his support of the Mellor March raising over £450. The March aims to be a family and community event, so the involvement of the church is much appreciated.

This was the 30th anniversary of the founding of the March and the £10,000 given out to cancer charities on the day takes total donations well over a quarter of a million pounds.

Pat Boyle
Chair of the Mellor March

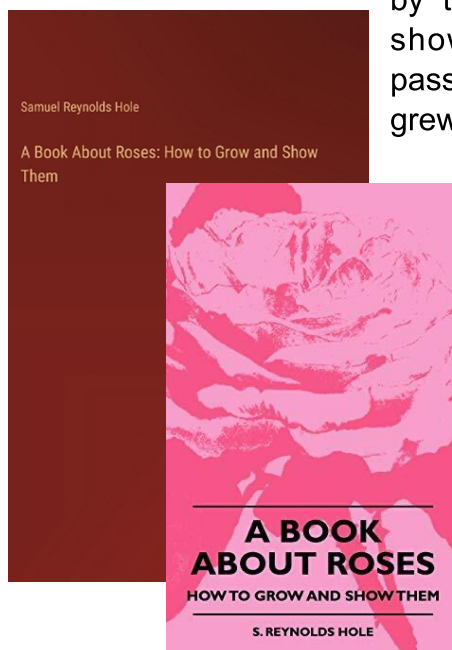
Vicarage Gardens

I have been really interested to see the development of the vicarage garden and it started me thinking about some of the Victorian clergymen who were known for their horticultural pursuits.

The best known of these are probably Dean Hole the rose specialist and Canon Ellacombe. I had seen Ellacombe's book 'In a Gloucestershire Garden' referred to in books, and recently managed to get a second-hand copy. One of the advantages for the clergy in the 19th century was that they often remained in one post for very many years, and this was certainly true of Ellacombe. He was born at the vicarage in the Gloucestershire village of Bitton, where his father was vicar, in 1822, and he succeeded him there, living to the age of 94. Between them, they cared for the people of Bitton for ninety-nine years, giving them opportunity to garden in a long-term and stable way which few people can do now. Another advantage many clergy had then was probably more help than is now available. Ellacombe's book was originally written as a series of articles for the Guardian between 1890 and 1893 and they show a close and detailed observation of plants. When hoar-frost covered a lawn, he noted that the flat-lying leaves of plantain were not frosted and concluded that the leaves kept in the heat of the earth. 1893 was a year of drought, and Ellacombe observed the effect this had on some of his plants. Silver-leaved plants were little affected which he was unable to explain, but we now know that the foliage reflects sunlight and reduces water loss. Some such plants also have fine hairs on the leaves which trap moisture. He was also interested in the names and original sources of plants and wrote of the Cochineal Oak or *Quercus pseudo-coccifera* which he identified as the 'oak of Mamre' mentioned in Genesis. Joseph Hooker had seen these growing thickly on Mount Carmel. Ellacombe was ahead of his time in disliking the Victorian fashion of bedding plants laid out in formal designs. It was also fashionable at the time to despise variegated plants but Ellacombe treasured shrubs with variegation as useful and attractive in the winter garden.

Dean Hole was also the son of a vicar, Samuel Hole of Caunton, near Newark, and succeeded him there, but he also became chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and was in great demand as a preacher. He became Dean of Rochester in 1887 and worked with the men in the Chatham Dockyard, as well as undertaking lecture tours to raise money for the cathedral. He had a garden (of course), but did not at first grow roses, but on one early April day he received an invitation from a local mechanic to judge a rose exhibition held by the working men of the area. He replied that roses did not bloom in April (he did know that much), but was told these were grown under glass. (The workmen mostly had allotments on the edge of the town.) So he went, and was stunned

by the superb quality of the roses on show. This established a life-long passion for roses – he collected them, grew them, exhibited and judged them, and wrote ‘A Book about Roses’ which was best-seller in its time and is still available second-hand. Hole kept in touch with the workmen and later wrote that “There are no better gardeners. than those Nottingham mechanics who have their small plots of ground....” Hole was one of the founders, and the first president, of the National Rose Society, established in 1876 and a medal is still awarded in his name.



Judith Shiel





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Mellor Birds.

I had very exciting news last week, when Jean C. told me that she was out in her back garden at Moor End and she saw a **red kite** flying overhead, with its forked tail, circling, swooped down and off.

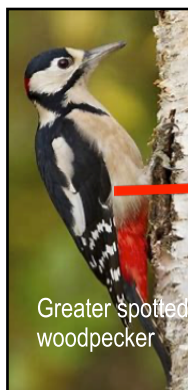
I first saw a red kite about 30 years ago in Tregaron Bog, south of Aberystwyth. There were only a few left in Britain at that time. Little did I think that we would ever see them in our back gardens in Mellor. They are a rusty colour with white under wing patches and black wing tips. Its deeply forked tail, keeps rigid and twists one way and then the other. Its voice is a shrill “weoo-weoo-weoo”.

On the 11th of June Jean saw a **barn owl** circling above the long grass at the back of her house and then it went down and caught a mouse. For something a bit different, Beverley W suggested I listen to “Warblers Rant” on Mirandatrotter.com.

Miranda is a folk musician, fiddle and viola player, composer, performer and teacher. She has announced her new project “Bird Tunes”, a suite of newly composed tunes inspired by birds and bird song which is now on a new album released on May 1st 2024. The rant starts with singing, blackcap, chiffchaff, willow warbler, garden warbler and cetti’s warbler. Then the music starts and lasts five minutes.

Helen Taylor has seen **curlews** and **owls** up near Five Lane Ends.

Margot sent me a photo of a **greater spotted woodpecker** which comes to her bird feeder every day. She lives half way up Clement Road. What intrigued me with the photo was the dried Allium head at the top. It is put there attempting to stop the squirrel coming.



Greater spotted woodpecker



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TRUTH

What is truth?" asked Pontius Pilate, during his trial of Jesus on Good Friday in response to Jesus saying "... for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth". Pilate was not making a philosophical remark; he was speaking as a man who had presided over criminal trials for many years, and heard people swear that they were telling the truth only for them to be exposed as liars by witnesses. In the end he condemned Jesus to death because it was easier to execute an innocent man than to put down a riot from a howling mob. Truth was not a consideration.

Truth comes in a number of ways, two of which are absolute and ambiguous. Absolute truth is of the type that is will not be challenged. For example, "I dropped the glass and it broke" – quite clear and not open to question. Ambiguous truth depends on circumstances and Pilate might have reflected that in those circumstances Jesus was on the wrong side of the argument so his testimony was untrue or unlikely.

An example of ambiguous truth would be: a Palestinian living in Gaza probably regards a member of Hamas as a freedom fighter. But an Israeli would regard a member of Hamas as a terrorist. Which of those views you regard as truthful depends on whom you support.

We are in the midst of the run-up to the General Election, so we are all being subjected to the various political parties' versions of why they deserve to be the next government. Several different analyses of the present government's successes and failures will be offered, all of which will claim to be a truthful account of what the government has got right and wrong. In the midst of this blizzard of political propaganda there are significant interruptions from people and organisations spreading disinformation – a polite way of saying that lies are being told - which will either distort or completely negate the official party lines. With the advent of advanced artificial intelligence it is possible to video a person making a speech and then substituting new words in an entirely convincing manner, the aim being to confuse voters as to a Party's actual policies. So how can we avoid being fooled into believing disinformation? The only possible way is to cross-check with other TV stations and other newspapers to see if what you have seen or read is truthful. In a few months after a new government has been formed we may be able to see if we have been told the truth about its plans.

The Walrus

AS SEEN FROM COW CORNER



The halfway point of the cricket season is fast approaching, but no-one appears to have told the sun to show itself and cast its beams on the cricket players, who are still wrapped up in unseasonable clothing to keep warm against the persistent northerly winds.

Mellor visited Appleton, near Warrington, and were invited by the home captain to take first knock, a very unusual experience for Mellor, who always seem to bat second. It did, however, give most of the Mellor players time to prepare for their innings ahead. The Appleton captain, a burly individual, was naturally in charge, but also took the gloves behind the wicket, and because of his bulk, he found it difficult to crouch in the accepted manner, so therefore stood erect and parried any deliveries left by the batsmen. Any ball of waist height or below was allowed to strike him and fall to the ground to be gathered by another fielder and returned to the bowler.

Despite the obvious fallibility of the Appleton wicketkeeper, the Mellor batsmen did not take advantage and squandered plenty of run making opportunities, and particularly after the cumbersome wicket keeper had caused himself injury by falling backwards on to the ball and requiring four of his team-mates to carry him bodily, to the refuge of the pavilion.

Meanwhile the Mellor captain was holding the batting together, but when he was out, the batting collapsed to 70 all out.

This appeared an easy target, despite the incapacity of the skipper, who was lying supine on the changing room floor, resembling a beached whale.

With the score on 60 for four wickets, the home side looked home and dry, but a flurry of wickets left Appleton with the last pair at the crease. An unplayable delivery accounted for the last wicket, leaving Mellor winners by one run.

Due to rain, the next match was a reduced over affair against Disley. On winning the toss the Mellor captain, as usual, invited Disley to bat first. All the visiting batsmen tucked into the Mellor bowling with relish and when the innings closed had reached 144 for the loss of five wickets. In reply the Mellor batting showed no ambition in trying to achieve the target, but to remain at the crease and not lose wickets, with the result that at the end of the overs Mellor were 98 for the loss of eight wickets.

The next visitors to Longhurst Lane were Cheadle Hulme, who had beaten Mellor twice in the previous season. The visitors were given first use of a benign batting strip and aided by some mediocre bowling from the home bowlers, reached a challenging total of 148 for the loss of eight wickets in the allotted overs. Mellor's assault on the target was extremely slow, and the main attacking shot was a

ponderous push into the covers, but no wickets were being lost. It has to be admitted that the opposition bowling was nothing above slow medium pace. With the slow scoring and overs being used up, anxiety built up in the home camp, and as a result, wickets started to fall but fortunately the target was slowly in sight. The Cheadle Hulme bowling had, mainly been in the hands of a schoolboy, who, apparently was in the middle of his exams, and to give him a rest and with just three runs to get, the captain, magnanimously, entrusted the ball to another of the team who, apparently, had not bowled before. The new bowler ambled a couple of paces, to the oche, and threw the ball, dart fashion. The umpire, obviously, called a no-ball, thus awarding an extra run. Astoundingly, this process was repeated twice more with the resultant runs, and a victory for Mellor.

A very bizarre end to the game, but a win will be accepted no matter how it is offered!

Silly Point


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PREPARING FOR THE ELECTION - Rev Jayne Manfredi

Thought for the Day May 21st BROKENNESS

Good morning. October 2019. I am walking into a busy A & E Department with my 15 year old daughter. I'm propping her up as we walk, half dragging her as her legs keep giving way. I can't hold her anymore, and she collapses onto the floor.

At once, she is surrounded by medical staff. The scene blurs in confusion in my memory like a VHS tape on a machine that needs its heads cleaning.

Now we are in a cubicle, her skin is flushed, her temperature is through the roof and she starts to vomit. They managed to put a line into her hand put her heart rate is dangerously high. Tests later confirm sepsis and I don't want to remember any more.

On Wednesday Conservative politician, Craig McKinlay entered the Commons to jubilant and delighted applause across the House - dubbed the bionic MP he had developed life threatening sepsis last year which led to the amputation of both hands and feet.



As he himself has said the price for living in his case was serious disability. His gratitude and joy at being alive, to still be a Dad for his little four year old girl reminded me of people who survive huge adversity, an example of inspiration of what a gift life is.

The cross party reaction to his entrance was also an example of how politics can be when we engage with one another as fellow beings instead of distant and dehumanised opponents.

This is one of my hopes as we head into the season of campaigning ahead of the General Election in July. Craig McKinley's warm reception in the Commons is symbolic of what politics and Culture could and should be like but so often isn't. Physical brokenness is something we can't hide. It's there for all to see and we can't help but react to it but what a life of Faith has taught me is that unseen inner brokenness is something that's shared by everyone of us including all the politicians on the ballot papers. Brokenness is integral to our human condition and understanding, tolerance and endless dollops of grace are the necessary remedy. Recognising the brokenness that we can't see is how we navigate an emotionally charged Election season with mutual respect.

My daughter was lucky for she recovered quickly with no lasting damage but my prayer while I sat by her hospital bedside was for the comfort of Jesus in whom my true hope lies.

Today I pray for healing of the country and for brokenness which can't be seen *I found this article very moving and hope her advice works for the Election and the future Ed MML*

Mellor Art Society

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Brown Sugar Biscuits

Jill Baker

An interesting flavour, from a Waitrose magazine. Just remember you need to chill the mix for at least a couple of hours then bring back to room temperature.

200g butter

300g dark muscovado sugar

300g plain flour

1 tsp baking powder

½ tsp bicarbonate of soda

½ tsp cinnamon

1 large egg

1 tsp vanilla extract



Melt the butter and sugar in a large saucepan and set over a medium heat. Stir occasionally until butter has melted and the sugar dissolved. Set aside to cool for 5 minutes.

Mix the dry ingredients together and beat the egg. Add the cooled butter and sugar mix along with the egg to the dry ingredients. Cover the bowl and place in the fridge for a minimum of two hours.

Turn the oven to 180°C GM4 and let the mix come to room temperature (about 15 minutes).

Roll the mix into 12-14 balls and space out on a baking tray. The biscuits spread so leave plenty of space and bake in batches.

Bake for 10-15 minutes until deep golden and cracked on top.

Cool for 5 minutes then transfer to a cooling tray.

Good with a summery ice cream or a cup of tea or coffee.



Felt making with Laura Jarvis

On 24th March
2024

Laura expertly
organised a felt
making work
party in the

Mellor Centre which
was very colourful and
enjoyed by lots of
people .

Then on 14th June
2024 her felt pieces
were displayed



at her Foundation
Exhibition in
Manchester
together with a
film of the process
made by Oscar
Qualter



OUTLOOK gets a mention.

The Steamship Shieldhall which Captain Ken wrote about in May 2023 Outlook has its own charity and

produces two magazines a year.

One of its members, Barry Quest, lives in Devon and reads our Outlook magazine as he enjoys Ken's articles. He told Shieldhall editors about Ken's article and it was published in its June 2024 magazine and we were given a "Thank you" and have been sent a copy.



In it, is a list of their sailing programme

which includes trips from Southampton to the Isle of Wight, Solent, Needles, Cowes, a Food Festival and a musical trip. Details are on line.

I was interested to read that ships have Godmothers. It is the person that names them, often a member of the royal family or eminent person. Unusually Cunard's new ship Queen Anne named at Liverpool on June 3rd 2024, chose The City of Liverpool as its Godmother and was represented by five iconic women of Liverpool. Also in their magazine there was a plea for cotton rags or towels for use by the volunteers on ship maintenance. Apparently they use ten bales of rags a year at £40 a bale.

Reminder Magazine Subscriptions

Dear Readers of Outlook,

Thank you to all that have already paid their annual subscription.

If you have not paid your subscription for this year yet, please give the annual subscription of £10, to the person who delivers your magazine, paid as cash or by cheque payable to Mellor PCC,

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This annual subscription represents a saving of £2 compared with 12 copies at the cover price of £1.

The editors hope you have enjoyed reading Outlook over the last year and found it useful. We welcome letters to the editor and ideas. Maggie and Margaret.





Outside*

Choral Evensong


RNLI

Lifeboats 200 YEARS



Sunday July 21st 6.30pm

Music includes
 Crossing the Bar (Arbo)
 Purcell in G minor, Do not be afraid (Stopford)
 Eternal Father strong to save, Abide with me

*Weather permitting. Bring a camping chair!

Outside Evensong
 Celebrating 200th
 Anniversary of RNLI
 on 21st July.



Festival of Bells

Sir Mark Elder, the Musical Director of the Hallé Orchestra ticked off an item on his bucket list when he sampled the legendary Mellor Belfry experience.

He is retiring after a distinguished career as one of the greatest ever orchestral conductors. He followed ringing the bell by enjoying 'A Lunch with Sir Mark Elder' at the Oddies in aid of the belfry Festival of Bells raising money for cancer charities.





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‘He understood our shared human weaknesses and never shied away from describing them truthfully, but he was always gentle as he reflected our frailties back to us, so we could take control of them.’

Sorry this is so short. Please send in own tributes for next month. Ed MML

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MARPLE BATHS 1931- 2024

Joan Combey



Driving down Stockport Road in Marple, I noticed that Marple Baths had been demolished. As it played a part in my early years I thought I would reminisce about the happy times I spent there.

The Baths were donated to Marple and District by Mrs MacNair who lived at The Shanty, a house on Church Lane, in memory of her husband Andrew. They were closed in 2018.

My first recollection of the Baths was going to swimming lessons whilst a pupil at Ludworth School. After an afternoon session I would be met by my Mother carrying a delicious cake bought from the local bakery. She must have thought I deserved some sustenance after the efforts of learning to swim.

Later an extension was built to provide accommodation for the Superintendent and his family - Eric Jackson and his wife Elsie. They had a daughter called Anne and I became friendly with her. I used to stay the night and sometimes we used the pool as our private swimming pool when it was closed. I don't think Health and Safety would approve now.

In the holidays I spent many hours there. There were changing rooms down either side, boys on one side girls on the other. The only privacy was provided by a curtain which was frequently wafted to one side as the boys ran past. Apart from school swimming lessons I was enrolled in private lessons with Minnie Harrop. I progressed from breaststroke to front crawl and then back crawl. We practised life saving and retrieved a wooden brick from the deep end continuing to swim under water for some distance.

There was a triangular diving board at the 6ft end. Platforms at a lower level on either side, medium level and dreaded top board.

I progressed quite happily with my diving until one day Minnie said 'Joan I think you are ready for the top board'. My legs turned to jelly

as I made my way to the top. I now know what Tom Daly feels like on top of the 10 meter board. After much contemplation I finally plucked up courage to take the plunge. Not quite as bad as I thought it would be. Because the boys used to use the board to dive bomb the girls swimming below, the board was later removed.

As I had become quite a good swimmer I was selected to swim for my school which was now Harrytown Convent where I went in the 1950s. The length of Marple Baths was 25 meters but the schools swimming gala was held at Hyde Baths which was 50 meters. I was horrified on arrival as I had to race 2 lengths. I don't think I went to another Gala.

In the 1950s Marple Council decided to cover the baths with a sprung Dance floor in the Winter months. Various clubs and associations used to book the venue for dances and functions. The most sort after date was New Years Eve. When the news came that Mellor Lacrosse Club had secured the best date, there was a scramble to get tickets. My friend and I used to pull a few strings and obtain the gold tickets.

We used to sit round the perimeter waiting to be asked to dance. One dance I could be assured to have a partner for was the Gay Gordons. A boy from Marple seemed to enjoy having me as a partner for this dance and as soon as the music started we were spinning round the floor.

As you probably know, a new swimming pool is to be built in the Memorial Park. I might take a look at it , but definitely not take the plunge.

Due to the generosity of Mrs MacNair the children of Marple and District learned to swim and it gave pleasure to many over the years.



Enjoy Walking in the Countryside, meeting new people JOIN THE RAMBLERS Britain's Walking Charity "HIGH PEAK GROUP" We walk Wednesdays, Sundays and some Saturdays new walkers welcome For Programme and Contacts see our Web Page

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Church brasses.

Help needed to keep the Church sparkling.

We are looking for one or two people to help clean the brasses. It comes around about once every three months. It is a nice opportunity to sit in the Church quietly. Please contact either Mary Heijbroek 427 3241 or Anthea Mason 449 9815.



Laughs with Lynda



•I don't have a carbon footprint,
I just drive everywhere.

•An inspector visited the farm the other day and asked
how the water was.

I said we only had well water.

Dad, can you explain to me what a solar eclipse is?"

"No Sun."

Well Dressing Art Exhibition

Following the unveiling of the Dressing at the Fête and the Blessing after the morning service on Sunday on June 30th an Art Festival will be held in the Church again. The Festival will be open on Tuesday 2nd 10.00-4.00pm, Wednesday 3rd 5.00 – 8.00pm and Thursday 4th 10.00 – 4.00pm

There will be refreshments sold in aid of the church, so please come along and view the Dressing and enjoy the art as well as the beautiful setting of the church.

A Walk in Mellor.

GM Ringway

I was in the Church car park when a couple walking past stopped and told me they were walking Stage 6 of the GM Ringway. Strines to Marple.

The GM Ringway is a 200 mile path around Greater Manchester, started in 2020 by Ramblers and CPRE.- Campaign to Protect Rural England. Go to www.gmringway.org for maps and information.

Stage 6 :-

Strines to Marple - 4 hrs 45 mins / 8.3 miles. / 343m ascent

It starts at Strines Station, up to The Fox, Lily Bank Farm, Mellor Cross, Broadhurst Edge Plantation, Shiloh Road, Rush Lane, Mellor Church, Devonshire Arms, Buzzard, Damsteads, Linnet Clough, Bottoms Hall, Lakes Road, Roman Bridge, Barlow Wood, Peak Forest Canal, Brabyns Brow and ends at Marple Station.

We are looking forward to a more in depth article about the GM Ringway. Ed M.W See back page of Outlook for full map

SAVE THE DATE! EDALE 2024

Friday 27th – Sunday 29th SEPTEMBER

Every year a group of volunteers from St Thomas Church organises a weekend away for the children (aged 8+) of the whole church community and their friends.

It's an amazing weekend of back-to-basics fun, based at the Peak Centre in beautiful Edale, with crafts, games, climbing wall, music, cooking, and of course a hike!

If you've attended one of the Edale weekends in the last few years we will contact you with booking details later this summer. If you've not been yet, please contact kate.a.scott@googlemail.com if you'd like us to add you to our list – new attendees are warmly encouraged to attend. Please pass this message on to those you think may be interested, particularly those with children who will only be turning 8 this year (so this is the first time they “qualify” to attend).

The 2024 Edale Team - Kate Scott, Glyn Britton, Jane Britton, Jen Lowe, Edward Maxwell, Rev Andrew Tawn.

Mellor Church Women's Evening Fellowship

Following hard on the heels of the Fête Shower in May and the Fête in June comes our annual outing this month on the 10th July. We are going to a more local venue, the **Plaza in Stockport** this time which allows us to make use of public transport for the most part. The cost of £26 50 covers a guided tour and an afternoon tea both of which I'm told are excellent. All parts of the tour apart from the projection room are accessible by lift so that shouldn't pose a problem. We need to give the venue final numbers by the 3rd July so if you would like to join us please let me know promptly.



There is no meeting in August as we draw breath after a busy summer. Details of our autumn programme will be in the August Outlook.

Lesley Fletcher Tel. 449 0977

Moor End Women's Institute - belated news

Pauline Hutchins

At our March meeting we were entertained by the husband and wife singing duo - Kevin and Joy. They took us on a delightful Musical Meander Around Britain. They sang and played familiar music (from folk songs, popular tunes, to the classics) which our members joined in with. We will certainly invite them again!

In April, Peter Webb paid a return visit to tell us about the archaeology and geology of The Torrs of New Mills. This steep sided gorge and valley was created when thick ice sheets fractured the sandstone underneath, about 20 thousand years ago. A site of historical importance, it is where the rivers Sett and Goyt meet.

The small town of New Mills sits either side of this dramatic gorge, which is 100 feet deep at its lowest point. The power of the two rivers was harnessed to run machinery in the mills there, during the Industrial Revolution. Eventually the mills closed and went into ruin during the early 20th century.

The potential of this landscape and its industrial archaeology was recognised by the local council and in the 1970 s the Torrs Riverside Park (the Park Under the Town) was opened. In 1999 the Millennium Walkway was constructed and this 160m long walkway now spans the otherwise inaccessible section of the gorge. The Torrs of New Mills makes for a wonderful, interesting family day out.

Forthcoming events- We look forward to welcoming visitors at the Mellor Centre on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30pm

Thursday 20th June - From Zambia to England, with Cornelius Musonda.

Thursday 18th July - My Journey Unveiled, with Gemma Borgert.

Thursday 15th August - Social Evening.

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<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/mellorlta/Membership/Join>.

Contact Lucy Greenaway for more information at
lucygreenaway@hotmail.co.uk

Mellor Sports Club. 215 Loughurst Lane. Mellor SK6 5PN

The Bladdernut Tree.

Following last months article asking for help on how to nurture the Bladdernut plant, Noula James suggested we visit **Gardeningknowhow.com** and look up Bladdernut tree.

It was full of useful information and said Bladdernuts do not mind what kind of soil they are in or whether they are in sun or not, so that is good news.

The War Memorial garden around the Memorial is looking good with rivers of blue geranium and large purple alliums. We would like to thank Vinnie Simpson and Rick Williams for putting The Park Interpretation Board back up again and Hilary for painting it.

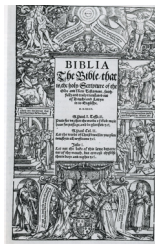
Ed MW.



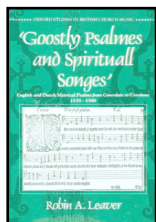
Mellor War Memorial.
Vinny Simpson returning the noticeboard to its correction position.



Abide With Me Miles Coverdale took part in translating the first Bible into English and with others the printing of the Great Bible. The latter was dedicated to Henry VIII to whom Coverdale 'referred to the necessity of obedience to a Christian prince rather than to a Bishop of Rome.' The preface exhorts the reader **'to show gratitude to God by caring for the poor and expresses the hope that all rulers, judges, teachers**



and parents will profit by reading the Bible in their own tongue. The king wanted a copy of The Great bible to go into every church in the land. Coverdale was becoming a Reformer, like many in Europe, but did not want to become a **"new fangled gospeller"** as **'he had respect for the antiquity and ancient age of our holy Christian faith.'** He disliked ceremonial services and those who 'dressed up' to praise God especially the hooded university scholars of Oxford, Cambridge and Durham!



The other most important work of Coverdale was known as the ***Ghostly Psalmes and Spirituall Songs*** of 1539 which may fairly be described as the first English hymn book. He said in his own words **he 'wished to supply godly songs to be sung by minstrels.... our young men that have a gift of singing..... and our women spinning at the wheels'** instead of **'hey nonny nonny, hey trolly loly and such other phantasies.'** The Lutheran Communion services were already being sung in their own mother tongue' and so the first three hymns in Coverdale's book were in English. **'Many could remember the Song but not the Sermon!'**

The King complained to Parliament in December 1545 **'that the most precious jewel, the Word of God, is disputed, rhymed, sung and jangled in every alehouse and tavern.'** Following the Act in 1543 which stated that ***Bible reading had become widespread among such under-privileged classes as women, artificers, apprentices, journeymen, serving-men under the degree of yeoman, husbandmen and labourers*** William Turner accused the Bishops of responsibility for efforts to suppress Bible reading.

What would the King have thought of the 2012 Olympic Games in London when 90 million people watched and heard sung **'Abide with Me'** and which is also sung at The FA Cup Final and the Rugby League Challenge Cup Final. How many know the words of at least 1 hymn? Ed MML



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Prayer for July

Forgive us, Jesus,
When we cling to the familiar,
Block the possibilities,
Insist on the old ways.
Forgive the fears
That bind us to the past.
Teach us instead
To trust the Spirit's leading;
Risk new expressions;
Offer each day in worship,
Knowing your love
Is there on every path.

(by Chris Polhill in 50 New Prayers from the Iona Community)



From the Registers

Christenings

We welcomed into God's family

June 2nd Delilah Grace Smith

June 9th Zara Patricia Round

Everly May

Weddings

We offer our congratulations and best wishes to:-

June 8th. Stephen Butler and Hazel Shuttleworth. - Wedding blessing.

June 22nd Daniel Orr and Leanne Royle.



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GAZA a new Poem by Ben Okri

1. I don't know how many have died
Or how many died before war flared up.
There must be a way to listen to all
The pain that burns in a people
Must be a way to hear all that anguish.
Pain creates pain creates deadness
Of heart. Distance makes all that suffering
Unreal. How else can great powers
Add bombs and missiles to an agony
That's engulfing the world in fire and rage?
How did we become so deaf to the death
Of innocent children and their mothers?
How did we get to measure the value
Of one death against another, with one
Worth a thousand of the other
Surely the heart of the world has died.
Surely we have turned to stone in our veins.
I sit here staring at the sky wondering what
Could change the coldness in the soul
That makes it possible for us to eat our food,
go to work and laugh with our families
When we know that over in **Gaza**, a brief dream
Away, hundreds of thousands starve,
Their homes destroyed, their lives broken
There ought to be no religion that lets
Us be indifferent to all that suffering.
Surely something's wrong with the world.
Something's twisted in our humanity.
I have friends who weep at the loss
Of their dogs, but whose ears are closed
To the wailing from the flattened houses
Of Gaza. Complexity ought not to stop our
Souls from feeling. For pain creates pain
Creates stones instead of human beings.
There are in truth no distances in the spirit
Of humanity. Any great injustice makes
The sleep of the world howl. We breathe in
The destruction of lives that we don't see.
In our dreams we die with them. In our sleep
Our souls grieve with them, for their deaths
Are ours, whoever they may be. We grow
Sick with the times. We become twisted with
The wounds. Whether we are silent or not
We are poisoned by the massacres. No
Civilisation can survive on the murder
Of a people. We are watching our demise
In our silence. Peace is not ignorance or lies.
We are measured by what we tolerate,

The agony we ignore, keep quiet about,
For our peace of mind. Silence helps
Those missiles. Our silence is touched
With the blood of those children. And every
Day that we turn away, and shut our hearts,
Below, in the common earth of all humanity,
The spilled blood rises and ghosts feed on our
Prosperity. For Gaza is not there. It's here

2..That the war must end, it is clear
Find a way, find a way
That does not mean the destruction
Of one people or another.
History, in its wisdom, in its terror,
Has brought us to this place
To this impossible mathematical
Equation where we cannot solve
The future with the past,
With blood or blame or bombs
Or unsustainable slogans.
I see a new future is possible there.
I see the lands fertile in tough
Invaluable collaboration.
I see that the desert will come alive
With music. I see two peoples finding
A new way. I see that this miracle
Is the only pragmatic path.
All that hatred, that anger, can
Only blossom into a miracle.
If vision and love can't bring us
There, then let all the suffering
Find for us a new road.
I see a shining land where
Two dreams surprise the world
By finding a way to coexist.
It would be the greatest
Breakthrough of our times.
Who would dream it, make it
Real, while the bombs flower
And the children weep?
Who will find a Way instead of
Taking a side?
Who will find a Way instead of
Taking a side?
As sure as I Sit here staring
At the sky, I know
That this vision Of peace
Must come to be.
It's an unavoidable destiny

Church Rotas

Stewards Rota

Date	8.30am	10.00am	6.30pm
July 7th	P Cooke	C Hamilton & K Hargreaves	J Shiel
July 14th	A Mason	J Elliott & R Elliott	R Holt
July 21st	J Butterworth	D Jelleyman & A Sanders	A Shah
July 28th	P Cunningham	M Lowe & J Mason	J Shiel
Aug 4th	P Cooke	P Long & A Muller	R Holt

Please arrange your own substitute. If this is not possible contact Mary Heijbroek 427 3241.

Flower Rota

July 7th	Wedding Flowers	August 4th	Diana Cole
July 14th	Jill Baker	August 11th	Jill Baker
July 21st	Helen Tawn	August 18th	Diana Cole
July 28th	Alison Dowdeswell	August 25th	Angela Muller

If you wish to change a date, need a key or have any query, please contact Jill Baker (07881 902533 or jillbaker427@hotmail.com). The Church key is also available from the Parish Office (484 5097) Monday to Thursday mornings only.

Holy Dusters

July 7th	M Williams S McAllister
July 14th	J Burrows & E Wilson
July 21st	H Kennedy & M Lowe
July 28th	J & R Elliott
August 4th	A Allcard & J Jones

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M Heijbroek & A Mason

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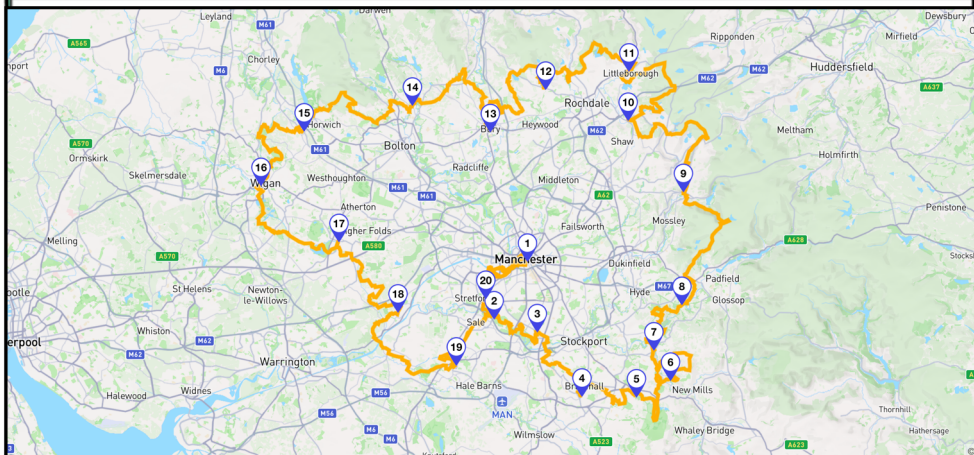
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