

# OUTLOOK

*“Focus on  
simply loving and being loved”*



*“Out of darkness can come light,  
so let that light shine..”*

[www.mellorchurch.org](http://www.mellorchurch.org)

October  
2024

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# **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)

**Church Wardens** Mary Heijbroek 0161 427 3241

Alex Eggeman 07772849657

**PCC Treasurer** Richard Elliott contact via Parish Office

**Assistant** David Butterworth

**Treasurers** Andrew Sanders

**Gift Aid Secretary** Karen Greenough

**PCC Secretary** Julie Elliott 64 Emocroft 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 November issue is October 15th please.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2024

|                                                                                       |                                                   |                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Tues                                                                                | 7.30pm                                            | Exploring Faith                                                                                        |
| <b>6 Sun</b><br><b>19th Sunday</b><br><b>after Trinity</b><br><b>Harvest Festival</b> | 8.30 am<br>10.00 am<br>6.30 pm                    | Holy Communion<br>Parish Communion<br>Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)                                   |
| 9 Wed                                                                                 | 10.00 am                                          | Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)                                                                         |
| <b>13 Sun</b><br><b>20th Sunday</b><br><b>after Trinity</b>                           | 8.30 am<br>10.00 am<br>3.00 pm<br>6.30 pm         | Holy Communion<br>Parish Communion<br>Messy Church (Mellor Centre)<br>Evening Prayer (Mellor Centre)   |
| 14 Mon                                                                                | 10.45-12 noon                                     | Coffee & Chat (Mellor Centre)                                                                          |
| 16 Wed                                                                                | 10.00 am                                          | Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)                                                                         |
| <b>20 Sun</b><br><b>21st Sunday</b><br><b>after Trinity</b>                           | 8.30 am<br>10.00 am<br>10.00 am-4.00pm<br>6.30 pm | Holy Communion<br>Parish Communion<br>Arts and Crafts Exhibition<br>(Mellor Centre)<br>Choral Evensong |
| 23 Wed                                                                                | 10.00 am                                          | Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)                                                                         |
| 24 Thurs                                                                              | 7.30 pm                                           | Cape to Cape talk Friends of The Mellor Centre                                                         |
| <b>27 Sun</b><br><b>17th Sunday</b><br><b>after Trinity</b>                           | 8.30 am<br>10.00 am<br>4.00 pm                    | Holy Communion<br>Parish Communion<br>Churches Together Bible Sunday                                   |
| 28 Mon                                                                                | 7.45 pm                                           | PCC meeting (Mellor Centre)                                                                            |
| 30 Wed                                                                                | 10.00 am                                          | Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)                                                                         |

Coffee and Chat **will continue** with the Vicar 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 in term time on Thursday each week 10.00 am to 11.30 am

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 October 2024**

### **A little bit of history**

I am just about to complete the current burial register in church and begin a new book. The current book has been in use for well over a century - the first entry was made on 8th December 1909, a burial conducted by the curate C. L. Smith. That was the first of 5 burials to take place that month.

The inside cover of the register refers to Mellor Church as being in the Diocese of Southwell, as it was in 1909; that was later changed to the Diocese of Derby; and then again to the Diocese of Chester.

In the 114 years covered by the register there have been 2400 entries. I calculate that is an average of 21 burials per year. There were 31 burials in 1911, including 7 children aged as follows: 7 months, 6 weeks, 3 months, 5 months, 3 and a half years (this child is marked as 'unbaptised dissenting'), 20 months, and 1 day. It is a sad reminder of the high mortality rate among children in the past. One can only begin to imagine the sorrowful personal stories behind those names and figures.

The register spans the incumbencies of 12 vicars, each with their own distinctive handwriting; the Revd. L. G. Pronger (1930s-1940s) had a beautiful copperplate style, sometimes using green ink. In the vacancies between vicars, and sometimes during their incumbencies (when they were ill or on holiday perhaps?) there are the names and signatures of many other officiating ministers. I feel both humble and proud to be part of the long sequence of pastors here. As I begin a new register, I wonder if anyone will look back in 100 years' time and see my signature against the first entry?

### **Organ recitals**

We have been treated to a series of fine organ recitals over the summer. First of all, an excellent programme on 20th July by 'the home team': John, Nathan and Eleanor. Any church would be fortunate to have any one of our team - we are very blessed to have all three of them. Then a really entertaining recital of 'light music' performed by John, on 17th August. The programme included several pieces whose names I did not know but which I recognised as soon as I heard them: for instance Trevor Duncan's March from

the Little Suite meant nothing to me - but the music was instantly familiar as the theme tune from Doctor Finlay's Casebook. We are deeply grateful to Christopher Stokes, organist at Manchester Cathedral, for stepping in at very short notice to give a superb recital on 7th September. I am looking forward to the final recital in the series on 21st September by Simon Mercer. Above all, I want to thank John LeGrove not only for playing but also for organising and publicising these concerts.

### **Forthcoming dates for your diaries:**

All Souls' service: Sunday 3rd November at 4 pm.  
Choir concert, Fauré's Requiem: Saturday 9th November at 7 pm

The **All Souls' service** is a chance to remember all those we have loved who are with God in heaven. We will remember by name in our prayers all those whose funerals we have taken over the past year, and any other names we have been asked to include. Everyone is most welcome to this service. Please contact me if there is a name or names you would like mentioned included in the prayers at that service.

### **Confirmation service January 2025**

Bishop Mark, the Bishop of Chester, is coming to our church on Sunday 12th January. I am very much hoping that we may have some candidates wishing to be confirmed that day. If you are not confirmed and would like to know more, please contact me and I will explain more.

God bless you,

Andrew

## Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival this year is on 6th October. As usual, please bring your gifts of tinned or packaged goods to the services on this date. Your gifts are taken to the Wellspring in Stockport.

Pot plants are also needed for the sick and infirm of the parish.

Again please bring your donations



## Bible Sunday 2024

The annual Churches Together service to celebrate Bible Sunday will be held in Mellor this year, on Sunday October 27th, at 4.00 pm. Do come and join friends from the other churches on this occasion.

## Choir news

Well done to Rebecca Knight on gaining a place in the Hallé youth orchestra, playing French horn.

Ben Collyer played the organ at the Royal Albert Hall for The Proms performance of Holst's Planets.



## Friday Strollers

I am introducing an element of surprise for our walks over the winter months. We will meet by the car park in Brabyns Park at 10.30am.

Our destination will be decided on the day when the weather and impact of possible roadworks has been taken into consideration. We may decide to use the 383/384 bus so please remember your bus

pass if you have one.

Friday October 25

Friday November 22

Friday December 13



For more information contact Judy Cooper 07855 290958



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## Mellor Birds

*Maggie Williams*

At the recent High Peak RSPB meeting, the Chair asked if anyone had seen anything interesting. Mark has seen 150 pink footed geese flying

over Lyme Park; Peter has had an avalanche of parakeets on Clifton Drive in Marple and one lady had a tawny owl sitting on her barn owl box. In Mellor, Marjorie H at the lower end of Longhurst Lane has long-tailed tits on her feeder. David K, near the Devonshire, says he gets lots of long tailed-tits mainly later on in the day. He has had four buzzards circling over his house.

At the AGM of the local RSPB a couple of weeks ago members could bring their photos to show after the business. The highlight for me was David K's photos of beautiful moths he had caught, in Mellor, with his new moth trap. After the meeting Joan P said she leaves a light on in her conservatory and puts up a white sheet with some egg boxes and catches plenty of moths. I will have to try this.

The talk today at the RSPB was about Vagrancy, i.e. birds that wander off from their usual haunts. Dr Alex Lees from Manchester Metropolitan University has written many papers about this. One new factor he briefly mentioned was "Space Weather. The increase in the Sun producing Solar flares, as well as giving beautiful northern light displays, can also potentially affect GPS navigation and perhaps bird navigation.

On September 17th The Avro Heritage Museum at Woodford is celebrating the Avro Centenary. My friend Pat S has recently been to the museum with the U3A and said it was unexpectedly brilliant. You can climb up into cockpits of a Vulcan, Lancaster, Vickers V10 and Hawker Siddley Nimrod, and try out simulators. Guess which is which. ED.







## Marple Library

Excitement is well and truly building now that planning permission has been granted for the new Community Hub in Marple.

The library's home delivery service will continue in the Marple area for those who need it. You can also download the free BorrowBox app to access e-books, audiobooks, magazines and newspapers on our e-lending service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For more information on our home delivery service and Borrowbox please visit [www.stockport.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/libraries).

The Scouts Headquarters in Marple now provide a pop-up library for the duration of the construction works. The library will be open on a Tuesday and Thursday and provides an opportunity for residents to speak to library staff, browse and borrow from a selection of books, access public computers and use the space to relax. Our popular Storytime will continue once a week for parents, carers and under 5s. The Library Service will also be providing a book deposit/collection locker outside the Scouts Headquarters which will be accessible outside of library hours.



There will also be some changes in Marple Memorial Park from October 2024, with Marple Memorial Car Park and Children's Play Park closing completely on the 15th October to the public to allow for main construction works to commence. The external toilet block in the park will be closing to the public in early October with new temporary provision in place at this time.

During the construction phase there will be large numbers of contractors working on site. To limit impact on public parking within Marple during the construction phase, the former Marple Baths site will be used exclusively for contractor parking.

Finally, the Council will be launching a dedicated web page for the Construction phase where we will share updates on the progress of the project.

Once built, the new Marple Community Hub will have a five-lane swimming pool, a ground floor library with a small cafe, a 60-station fitness suite, shared community spaces, and the relocated Marple clinic.

Thank you for your patience while these improvements take place.

## Stockport Libraries

**A Reflection by Clare Jackson.**  
**Organ Recital given by Christopher Stokes**  
**Organist and Master of the Choristers,**  
**Manchester Cathedral**



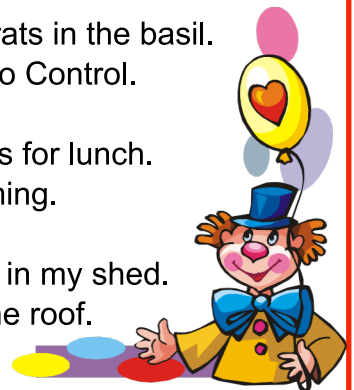
We were extremely grateful to Chris Stokes for stepping in at short notice to give the penultimate concert in the summer recital series; particularly as the pieces he selected for the parish organ, so different to the large forces of a cathedral instrument, were just perfect for our modest little Maunder. Chris painted a sound world of both clarity and precision, yet enormous colour and complexity. The Praeludium by Buxtehude with its flourishes and solemnity, contrasted beautifully with the joyful carousel evoked by FJ Haydn's pieces for musical clocks; anyone who has peeked inside the lower casing shutters of this organ will immediately recognise the tiny pipes being literally 'showcased'. The strangely vocal tones of the tremulant crumhorn in the Couperin suggested a thread connecting different musical worlds; so too, the Howells tribute to Tallis, echoing back down 300 years of tradition. Finally, and as Chris said, there's no better way to finish a recital than with Bach. Also, it's never too early to hear an advent offering (BWV 659 Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland). A treat to ease us into the next season.

**Laughs with Lynda**

Oh no! We keep getting mice and rats in the basil.  
I'm going to Have to call Pesto Control.

I've just eaten a box of watches for lunch.  
It was very time consuming.

I've started a yachting business in my shed.  
Sales are going through the roof.



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## Walklate Educational Foundation

The original trust founding the Walklate Educational Foundation dates back to 1639 when Thomas Walklate, a yeoman farmer endowed the first school in Mellor.

The trust has undergone various changes as the school has occupied three sites and when it became part of the Stockport authority in 1955, the trust started providing financial assistance to boys and girls in the parish of Mellor.

Today the trust is still able to offer means-tested grants to young residents of Mellor going into higher education and to support development projects at Mellor School.

Some years ago, David Ackroyd revived the trust and it is now in need of some new input.

There are vacancies for some new trustees. Historically there have been some representatives of the church, most recently Tracy Ward and Chris Mann. Someone with a knowledge of higher education would be useful and, as with so many committees, there is a need for new, young blood. It is not a demanding role and past trustees in a long history include Samuel Oldknow.

With the approval of the Charity Commission, charities can change or add to their objects, so there is the possibility of breathing new life into the Walklate Educational Foundation.

For more information please contact Tim Lowe [lowe\\_tim@sky.com](mailto:lowe_tim@sky.com) or via the belfry.

There is a book 'Thomas Walklate and Mellor School' available from the Marple Bookshop.

### **St. Martin's Church**

Following August Mellor Bird's article about St Martin's Church we had a message... "If you or anyone that you know would like a tour of St Martin's church or would like to come into the church to see, I would be more than happy to arrange this for you. Kind regards,  
David Bush. St Martin's Heritage Trust.  
[sam.dave13@ntlworld.com](mailto:sam.dave13@ntlworld.com) "





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## THE TOWER OF MELLOR CHURCH.

John Hibbert Swann printed in 1940

Above a green ridge, the ancient tower is seen  
Clear 'gainst the sky. So has it stood  
Since, centuries ago, was raised this house of  
prayer.

Snow, hail and rain, and stormy wind,  
Thunder and lightning, frost and heat, have not  
prevailed.

The morning sun has greeted it.  
And sunset's crimson fire has flamed on its dark  
stone.

Over that green ridge the sturdy tower was seen.  
When rival English roses sternly fought,  
When news of Crecy and of Agincourt was heard,  
And William Caxton brought his wondrous art.  
T'was standing there when first the English folk  
Might read the Bible in their native tongue:  
When martyr fires were lighted in our English  
land:

When Chaucer's pilgrims went upon their way,  
And Shakespeare's genius rose to be his  
country's pride.

So stood it there when through the dark  
The watch-fires blazed to warn of Spain's  
oncoming might;

When royal Charles his standard raised,  
And Cromwell's troopers sang their songs of  
victory.

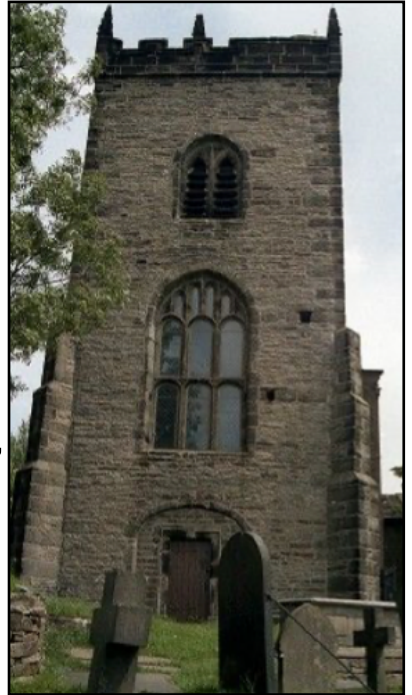
And so through years of weal and woe,  
To these our days, when direful war has left the  
folk

Perplexed amid a world distraught.

"Peace and goodwill" which that old tower  
proclaims

Is potent yet to heal our ills,  
Would men but listen, then in faith would act.

The Tower of St. Thomas'  
church Mellor now the home of  
the single Bell and the numerous  
Bellringers



John Hibbert Swann died in  
1939 and his funeral took place  
at Mellor Parish Church. He was  
a Librarian in one of the  
Manchester public libraries.

His grandmother lived at Knowle  
Farm, Mellor and it was his  
special wish that he be buried at  
Mellor Church though he  
actually lived in Crumpsall.

This beautiful poem was found  
for Outlook by Alison  
Dowdeswell Thank you .



**The Friends of The Mellor Centre  
invite you to**

**'Cape to Cape'**  
**a voyage to Antarctica**  
**with Mary and David Hoult**



**Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm**

**Entrance £7.50   Bar   Raffle**

**The Mellor Centre, Church Road, Mellor, SK6 5LX**



Captain Ken is a Fellow of the **Royal Institute of Navigation**. In the October edition of 'Navigation News' Ken had his letter to the editor printed, which he has asked us to print in our *Outlook* magazine:

**Dear Editor,**

I was pleased to note your coverage of the 'Quest' wreck discovered recently. In the late sixties, when I was Second Mate of the Cargo/passenger liner 'Glenroy' of the Glen and Shire Lines, Dr James McIlroy joined for a retirement voyage.

He had been a surgeon on Shackleton's '*Endurance*' and I remember him telling us that after serving and being captured in the First World War, he was feeling settled on his and Frank Wild's plantation in Nyasaland. It was in 1922, I believe, when Sir Ernest Shackleton sent them an urgent telegram to join the latest expedition ship he had chartered to the South Pole - '*Quest*'. Although Sir Ernest sadly died from a heart attack in the arms of James McIlroy off South Georgia, the expedition continued at the request of Shackleton's family and Sir Ernest was buried ashore.

Dr James McIlroy became Senior Ships' surgeon in the P&O Orient Line and after that sailed some ten years in Clan Line. I think he chose to sail his last voyage with Glen and Shire Line as that was where Sir Ernest spent his Merchant Navy days.

Some years later the Admiralty re-surveyed South Georgia and to my personal delight, one of the highest peaks was named **McIlroy Peak**.

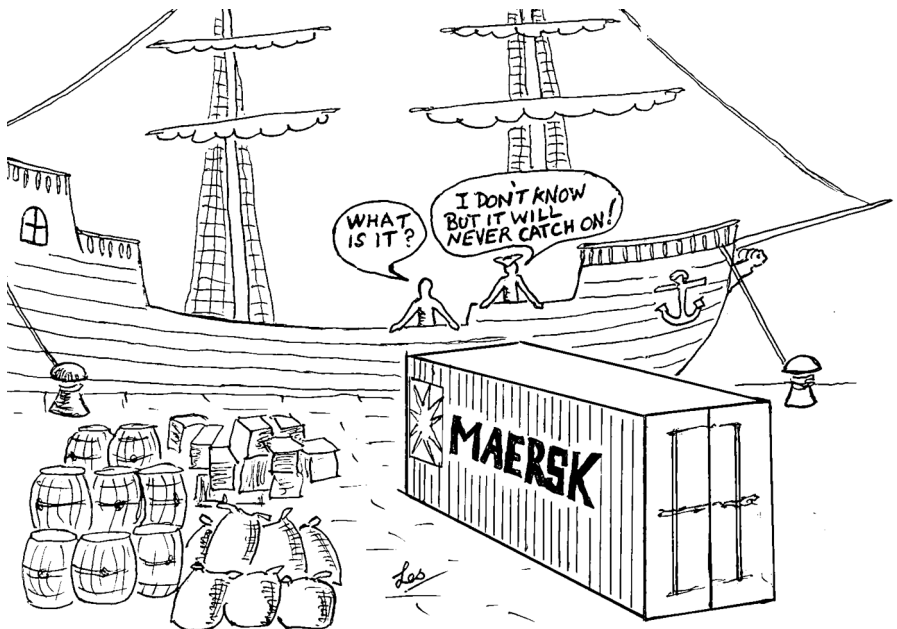
Recently, by chance, I heard that Maggie Williams, our Mellor Church Parish Magazine '*Outlook*' Joint editor and Bird correspondent, was taking a South Antarctica bird watching cruise. I asked her, with the help of the cruise ship Captain, to obtain a photo of the Peak. From the accompanying photo you'll see that's what she brilliantly managed to do.

*Your sincerely*

Captain Ken Owen FRIN



In August Captain Ken had his 90th birthday. He has asked us to print this cartoon that was drawn in one of his cards by his friend Les



## **PCC Meeting 22nd July 2024.**

*Julie Elliott PC Secretary*

*Ed. Final fete total was £10,656.85.*

This was the last meeting of the PCC before the summer break (we don't meet during August), and quite a few members were already away or on holiday. It was also an exciting time as many people on the PCC, and in the congregation, were getting ready to go to Truro with the choir trip.

We heard from Alex Eggeman, who had been working hard on how we might improve the WiFi coverage of the church and the Mellor Centre. It can particularly pose difficulties when we have events and the Sum-up machines won't work for payments. Alex is working with a professional on the possible options, and will report back again, although it seems there is no straightforward solution.

We also thanked Sylvia Knight for all the work she had done on commissioning and leading the very successful redesign of the Mellor Church website, which everyone was very happy with and is much improved. We discussed the felting panels that Laura Jarvis made with a number of people in the parish, as an art project, and agreed that they will be temporarily displayed in the church. They may also be displayed in The Mellor Centre. (Treasurer) then gave the latest update on the proceeds from the fete, which was not a final sum as money was still coming in, but was a sizeable amount and showed what a success it had been financially, as well as being such a lovely community event. The PCC wished to record their thanks to the Fete Committee for all their hard work .



### **TREETOTS TODDLER GROUP**

**WHAT:** Forest school outdoor activities; den building, natural crafts, story trails, toasting marshmallows

**WHERE:** Mellor Primary School, Knowle Road. SK6 5PL

**WHEN:** Friday mornings (term time only) 9.30 – 11am

**COST:** £7.35 per child, £6.30 siblings

**INFORMATION:** Contact Christine Skelly on  
[christine.skelly@mellor.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:christine.skelly@mellor.stockport.sch.uk) or 0161 4271052

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Rayban - Tom Ford - Wolf - WOOW - Vanni - Pro Design

The Coptic church in Egypt is one of the most ancient Christian churches. Christians now form some 10%-15% of the population. Many are poor. Some worship in the really distinctive church of Mokattam, which is carved out of a mountain. This can seat thousands of people. When a person joins the Mokattam church, or when members are married, they are each given a Bible. The Bible Society of Egypt is marking its 140th anniversary and recently celebrated with a service attended by some 5,000 people from the three main Christian churches in Egypt (Orthodox, Protestant and Catholic) The current president of The Bible Society is a Coptic prelate – Archbishop Angaelos, the Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London, which seems particularly appropriate as the church in Egypt marks its significant anniversary.

The Bible Society was founded in Wales in 1804 to provide Bibles in the Welsh language. Now the complete Bible is available in 733 languages, spoken by some 6 billion. Also a complete dyslexia-friendly English edition, sign-language sections of the Bible, and audio and digital formats are available. The Bible Society in Britain is committed to providing Bibles in prisons, in any language required, and to continuing the Open the Book scheme which takes the Bible into schools. The Arab-Israeli Bible Society is working for peace in the current dreadful situation, giving out food, blankets and toiletries as well as Bibles to people who have lost everything. There is still work to be done, though. More than half of the world's languages, used by 219 million people, still have no Scripture translations at all. And 1.5 billion people do not have the full Bible in their heart language. The Society hope to complete 1,200 Scripture translations by 2038.

Bible Societies across the world completed Scripture translations in 90 languages last year used by 794 million people – just over 10 per cent of the world's population. For the first time ever, the whole Bible has been made available in a dyslexia-friendly format. People with dyslexia can struggle to read and write easily because they don't deal well with text on a page. Around 6 million people in the UK are thought to have the condition. The books in the dyslexia-friendly format are laid out like novels rather than in traditional columns and use shorter paragraphs. The larger, sans serif typeface with more space between the lines helps to reduce visual clutter. The books use thick paper so words don't show through from the next page and a matt, rather than glossy, finish minimises light reflection. Because the dyslexia-friendly series is published in shorter volumes, readers find it easier to navigate them instead of having to find their way through a thick Bible.

## Youthful Days in Mellor 1910 to 1926.

By Tom Oldham

Part 7



My mother bought her groceries from the village shop in Moor End which at that time was run by the Potts family, and consequently was known as 'Potts' Shop'. Alfred Potts was an old man in those days, with white hair and a white beard, and, years before, his father Isaac Potts, had bought the ruins of Wallers' mill to make use of the stone for building. The first seven houses in Gibb Lane were built from this stone, and Alfred Potts at one time lived in the detached house, once occupied by the Wilsons, and later by us. Potts' shop was a real village store, reeking of the smells of cheese, bacon, etc., and selling everything one would ever need:- clothing, boots and shoes, stationery and books in addition to groceries, sweets and tobacco. One of Alfred Potts' sons, Lewis, had set up on his own as a butcher in a small shop across the road adjoining, and just below, the Oddfellows Inn. I often went into these shops with my mother, and in the butchers I watched with admiration and awe the way Lewis chopped the meat without removing a finger or thumb in the process. Another village shop was Rowbottoms', the ironmongers, just above the Oddfellows, which was run by the daughter-in-law of old John Rowbottom, the village blacksmith. The shop was very small, and it reeked of paraffin oil and firelighters. In addition to oil and ironmongery, they also, rather curiously, sold sweets of the 1 ounce for 1 penny variety.

*Ed MPW: Tom Oldham was a founder member of the Mellor Lacrosse Club. He played in their first League game against Heaton Norris 'A' at home on 3rd October 1925. I am sure he would be delighted that Mellor had three U20 European Championship Finalists, - Drew Wilkinson, George Shonfeld and Jamie Mochan playing for England in Poland in July and Mellor player Liv*



*has been selected to represent Wales in the Women's U20 World Championships in Hong Kong. Also Mellor Metro Girls, Boys and Coaches went on Tour to Annapolis in Maryland.*



## Citizen's Jury

The following article is based on BBC reports, programmes and podcasts with discussions on Assisted Dying. Please let us know how you feel about this subject for our next issue.

The first “**Citizens’ Jury**” on Assisted Dying in England has backed a change in the law to allow people who are terminally ill to end their lives.. It had 30 members - representatives from across the country. **Nearly all Jury members felt that more funding should be put towards improving NHS palliative care.**

While it has no legal powers, the Nuffield Council on Bioethics, which set up the Jury, said it represented a crucial new piece of evidence in the debate as it allowed the public to consider the issues more deeply than they could in surveys. Campaigners against questioned the validity of the exercise, as a majority of those recruited were already in favour of changing the law meaning the debate failed an impartiality test. Prime Minister **Sir Keir Starmer** supports a change in the law in England and has committed to holding a ‘free vote’ in Parliament towards the end of this year .

**Thinking deeply** The jury spent eight weeks listening to experts and campaigners and reviewing evidence. Of the 28 who voted, 20 ended up backing Assisted Dying, with seven against it and one person remaining undecided. Members of the jury changed their views both ways. So the final result was 3 to 1 in favour of change.

Assisted Dying is generally used to describe a situation where someone who is terminally ill seeks medical help to obtain lethal drugs which they administer themselves.

Assisted Suicide is essentially helping another person to end their life. It can involve people who are not terminally ill. Providing someone with a lethal dose of sedatives or helping them go to Switzerland (where assisted suicide is legal) could both be considered assisted suicide.

Euthanasia is the act of deliberately ending someone’s life to relieve suffering in which a lethal drug is administered by a physician. There are two types: 1) voluntary euthanasia is where a patient has given consent, and 2) non-voluntary where they have not been able to, for example if they are in a coma. The most common reasons for backing a change in the law are to stop people living in pain at the end of their lives giving people the

knowledge they can die with dignity and the importance of allowing people options and choice. However, concerns were expressed that a new right to Assisted Dying could lead to it being misused if the right safeguarding is not put in place and could lead to a loss of funding for end-of-life care. Assisted Dying is already allowed in some countries. **Sarah Wootton**, chief executive of campaign group 'Dignity in Dying,' said the results showed the "clear strength of public opinion".

Broadcaster **Dame Esther Rantzen**, who has stage 4 lung cancer and has joined Dignitas launched a petition in support of Assisted Dying in December 2023. It received more than 200,000 signatures. **Liz Carr**, the actress, and **Baroness Tanni Grey -Thompson** are concerned that vulnerable people could be coerced into pursuing Assisted Dying, and that it is hard to put adequate safeguards in place. **Dr Gordon Macdonald**, of anti-assisted dying campaign group 'Care Not Killing', says there are "many problems" with changing the law. He also fears that criteria for Assisted Dying could, in time, be extended beyond terminally ill people to include those with disabilities and conditions such as dementia and depression.

The Council said it had set up the Jury because of the growing interest in the issue.

*Ed. Margaret Leng*



## RNLI

Reverend Andrew handed over a cheque for £100 from the Mellor Well dressers to Sophie Wood of the Royal National Lifeboat Institute. He told Sophie that another cheque would follow from the Evensong collection.







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## Harvest Moon Cake

Janet Baker

I could not resist this cake, what a lovely name. It is inspired by a Diana Henry recipe, of which I modified the toppings and icing.

### **New England style with the pecans, apples, and maple syrup.**

115g (4 oz) softened butter

75g (3 oz) light soft brown sugar

75ml (3 fl oz) maple syrup

1 large egg

225g (8oz) unsweetened apple sauce puree (this is the time of year to make your own or you can buy it)

225g (8oz) plain flour

2 tsp baking soda

1 tsp baking powder

1 tsp cinnamon

1 tsp freshly grated nutmeg

100g (3 1/2 oz) pecans chopped



### **Icing**

I used 200g tub of cream cheese whipped with 4/5 tbsp dark maple syrup

### **Topping**

50g (2 oz) pecans

3 tbsp soft brown sugar

¼ tsp cinnamon

Grease and line the bottom of a 20cm (8 inch) spring form cake tin (I fully lined an ordinary one). Turn the oven to 180°C / Gas Mark 4.

Beat the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add the maple syrup and egg, blend together. Mix the dry ingredients together and gradually, a third at a time, alternating with the apple sauce. Stir in the pecans and then pour the mixture into the cake tin and place in the preheated oven.

Bake for 35 to 40 minutes until springy to the touch. Cool in the tin and then turn out on the rack. I topped the cake with cream cheese whipped until light and then mixed with 4/5 tbsp maple syrup. I

sprinkled a little soft brown sugar and a pinch of a cinnamon over the cake and arranged the pecans on top.

*Ed. MW. This made a delicious moist cake. Do leave in the tin until it is cold.*



## AS SEEN FROM COW CORNER

The end of the cricket season is closing in as the Mellor team took themselves to Urmston. Unfortunately just six members of the team found their way and therefore had to concede the match to the home side.

All the eleven arrived at home to entertain Disley on the following weekend, and on winning the toss, the Mellor captain invited the visitors to bat first. Progress was painfully slow as the runs mounted primarily in singles, however two of the batsmen put on 50 runs between them, but injudicious running saw them both run out. The innings was completed after 40 overs on 100 for the loss of nine wickets. There was a lot of discussion in the Mellor camp as to which of the batsmen should make the first assault on the modest target. However it didn't matter as both openers threw their wickets away before the total had reached double figures. The remaining Mellor batsmen, instead of flailing away, used their ability and pushed and guided the ball thus reducing the deficit, but wickets fell and with nine wickets down, just a few runs were needed and with a few more prods the target was reached, giving a win for the home side by one wicket.

Mellor's next opponents were away at Cheadle Hulme, who were, as usual invited to bat first. On a very flat pitch and facing benign bowling, the batsmen were able to indulge themselves and rattled up a substantial score of 169 all out in thirty seven overs. Judging from previous scores this season, it would be a stern task for Mellor to achieve this demanding total. However the batsmen got their heads down and were almost in reach of the target when the last three wickets fell cheaply leaving them eight runs short.

On the following weekend, Bowden Vale were the visitors to Longhurst Lane. The Mellor captain, on winning the toss, invited the visitors to bat first. The batsmen treated the bowling with great circumspection and likewise the pitch, as though it was harbouring gremlins. The total reached 80 with the last pair at the wicket, but as so often can be the case they hung around and with the assistance

of a liberal supply of wifes, reached 122 all out with the last man, unaccustomed to being involved in such a large stand, run out on a suicidal mission for a single.

In reply the Mellor innings found itself in a similar position with over half the side out for 60, mainly due to an inept standard of cricket. With gloom descending it was hoped the bad light would save Mellor from any further embarrassment, but the remaining batsmen prodded and poked thus slowly reducing the target, until just a few more runs were required. A lusty blow brought four runs and another mighty hit sent the ball again to the boundary, but nobody saw where, bringing victory to Mellor by two wickets.

*Silly Point*

A festive poster for a Harvest Hoedown event. The background is a warm tan color. It is decorated with autumn-themed illustrations: large red and orange leaves in the corners, a purple violin on the left, a violin on the right, musical notes on the right, pumpkins and gourds at the bottom left, and a cartoon cowgirl in a cowboy hat and boots on the bottom right. The text is arranged as follows:

Mellor Rose Queen's  
**Harvest**  
**HOEDOWN**

**7 - 11pm - Friday 4th October**

**with live music from the Maccy Vs**  
at the Mellor Parish Centre

*Dancing Refreshments Raffle*

**Tickets available on Eventbrite**  
**£10 per adult**  
**£15 per adult with 2 children**  
**£5 per additional child**

A square QR code located in the bottom right area of the poster, next to the cowgirl illustration.

Mimi's first Fundraising Event is coming up. Details are below:  
It is a Harvest Hoedown at The Mellor Centre. The Charity Mimi is supporting for the Hoedown is the Wellspring.

## Mellor Art Society

We are a self-help group of amateur artists who meet every Wednesday from **7pm to 9pm** 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 07754775194 or membership

[membershipmellorart@gmail.com](mailto:membershipmellorart@gmail.com)



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## Thought for the month

*Jenny Johnson*

### **“It takes a lifetime”**

It takes a lifetime to learn how to live  
How to share and how to give,  
How to face tragedy that comes your way,  
How to find courage to face each new day.  
How to smile when your heart is sore,  
How to go on when you can take no more.  
How to laugh when you want to cry,  
How to be brave when you say goodbye.  
How to continue when your loss is so great,  
How to forgive when your urge is to hate.  
How to be sure that God's really there,  
How to find Him, seek Him in prayer.



### **Mellor Church Women's Evening Fellowship**



After the novelty of a talk by a magician last month - who, by the way, succeeded in totally baffling us - this month we welcome back a perennially popular speaker, David Seddon, who is well -known to Mellor audiences.

He will be giving a talk entitled, "Romanticism - Wordsworth, Beethoven etc", and all members, families and friends are invited. Date October 9th, time 7.30 pm and place the Mellor Centre. Do join us then.

Advance notice: our annual charity fundraiser - this year in aid of Francis House the Children's Hospice in Didsbury -

**will take place on November 13th at 2pm in the Mellor Centre.**

Please save the date.

*Lesley Fitcher*

## **Prayer for the Month**

We give thanks for all who translate the Bible, and pray that through their work and skill, Your word may go forth to the ends of the earth.

We give thanks for all who distribute the Scriptures, and pray that, through the written text, Your people may be built up in faith and love.

We give thanks for all whose learning interprets the Scriptures, and pray for biblical scholars and theologians, that more light and truth may break forth from Your word.



## **From the Registers**



### **Christenings**

We welcomed into God's family

September 1st Edith Ruby Machen  
Maximus Clarke Monkman  
Charlotte Elowyn Wilde

### **Weddings**

We offer our congratulations and best wishes:-

September 14th – to Jonathan Hunt & Lucy Bown

### **Funerals**

We remember before God and commend to his love  
and mercy

August 29th – Frank Byron at Stockport Crematorium.  
August 30th – Pauline Lees

# Church Rotas

## Stewards Rota

| Date   | 8.30am        | 10.00am                   | 6.30pm  |
|--------|---------------|---------------------------|---------|
| 6 Oct  | P Cooke       | S Knight & C Langford     | J Shiel |
| 13 Oct | A Mason       | L Forbes & P Forbes       | R Holt  |
| 20 Oct | J Butterworth | C Hamilton & K Hargreaves | A Shah  |
| 27 Oct | P Cunningham  | J Elliott & R Elliott     | J Shiel |
| 4 Nov  | P Cooke       | M Lowe & J Mason          | R Holt  |

Please arrange your own substitute. If this is not possible, email  
Mary Heijbroek    [maryheijbroek@ntlworld.com](mailto:maryheijbroek@ntlworld.com)

## Flower Rota

|          |                 |          |                    |
|----------|-----------------|----------|--------------------|
| Oct 6th  | Harvest Flowers | Nov 3rd  | All Souls          |
| Oct 13th | Harvest Flowers | Nov 10th | Remembrance Sunday |
| Oct 20th | Lesley Futchter | Nov 17th | Margaret Lowe      |
| Oct 27th | Karen Greenough | Nov 24th | Emma Houghton      |

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

## Holy Dusters

|          |                           |
|----------|---------------------------|
| Oct 6th  | J & R Elliott             |
| Oct 13th | M Williams & S McAllister |
| Oct 20th | A Allcard & J Jones       |
| Oct 27th | P.Cunningham and I Morris |
| Nov 4th  | J & D Butterworth         |

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