



OUTLOOK



September
2025

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

For all enquiries and bookings for the church & Mellor Centre please contact 0161 484 5079 or email office@mellorchurch.org. The office is open Monday to Thursday 9.30am—12.30pm

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Assistant Treasurers	David Butterworth, Andrew Sanders
Gift Aid Secretary	Karen Greenough
PCC Secretary	Julie Elliott, 64 Ernocroft Road 0161 427 5981
Director of Music	Tom Howling (email: t.howling@nhs.net)
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Churches Together in Marple	Helen Kennedy/Judith Shiel
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Editors of Outlook Magazine	Julia Mann and Maggie Williams

Articles for Outlook should be submitted to the editor (preferably by email) to melloroutlooksubmissions@gmail.com - deadline for the October issue is September 15th please.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

3 Wed 10.00 am Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)

7 Sun 8.30 am Holy Communion
12th Sunday 10.00 am Parish Communion
after Trinity 6.30 pm Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)

10 Wed 10.00 am Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)
 13 Sat 7.30 pm Organ Concert. George Herbert

14 Sun 8.30 am Holy Communion
13th Sunday 10.00 am Parish Communion
after Trinity 3.00 pm Messy Church
 6.30 pm Evening Prayer (Mellor Centre)

17 Wed 10.00 am Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)

21 Sun 8.30 am Holy Communion
14th Sunday 10.00 am Parish Communion
after Trinity 6.30 pm Choral Evensong, St. George's,
 New Mills (Festival of Choirs)

24 Wed 10.00 am Holy Communion (Mellor Centre)
 26-28 Fri-Sun Weekend Edale
 27 Sat 7.30 pm Organ Concert. Philip O'Connor

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

29 Mon 7.45 pm PCC Meeting



Vicar's Viewpoint

Our thoughts are with all the young people who are making exciting new starts this September. Within our church family we have children starting at primary school, others who are moving on to secondary school, and some who are leaving school and moving on to exciting new adventures. As I write we are still waiting for the GCSE results to be published, but the A-level results are out: massive congratulations to those in our choir who have been so successful with their results. We will miss you as you move on, but we are so grateful for all you have contributed to the life of our church.

Live-streaming our services to resume in September

Over the last few months we have been having difficulties with the internet connection in the church. A team has formed to tackle this problem - a formidable pool of expertise and intelligence. After much experimentation, we are very much hoping we will be able to resume live-streaming in September. I know how much this resource is appreciated and how much it has been missed over recent weeks.

Messy Church begins again - can you help? After a long summer break our next Messy Church will be on Sunday 14th September at 3 pm in the Mellor Centre.



We would love to recruit another couple of helpers to the Messy Church team. Are you into crafts - and could you help with a craft activity for the children? Or perhaps help with the refreshments? Since the last Messy Church some of us visited Norbury Church to experience their 'Brick Church' - a way of telling Bible stories using Lego. We would love to add this to our Messy Church menu.

Do you have any old Lego you could donate to the church to help us get this going? If so, please let me know and I'll gladly come and collect it.

Coffee with the Vicar comes to an end

For the past few years, Margaret Leng, Chris Duckworth and Catherine Starling have kindly hosted a get-together over coffee and some rather good biscuits on the second Monday morning of each month. They feel that it has now run its course and that other groups, like Knit and Natter on a Thursday, are serving the same purpose of bringing people together for fellowship and conversation. We had already decided to break for the summer, but this means that Coffee with the Vicar will not resume in September.

On behalf of everyone who has enjoyed these Monday mornings I would like to say a huge thank you to the 'Coffee with the Vicar' team for their faithfulness and generosity over these years. I would also like to add my personal thanks - these mornings have been a good opportunity for me to meet new people as I have settled into this community.

Wednesday morning Holy Communion - and coffee and biscuits!

If you are looking for another opportunity for midweek fellowship, why not come along to the 10 am service of Holy Communion on Wednesdays in the Mellor Centre? The congregation has been growing in recent months - we are often in double figures. All this year we have been exploring Luke's gospel in some depth. Each service is followed by a drink and biscuits and a chat, for those wish to stay.

Mellor Choir in Barcelona

I would like to praise those who planned and organised the trip to Barcelona this year - especially Lucy and Rachel Howling. Everything went smoothly, and there was a happy mixture of singing, sight-seeing and socialising. On each occasion we sang I had the sense that the choir truly became a channel of beauty and joy. More than once my eyes filled up during the amazing solos by our young people.

Thanks to our editors!

I witnessed first-hand how many hours the new editorial team put into this magazine last month with the new formatting. I just want to say a special thank you to Julia, Maggie and Peter for all their work on this.

Some dates for your diaries:

- Sunday 5th October: Harvest Festival 10 am in church
- Saturday 11th October: Quiz Night in the Mellor Centre
- Saturday 18th October: Autumnal Baroque concert in church
- Sunday 26th October: Art and Craft Fair in the Mellor Centre

More information on these in next month's **Outlook**

God bless you all,

Andrew,

Prayer Group meets every Monday from 10.30am to 11am (Mellor Centre)
Women's Evening Fellowship meets on the second Wednesday 7.30pm (Mellor Centre)
Toddler Group meets in term time on Thursday each week 10am—11.30am (Mellor Centre)
Knit and Natter meets on Thursday each week 10.30am –12 noon (Mellor Centre)
The choir practises each week on Friday at 6.30pm (church)

Mellor Church Choir Tour to Barcelona

At the end of July, 29 members of the Mellor Church Choir community ventured overseas to Barcelona on a music tour. On the first day, the choir travelled by cable car to Montserrat to sing in the Basilica – we performed 3 pieces of music including ‘Do not be afraid’ by Stopford which was brilliantly conducted by Oscar Qualter! We gathered quite a crowd at this performance making it extra special.



On the second day we visited the Sagrada Familia, and we were shown round the extravagant church by a tour guide who was very excited that we were a choir (although we were all very knowledgeable already due to David Horsfall’s fun fact talks!). For me this was one of the highlights of the trip, and I’m sure many would agree. On our final full day we visited another of Gaudi’s architectural attractions, we went to the humungous Park Guell. Finally, we performed an evensong service at St George’s Anglican church where we sang some great pieces and were lucky enough to be accompanied by Nathan Monk. There was plenty of time to explore the city by ourselves so everyone went on mini adventures. The trip was super well organised, and we all thank Tom Howling for his directing and conducting. As well as Rachel and Lucy Howling for creating such a smooth-running trip, and finally Matthew Knight for being very informative about travel in Barcelona!

Harriet Thomson

Harvest Festival Service

October 5th 2025



A reminder to please bring to the Harvest Services on the 5th October, tinned and packet foods. Please do check the best before dates. These will be then distributed to homeless charities. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

The Proud of Marple Award 2025 Community Group of the Year

This year’s award very deservedly went to Marple Christian Care.

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Mellor Birds



Last week I went into the Parish Office at The Mellor Centre to pay the Knit and Natter rent. In the office I heard Val talking/ complaining about a **sparrowhawk** that had caught a **pigeon** which it then decided to eat in her back garden. Evidently after the sparrowhawk had finished, there was still a snowstorm of feathers to clear away. I see a lot of pigeons on the solar panels around us. But only one today! In fact there are very few birds around.

Ian Davies has sent me a nice photo of a deer over his garden fence. It was taken on 16 July in a field behind Longhurst Lane.

The Mellor Green Team suggest participating in The Woodland Trust's "Nature's Calendar". It helps track the effects of weather and climate change on wildlife near you. It's easy to take part and just involves logging the earliest dates when certain things are spotted.



Meg Barley has just returned from the Kruger and other game parks in Africa. She said there were lots of wonderful colourful birds especially the **Lilac Breasted Roller** which they saw frequently. It does look spectacular if you Google it. It is Kenya's national bird. Symbol of joy, freedom, and the beauty of bold living. In many African beliefs, it's seen as a sign of good luck, a spiritual messenger, and a reminder to embrace life with all its vibrant colours.



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September Musings



Nancy Cloughley (written some time ago)

The recent autumn mists have reminded me of a morning many moons ago, when I was taking my children to school - present Mellor Centre. Driving up the valley the headlights threw the fog back at us, the mist slowly shredding the higher we climbed. At the top of the hill all was clear and, after dropping off my children, I just stood; the sun hot on my face and gazed at a scene which was truly rural. Dense fog clung to the valleys, hiding everything that was not tranquil and yellow, golden and brown trees gleamed bright in the sunlight. The children all having been gathered into school, peace descended and the only living creatures to be seen were a farmer and his cows silhouetted on a hillside. As I watched, the sun cut through some of the layers of mist and the far skyline, hitherto a sharp line of grey on blue became a different shape as hills, trees and buildings were exposed. A factory chimney appeared, cut sharply in half by the fog and gradually one became aware of sounds, murmurings carried on the still air, the grindings of the wheels of industry and smaller domestic clamourings, all of which served temporarily to accentuate the peace of the countryside and then destroyed it, resurrecting one's sense of urgency and reminding me of the work waiting to be done. Our Lord sends us peace at the most unexpected moments.

Anan

('Anan' is the name Nancy's grandchildren called her)

Laughs with Lynda

There was a king once who was 12 inches high.
Terrible king, great ruler.

*I've bought a horse!
Are you going to race him?
No. He's faster than I am.*



What is the difference between ignorance and apathy?
I don't know and I don't care.

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Dear Readers of Outlook, if you have not yet joined our many subscribers to the magazine who have their copies delivered by hand, all you have to do is contact the Parish Office on 0161 484 5079 during office hours or email office@mellorchurch.org and provide your details and a monthly copy will drop through your door by one of our wonderful delivery team.

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Choir leavers 2025

Oscar Qualter and Nathan Monk

Every August we say goodbye to members of the choir who are leaving Mellor for their next stage of education. This year we are losing two 'legends' of our choir – Oscar and Nathan.

Oscar joined aged 8 years having been invited along by his friend Nathan. Oscar has shown tremendous loyalty and service to the community for over 10 years. He has been Head Chorister and for the last few years has helped organise and direct the choir as Choirmaster's Assistant. Oscar has a strong interest in music, events and technology. He designed the choir website www.mellorchurchchoir.co.uk. His technical know-how nurtured by Chris Mann has been a great help whenever sound or lighting has been needed for events. A source of creative ideas on the Choir Steering Group, Oscar has been responsible for innovations such as our open 'Pizza Rehearsals' which have helped provide a way for children to try out singing in our choir. A popular member of the choir, Oscar makes singing in a church choir seem trendy and has brought a steady stream of his friends to experience Mellor Church Choir. Some of you will have experienced the Sacred Veil Concert earlier this year, raising money for Target Ovarian Cancer. This was organised and led by both Oscar and Nathan and included a chamber choir of Oscar's friends from Xavierian College.

Nathan joined the choir in the wake of Lucy, his older sister, when he was seven. He quickly settled in, and it was soon evident that Nathan and the choir were made for each other. Right from his early days, Nathan was to be found climbing up onto the organ bench to play during breaks. Encouraged by successive organists at the church and Simon Mercer at the junior RNCM, Nathan has become an accomplished organist as those who have heard his

Tomato and Gruyère Tarts

Jill Baker

This really easy recipe is courtesy of Waitrose with a few tweaks. A savoury version of the Nectarine/ Peach tart from last year. You do not need butter puff pastry for this, Aldi has gruyère cheese!

Feeds 4

320g puff pastry

4 tsp Dijon mustard

100g grated gruyère cheese

450g vine tomatoes sliced

1 tbsp dried fine herbs (optional)

A little olive oil to drizzle over.

Preheat the oven to 200°C GM 6. Unroll the pastry onto a baking sheet lined with parchment. Score a 1.5cm border around the tart. Spread the centre with the Dijon mustard, top with gruyère. Arrange the tomato slices on top and sprinkle with herbs if desired.

Drizzle and bake for 25 to 30 minutes until golden and the edges are puffed up. Cool for at least 10 minutes and serve with some salad.

Ed MW : When tasted, my husband said "it was like being in the Mediterranean".



recent organ recitals will know. Nathan has been the Pilling Trust Organ Scholar at church for the last 5 years. During that time, he has supported the musical life of the church. If you have reason to be up around church during the week, you will often find Nathan practising the organ. There is nobody as hard-working, dependable and humble as Nathan.

Oscar is going on to study Music Management at LIPA (The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts). Nathan is spending a gap year as Organ Scholar at Southwell Minster before taking up a place at Trinity College, Cambridge to study Music and to be Organ Scholar of Trinity College. We wish them both well with their future careers. They go with our thanks and pride for what they have achieved in Mellor and what they will do in the future.

Tom Howling



If you know anyone aged 7 and over who enjoys singing and may take advantage of the musical experience and training offered by Mellor Church Choir, the next Pizza Rehearsal is Friday 12th September starting 6pm at the Mellor Centre.



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Mellor Wednesday Morning Art Group

Mellor Art Group developed out of classes run by Pat Linnell, whom many will remember for her contribution to Mellor Church and the Parish Centre. When the Church first took over the building she moved our classes from her home into the Centre and we have been there ever since. Eventually Pat retired and we opted to become a self managing group, meeting initially in the upstairs room, and then moving into the Freeman room where we meet on a Wednesday from 10am to 1pm. The whole ethos of the group is mutual help and encouragement. The facilities and the setting make it an inspirational place to work, with all the opportunities for outdoor work as well as indoors. Recently we have been privileged to take part in a number of events at the Mellor Centre. From our point of view we appreciate the opportunity to show the work of our talented members and any sales contribute a percentage to the Centre. We are not a tutored group, but anyone joining us has access to the accumulated experience of several retired art teachers and longstanding artists. We are always happy to welcome new members and give them any assistance they may require. If you would like to know more, ring Lynne on 01457 860051 or Milly on 0161 427 4430.



Ed: If you go into the Freeman room at The Mellor Centre there are examples of artwork on display.

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Saint Thomas the Apostle

Saint Thomas is the patron saint of Mellor church and is mentioned 7 times in the New Testament: in Matthew 10:3, Mark 3:18, Luke 6:15 where the 12 apostles are named; John 11:16 where he is named as a twin, but no mention made of a sibling, where he urges the other apostles to follow Jesus to Jerusalem to die with him; John 20:24 where he refuses to believe that the others have seen the risen Christ, then 8 days later when he does see Jesus and says "My Lord and my God". Also in Acts 1:13 where he is with the others after Jesus leaves them at the Ascension. Thomas arrived at Mylapore, now a suburb of Chennai on the east coast of India in AD52. He was martyred there in AD72; his tomb is in the crypt of the basilica erected over it in 1523 by the Portuguese and then extensively rebuilt by the British in 1896 in a neo-gothic style of architecture. The basilica is in the Roman Catholic diocese of Goa, and St Thomas' Feast is celebrated from June 29 to July 8 each year. If you go to Chennai ask to see San Tome cathedral; St Thomas' tomb is in the crypt below with the spear which killed him. Of the remaining apostles only John died peacefully of old age on the island of Patmos and was buried in Ephesus. All the rest were martyred violently according to contemporary reports. Although details of their deaths are difficult to verify it is clear that they all obeyed Christ's command to preach the gospel to the world.



The Walrus



Organ recital dates

Congratulations to Eleanor Rosser and John LeGrove for a wonderful organ recital last month.

Here are some more recital dates for your diary.

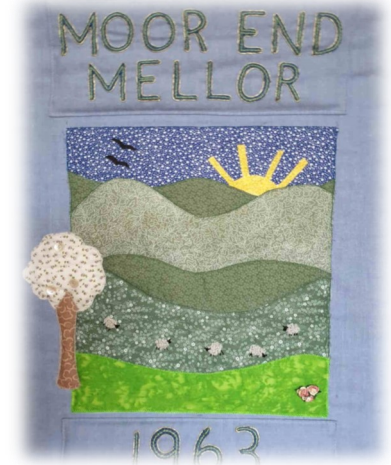
Saturday 13 September, 7.30pm George Herbert (winner of the Northern Ireland International Organ Competition 2023)

Saturday 27 September, 7.30pm Philip O'Connor
(Director of Music, Bolton Parish Church)

The History of Moor End and Mellor W. I.

Ann Preston

In 1963 the Ladies of Moor End and Mellor decided to form a local Women's Institute Group. They met in Mellor and from what we read in the archives they were a fantastic Group. The banner in the photo was a joint effort and made by the members for an event of Cheshire Women's Institutes.



They remained active for about 9 years and then closed. However, luckily in 1977, owing to much enthusiasm, Joyce Knibb and Jose Dowell, Margaret Newton, Barbara Jones and many other lovely people decided to restart the W. I. They had many sections; card making, flower arranging, singing, many interesting speakers and a wonderful ambiance. We had terrific, hard working Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers etc. and all did a super job in encouraging local women to attend.

There are two large rectangular albums dated 1965 and 1988, where there are gems of photos and articles of life in Mellor that are so important to local history that our last President decided they must not go in storage at Cheshire W. I. Head Office in Chester, but are to be kept in the upstairs archives of our Mellor Centre. If any family wishes to see them just contact the Parish Office.

On 1st July 2019 Cheshire W. I. celebrated its Centenary. All the W.I.s in Cheshire had various special functions. Moor End W.I. decided to donate a tree in the Memorial Gardens on Longhurst Lane, Mellor as our tribute.



Mellor War Memorial 2020

The gardens have been in receipt of donations and grants to provide benches, gates and plants. To commemorate the Cheshire Women's Institute centenary in 2020, the Moor End WI gifted an Acer palmatum (Sango-kaku).

The work of the volunteers and Stockport Council is ongoing and new volunteers are always welcome.

Contact Mellor Society: chair@melsoc.org.uk



In co-operation with Mellor Gardens and Stockport Council it was decided that the tree be planted and would be maintained by Mellor Gardens and Stockport Council. The tree is an ACER SANGO-KAKU. The Acer bark is a fabulous colour.

A board at the entrance to the park celebrating the garden and its history was donated by The Mellor Society and Stockport Council. Our tree is positioned at the side of the garden fronting Old Hall Lane.

Some of our members used to serve Meals on Wheels and often saw the loneliness of people they were serving. Sheila, Joyce, Shirley and others from

the W.I. had the idea that we would start a "Tea and Friendship" group. This we held once a month. We used to take turns to pick people up from their homes, some quite some distance and bring them for an afternoon's fun and friendship. Often gentlemen came too (which was very brave!) Sometimes a family member would bring them and sometimes stay. Often we had entertainment for them like a small choir and a sing-song or a raffle. Someone once in Outlook called us Tea and Sympathy!!! Ho Ho Ho.....Not true!!

Some of us still meet up at The Midland for coffee on the first Monday of the month and Joan Combey and others formed a W. I. Luncheon Club where we try to meet for lunch once a month. Our first outing was in April to the Pack Horse where about 20 ex members had signed up, and was great. We will try to keep in touch with our lovely friends for as long as we can. So much happiness and friendship and education and togetherness over the years is hard to give up. It's been a privilege to belong to such an influential local, national and international organisation.

Jesus and the little children

The crowds had gathered round about
To hear the Master's word.
Some mothers brocht their bairnies oot
To show them to the Lord.
"He's mair adee than speak to bairns,"
The dour disciples cried,
"The folk have come to hear him preach;
Ye'll hae to stoun aside."
But Jesus heard their angry words,
"O let the crairurs be
An dinna haud them back," he said,
"But let them come to me;
"For I will tak these little lambs
An haud them in my arms,
An they shall be my precious flock,
These simple, trustin bairns.
"God's Kingdom is of such as these:
Unless ye trust like them,
Wi' bairnlike hert an bairnlike faith
Ye canna enter in."

Glasgow Embroidery

Jenny Mason

On a recent trip to Glasgow, I visited St Mungo's cathedral, where I came upon this embroidery, giving a Glaswegian interpretation of the familiar story of Jesus calling the children to him. Not only was it a beautiful piece of embroidery, but it seemed to make the story much more intimate and touching.

Ed. The last line says "Ye canna enter in."

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AS SEEN FROM COW CORNER



It is of some bewilderment that Mellor's senior cricket eleven play against other clubs represented by their second, third or fourth teams each week, never another first eleven. In recent years, Mellor have not been able to field a second team, possibly due to competition for players from the many other clubs in the close vicinity. Whilst the club supports a junior following, they do not necessarily graduate to the senior side, but are encouraged to play elsewhere at an arguably higher standard.

It is interesting to think that these circumstances are being played out at every other cricket club in the country, but so long as Mellor can field at least one senior side, then cricket will continue to be played at Longhurst Lane.

Mellor visited Ladybridge, Cheadle Hulme, and on winning the toss decided to bat first. This transpired not to be a good idea as with a top score of 18, they were dismissed for a dismal 83 in twenty seven overs. The target was never going to be a problem, as an opening stand of 77 was achieved before Mellor had any success. Ladybridge overhauled the visitor's total in the twentieth over for the loss of the one wicket.

There was respite from the bad trot of results, as it rained when Disley were the hosts and the game was called off.

Mellor travelled to Glazebury on the following weekend and, on winning the toss, decided to bat first. For once this decision paid off, mainly thanks to two middle order batsmen who contributed 170 runs between them, assisted by a quick slog of 22 from a bowler, and from extras, contributing over 30. The innings ended with the score on 246 for the loss of nine wickets. Surely this was going to be a winning score? Phew! and so it proved when the home side were bowled out for 140 runs in the twenty-ninth over. A win by just over 100 runs.

It was back to normal on the following Saturday, when Offerton were the visitors. The Mellor captain won the toss and invited the opposition to bat first. The bowling was neither accurate nor probing, which enabled Offerton to reach 163 for the loss of nine wickets in the full 40 allotted overs. In reply runs were so slow in coming it was like comparing a tortoise with Usain Bolt, as in 17 overs 27 runs had been scored. An acceleration in the scoring rate had to be induced, but in so doing wickets began to fall, and with a number of injudicious shots by the lower order, Mellor fell short of the target by 12 runs. We can but dream for what comes next.

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



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This converted Parish Church, dedicated in 1926, is light and airy, with the luxury of underfloor heating. The nave is the remnant of the Victorian building, the east end has a modern lantern tower with slender spire. Building work finished in 1977. Historians believe Christianity arrived at the end of the seventh century, but any ancient remains have long since disappeared under the red brick tide of the Industrial Revolution. It's very modern, with some 15th century misericords as exhibits, which are thought to be from Whalley Abbey.

Choir followers enjoy the many shops, including a covered market, or just stay in the cathedral restaurant. It's rather good, with an excellent flat white.

We rehearsed in the Schola Cantorum, a modern facility in the Crypt. The acoustic is wonderful, the Organ sublime. The choir sings under the lantern and the sound fills the building. Accurate, subtle singing is rewarded. No wonder it's popular with touring choirs; The Sixteen, Voces8 and The Tallis Scholars visit often.

I sang with St Paul's Voices, The Cathedral Voluntary Choir. Its adults fill in for the regulars four or five weekends a year. Good sight reading is essential!

Sign up for Edale 2025

Help us make it happen!

Our much-loved Edale weekend returns from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th September 2025 at the Peak Centre in the heart of the beautiful Peak District.

It's a weekend of community and old-fashioned fun — recent highlights have included climbing wall, pizza-making, outdoor swimming and movie night!

The weekend is open to all children and young people in the Mellor parish. Those aged 8–18 can stay over and younger children are welcome to join in during the day with a parent or guardian. The residential cost is £100 per child, with day visits for younger children at £20. (If cost is a concern, please speak to one of the team in confidence — we don't want anyone to miss out.)

If you'd like your child to attend, just scan the QR code at the bottom of the page and complete the booking form.

Volunteers needed

We're also on the lookout for new assistant volunteers to help make the weekend happen. It's a brilliant way to get involved, and you'll be well supported by the existing team. If you're interested, have a chat with one of us or drop us a line using the contact details on the form.

Please share this with anyone you think might like to get involved! Thanks,

The Edale 2025 Team: Glyn and Jane Britton, Kate Scott, Revd Andrew Tawn



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PCC meeting 21st July 2025

Andrew began our July meeting by confirming that this year's fête had made a profit of over £13,000. The PCC expressed their gratitude to the fête committee for all their work in organising such a successful community event, which everyone enjoyed. There was then a discussion, led by Judith and Julia, about how we welcome people into our church, how we communicate what we're about, and how we may improve on this. A number of ideas were raised, about what we offer in church, but also about better communication with the community, including replacing and improving the existing notice boards at the end of Church Road and in Marple Bridge. The PCC is very aware that various works need undertaking in the churchyard, mainly to improve the safety of access, particularly down the slope, and we continue to try to get quotes from landscape companies for doing this work. Emma, our Safeguarding Officer, spoke about the Safeguarding audit which is being undertaken by the Diocese, and the intention is to get as many people as possible to respond to this, both adults and children. Emma will be circulating the audit and encouraging people to complete the questionnaire. This meeting took place shortly before the choir were due to embark on their trip to Barcelona, so everyone wished them well. Next PCC meeting 29th September.

Prayer for the Month

God of our lives, you are always calling us
to follow you into the future, inviting us to
new ventures,
challenges, new ways to care,
new ways to touch the hearts of all.
When we become fearful of the unknown,
give us courage.
when we worry that we are not up to the task,
remind us that you would not call us,
if you did not believe in us.



(from 50 Great Prayers from the Iona Community. Selected by Neil Paynter)

Thought for the Month

Sunday 10th August. I was in church as usual for the 10 am service. It was only 5 days before the copy date for the next edition of Outlook and unusually I was still without any plan for my next monthly Thought. Andrew had spoken that day as eloquently as ever, but not without sorrow as we approached 15th August when we remember the surrender of Japan after the two atomic bombs had been dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which finally brought the hostilities of World War II to an end. An action which many believed then as now, was “the lesser of two evils”. Andrew had spoken of the scariness of our present world and of the urgent need for peace. Our service ended that day with the wonderful hymn written by Timothy Dudley-Smith and I knew in that moment that this was my copy for September’s thought:-

V1 *Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks to day.*

V3 *Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care,
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.*

Hymn 715 is a huge affirmation of Christian trust in God and of hope for the future. Perhaps, when next you have a little quiet time in the church you may like to read the other remaining verses of this significant hymn. And pray for peace : for peace throughout this troubled world of ours. Jenny Johnson

From the Registers

Christenings

We welcomed into God's family
Grace Hope Barrowclough 26th July
Etta Maggie Simmons 3rd August

Weddings



We offer our congratulations and best wishes to
Kit Orange and Eve Goldspink 2nd August

Funerals

We remember before God and commend to his love and mercy
Betty Birtwistle 5th August

Stewards Rota

8.30am

10.00am

Sept 7	P Cunningham	K Hargreaves and C Langford
Sept 14	J Shiel	M Lowe and J Mason
Sept 21	J Butterworth	S McAllister and C Starling
Sept 28	P Cunningham	A Muller and P Long
Oct 5	J Shiel	R and J Elliott

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

Flower Rota

Sept 7	Alison Dowdeswell	Oct 5	Harvest Flowers
Sept 14	Janet Jones	Oct 12	Harvest Flowers
Sept 22	Carol Langford	Oct 19	Helen Tawn
Sept 28	Maggie Williams	Oct 26	Jane Priest

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

Sept 7	J Burrows & E Wilson
Sept 14	S McAllister & M Williams
Sept 21	M & R Leng
Sept 28	P Cunningham & I Morris
Oct 5	J & D Butterworth

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