

# March 2015

# THE MAGAZINE

Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church

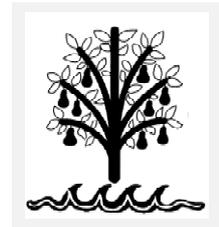


*Our Mission*  
*Living With Christ,  
Living For Christ,  
Living to Make Christ Known.*

## Trees – some thoughts for Lent



Trees appear in some prominent places in the Bible. In Genesis, the first book of the Bible, there is the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It is from this tree that Eve and Adam eat the forbidden fruit and as a result sin enters the world with far-reaching consequences. In the middle of the Bible, the book of Psalms begins with a contrast between an evergreen fruit-bearing tree planted by a flowing stream and chaff (which might be pictured as a dead, dried-up shrub) blown about by the wind. Here two ways of life, good and evil, and their results, happiness and misery, are being portrayed. In Revelation, the last book of the Bible, in the heavenly City where God dwells, there is the tree which produces fruit each month and whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. Further, at the climax of the story of Jesus there is the tree, or cross, upon which Jesus is crucified.



For what does the tree upon which Jesus died, the central symbol of the Christian faith, stand? Lots of answers might be given to that question. In the light of other trees in the Bible we make some suggestions. If the Genesis tree is the means by which sin begins its

The Father's co-eternal Son  
bore all my sins upon the tree.  
*Charles Wesley*

pollution of the world, then the Jesus' tree is God's way of dealing with that sin. Jesus comes to restore our relationship with God which is spoilt by our wrongful thoughts and

actions. Just as the Revelation tree relates to healing, so the Jesus' tree is a symbol of healing. For Jesus comes to cure the dis-ease of our lives, to bathe the wounds we bear, to empathise with us in the suffering we endure. Further, the tree and chaff in Psalm 1 contrast good and evil and the Jesus' tree holds together thoughts about these opposites. For in the death of Jesus we see the inhumanity, evil and hate in the hearts of those who executed him alongside the humanity, goodness and love in the heart of the victim.

The Jesus' tree presents us with hope and a challenge. The hope is of good triumphing over evil and of the brokenness of our lives and our relationship with God being restored. The challenge is to do with how



we respond to Jesus on the tree. Are we going to allow those selfish, destructive aspects of our lives to have the upper hand such that Jesus is metaphorically crucified again? Or are we going to ask God to help us live self-giving lives which reflect the nature of Jesus?



*Philip*

## *Children & Family Work 4 years on!*

In January I celebrated 4 years of being the Children & Family Worker at CHMC. It has been an amazing 4 years and I never fail to be humbled by the support given to me by the church family whether it is financial, through prayers, through volunteering to help with my activities or in giving me encouragement to keep doing what I do.

Lots of people often ask 'What do you do?' and I find it hard to give a simple (or short) answer! There really isn't anything like a 'typical' week but of course there are regular groups that I help run during term time which give a rhythm to my work.

I help with a Monday lunchtime Bible Explorers Club at Hursthead Juniors during term time. This is for year 5 and 6s (top Juniors in old money!) and we talk about the bible through games, quizzes, drama, crafts film clips etc. Our numbers vary, but we have had comments like 'I didn't realize what Easter was really about before.' On alternate Tuesday evenings I help with Rock Solid, our youth group for 10-14s. Again we use games and fun activities to explore our faith. This group has really been growing steadily and we have about 15 regulars now attending. Wednesdays is Toddlers. What can I say except that it is a bit mad! We have had up to 67 toddlers (not counting their carers!) on a Wednesday morning! We have some refreshments, a song time and a play in the Hall. I nearly always stay for Friendly Food because it is delicious (!), but also to chat to the carers who stay and to give a hand with feeding the little ones etc. On Thursday mornings I run Baby Chat where Mums/Grandmas and sometimes Dads and Granddads come to have a cuppa and make friends with other new parents and feel they aren't alone in their new experiences. We have a short song time and have occasional visitors to talk about various topics. On alternate Fridays I run Tiddlywinks, which is for any child under 4 to come and hear a story, sing some songs and do a craft around a theme relating to our faith. We always finish with our Tiddlywinks prayer. We have about 15 children coming along. I also go with Philip to take assemblies in 3 local schools each half term, and through this we engage with nearly 700 children. It is great fun and sometimes we even get a round of applause! I also try to pop into pre-school to talk about the major festivals. Through all these activities (and Messy Church and the Cradle Roll – my gifts to the church) I meet lots (and lots!) of people and it is a privilege to share in their joys and challenges and offer support when it is needed. I am involved in some pastoral work and have been grateful to Phil and Alison for their help and support with this aspect of my role. I know we are a very caring church and I think it is through this that we can most easily demonstrate and share God's love through us to others. There are always one off events in the planning and courses that run. I won't bore you with the details of rota

making, emails, advertising, planning and preparation for all the above activities and the many meetings attended, but suffice to say that the face to face part of the job, which is the best and most satisfying, doesn't just happen! I'll finish with some highlights from the last year. The blessing of being part of a little one's baptism. Seeing parents helped and gain confidence through some Paediatric First Aid courses and the Parenting course that we ran. Seeing the happy faces at the Family Fun day, raising funds for our fabulous new coffee lounge. Seeing the children from 2 schools enjoy hearing the Christmas story with a visit from the Rhema Theatre company. The amazing Messy Christingle and chatting to over 45 families that I know and love. Celebrating 6 years of Messy Church with the Message Trust. Receiving cards that say thank you for all your help, I don't know what I would have done without this group.

I am excited to see what this year will bring, especially our new Taste service. Watch this space!

Thank you again for all your support and for letting me be your Children & Family Worker. Please do pray for the work with our children and families and if anyone has any questions or suggestions please do just have a word. Love and best wishes, Emma Coe Feb 2015

## *Lent Lectures 2015*

"Insights from the past for today"

At Bramhall Methodist Church on Wednesdays 2.30pm - 4.00pm

4th March Finding God in all things - an Ignatian perspective

Rev Geoffrey Barnard

11th March Figures in a Holocaust Landscape

Canon Albert Radcliffe

18th March Pope Francis; New Directions ?

Sister Margaret Walsh SND

25th March The Legacy of the Reformation

Rev Dr Keith Davies

All Welcome

# *Come and Worship*

## **Sunday 1st March**

09.30 - 10.45am Taste

10.00am *Rev Philip Peacock with General Church Meeting*

6.30pm *Pat James*

**Tues 3rd March** 7.00pm – Reflective Worship

**Wed 4th March** 10.30am - Wednesday Worship

## **Sunday 8th March** Church Anniversary

10.00am *Rev Philip Peacock with Holy Communion*

6.30pm *Mrs Chris Goddard*

**Tues 10th March** 7.00pm – Reflective Worship

**Wed 11th March** 10.30am - Wednesday Worship

## **Sunday 15th March**

9.30 -10.45 am Taste

10.00am *Rev David Clowes*

6.30pm *Rev Philip Peacock Reflective Worship*

**Tues 17th March** 7.00pm - Reflective Worship

**Wed 18th March** 10.30am - Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion

## **Sunday 22nd March**

10.00am *Rev Philip Peacock with a Baptism of Amelia Chitapi*

6.30pm ***Rev Philip Peacock with Holy Communion and prayers for Healing***

**Tues 24th March** 7.00pm – Reflective Worship

**Wed 25th March** 10.30am - Wednesday Worship

## **Sunday 29nd March**

10.00am *Rev Philip Peacock with Cradle Roll Service*

6.30pm *Local Arrangement*

**Tues 31st March** 7.00pm – Reflective Worship

**Wed 1st April** 10.30am - Wednesday Worship

## **Mid-week Worship and Learning**

**Home Groups** meet 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks -

**Fellowship Groups** – Please see 'For Your Diary

## Easter Services

2nd April Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion

7.30pm Rev Philip Peacock

3rd April Good Friday

10.00am Rev Philip Peacock

5th April Easter Sunday

Holy Communion at each  
Service 8.30am,  
10.00am All Age Worship  
and 6.30pm



## News of the Family

### Thanks

Wendy and Les Turner would like to thank everyone who have helped them through the last few months of problems. They are so grateful for all the help and gifts.

Joyce Brooke and family have felt greatly supported during Tony's long illness and after his passing on the 5th January

They thank everyone for his strong pastoral care, visits, flowers, cards and other messages, which have made them realise the strength of caring within the church family and have helped during a time of sadness.

Thanks to your generosity and that of a charitable trust we have been able to donate £655 to Methodist Homes for the Aged and £620 to the Alzheimers Society. Thank you very much indeed."

### Thanks and an apology

On behalf of LIFESHARE, I'd like to thank all those wonderful people who responded to my pleas for "stuff" so generously.

The project went very well again - I was hoping to be able to give you a report from the team but I haven't got it yet!

And the apology ? (not just for starting a sentence with "And"! ) – I'm sorry this is so late; I should have got it in the February magazine. My excuse is the post-project meeting didn't take place till after the deadline.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed. Jenni Hardman

### TRANSPORT

If any church member is aware of someone who cannot come to Sunday Morning Service for lack of transport, please let me know **George Lea**.



The **Flower Visitor** for March is Jill Gourley



## **Bereavement**

We shared in the funeral of Tony Brooke on 23rd January and our thoughts and prayers are with Joyce and her family.

### **Tony Brooke**

Tony was born in Gomersal, near Batley in 1918, into a comfortably off family, with Victorian values. With one grandfather a Methodist minister, the other a mill owner, Tony's upbringing was that of a young English gentleman. He was educated at home and later at a Methodist boarding school. The Depression hit the family hard, but values laid down in his early life stayed with him.

His Army Service took him to France and Egypt, where he made his first visit to the Holy Land. The sights and sounds stayed with him, and he and Joyce returned there many years later.

Returning after the war, his work took him to the North East. He met Joyce at Benton Methodist Church where they both sang in the choir. He travelled around the North East, in a green Ford Popular, taking Joyce with him. Quite something in those days. They married in 1957, later moving to Whalley Range and then to Cheadle Hulme. The family, now with 2 boys, loved their camping holidays travelling to many countries. Tony took charge of hammering the pegs. Joyce and the boys would be rushing around doing everything else, while Tony, his task complete, would relax saying "this is the life".

He was very proud of Joyce, who was a Local Preacher. At non church gatherings his introduction of "my wife, the Local Preacher", put a stop to many a conversation. After retirement Tony studied for a BA at the Open University, graduating when he was 76.

Always busy, impeccable manners, interested in politics and current affairs, a gentleman and a charmer. To use an old saying, "they don't make them like that anymore"

Barbara Clark

### **In our Prayers**

We remember in our prayers those who have been in hospital during the last month and those who are very poorly. We continue to pray for those who are listed in our prayer book –

Dorothy Betts, Ethel Beresford, Peter and Sheila Cresswell, peter Baxendale, Evelyn Richardson, Joyce Brooke

# *For Your Diary*

## **Traidcraft**

"Afternoon Tea" at Swann Lane URChurch on  
Sunday 8th March 3.00-5.00pm Lovely home cooking.  
Please support Traidcraft if you are able.

## **Men's Breakfast**

Will be on Saturday 14th March 2015 at 8.30 - 10.00am.  
Come along for 8.30am and after clearing up be away for about 10.30am.  
For further details contact John Harrington

## **Friendly Food**

On Wednesdays at 12.15 there is a hot meal - £3 adults and £1 children.  
Anyone welcome - just come.

## **CAMEO**

Meets on Tuesdays 10.15am to 2pm when elderly people come to have a  
chat, enjoy entertainment and have a hot meal.

## **Foodbank**

Continues with our collection of tins of fish or meat on the second Sunday of  
each month.

## **Network**

On Thursdays 5th March Bramhall Bakery  
12th March Flowers for Easter with Sue Jacklin  
19th March Rev Philip Peacock  
26th March Experiences of a GP

## **Focus**

Friday 27th March will have an Easter Theme when we share our  
contributions of poems, prose and music

## **Christmas 2015!**

I know, I know how dare I mention Christmas in March, not even the  
Supermarkets are there yet! I just wanted to put an idea forward that I have  
to host a Crib Festival this year. You may remember that a few years ago  
we had a tree festival which was very popular and brought in a lot of  
external visitors, well this is something similar. The basic idea is to have a  
display of nativity scenes in lots of different styles and to bring out a  
different aspect of the Christmas story through them as people go around  
the church. There are a number of examples if you do a web search and I

hope that this will be a fun way for all ages to look at the Christmas story in a new way. I'm hoping to have a gingerbread nativity scene, a lego one, a dressing up one, knitted ones, maybe even an origami or loom band one, wooden, cardboard tube, Fairtrade bean bag etc. etc. the possibilities are endless, but through them all I hope that the message of Christmas, of God giving us the greatest gift comes across loudly. As always these things take time and preparation. If anyone is interested in helping in any way, please will you let me know so that I can start to get a team together. I can't wait (Ok so maybe I can!). Thanks. Emma Coe

## **Studying the Bible**

Okay, the idea has been bubbling of Bible Studies - note, not a Bible Study 'Group' because there should be no suggestion of membership or joining, just regular sessions that people could turn up to. It isn't intend to replace attendance at a Homegroup, as it won't be a fellowship group in the same way.

The proposal is a monthly study, to be held on a Friday afternoon and the same study repeated the following morning, Saturday (there has been discussion about the convenience of Saturday morning, but some think it's worth a try).

This means; a/ there isn't another evening being used;  
b/ Friday might allow people to come during school hours;  
c/ Saturday might allow people to come who work Monday-Friday. Equally it may be discovered that it doesn't work! but we'll give it a go. .

It's hoped the sessions would be led by Local Preachers -

Philip will take some if necessary, but it shouldn't be seen as one person's job. The material, which could come from anywhere (suggestions welcome), would be passed on to whoever is leading, so that the job is facilitating, not writing, although some preparation (reading in advance, probably) would be needed.

It doesn't have to be a Local Preacher, if someone else wanted a go, and the Friday and Saturday sessions could be led by a different person, though using the same material.

Rather than keep discussing it, it is going to start! Friday  
6th March 1pm - 3pm, looking at the book of Zechariah.

Come along, with a bible, a notebook, a willingness to be open to the Holy Spirit - bring a butty if you haven't had lunch. If you can't come, please pray for the sessions and those leading and attending.

Kathryn Price

# *Horizons Project*

## Monday Morning Café

Help us raise money to replace our church entrance doors with disabled and child buggy friendly ones!

Come and have coffee/tea and cakes with us each Monday morning up to the Easter Holidays. (If this venture proves popular we will continue it.)

All profit will go to the Horizons Project.



## **The Laurence Singers**



Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 7.30pm

Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church

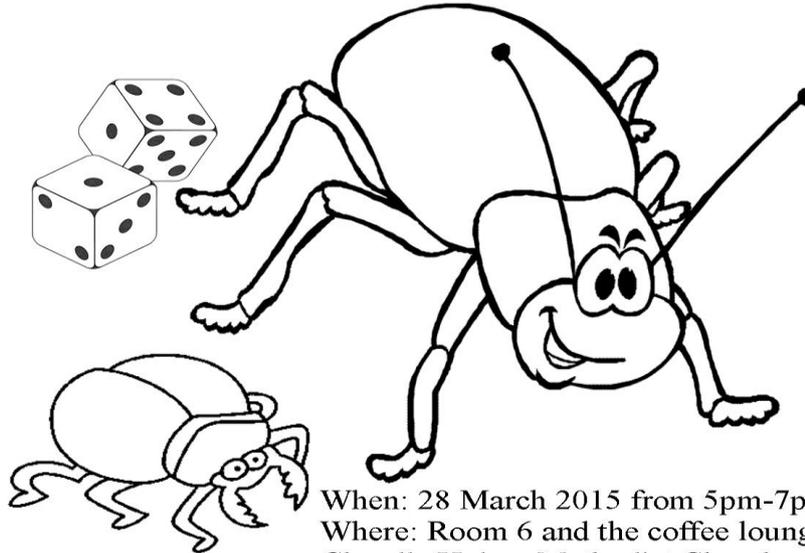
Singers offering a broad repertoire of music which can include 'songs from the shows', folk songs, spirituals, solos and duets.

There will be an interval for refreshments Tickets £8 each, available from the Church Office, 0161 485 1605 or Paul Reddy's Home Group members  
Proceeds in aid of Horizons Fund

**SHERBOURNE HOMEGROUP PRESENTS...**

**...in association with the Horizons Project...**

# **BEETLE DRIVE**



When: 28 March 2015 from 5pm-7pm  
Where: Room 6 and the coffee lounge,  
Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church

**Cost: £5 per ticket or £10 for a family**

Ticket costs include hot dogs, cake and drinks and are available from any homegroup member or the church office.

Open House and Garden 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Pizza Galore August 2015

Bibs and Bobs are returning again  
to do another concert Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 7.30pm

Harvest Supper and Social 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015

Afternoon Tea Dance Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2.30pm – 4.30pm

### **Ongoing Events**

Sale of Chutney and cakes  
Sale of cards and decorations  
Coffee mornings

## **6 years of Messy Church**

It hardly seems like it has been going that long, but on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January we celebrated 6 years of Messy Church at CHMC. Messy Church originally started 11 years ago in Portsmouth and it has now spread around the world with over 2700 churches registered.

The format we adopted involved meeting monthly on a Sunday afternoon, starting with about 45 mins to an hour of crafts and activities in the Hall, followed by about 20 mins of songs and story telling relating the theme explored through the crafts, and finally a time of sharing and fellowship as we ate our picnic teas back in the Hall.

Over the 6 years we covered a huge range of topics - some recurring like Easter, Harvest, Christmas and Communion, but also lots of other topics including some of which tied in with National events like royal weddings, the jubilee and the Olympics. We also did a 'sporty' church and a 'music' church. We ran 72 separate sessions and planned and prepared about 360 crafts and activities.

Over the years we had lots of visitors who then went on to set up their own Messy Churches e.g. Bramhall Methodist Church, Wilmslow URC, St. Bart's Wilmslow and several others. We have averaged about 40 attendees and have had a maximum of about 120 or so people.

We split into two teams after a while to allow the leaders and their families to enjoy Messy Church one month and then lead the next. The teams were made up of about 5 or 6 people and we are very grateful to everyone who planned, prepared and delivered the crafts and activities, those who served refreshments, those who came to greet and chat to our visitors, write discussions questions, and lead the worship or play music.

We introduced a take away sheet which we hoped would encourage families to think about some of the themes discussed in between the monthly sessions.

Messy Church allowed lots of people to explore church as a family together and to learn more about our faith in an informal atmosphere. Many connections were developed and a lot of fun was had by all.

We took the difficult decision to end the monthly sessions when we felt it was no longer meeting some of our original aims which included bringing in new people and helping them to find a church home amongst us.

We celebrated our final monthly session with friends from the Message Trust and their Breakdancing team Square One. We had a great turn out and a great time of worship. We will not be continuing monthly, but we may do an occasional 'one off' like the Messy Christingle.

Thanks again to all who were involved and we pray that the seeds planted will flourish.

Emma Coe, Jacqui Sarbutts and Susie Metcalfe on behalf of the Messy Church Team.

**Book review: Life to the Max****Author: Jon Cox**

Firstly, let me say I'm not normally one for writing book reviews - I haven't done one for 20 years since I studied for my GCSE's so I'm a little unsure on what to write. Secondly, I don't normally enjoy reading autobiographies because they can be uninspiring or full of tales that aren't always interesting. Therefore, I find it surprising that I want to share this book with a review.

Let me explain, and I can honestly say, I blame my parents.

Mum and Dad have met the author of this book through school trips. Jon is the head of an organisation called Adventure Plus, a company providing outdoor adventure holidays for all ages, and he provides adventure holiday for the school where Mum works.

The book is very easy reading with a simple style, drawing you in and making you want to continue. The first few lines of the prologue are enough to make you want to find out more - Jon describes the moment he heard a firearm bolt being readied for use in the gloom of a Sudanese evening...I won't spoil things but will tell you he was part of a medical team in a refugee camp.

The story of his life demonstrates a number of amazing answers to prayer (not least with a rifle gun) but how praying together or alone can bring unexpected results. Stories of how tents and food just seemed to appear for refugees, to how the location of the company headquarters came into being. He also talks of huge coincidences like when a friend turned up as they were casting 6 tons of concrete for an outdoor climbing wall. A friend of Jon's calls these God-incidences and I think I agree.

You get the impression from the book that the ride has not been smooth. Obstacles to the company progression appear from nowhere, yet the solution always appear better than the original, seemingly perfect, intention.

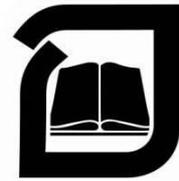
Jon obviously believes in the power of prayer and spending time studying God's word. The direction he receives through these prayers and study is amazing and perhaps shows us how we should be more trusting in what God is saying to us. It really is an incredible story and one autobiography I would definitely recommend.

Phil Sarbutts



# Church Life

## Homegroups



Monday	Shirley and Ivor John 23 Acre Lane	8pm
Monday	Andy Longworth 26 Sherbourne Close	8pm
Tuesday	Pat James 32 Woodfield Road	7.45pm
Tuesday	Val Pickwell 8 Manor Lodge Park Road	8pm
Wednesday	Dilys and Maurice Turnpenney 7 Twining Brook Road	7.45pm
Thursday <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday</b>	Helen and John Harrington 2 Leyland Avenue Gatley	10am – 12 noon

**Home Groups meet on the first and third weeks of each month**

DO YOU STILL HAVE A CASSETTE PLAYER? If so, you're in luck! There are loads of cassette tapes with wonderful things to listen to, such as bible studies by Dr Donald English, Spring Harvest tapes from 1992, church services led by Leo Osborn, Dave Martin and others, and many, many, many, many more, including (particularly exciting!), 'Miscellaneous'. If interested, contact Kathryn Price to have a look at the list and choose what to borrow.

Articles for the April Magazine by 15th March PLEASE.  
*Articles can be sent via e-mail for  
 publication in this magazine, in 'Word' format for text,  
 .jpeg for images, posters etc please, to  
 chmc@talktalkbusiness.net*

# MEETING TOGETHER

## People to Contact

### Sunday

Young Church	10:00	Rick Price
Great Heights	20:15	Phil & Jacqui Sarbutts

### Tuesday

Cameo	10:30	Margaret Clarke
Contact	15:00	George Lea
Tuesday Evening		
Reflective Worship	19:00	Kathryn Price
Rock Solid	19:30	John Harrington

### Wednesday

Wednesday Worship	10:30	
Toddler Group	10:45	
Friendly Food	12:15	Hazel Crummett
Banner Making	14:00	Sue Jacklin
The Singers	18:45	Christine Watson

### Thursday

Baby Chat	10:30	Emma Coe
Women's Network	14:30	Margaret Pattie
Scouts	19:15	David Heatley

### Friday

Tiddlywinks	10:30	Emma Coe
Beavers (6-8 years)	18:30	Jacqui Metcalfe
(Parish Rooms)		
Cubs (Woods La Guide HQ)	18:30	Neil Davison
Focus	19:30	Ruth Mason
Messy Drinks	20:00	Phil Sarbutts
(Friday before Messy Church)		

### Saturday

Men's Breakfast	8:30	John Harrington
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HEATING STEWARD:

ENVELOPE SECRETARY:

ROOM BOOKINGS:

PLAYGROUP 9:15

George Lea

Maggie Thompson

Christine Watson

TRANSPORT ROTA:  
BOOKSTALL:  
Prayer Requests

George Lea  
Helen Harrington  
Colin & Kathryn Taylor

## **CHEADLE HULME METHODIST CHURCH**

**Address:** The Methodist Church, Ramillies Avenue,  
Cheadle Hulme, SK8 7AL

**Church Office:** Monday – Friday 9.30am-3.00pm  
Tel: 485 1605 chmc@talktalkbusiness.net

Website: [www.chmc.org.uk](http://www.chmc.org.uk)

Circuit website: [bramhallwythenshawemethodists.org.uk](http://bramhallwythenshawemethodists.org.uk)

### **Minister**

Rev Philip Peacock

### **Pastoral Worker**

### **Children & Family Worker**

Mrs Emma Coe

### **Senior Stewards:**

Mr Duncan Booth

Mrs Kathryn Price

### **Church Council Secretary:**

Mrs Jane Booth

### **Room Bookings:**

via the Church Office Tel: 0161 485 1605

### **Church Treasurer:**

Mr David James

### **Magazine Editor:**

Mrs Margaret Gulson