

Bollington Church News

The magazine of Bollington Parish Church, St Oswald's



October 2024

Price 50p



Who's Who at St Oswald's

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Deanery Synod: Anthea Wilkinson, Anne Coomes

Diocesan Synod: Richard Raymond

Letter from Nancy

Dear All,

António Guterres (United Nations Secretary-General) has said that we're at *'Code red for humanity: the alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk.'*



At this time of Creationtide, how are we to respond to these climate concerns?

The world belongs to God. *'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it'* (Psalm 24:1). The world is not ours, but God's! We are called to share in care for God's world: *'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'* (Genesis 1:28). We represent God by governing with the same self-giving generosity that we see in His creation of the earth. This challenges our consumer mindset, that sees the earth's resources as both limitless and existing simply for our needs. For example, the fashion industry uses as much carbon per minute, as a car emits going six times round the world! How can we make a difference in our world?

We belong to Christ. We also belong to the one who's plan is: *'to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.'* (Ephesians 1:10). We can look forward to the time when God will create a new heaven and a new earth and make everything new. Meanwhile, we are called to serve as He serves, caring for the earth and our fellow humans, by living simply, recycling, conserving energy and choosing reusable options.

In terms of our world, there is no plan B! God gave us only one planet!

Love Nancy x



Giving thanks for harvest

Brian Reader comments on the front cover

Soon summer will be a distant memory – *what Summer?* I hear you cry! Let us hope for better weather to allow for a reasonable harvest.

Although Ann's very detailed picture on the front cover shows our Church adorned for Harvest, this year we have celebrated our Harvest Service at the very end of September. Do you remember all those things pictured being in the Church, if not this year, then in years past?

When we think about harvest, we normally think about the harvesting or the gathering in of grain or hay. These days it is done by huge machines, with some being programmed to do it robotically. It was so different in the past, when all in a neighbourhood joined together to help each farmer bring in their harvest. Yes, it was a time of hard work, but everyone gained from the joint effort and at the end, they gathered to celebrate a job well done, and to thank God, the Creator who had provided the sun and the rain.

You would certainly get to know and learn to respect your neighbours, if you worked with them, toiling in the fields. It is so different today, when you can call for food to be delivered to your door without any thought about all those who have participated in the growing, preparing and cooking of the meal.

Coming from Kent, I can remember the stories about the hop picking. Whole families would come down from London, live for a week or two in quite rudimentary accommodation, and all join in the picking of hops which were used to make beer. It was their summer holiday treat; no lying in the sun in some foreign land for them!



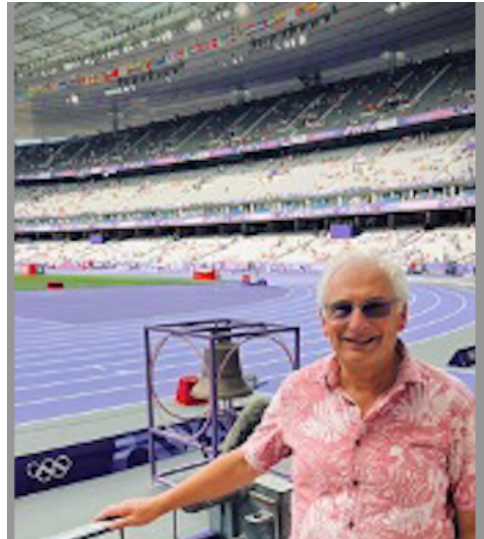
So this October, at this time of harvest, let's remember and thank God for all His providence, and do all we can to help save the planet, not forgetting that we rely on God and others for all the things we need to live.

The 2024 Olympic Bell

By Richard Raymond

Last month's magazine carried a picture of me in front of the Olympic bell at the Stade de France in Paris.

The purpose of that bell was for the winners of an event in the stadium to ring it to mark their victory. Notably, the only GB athlete who did so was Keely Hodgkinson after her magnificent 800m triumph.



At the end of the Olympics, the half-ton bell will be taken to Notre Dame Cathedral where it will be installed near the organ to be rung during the most solemn moments of the Mass. In accepting the gift of this bell the Cathedral described it as a symbol of 'resilience and unity' and of 'triumph and camaraderie', and that it would serve as a reminder of the spirit of fraternity engendered by the Paris Olympics 'forming a bond between sport and religion'.

The bell has an interesting history as it was cast by one of the last two bell foundries in France, a Normandy-based company called Cornille Havard who have been casting bells since 1865. In 2012, they cast eight heavy bells ranging in weight from three-quarters of a ton up to over four tons which were installed as a chime in the north-east tower of Notre Dame Cathedral. The new service bell will therefore join others from the same manufacturer.

There are over twenty bells in the Cathedral all hung for chiming unlike the church bells we hear in the UK which are hung in the unique English full-circle style. Cornille Havard were involved in the cleaning and restoration of all these bells after the calamitous fire of April 2019. The only bells the foundry have supplied to Britain have been three chiming bells to the Crown Dependency of Jersey.



CURATE'S CORNER with Jenny Eades

Sacred Space – Wednesdays @3.30 @St Oswald's.

Humans have always had sacred spaces. Places or buildings marked out as special where communities go to pause from their daily tasks and take time to pray, to ponder the mysteries of life and death and to engage in actions – rituals – that help to make life meaningful rather than meaning-less.

Christianity is no exception. We have churches and cathedrals, graveyards and wayside shrines, monasteries and hermits' cells. Visiting a sacred space is a spiritual practice that millions of people engage in, and which can provide rest, refreshment and relaxation.

St Oswald's is one of Bollington's sacred spaces and we'd like to invite anyone and everyone to drop in and light a candle for someone you love, have a cup of tea and just sit a while, where the prayers of Bollington people have been offered for over 100 years. If the board is outside, we're open.

In particular, we'd like to invite you to our **new Sacred Space Hour on Wednesdays from 3.30 to 4.30** when, in addition to the candles and the space, there will be opportunities



to explore ancient Christian prayer techniques like meditation and contemplation – activities that modern science now tells us support our mental health and well-being.

If you want to learn these techniques there will be a small, led group in one part of the church, with a tiny bit of teaching and 10 minutes or so of practice.

In the rest of the church you can move around, listen to music, engage in contemplative craft work, or just sit and be.



And if you want to ask for prayer for someone you love, we have cards you can fill in, or just find someone and ask.



If you would like to contribute a craft activity that you feel might be done meditatively do let me know. St Oswald's is YOUR church, your sacred space.

Whatever your beliefs, it is a place of beauty and peace. It belongs to you.



CHUBB visits Peak Forest Chapel

Jennifer Burdekin reports

And Lo.....at first light, pilgrims from the West, led by their great leader, could be seen travelling under the banner of St. Oswald. The road ahead was rocky, but after passing several settlements, at last the pilgrims reached their destination. Ahead lay the wondrous site of Charles, King and Martyr in Peak Forest.

The pilgrims were warmly welcomed, literally, by Peter and Jean, and were handsomely rewarded for their journey with a fine array of cakes, drinks and an informative lecture on the history of the chapel.



The chapel had originally stood on royal forest land and so was deemed a 'royal peculiar'. This meant that it could grant marriage licences and prove wills without referring to the diocesan bishop. In 1804, an Act of Parliament put an end to this practice.

By 1871 the population of the village had swollen to 562 and the chapel was enlarged for the Victorian religious revival and in 1877, after a generous donation of £6,000 from Edward the Duke of Devonshire, a new church was built dedicated to Charles, King and Martyr.

Charles the first was considered to be a martyr because he refused to sign a document granting church government to bishops, an episcopacy, and so went to death by beheading on Whitehall, on January 30th 1649, our only monarch to suffer this fate.

Having listened to the history of this worshipful site, the pilgrims went on their way to the West, where with good fortune they were to assemble at a large oasis to quench their thirsts and assuage their hungers.

At last, they reached their homeland and rested after thanking their great chieftain who was already planning the next great feast

Within the next year the pilgrims knew they would resume their journeys to interesting sites of worship and hospitality and so could rest through the winter months with thankful hearts.



Oskar Schindler – the German businessman who befriended the Jews

Fifty years ago, on 9th October 1974, Oskar Schindler, Austria-Hungarian-born German businessman, died. He saved more than 1,100 Jews during the Holocaust by employing them in his factories. The story is told in the film *Schindler's List*.

At the time of his death, in Hildesheim, Germany, he was almost unknown and very poor. After the war he and his wife Emilie (both now recognised by Israel as Righteous Among the Nations) had emigrated to Argentina, where they separated in 1957, and Oskar returned to Germany alone. Money was raised to pay for his burial in Israel. Emilie died in Germany in 2001, having spent most of her later life in Argentina.

Oskar Schindler had been an opportunistic German industrialist and a 'convenient' member of the Nazi Party who set himself up in an enamel factory in occupied Krakow, Poland, as part of a 'Germanisation' programme in 1939. The factory had previously been Jewish owned.

Schindler employed Jews from a nearby concentration camp and used bribes and his own diplomatic skills to protect his workers from the brutality of life in the camp and ensure they were not deported. He added an armaments division and convinced the SS that his employees were essential to the war effort – although very little was produced.

The risks he took, which included dubious business deals, brought suspicion of giving unauthorised aid to Jews and of corruption: he was arrested three times but not charged.

His factory was relocated to Brännlitz, near his hometown, at his request and reopened there purely as an armaments factory – and, thanks to Schindler's persuasive powers, a sub-camp of a nearby concentration camp.

An assistant compiled a list of almost 1,200 Jewish workers needed to move from Krakow to work in the new factory – 'Schindler's list' – which enabled their survival.

An Introduction to the gospel of MARK

Mark is the second of the synoptic gospels, along with Matthew and Luke. Traditionally this gospel is ascribed to John Mark, a close associate of Peter. It was written for Gentile readers, probably in Rome during Nero's persecution of the church (c AD 64-7).

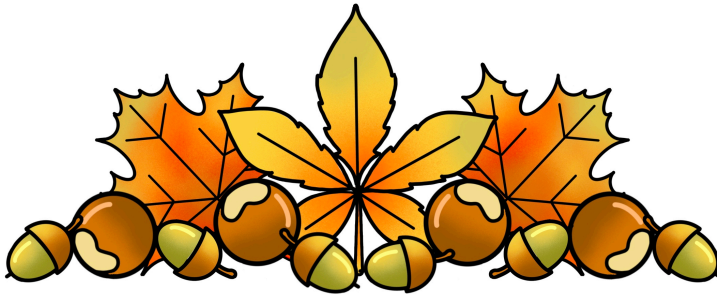
Mark unveils Jesus' public ministry with the words: *'the beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God'* (1:1). The gospel provides a succinct and vivid account of Jesus' ministry, concentrating on what Jesus did rather than what He said. Mark moves quickly from one episode to another, often using the word *'immediately'* which is characteristic of his gospel.



For Mark, understanding the true identity of Jesus is fundamental to his gospel. Jesus asks the disciples, *'Who do people say I am?'* (8:27), to which Peter replies, *'You are the Christ'*. This is evident in Jesus' role as teacher, the call for discipleship and the account of Jesus' death and resurrection, which occupies the last third of the gospel.

A key verse which helps us to understand the nature of Jesus' mission and how we might live in the light of it is: *'Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'* (10:44,45). As the Suffering Servant, Jesus gave His life on the cross, that we might know and share his love.

Mark is understandably in a hurry to tell us about Jesus: the one who reveals the truth of God to us, that we might live in reality, not in ignorance!



The story behind ‘Come Ye Thankful People Come’

*Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home!
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come;
Raise the song of harvest home!...*

By H Alford (1810 – 71)

Very probably, you will sing this well-loved Harvest hymn this month. It was written by the Revd Henry Aldford, DD, a Victorian clergyman who had been a fellow student at Trinity College, Cambridge with Alfred Tennyson, and whose transparent goodness and friendliness seem to have made him liked and appreciated wherever he went.

His ministry began as vicar of Wymeswold, a tiny village in Leicestershire with a badly neglected church. Over 18 years, Henry rebuilt the faltering Christian community, faithfully visiting every person in his parish, and preaching his way through the Bible in sermons that were so clear that everyone could understand him.

He then moved on to the incumbency of Quebec Chapel in London for four years, before moving to the Deanery of Canterbury, in 1857, where he lived until his death in early 1871.

Henry was one of life's good people; gentle, kindly, grateful for everything he had (he used to say 'grace' before AND after each meal), and eager to encourage all those whom he served. He was prodigiously productive: writing something like 50 books. The best known of these was a four-volume exposition of the New Testament, which took him nearly 20 years.

His famous hymn draws upon two of Jesus' parables: the story of the wheat and tares (Mt 13:24-30) and also the story of the seed that grows unbeknown to the sower (Mark 4:26-29). Both are parables drawn from agriculture; both are about the ultimate harvest of our souls before God. During this lifetime we properly give thanks to God for our harvest of His gifts of creation, but we should also reflect on what seed we are sowing in our lives, and what harvest we may expect; as one day God will gather together *only His own* for the eternal heavenly harvest.

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Those pew-sheet notices that went wrong...

Would the person who took the church step ladder last week please bring it back, or further steps will be taken.

After Sunday morning coffee, please wash well and stand upside down on the draining board.

Our visiting monster today is the Revd Jack Bains.

Worshippers are asked to wail, until the choir has been served Holy Communion.

We are always happy to have you sue our facility.

The activity will take place on the church barking lot.

Hymn: 'I am Thin, O Lord.'

All in the month of October

It was: -

175 years ago, on 17th Oct 1849 that Frederic Chopin, Polish composer and piano virtuoso, died.

125 years ago, from 11th Oct 1899 to May 1902 that the Second Boer War in South Africa took place. 22,000 British forces were killed, and nearly 100,000 wounded. More than 6,000 Boers were killed, and more than 46,000 African civilians died in concentration camps.

100 years ago, on 15th Oct 1924 that the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbour was designated a US National Monument.

90 years ago, on 24th Oct 1934 that the earliest known recording of the song *Santa Claus is Comin' to Town* was released. Performed by banjo player Harry Reser and his band and sung by Tom Stacks, it has since been recorded by more than 200 other artists.

80 years ago, on 9th Oct 1944 that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josphe Stalin met to discuss the future of post-war Europe.

75 years ago, on 1st Oct 1949 that the People's Republic of China was founded by Mao Zedong.

70 years ago, from 30th Oct to 13th Nov 1954 that the first Rugby World Cup was held in Paris. Great Britain beat France 16-12 in the final.

65 years ago, on 11th Oct 1959 that Britain began introducing postcodes. They began in Norwich, and by 1974 had been rolled out across the whole country.

60 years ago, on 14th Oct 1964 that the American civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality in the USA without violence.

50 years ago, on 2nd Oct 1974 that US researchers announced that smoking cannabis causes lasting brain damage. More than 50 medical schools and research centres took part in the year-long government-funded study.

Also 50 years ago, on 9th Oct 1974 that Oskar Schindler, Austria-Hungarian-born German businessman, died. He saved more than 1,100 Jews during the Holocaust by employing them in his factories. The story is told in the film *Schindler's List*.

40 years ago, on 12th Oct 1984 that an IRA bomb exploded during the Conservative Party Conference at the Grand Hotel in Brighton, killing five people. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was apparently the primary target, but she escaped injury.

Also 40 years ago, on 16th Oct 1984 that South African Anglican bishop Desmond Tutu won the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his role in the opposition to apartheid.

30 years ago, on 13th Oct 1994 that the three main loyalist paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland announced a ceasefire following the IRA's ceasefire announcement on 31st Aug.

Also 30 years ago, on 14th Oct 1994 that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres jointly won the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize.

25 years ago, on 12th Oct 1999 that the United Nations announced that the world's population had reached six billion. It reached seven billion in 2011/12.

Also 25 years ago, on 27th Oct 1999 that the House of Lords voted to end the automatic right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the upper chamber of Parliament. Of over 700 hereditary peers, only 92 would remain, chosen by election.

20 years ago, on 2nd Oct 2004 that the first Parkrun was held in Bushy Park, London. Parkruns are now held every Saturday morning at more than 2,000 locations in 22 countries.

Where do postcodes come from?

Some 65 years ago, on 11th October 1959, Britain began introducing postcodes. They started in Norwich, and by 1974 had been rolled out across the whole country.

The idea was to speed up sorting following the mechanisation of the postal system. But for the process to work, people had to use it, and it was therefore important to make sure that people could remember their postcode easily. So, psychologists from Cambridge University were asked to assist in their design.

This worked so well that a survey in 2016 revealed that people are now more likely to remember their postcode than their debit card PIN (92%, compared with 77%). And the information sticks: apparently 17% of people questioned could still remember the postcode of the house they lived in up to 30 years earlier.

When the first postcodes were trialled in Norwich, the first three characters were NOR (now NR followed by a number) representing the name of the city, and the last three signified a particular street or large business. Why Norwich? Because of its new sorting machines.

The main point of a postcode is to ensure that a letter or parcel gets to the correct Royal Mail sorting office, where it can then be sorted into the correct round. So the “outcode” will specify a postcode area and district, and will have up to four characters. The “incode” designates a particular postcode sector and delivery point, and always has one number and two letters.

What is a delivery point? It could be a street, part of a street or a single property. Or in rural areas, something a bit bigger. The postcode area is of course much larger: the smallest in Britain is WC in London, covering one square mile. The largest is IV, Inverness, at 6,243 square miles.

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Judgment

Good judgement comes from bad experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgement.

Book of Remembrance for October

2 nd Oct	Rachel Mary Poulson
2 nd Oct	Sarah Anne Wood
3 rd Oct	Amy Slater Goodwin
5 th Oct	Wilfred Clay
5 th Oct	Baby Sheila Tarr
6 th Oct	David Hooley
7 th Oct	John Alfred Humphrey Waterhouse
8 th Oct	Annie Oldfield nee Ridgeway
8 th Oct	Dora Hunt
11 th Oct	Edward Russell Cutler
12 th Oct	Joyce Dixon
12 th Oct	Wilfred Jackson
14 th Oct	Rachel Elizabeth Waterhouse
14 th Oct	Father William David Thomas <i>(Vicar of this parish 1947-1953)</i>
15 th Oct	Lilian Hughes
15 th Oct	Clifford Eli Brunt
16 th Oct	Richard Rendell
16 th Oct	Lesley Martin
19 th Oct	Mabel Tarr
22 nd Oct	John Lewis Whiston
23 rd Oct	Muriel Lloyd
24 th Oct	Elizabeth Woolley
25 th Oct	Anne Richards
26 th Oct	Sarah Elizabeth Stanesby
27 th Oct	Eric Jackson
29 th Oct	Philip King
30 th Oct	Ralph Greenwood
31 st Oct	Edward Chadwick



Would you like to include the name of a departed loved one? An entry costs £10. Please contact Ann Stringer on 01625 574325.

From the Registers

Funerals

8 th August	Hylde Arnold
14 th August	Ann Lashford
2 nd September	Peter Ingley
11 th September	Eileen Hooley
17 th September	Paul Iverson

Burial of Ashes

11 th September	Philip Hurrell
13 th September	Ian Miller & Dilys Miller

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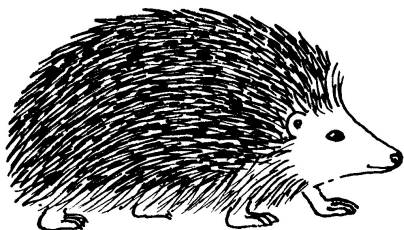
Our hedgehogs are in crisis

It is feared that there may be just one million hedgehogs left in Britain. This compares to about 36 million during the 1960s. About 150,000 hedgehogs are killed on our roads every year.

With this in mind, England's first 'hedgehog crossing' road signs have recently been launched in several Borough Councils around the country. The aim is to try and save the species from eventual extinction.

The new sign features a hedgehog with white quills inside a red triangle above a message that reads 'hedgehogs crossing'.

The design has been approved by the Department for Transport and it is hoped that the signs will make a big difference in preserving the hedgehog population. The aim is to raise awareness among motorists, to get them to slow down, and also among people using a strimmer in their garden.



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Get the magazine: please ring Ann Stringer on 01625 574325.

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Giving to St Oswald's:

Our bank account name is 'The Anglican Parish of Bollington PCC'.

Our account number is **39536416** and the sort code is **01-05-41**.

Or talk to Richard Raymond, our treasurer, on 01625 612025.

Worship in October

6 th Sunday	9.15am Holy Communion 10.30am All Age Worship
13 th Sunday	10.30am Parish Communion
20 th Sunday	10.30am Parish Communion
27 th Sunday	10.30am Parish Communion

3rd Sunday November

9.15am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Worship



Don't miss....

30th Wednesday:

8.00pm - **Church in the Pub at the Cotton Tree**

31st Thursday: All Hallows Eve

5.00pm - 6.30pm - **Messy Church Light Party**

7.30pm - **Taize Service at St Gregory's Church**



Regular activities

Holy Communion - Every Thursday morning at 10.30am

Little Owls - Every Tuesday 9.30am to 11.00am during term time

Church in the Pub - Last Wednesday in each month, 8.00pm in the Cotton Tree

Flower rota - If you would like to join, please ask Christine Osbaldiston.