

Dear Friends,

As I approach Christmas and contemplate Christmas dinners and the odd mince pie or two (hundred) I will become increasingly aware of my waistline! Up and down the land in the New Year that follows, new or renewed gym memberships will spike as many of us resolve to get fit for 2020. Perhaps we will sign up for one of the many exercise groups offered in Norley.

Rightly so! Christian faith teaches us that our bodies matter. In Genesis, God creates them and declares them to be not just good but “very good”. When our bodies don’t work as they once did or when we become poorly, it’s not what God had in mind.

Christmas teaches us that God takes on our body and becomes fully human; that amazing fusion of body and spirit that is our full and true humanity. Perhaps at very least I’m inspired to take the dog on longer walks! I know that for those who exercise regularly, if they *don’t* get exercise they begin to crave it. They long to “feel the burn” of a good workout.

Medical science teaches us that our wellbeing and health is improved with regular exercise. The odd walk once a month won’t make any difference but regular exercise will.



If that is true of our physical bodies, it is also true of our spiritual life. In just the same way that we need to develop habits of physical exercise, we also need to develop what one Methodist minister has termed: *Holy Habits*.

The ten *Holy Habits* in the picture are all found in the description of the early church given in Acts 2: 42-47.

We’re kidding ourselves if we think that we do not need to attend to our spiritual fitness or that exercising by coming to the spiritual gym (St. John’s or Norley Methodist) once or twice a year is going to do us any good at all. True fitness comes when we recognise our need and commit in a disciplined way.

I wonder if we recognise this? Do we crave the exercise of the *Holy Habits*? Do we long to “feel the burn” in our lives? Grace and peace. **Andrew**

Congratulations to

- **Robert & Christine Gleave, Eileen Burrows, Jane Evans & Judy Smith** who were transferred into membership at Norley by Andrew on 8th September. We welcome them into our fellowship.
- **Margaret Hogan** who successfully had a pacemaker fitted and was signed off for 12 months.
- **Zack Bell** (who was 15 years old on 11th October), **Harry Dale** (who was 9 years old on 29th October) and **Wilf Turnbull** (who was 4 years old on 16th July).

Thank You.....

- To the **Castle Park Collection** for a thoroughly enjoyable evening of music at the Church on Saturday 12th October. There were performances from Belmont Swing – a gypsy jazz-inspired group featuring Sue Blanchard on vocals performing standards from the ‘American Songbook’; Almaz – a classy jazz/blues trio; Tony Delaney and Sam Smith performing folk classics by Don McLean, Simon and Garfunkel etc, and our own Michael Gough playing a mixture of pieces from a classical repertoire as well as by Gordon Giltrap, Steve Hackett, and his own compositions. The evening raised over £650 for Church funds.

In Our Thoughts.....

- **Lesley and Michael Gough** and family following the death of Lesley’s mother, Rene.
- **Rajan and Saro Jesudason** following the death of Rajan’s sister in early October.
- **Sylvia Grindley** who is grieving following the loss of her friend Phil Alderman in October.
- **Mary and John Dimelow** and family as they cope with Mary’s mother Janet who has now left hospital and is in a nursing home.
- **Margaret Hogan** who is suffering from ‘flu and was declared not well enough to have a ‘flu jab.

Please remember them in your prayers.

First Wednesday Walks

We had more than normal numbers for the September walk, and we were particularly delighted to welcome Ruth Lane back. The walk was an easy two mile stroll around Dunham Massey Park to see some of the veteran and notable trees that go to make this a SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest). It is said that there are more veteran trees there than on any other site in northern England. We looked at different species of trees including the English oak which were the remnants of the medieval woodland still growing there. Some of the folk on the walk may even remember how to tell the difference between the two native species of oak, the English or pedunculate oak and the sessile oak! The walk ended up at the "Swan with Two Nicks" where we had a good lunch and a discussion on the origin of the name.

Richard Ramsbottom

The October walk was led by Peter. Unfortunately Sheila was suffering from a bad cold and was unable to join us, and for various reasons others of our regulars also could not come, so a select band of eight walkers set off for Brereton Heath Country Park, between Holmes Chapel and Congleton. The walk started from the car park in a clockwise direction round the lake, before leaving the park at its SE corner. We then did two loops through fields and lanes before re-entering the park at the SW corner.

After a coffee break and photo stop at a fine carving (see photo), Peter, with the aid of an Orienteering map, led the way through a complex network of minor paths through the woods; hardly any of these paths are shown on the OS map of the area. Returning to the cars, we then drove the 2 miles to the Bear's Head at Brereton Green for a good lunch.

Peter Hills

The November walk was devised by Ruth Lane to accommodate her walker. Starting from the Leigh Arms car park on the A49, the *main* group of 8 of us walked up through the fields to the Trent and Mersey Canal and along the tow path for a couple of kilometers before dropping down to Dutton Locks on the river Weaver. Here we met Ruth with David our son (as carer) and Sheila who had walked along the Weaver to this point (see photo) and we returned together to the Leigh Arms to be joined by the motorized division (Tony and Betty Knight) for lunch. We missed Garry's cheery banter - his cough prevented his attendance.

Bruce Lane.

Future walks are planned for **Wednesday December 4th, Wednesday January 8th, Wednesday February 5th.**

December's walk will be local on the Whitegate Way, weather permitting with lunch afterwards at the White Barn, following which John and Sylvia have invited us to tea and mince pies at their house as usual. Meet at church at 9.45 for a 10.00 am departure each month – we hope to see you there.

Bruce

October Church Council

The October Church Council was chaired by our Minister Andrew Emison and the first action was to confirm the appointment and re-appointment of the team of Stewards, Vestry Assistants and Congregation Representatives as voted and agreed at the Annual Church meeting. Lewis Dimelow was welcomed to the team of Stewards. The Council also approved John Bell to continue as Treasurer, Bruce Lane as Property Steward and Lesley Gough to continue as Church Council Secretary for the current Church year.

The meeting had a busy agenda and these are the key points discussed and agreed:

- Church weekend – the Church weekend for 2020 will be on 2nd-4th October at Beth Eden, Llandudno (subject to final confirmation with Beth Eden).
- AV system – A company has now provided and outline proposal and costings for a new AV system and this was approved. Michael Gough will be working with Andrew and others in agreeing final details and installation.
- Outreach at Christmas – we will be holding the Carol Service as usual (this year on 22nd December at 4pm) and a Christmas day service at 9.30am and also a ‘Singing around the Christmas Tree’ evening on Wednesday 18th December from 6 to-8pm. We will use Norley news and Facebook (as well as ‘word of mouth’) to publicise all three and hopefully local friends and neighbours will join us!
- Outreach in general – following the meeting in the Summer we agreed to look for opportunities to publicise our services and activities – including Norley News and Facebook. Additionally, Andrew is going to consider ways in which we can celebrate local clubs and activities in our Church as a way of reaching out to the local community.
- John Bell presented the accounts for the previous year and confirmed that they are looking healthy – boosted this year by a successful Gift Day and Autumn Concert (which is reported separately in this edition of Outreach). The Council agreed to send donations of £100 to each of three Methodist Church Charities as we have done in previous years. They are: Englesea Brook Museum, the Connexional Property Fund and the Connexional Fund for the Support of Presbyters and Deacons.
- Bruce Lane had submitted the proposed Church Return and a range of property proposals which were all agreed. The property proposals included trimming of the Chilean Pine trees, supply and installation of a new dishwasher, repainting of the corridors, work on the Kitchen roof and gutters, an urgent repair to the heating system and the AV system (as already mentioned).
- The Church Council thanked John, Bruce and Margaret Hogan, who co-ordinates our Pastoral work, for their dedication and hard work which is greatly appreciated.
- Andrew and Simon Kelly, who is our Circuit Steward representative, reported that the merge of the Chester and Delamere Circuit with the Runcorn Circuit to form the ‘North Cheshire Circuit’ had gone well. We are fully staffed with Presbyters and the staff team also includes a Deacon who will be focusing on outreach work in the Runcorn Shopping City area.

The next Church Council meeting will be held on 25th March at 7.15pm.

Lesley Gough, Secretary to the Church Council

Choir at Norley

The choir contributed to worship at the Harvest Festival service in the morning.

They sang a song entitled " Reap the Ripe Harvest". My thanks to Bruce and James who sang the first verse as a duet. The choir sang beautifully, with good diction, enhanced by the lovely descant sung by Jean and Eileen.

They have started rehearsals for the forthcoming Carol service on the 22nd December
Saro Jesudason.

Harvest 2019

Yet again the Church was wonderfully decorated for harvest with flower arrangements and displays in the porch. Many thanks to all who decorated the Church

The morning service was led by our minister Andrew Emison and an amazing amount of food was donated for the Chester & Ellesmere Port foodbank, for which they were very grateful.

Our Harvest celebrations were rounded off by Rev'd David Goodwin who led the evening service.

Thanks to everyone who donated items for the foodbank, which were delivered there in the following week.

Bruce

Remembrance Sunday

We were delighted to have a church full to overflowing on November 10th when our minister Andrew led a joint service of Remembrance. 1st Norley Scout Group – Beavers, Cubs and Scouts paraded up from the Tiger's Head and filled the centre section with some 50+ uniforms, whereas their parents, our members and those from St John's filled the side aisles and the Open Door room. Every chair was taken - plus the communion kneelers – and there were still some standing.

The flags were presented, a kilo of 50,000 rice grains was poured with the information that it would take 1960 of these bags to provide 1 rice grain to represent each life lost in the 2 world wars. Andrew preached a powerful sermon whilst the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts found the names of the Norley fallen which had been hidden around the church. The names of the fallen were read out, the Scouts took the collection, and the flags were returned before the national anthem was sung and the blessing given.

The parade moved on to the Tommy in St John's graveyard where Andrew conducted a short service, reading the names again and saying a prayer with impromptu Shalom singing. A wreath was laid by the Parish council, a button hole placed on Tommy by a Scout, and Phil Gifford said a few words.

Bruce

The Church Weekend Away

The weekend away in Beth Eden at the beginning of October was much enjoyed by those attending. Sadly Yvonne was not one of them – she fell ill the day before and had to miss the holiday. We more or less filled Beth Eden and had a restful yet busy weekend. Saturday saw some of the party going off visiting or shopping but most of the attendees traversed the Invalids Path – including Ruth - to the café and then on into Llandudno.

Many of us went up the Orme on the tram to the summit and enjoyed lunch there. Some returned on the tram, but the rest walked down the Orme back to Beth Eden before the rain came. Alison and Saro had arranged the evening's entertainments after dinner to round off a thoroughly good day. James and Bruce sang a reprise of Side by Side.

On Sunday an excellent breakfast and a short walk was followed by a communion service in the lounge led by Andrew, followed by a super lunch before we all headed home.

Bruce

Diary

Unless otherwise stated in the notices the following group meets weekly at Norley

Craft Club Tuesdays 10.00am – noon in the Norley Open Door Room

December 2019

Sunday (Advent 1)	1 st	10.45am	Mrs Elizabeth Holmes of Frodsham
		6.30pm	Rev'd Andrew Emison - Sacrament
Wednesday	4 th	9.45am	1 st Wednesday Walk
Saturday	7 th	10.00am	Decorate the Church for Christmas
		10.00am	Rowton – Coffee Morning. Coffee, tea, mince pies & stalls (until 12 noon) – all very welcome.
		2.00pm	Saughall – Christmas Afternoon Tea (until 3.30pm) – all welcome
Sunday (Advent 2)	8 th	10.45am	Rev'd Andrew Emison
		6.30pm	No Service at Norley
Thursday	12 th	12noon	Christmas Open Door Lunch
		7.30pm	Tarvin 'Carols with the Salvation Army' – all welcome
Sunday (Advent 3)	15 th	9.00am	Norley@9
		10.45am	Mr John Bell of Cuddington
		6.30pm	No Service at Norley
Wednesday	18 th	6.00pm	Singing around the Christmas tree
Sunday (Advent 4)	22 nd	10.45am	Rev'd Andrew Emison - Sacrament
		4.00pm	Candlelit Carol Service
Christmas Eve	24 th	4.00pm	The Hurst Christingle service led by Rev'd David Bintliff
		11.15pm	The Hurst Midnight Communion with Rev'd David Bintliff
Christmas Day	25 th	9.30am	Rev'd Andrew Emison
		11.00am	Kelsall – United Service with Rev'd Jo Brown
Sunday	29 th	10.45am	Mr Geoff Robinson of Helsby
		6.30pm	Christmas Carols with John and Joan Bell at Blakelees No Service at Norley

January 2020

Sunday	5 th	10.45am	Rev'd Andrew Emison - Covenant Service - Sacrament
		6.30pm	No Service at Norley

Wednesday	8 th	9.45am	1 st Wednesday Walk
Sunday	12 th	10.45am	Mr Ken Martin of Runcorn
		6.30pm	No Service at Norley
Wednesday	15 th	7.30pm	Café Church
Sunday	19 th	9.00am	Norley@9
		10.45am	Miss Sian Davidson of Runcorn
		6.30pm	Rev'd Andrew Emison - Sacrament
Sunday	26 th	10.45am	Rev'd Andrew Emison
		6.30pm	No Service at Norley

February 2020

Sunday	2 nd	10.45am	Mrs Janet Batey of The Hurst
		6.30pm	No Service at Norley
Wednesday	5 th	9.45am	1 st Wednesday Walk
		7.30pm	Church Leadership Team meeting at Howell Croft
Saturday	8 th	10.00am	Marriage & Relationships Roadshow at Frodsham until 3pm
Sunday	9 th	10.45am	Rev'd Andrew Emison - Sacrament
		6.30pm	No service at Norley
Wednesday	12 th	12 noon	Open Door Lunch
Sunday	16 th	9.00am	Norley@9
		10.45am	Mrs Anne Hanks of Runcorn
		6.30pm	Rev'd Andrew Emison - Sacrament
Wednesday	19 th	7.30pm	Café Church
Sunday	23 rd	10.45am	Rev'd Andrew Emison
		6.30pm	No service at Norley
Thursday	27 th	12 noon	Open Door Lunch
		1.15pm	Thursday Club

March 2020

Wednesday	4 th	9.45am	1 st Wednesday Walk
Wednesday	11 th	12 noon	Open Door lunch
Sunday	15 th	9.00am	Norley@9

Spiritual Committee

Many of these Outreach pieces seem to begin with an allusion to 'it can't be a year since such and such.....how time flies!' Well, it always is and it seems to. Advent is again upon us, as we prepare once more for the celebration of Christ's birth.

A new Methodist year began in September, the Harvest has been gathered in, shoeboxes have been filled and sent on their way, and we shared in the village service of Remembrance with the St John's congregation, the uniformed organisations and their families.

As ever, we shall follow a short Advent liturgy each Sunday morning and on Christmas Day.

The Carol Service will be at 4 pm on December 22nd and Christmas Day worship at 9.30 am (the offering at this service will go to Christian Aid).

Carols will be sung around the Christmas tree in the garden on December 18th from 6 pm until 8 pm and refreshments served.

All are welcome to join us on all these occasions.

The annual Covenant Service – that unique Methodist contribution to church liturgies – will be led by the Revd Andrew Emison at 10.45 am on the first Sunday in 2020, January 5th.

Details of all services are on the Circuit Plan, now available.

Café Church will take a break in December and meet on the 3rd Wednesdays in January (the 15th) and February (the 19th) at 7.30 pm.

We continue to enjoy these hours of stimulating input and conversation, interspersed with cake, biscuits, tea and coffee.

Norley@9 will gather for informal worship at 9 am on the 3rd Sundays of each month.

None of these things happen without the commitment of many people and we express our gratitude to all those who lead worship and preach, read lessons, accompany singing on organ and clavino, act as vestry and welcome stewards, provide and distribute flowers, arrange for Holy Communion, prepare and print the notice-sheets, operate the projector, prepare and serve refreshments and, not least, are participants in our worshipping community week by week.

The Spiritual Committee will meet on December 9th to consider the plans for the March to May quarter, including Lent and Easter, and we shall look forward to welcoming the Revd Tim Macquiban to lead our Church Anniversary morning service on April 26th. Tim retired from active ministry in 2019 and, with his wife Angela, came to live in Saughall: however, his father was vicar of St John's Norley when Tim was a youngster so he is no stranger to the village. More next time!

John Bell

OPEN DOOR

Our Christmas Lunch is fast approaching and it is always a very exciting occasion. As ever there will be Christmas music before lunch and carols for all after we have dined.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

In January we will have a break and return in February for our Spring lunches.

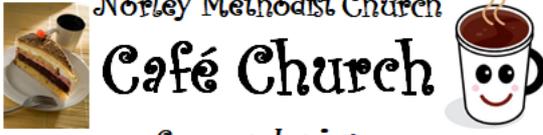
Our dates for the quarter are:

Thursday December 12th. Christmas Lunch

No lunches in January

Wednesday February 12th Thursday February 27th .

**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND BEST WISHES FOR 2020
FROM ALL THE OPEN DOOR LUNCHES TEAM.**



Norley Methodist Church
Café Church

Come and enjoy
fellowship, worship and refreshments
in a café atmosphere in the church
at 7.30pm on the following Wednesdays:

January 15th
February 19th

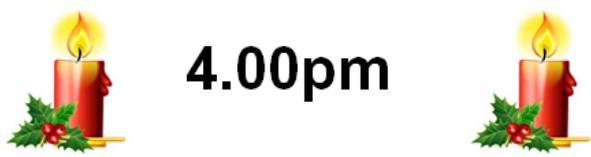


Help Decorate the Church
for Christmas

Saturday 7th December
10.00am

December 22nd

Candlelit Carol Service



4.00pm

Everyone Welcome

Singing around the Christmas Tree!



Come and join us to sing carols, popular seasonal songs, and enjoy some time meeting up with friends!

Everyone welcome!

at:

**Norley Methodist Church
Wednesday 18th December
6-8pm**

Refreshments will be available



Covenant Service

January 5th at 10.45am



Norley @ 9

Join us for an informal time of worship and praise on

December 15th

January 19th

February 16th



Christmas Day



9.30am Family Worship

Come and celebrate with us

An invitation to you to come to the



Thursday Club



**1.15pm – 2.30pm
in the
Open Door Room on
February 27th**



Craft Club News

On the 7th September the Craft Club had a stall at the Norley Garden Show to raise money for Petty Pool.

Fortunately the weather was good and the show well attended. Petty Pool included us in their insurance cover which saved us about £100. Our takings amounted to £230 which we delivered to them on the 1st of October, and Petty Pool served us with bacon butties which were excellent!

Items left from the sale were sorted, some suitable for shoeboxes were put aside, and the rest given to Claire House Hospice.

We continue our charity work with making curtains for a new development at Petty Pool. This involved a visit to Aberkan craft shop in Wales for some of us to buy fabric. The visit, of course, included coffee and lunch.

We are also knitting small angels for St. Luke's Hospice's fund raising effort for Christmas.

Not everyone is involved in all the charity work and individual projects are also continuing. The scarves are, gradually, getting longer!!

Alison Twinn

Pastoral Piece

'Greetings from the pastoral team,' We hope you are all keeping well, and avoiding the coughs and colds going about at present. This time of year starts to get busy, but lots to look forward to once the preparations are all done.

We all hope you have a peaceful, happy, & healthy festive time. We would love to see you at our church functions. You would be very welcome.

Meanwhile some words by Patience Strong

If common sense could be applied to problems big and small -

A better place this sad old world would be-

Instead of foolish sentiments - a little pinch of common sense would do the trick – restoring harmony.

In matters international and personal affairs we'd very quickly see a difference -

If everybody really tried-to put the grievances aside - and then applied a little common sense.

Best wishes to you all

May God be with you every step of the way.

Margaret Hogan

Foodbank update

Lesley Gough

The Church Weekend Away in 2020

We have provisionally booked to return to Beth Eden in 2020. Abbot Hall is no longer taking Church Groups and Willersley Castle was not available in September or early October 2020, so even though we went to Beth Eden in 2019, we have booked there again in 2020.

The dates for your diary are

Friday 2 October – Sunday 4 October 2020

David & Margaret Sales, the current owners of Beth Eden, have put the hotel up for sale, and the booking is only provisional. They hope to sell Beth Eden as an ongoing concern, and that the new owner will continue with the arrangements – but we will have to see.

Bruce

Financials Matter

Indeed, they do! Maybe not the most important aspect of the life of a church, but we need to keep proper accounts and be solvent – and we tick both boxes. The October Church Council received and adopted the accounts and reports for the year 2018-19, with very grateful thanks to Richard Ramsbottom who, once again, examined and signed them off as a true and accurate record of our financial affairs.

Income of £28,463 and expenditure of £23,008 gave a surplus in the year of £5455 which may seem a lot, but it arose from

(1) the gift-aid on small donations from 2017-18 being recovered (as expected) as well as that for 2018-19 (£1628 which was not budgeted – HMRC has caught up!),

(2) the expenditure of £2000 on new A/V equipment being deferred until 2019-20,

(3) the property emergency provision not being required (but since then the dishwasher has been replaced and the central heating pump repaired)

and (4) saving payment to the circuit in respect of Andrea Ellams' employment which terminated in October 2018.

The full accounts were copied to all Church Council members: if anyone else would like to see them, or you have any questions, do let me know.

In addition to the weekly collections being sustained, the Gift Day in June raised the splendid sum of £1188, more than making up for the absence of a Safari Supper, Open Door lunches contributed a net £1004 and donations for Sunday morning refreshments were £535. The annual total gift-aid claim now exceeds £5000 – a very significant element of our income.

Donations totalling £1977 were made from the Church Council, the Annual Church Meeting and through specific events and collections, as follows: Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum £100, Connexional Fund for the Support of Presbyters and Deacons £100, Connexional Property Fund £100, Marie Curie Foundation £200, Norley News £100, the Royal British Legion £100, Cheshire Agricultural Chaplaincy £200, Samaritans Purse (Christmas shoeboxes) £150, World Church Easter Offering £263, MHA £108, All We Can (formerly MRDF) £242 and to purchase a defibrillator cabinet for the village £314.

As previously reported, we continue to build up an adequate reserve to cover the external decoration of the church buildings which will cost between £4000 and £5000 as well as for any

unexpected events and emergencies. The deposit held with the Methodist Central Finance Board stood at £19,492 and the current account working balance was £1474 on August 31st 2019.

As for 2019-20, an income and expenditure budget showing a small surplus was prepared which, as ever, will be monitored as the year unfolds.

Finally, the church continues to be immensely grateful for the generosity of everyone, giving as they are able, who shares in its life in so many and varied ways. We are grateful too to the (then) Chancellor of the Exchequer whose 2018 Budget Statement included, in the small print, provision for the small cash donations amount on which gift aid may be claimed to be increased from £20 to £30 from April 2019: every little helps!

John Bell, Treasurer

In Memoriam Irene Marie Joyce ('Rene') Baglee

(10/04/1923 – 19/09/2019)

A Eulogy by David Baglee

Irene Marie Joyce Gleeson was a Yorkshire girl, through and through. She was born and raised in Hull, and had one younger sister, Joan, who sadly passed away several years ago. During World War 2, she joined the police force, as what we would now call an administrative assistant, and always spoke fondly of those times. The bobbies seemed to really spoil those girls and she worked there for several years. While there, she became good friends with Joan Ada Baglee.



Auntie Joan Ada was Dad's older sister and was the one responsible for introducing Mum & Dad to each other. After WW2, Dad went off to do his national service and we think the photo on the front of this order of service was one that she probably sent to him while he was off in Egypt or wherever! It was pretty forthright for those days to sign the photo "Yours affectionately"! Well, it must have worked as they got married in 1949, and after a brief move to Wiltshire, they settled in Bishop Auckland, County Durham, which is where Lesley and I were born and grew up.

Mum lived in Bishop Auckland for well over 60 years and had many close friends. She'd naturally integrated into the fabric of the town delivering Meals-On-Wheels for several years and being active in Inner Wheel and the Red Cross. She also worked part time as a receptionist at our local doctor's surgery, for over 20 years.

Mum was primarily a homemaker, calmly making sure that all the various parts of the Baglee family were running smoothly... getting Dad off to work, us off to school, doing laundry, cooking, making sure we did our homework, and in Lesley's case her piano practice! Busy, busy, busy. She found time to take driving lessons and I think she must have been near 40 when she passed her test (on the first attempt). Lesley & I are eternally grateful that she did though, because when each of us turned 17 it was Mum who took us out for practice driving sessions in the afternoon - preparing us for the test. No, not the actual driving test, but that one trip out with Dad prior to the exam, when he sat in the passenger seat holding on to the hand brake with one hand and the other clutching the handle above the car door. We all passed with flying colors including Mum! Thanks Mum!

Sports were not really her thing. Apparently she did play netball in school, although we have been totally unable to find any photographic evidence to support this claim. About 25 years later, Mum and Dad did take up golf, and while he became quite a fanatic, she preferred to just play 9 holes on a Tuesday afternoon with her friends. But that was about it.

Playing cards was a totally different kettle of fish! She did enjoy a good game of cribbage. When I asked her why she liked cribbage, she said it was because there was some skill in it, but you could still enjoy a good natter and a drink. For many years, she and Dad would have weekly

games with the neighbors and, as almost all of the family can attest, she was pretty ruthless and very capable of handing out to any and all of us a “thrashing”, right up to the end!

Mum loved cooking and entertaining. She and Dad would often throw dinner parties, where she loved to try out new recipes on her friends. That said, at least on the Albuquerque side of the family, the most requested meal, during our visits, was her Roast Beef and Yorkshire puddings! Our kids will always remember that, along with her lemon cakes and her victoria sponges and her ‘lemon paradise’; I think you get the picture.

She actually continued baking up until quite recently, and whenever she’d come down to Norley on the train, Christopher, Andrew, Matthew & Mike would always be eagerly awaiting to see if she’d brought a plum loaf or a lemon cake with her. It always seemed to be presented with the comment “It’s not my best.....” I’ll tell you Mum, they were all your best !

How else can I describe Mum? Well, Dad had a nickname for her which I think was quite appropriate, and one that I’d forgotten about until I read it in a card this week: ‘Bubbles’ – It was right on the mark! Others remembered her in various ways too ... well spoken, humorous, loyal, a great friend, forthright, determined and of course...well dressed! They were all right too. Lesley has probably lost count of the number of trips that they made to Binns in Darlington and Bratts in Northwich!

Mum reveled in being the matriarch, a real driving force and the glue in our family, setting an example that I hope we can all continue to follow. I know she was always concerned about her kids and their spouses, her grandkids and her great grand kids. Well Mum, I can tell you that thanks to your example, I think we’ll be alright!

On one of her visits to the US, after Dad died, my mother-in-law asked her if she’d ever re-marry? Without even missing a beat, Mums response was “why would I want to do that? I’ve already had the best!” Dad would have said the same thing about her.

In closing, Lesley, Mike, Susan & I would like to thank you all for coming out to celebrate Mum.

Rotas Page		Morning Door Stewards Rota	
Flowers Rota		The December to February rota is published below. Please ensure that you find a substitute if you’re unable to fulfil your duty.	
Dec1	Mrs H Davies	Dec 1	Heather & Anthony Davies
Dec 8	Mrs B Garner	Dec 8	Margaret Hogan & Joan Barclay
Dec 15	Mrs J Barclay	Dec 15	Hazel & James Dale
Dec 22	Mrs L Gough	Dec 22	Alison Twinn & Rajan Jesudason
Dec 29	Mrs M Hogan	Dec 22	(4pm Carol Service) Oliver Dimelow & Alison Penny
Jan 5	Mrs V Wynne	Dec 25	John & Joan Bell
Jan 12	Mrs J Dunning	Dec 29	Philip Garner & Yvonne Roughsedge
Jan 19	Mrs H Dale	Jan 5	Alison Twinn & Rajan Jesudason
Jan 26	Mrs S Salter	Jan 12	Heather & Anthony Davies
Feb 2	Mrs R. Lane	Jan 19	Margaret Hogan & Joan Barclay

Feb 9	Mrs S Grindley	Jan 26	Hazel & James Dale
Feb 16	Mrs A Twinn	Feb 2	Ken & Jean Dunning
Feb 23	Mrs H Davies	Feb 9	Oliver Dimelow & Alison Penny
Mar 1	Mrs B Garner	Feb 16	Ken & Jean Dunning
Mar 8	Mrs J Barclay	Feb 23	Philip Garner & Yvonne Roughsedge
Mar 15	Mrs L Gough	With thanks, as ever, to you all. Your welcomes are much appreciated. <i>The Stewards</i>	
Mar 22	Mrs M Hogan		
Mar 29	Mrs V Wynne		

Coffee Rota

Dec 1	Vaughan & Yvonne
Dec 8	Hazel & James
Dec 15	Margaret & Joan
Dec 22	Richard & Di
Dec 22	Carol Service pm Alison T & Yvonne
Dec 25	Mary & Alison P
Dec 29	Mike & Gay
Jan 5	Heather & Anthony
Jan 12	Hazel & James
Jan 19	Vaughan & Yvonne
Jan 26	Margaret & Joan
Feb 2	Richard & Di
Feb 9	Mary & Alison P
Feb 16	Alison T & Yvonne
Feb 23	Mike & Gay



Car Rota - If you need a lift to or from Church on any Sunday please contact the senior steward, Ruth Lane, on 01928788071 who will make arrangements

Contact numbers for the Coffee Rota ...

are 01928 followed by for Yvonne & Vaughan 787196; for Margaret & Joan 788960; for Hazel & James 787216; for Mary and Alison P

Café Church refreshment rota

Jan 15	John & Joan
Feb 19	Ruth & Bruce

788091; for Alison T & Yvonne 787196; for Richard & Di 788969, for Mike & Gay 789965 and for Heather & Anthony 01606 followed by 888896.