

## DIRECTORY

### Team Ministers

Team Rector	Canon Dr Chris Bracegirdle	01942 859251
Team Vicar	Revd Angela Wynne	01204 468150
Curate:	Revd Kirsty Screeton	01942 575383
Reader Emeritus	Alan Morris	01942 817871
Reader	Christine Radford	01942 790091
Reader	Elaine Simkin	01942 810762

### Parish Wardens

Margaret Dolphin	01942 790415
Edward McHale	01942 812193

### Deputy Wardens

St Bartholomew	Christine Andrews	01942 817146
	Joyce Cunliffe	01204 697652
St George	Pat James	01204 492994
	Sarah Barry	01942 840441
St Thomas	Tim Browning	07827 275262
	Janet Perfect	01942 814090

[www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk](http://www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk) Follow us on Twitter @Wparishchurch and on Facebook

For all enquiries relating to baptism and weddings, and for other routine matters, please come to the parish office at St Bartholomew's Church on any Monday (other than Bank holidays) 6pm - 7pm.

### Sunday Services across the Team through September

*Note changes from 1st October detailed on page 1*

St Bartholomew's:	8.00am (2nd & 4th Sundays)
	11.00am each week
St Thomas's	8.00am (1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays)
	9.15am each Sunday
St George's	9.30am each Sunday
St John's	8.00am (1st & 3rd Sundays)
	11.15am each week
St James's	8.00am (2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays)
	9.15am each Sunday
St Katharine's	8.00am & 11.00am each Sunday

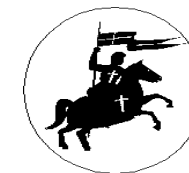
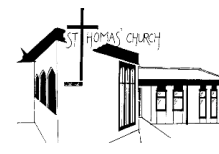
Items for inclusion in future newsletters should be sent to the parish office:  
[westhoughtonparish@outlook.com](mailto:westhoughtonparish@outlook.com)  
or given to Edward McHale, churchwarden and Director of Music  
[www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk](http://www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk)

## Parish of St Bartholomew Westhoughton

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George



## NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2017

Edward Patey was Dean of Liverpool Cathedral and in his autobiography claimed that poor clergy had no sermons [i.e. they had nothing to say] but that the best clergy had one sermon i.e. they had a single simple message to get across, however differently it was wrapped each time. His one sermon was that on the Christian journey we are all either commuters or pioneers. We can simply follow the same route at the same time day in day out, or we can look to new and different pathways, trusting in God to lead and guide us. We need to focus constantly on the new and different ways God is calling us to serve him as the church in this area.

*Ed*

### Changes in the Team

Following Gareth Thomas's appointment to Pendlebury and Hope, the four PCCs in the Team have looked again at how best the Team Rector and two Team Vicars should share the responsibilities for the pastoral care and mission of our parishes and congregations.

At a joint meeting of the four PCCs held on 27<sup>th</sup> July, there was unanimous support for the proposal that Gareth's replacement should have responsibility for St James's and St George's, that Revd Angela Wynne continues to have responsibility for St Katharine's and St Thomas's whilst I continue to have responsibility for St Bartholomew's and also St John's, whilst retaining oversight of the Team.

A consequence of this is that there needs to be some changes to times of services as follows:

**St George's 9.15am**

**St John's 9.30am**

**St James's, 10.45am.**

**These changes will be effective from 1 October. Other service times are unchanged.**

A further change at St George's is that it is no longer a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP). The Methodist Church withdrew from St George's in 2016 and the PCC decided that, given the likelihood of the URC not being able to provide a minister for St George's, that we should bring the LEP to a close at the end of this year.

*Chris*

Dear friends,

A few years ago, I read a book written to commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of my theological college, Ridley Hall, Cambridge. The book – “Fanning the Flame” – gave a brief overview of the years 1881 – 1951 (a detailed history of this period was written many years ago), and a more in depth study of the ensuing years. My three years at Ridley were 1982 – 1985 and of course this section of the book was of particular interest to me as I read the author’s account of life at Ridley during this period. Though I am not mentioned by name, there are accounts of several events, serious and not so serious, with which I was associated....!

What is particularly interesting is that some members of staff whom I and others in our arrogant youth believed not always to be up to the job were in fact great and godly leaders. Certainly as the years have progressed, and now reading some of the background events recorded in this book, I have grown in my appreciation of what was done for me by others during these formative years. One person in particular, our college principal Hugo de Waal – later to become Bishop of Thetford – often presented as an avuncular, almost bumbling figure, exhibiting little of the dynamism and forthrightness we are often led to expect in our leaders. However, in retrospect, and now confirmed by this college history, I and others came to recognise in Hugo not only a canny and sharp perception of people and situations but also a Godliness and pastoral care which was second to none.

Do you ever look back on your life and thank God for those who have influenced you? As well as parents or other family members, many of us have cause to thank God for teachers, Sunday School teachers, godparents, leaders of uniformed organisations, clergy and many others who have played formative parts in our lives. We rarely see it at the time but we all have people who have helped us on our journey of faith. Sometimes it is by what they say or do; often it is simply by the people they are.

As we come to September, when many of us think about new beginnings as a new school year begins, perhaps we might all take a little time to reflect on our journey through life so far and then to thank God for those saints (for that is what they are) who have helped us along the way.

With love and all good wishes



### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Wingates Band Open Rehearsal**

Wingates Band are holding an Open Rehearsal at St. Bartholomew’s church on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September from 1:30 – 8:00pm as part of their preparations for the British Open. They plan to perform the Fraternity Hymn [part of the test piece and based on a mining disaster in France] at Ditchfield Gardens opposite the church before their open rehearsal in church.

**The Band’s next concert at St. Bartholomew’s will be on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 7:30pm**

### **Parish 200 Club**

One way in which you can help raise funds for church and have a bit of fun is to join our 200 club. We run a monthly draw with prizes of £35, £25 and £12.50 – you have probably seen the list of winning numbers on church notice boards each month. Subscription is £5 per month, ideally by standing order but we also accept cheques or cash for a year in advance. Please e-mail me or give your name and address to a church warden if you want to join and have a number in the draw. As well as having the chance of winning you will be helping church to pay its way. Thank you.

[graham.andrews30@gmail.com](mailto:graham.andrews30@gmail.com)

### **St. George’s Café Church**

This resumes on Thursdays 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September from 3:25 – 4:15pm. Organised by St. George’s church members, we meet for half an hour to worship sharing in song, prayer, conversations and snacks. All are welcome to attend – children MUST be accompanied by an adult at all times.

### **Rev. Gareth Thomas – Licensing Service**

Gareth will be licensed to his new parishes of St. John’s, Pendlebury and St. James’, Hope on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September** at 7:30pm at St James’s church, Hope, Eccles Old Road M6 8EJ. All welcome to attend.

### **Heritage Weekend – St. James’ Daisy Hill**

St. James’ church have planned a series of events to tie in with heritage weekend – opening times:

- **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 11:00am – 4:00pm**
- **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 10:30am – 4:00pm**  
Includes a Coffee Concert with music for French Horn & Piano featuring Eleanor Guenault at 11:00am followed by tea/coffee and cakes and “Find the Snails” and face painting from 1:00pm
- **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2:00pm – 4:00pm**  
tea/coffee and cakes served, bring along and share family memories of St. James’

No charges apply, but donations requested towards the Bell Turret restoration.

He had recently been converted to Christ and, thrilled with the wonder of the truths that he had so newly grasped, that one day all his trials would be over and that in heaven everything would be different. But then one Sunday in the meeting he heard them sing a song that he had not heard before, “Sweeping through the gates of the New Jerusalem.” “No,” he said, “I thought I’d done with all that.” His work day occupation? He was a road sweeper.”

*Supplied by Ailsa Maddison*

### **MacMillan Coffee Morning – St. Bartholomew’s Church**

Will be held on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September** from 10:00am – all welcome to support this charity fund-raising event.

