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VICAR: Rev. Andv William Mbl: 07472 663279

Email revandy.gsm@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS: Mr. Anthony Cowell

Three Mile Cross Farm, GrimsarghTel: 07753813758

Mr. Mark Lamberty

Ashleigh, Preston Road, GrimsarghTel: 798017

DAY SCHOOL Headteacher

Mr Stuart Booth Tel: 653600

**VERGER** Mr Tom Jones

26 Waingate, Grimsargh Tel: 651400

**CHURCH FLOWERS** Miss Fileen Parker Tel: 653774

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For more information please contact the Vicar.

**SERVICES** 10:00am Morning Worship every 1st, 3rd and 5th

Sunday

Holy Communion every 2nd and 4th Sunday Family Service - occasional by announcement

11:00am Holy Communion every 3rd Thursday of the

month

MOTHERS' UNION Every third Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm

In the school. Contact N Cowell Tel: 651772

or M Mackley Tel: 653940

GUIDES 1st Grimsargh Every Monday at 7.00pm In the Village Hall

BROWNIES 2nd Grimsargh Every Wednesday at 5.30pm in the Village Hall

RAINBOWS 1st Grimsargh Every Monday at 5.45pm in the Village Hall

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#### **PARISH LETTER**

#### Summer time ...

And the livin' is easy – so goes the Gershwin song sung, most famously, by Ella Fitzgerald. I suppose that's our ideal of what the summer can bring us. We hope for long, sunny, warm lazy days when the cares of our busy world can be left behind. We hope for a relaxation of the busyness of regular work, commitments, and running around trying to fit so much in. If we've got some holidays planned maybe we hope to experience some new places, people and food.

However, maybe your summer looks just as busy as usual with extra pressure from school holidays, entertaining and feeding children (or grandchildren) and working in increased heat and humidity.

Our lifestyles have changed over the years. Certainly, when I was younger it was a break from the routine of life, with more time to do things, life lived at a slower pace and it seemed that even God went on holiday. It wasn't a time to start new things. And yet our magazine also covers September with a new school year and life returning to usual.

We do need to find space in our busy lives to; reflect and learn on the past, be refreshed by having some space, experience different things / ways / people. Then that enables us to be in a better place to make future plans but also be ready to face the new busyness.

In the Gospels Jesus keeps trying to go away with His disciples. He understands the need for time away from the crowds and their constant demands to teach them about the Kingdom, His Father, prayer and His (and their) mission. When He does manage this these are times of increased understanding and growth for them.

If you can, over the summer. try and find some time to 'come away with' Jesus. To learn something new about the Kingdom and its good news. To be ready to face whatever comes next in our busy lives. To ensure that we face the future, its challenges, its hopes and dream, with confidence that He is with us.

Let's make the most of any relaxing, easy livin' this summer that we can get. May those times help us feel like we 'gonna rise up singing. Yes, you'll spread your wings, and you'll take to the sky'

Or to quote the Bible 'those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.' Isaiah 40: 31

Blessings,

Andy





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#### Bible Study.

We will be restarting our Bible study group after the summer. The group will meet at the vicarage on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. This will give everyone the opportunity to explore the Bible, be inspired by a teaching video, and share our thoughts, pray together, as well as a time of fellowship over tea & coffee. Andy and Louise will host and lead the Bible study to begin with but others are welcome to host once we get going.

To begin with we will be following The Bible Course which is produced by The Bible Society. This will enable every to explore the key themes of the Bible over 8 sessions. Each person on the course will need a guidebook which includes some of the course material and additional resources to use between our monthly meetings. We will agree other subjects to study once we're finished The Bible Course.

Our Bible study is open to anyone who would like to take part and share in the learning.

Please speak to Andy as soon as possible so that the guidebooks, costing £10, can be ordered in time for us to begin on the 8th October.

#### Blessings, Andy

#### **Harvest Festival**

This year our harvest service will take place on Sunday 5th of October at 10.00am.

There will be 2 options for gifts; items for the Foodbank, and cash donations to Bishop Philip's harvest appeal.

Details of what is needed for the Foodbank are at the back of church and will also be listed on our website.

Cash donations can be made on the day by placing money in an envelope labelled 'Harvest Appeal'. We don't yet know what the bishop's appeal will be for this year but will advise you in good time - he also usually shares a video on the diocesan website.

Thank you for your generosity.

We have planned a buffet meal after the service 12 noon for 12.30 pm at The Cross Keys Whitechapel.

The buffet includes hand carved meats, sausage rolls, quiche, pork pie, southern fried chicken bites, pizza, cucumber and cream cheese red pepper bites, salad, chips and fries. Followed by cheese cake, profiteroles, fruit salad or pavlova. Tea/ Coffee. The cost is £15 a head.

There will be a list in the porch from the beginning of September. We will organise lifts.

#### Songs Of Praise

On Sunday 7th September we are having a "songs of praise service" at 10 am led by James Cowell. If you have a favourite hymn/song you would like me to add to the list, please write it down plus a few words as to why it is special to you. You can contact me by emailing jacowell69@gmail.com, or by texting/calling 07715642083. I have produced some slips which will be at back of church from 1st August.

#### FAF (Fundraising and Fellowship)

**GARDEN PARTY:** Once again, a huge thank you to everyone who came along to support our annual Garden Party. Total amount raised was £2,634.13.

# St MICHAEL'S CHURCH, GRIMSARGH BIG SUMMER RAFFLE DRAW: RESULTS

This was drawn on Friday 11th July.

FAF would like to thank everyone who donated prizes and bought raffle tickets. A huge thankyou also goes to Tim Forest who kindly donated the £100 first prize.

- £100 First Prize S. Williams
- Family Ticket for Wild Boar Park Helen (brew time)
- 2 Halle Orchestra tickets –B. Robinson,
- An amazing large food hamper M. Wallbank,
- Hilltop Brasserie at the Dog Inn Longridge £25 voucher B. Holmes,
- Bottle of Whisky Buckley,
- Knitted Aran garment (winner's choice) V. Wallbank,
- ARC cinema, Preston £20 voucher D. Desai,
- Beautiful Toiletries hamper B. Kelsall,
- So Plants £20 voucher L. Hindley,
- Bottle of Gin S. Cryer,
- Blow dry at Robert Steels hairdresser J. Lander,
- \*Fine Art Original Pet Portrait M. Leighton,
- Cheese and wine hamper J. Redmayne,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Food hamper Maria c/o R. Buckley keep fit
- Boiler service / Plumbing Z. Shaw,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Toiletries hamper S. Livsey,
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Food hamper S. Wilkins,
- Computer game WORDS P. Beverley
- 4th Food hamper F. Blatcher.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Food hamper D. Towers.

#### THE FINAL AMOUNT RAISED WAS £1,393.60p



Just some of the prizes being specially wrapped for the Big raffle by Hazel Cliff and Ruth Buckley.

**Future events:** The return of the very popular **Lancashire Evening on Friday 17**<sup>th</sup> **October 7.30pm**. Tickets available to buy soon but you can pre-order from any member of FAF. Joanna Donnachie, Nellie Cowell, James Cowell, Ruth Buckley, Joanne Lander, Eileen Parker, Hazel Cliff, Sue Chapman, Marilyn Salter and Penny Thompson, or you can ring Penny Thompson on 01772651850 or Text James Cowell 07715642083

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#### **FUNCTION MENUS**

We are able to offer a menu to suit all requirements and budgets. A hot and cold buffet menu is available as well as a formal 2 or 3 course meal. Hot & cold beverages are available together with a full licenced bar with a good selection of draught beers, real ales, wines & spirits.

If you would like to enquire about having your function at the Plough then please contact us with your requirements and any questions.



# St James the Least of All On the annual war of pumpkin-growing

From The Rectory

St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Anyone who thinks that the English are a peaceful race has obviously never organised the annual pumpkin growing competition. Very regrettably, one of the Pilgrim Fathers sent a handful of pumpkin seeds to a relation in this parish in the 17th century and ever since, the church has been obliged to hold an annual competition to see who can grow the largest. I suspect some of the original recipients of those seeds still compete. There is a certain irony that the church, which is supposed to promote peace and harmony, sponsors the most war-like activity in the annual calendar.

Mobilisation starts at the beginning of the year when seeds are planted. From that moment on, every other potential entrant is regarded as the Enemy. Once seedlings are planted out, then heavy armaments are placed at boundaries to deter possible invasion. By late Spring, paranoia has taken over and rumours begin to circulate of espionage and sinister undetectable herbicides. Anyone in the village with a beard is looked on with deep suspicion.

In the weeks before the competition, homes, partners and children are abandoned, as contestants talk to their pumpkins by day and snuggle up with them at night. Should bad weather arrive at this point, then I am blamed for not having prayed sufficiently fervently for sunshine and light rain. If only I had such influence.

On the day before the show, tables are put out and woe betide anyone who places their cake stand where Mrs Cholmondeley has put her tea urn for the past 25 years; she now believes she has squatters' rights to that place, and any challenge to her claim would probably result in litigation.

I find this competitive spirit a little bemusing, as for the last 25 years, the Earl of Stowe has always won first prize. That his mother, the Dowager Countess, is the judge, is, I am sure, pure coincidence. That she has arrived for the past three years with a white stick and accompanied by a golden Labrador does, however, raise doubts.

To award the Earl any prize at all does seem a little unfair, when the only time he ever gets mud on his boots is when he falls off his horse while hunting. I suspect he would be hard pressed to find where the kitchen garden is on his estate. But to give any credit to his gardening staff would be seen as bad form, so we all keep quiet.

It has been tentatively suggested that another judge should be appointed, but no one has so far had the courage to step forward. They may have the privilege of nominating the winner, but they would also have to face a 12 month period of hatred from all those who were not successful. Christmas card lists will be amended. Families may have sat next to them in church for generations, but would suddenly find it more congenial to worship in another part of the church. Letters would be strangely mis-delivered, and the butcher's boy would suddenly deliver lamb when pork had been ordered. Who could dare to take on such a poisoned chalice?

Your loving uncle,

Eustace.

#### **MOTHERS' UNION**

#### **July Meeting Fire Safety**



We met Nicky and Katie from the Lancashire Community Team for Fire Safety Advice They gave a very informative interactive talk with lots of advice on how to prevent fires in our homes and to keep safe should there be one.

They also offered free home visit checks which many ladies booked in to have done.



If you would like one the contact number is 08001691125 or contact Nicky 01772 880364 or 07717841310

#### More Mothers Union News



Louise passed on a very big thank from those who have received the items to all the knitters. The items have been used in hospitals and prisons and by those suffering bereavement across Lancashire. There are some very touching stories showing how supportive people have found the items and



also knowing that Mothers Union ladies are giving their time and love towards those suffering has been very reassuring to them

#### Dates for your diary

- If you would like MU diary or calendar 2026 please see Marlene to order
- Mary Sumner Day service at St. Hilda's Bilsborrow August 8th 2.30 (Followed Jacob's joint with Afternoon tea)
- Mary Sumner Day Service at St. George's Chorley August 9th 11.00 ((Followed by lunch (£7.00) please book place before Aug 30th. See Louise)
- Bumper Sale of MU Cards & gifts at St. Thomas' Garstang Sat 30th Aug 10-3 Enjoy browsing with your friends with a cream tea!
- Sharing Day at Garstang Country Club October 9th 9.30—4
   £20 for refreshments—bacon butties & lunch! Booking forms with Louise

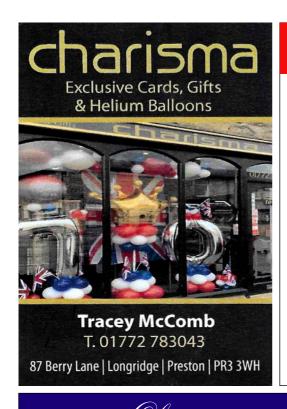
#### VERY ADVANCED NOTICES

- ♦ In 2026 the Mothers Union is celebrating 150 years. One possible idea is to hold a giant Teddy Bears Picnic Watch this space!
- ◆ There will be service in Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday 8th August 2026!

#### **Next Meeting**

Back together again! September 17th in church. Opening service, evening prayer.

#### Please note...No August meeting



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#### SCHOOL REPORT

#### WORSHIP

It was lovely to have Reverend Andy lead our reception/ KS1 end of year worship and our KS2 worship during this, our last week of school. The parents and families of the children who were chosen to be the 'Christian Value of the Year' award winners joined us and were incredibly proud of their children.

#### WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

#### MATHS CHALLENGE

A group of four year 5 children spent the day at Archbishop Temple competing against other schools in the 'maths challenge'. They had to work together to complete complex challenges with content way above their year group expectations. Mrs Lock was extremely proud of their hard work, winning a mighty second place! Well done: Elijah H, Thomas G, Matilda B and Lily H.

#### **SPORT**

#### SPORTS FESTIVAL

27 of our KS2 children represented school in the interschool Sports Festival at UCLan. We had teams compete in the year 3/4 football, year 5/6 netball, year 5/6 cricket and year 4/5 hockey. The children represented our school superbly throughout this event. Unfortunately, only our year 3/4 football team progressed through the group stage and all the way to the semi-final in which they were beaten



on penalties. Thank you to all the parents/ carers and grandparents who helped transport the children and for staying to support them too.

#### ROUNDERS

Well done to our rounders team who won their league! Our team played against and defeated both Barnacre Road and Goosnargh Oliverson's and progressed onto the 'Semi-Finals Evening' in which they narrowly missed out on the Final. Well done: Fred C, Charlie C, Ellie R, Erin T, Anabelle L, William L, Jocelyn B and Zsolt H.



#### CRICKET

Our year 5-6 girls cricket team played in a Dynamos tournament at Fulwood and Broughton Cricket Club. In our first game, we played a very good Deepdale team. Even though we lost the match, our girls made huge improvements.

Next, we played against St Clare's. This was a much closer game, however, after battling hard, our girls suffered another defeat. Well done to the girls who represented our school brilliantly and improved their cricket throughout the



morning. Well done to Ellie R, Ruby W, Anabelle L, Jocelyn B, Freya W, Hannah R, Aamal I and Erin T

#### **ATHLETICS**

Our Athletics team competed in the inter-school annual competition at UCLan. We competed in both track and field events, and after all points were totalled, we finished in 7th place out of 13 schools. A special mention to the following children who qualified through their heats as the fastest 4, to compete in the final for their event:

#### **FINALS**

Malachy W (year 6–100m): 2nd place Quinn T (year 5–100m): 5th place Charlie B (year 6–400m): 5th place

Also, a special mention to Rory B (year 5–800m), who finished in 6th place of 13 athletes in a straight final and to Ruby W (year 6–800m), who finished in 6th place also, in a straight final. Our two relay teams ran superbly well, both progressing comfortably through their heats. Our boys' team (Charlie B, Fred C, Thomas G and Malachy W) finished in 3rd place in the final and our girls' team (Quinn T, Ruby W, Anabelle L and Ellie R) finished in 1st place in the final.

Well done to: Malachy W, Charlie B, Fred C, Rory B, Miles C, Thomas G, Shaan S, Ellie R, Ruby W, Anabelle L, Freya W, Erin T, Quinn T, Savannah A-R.

#### PARISH GARDEN PARTY

Thank You for Your Support! We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents and carers for your generous donations and wonderful support at the Parish Garden Party. Your contributions helped make the event a joyful and memorable occasion for everyone.

We are incredibly proud of all our pupils who danced so beautifully, truly letting their light shine in our community. Their enthusiasm and talent were a delight to witness, and your encouragement played a big part in their confidence and success. Thank you once again for being such a vital part of our school family.

#### Message from Reverend Andy

Just wanted to pass on my thanks to all the staff and children from school who helped to make this afternoon such a success, despite the variable weather. It was great to see so many people there. The church raised over £2500.

#### **SPORTS WEEK**

#### **Monday 30th June: STATIONS**

Sports week started with our traditional event of sports stations. This involves a variety of activities, designed to test different fundamental movement skills, such as running, jumping and throwing. Children were split into teams representing our four school houses, with each team containing children from reception through to year 6. Points were awarded for teamwork and skill. All the children thoroughly enjoyed the morning. Thank you to Mr Johns for organising a successful event.

#### Wednesday 2nd July: SPORTS DAY: Races

Wednesday was our actual Sports Day. Both reception/ KS1 and KS2 events were enjoyed by staff and children and there was a super turnout of family members—thank you! The children again demonstrated qualities of effort, perseverance, resilience and sportsmanship. Some very talented runners were on display, including some parents/grandparents and other family members. Thank you to staff for taking part in the KS1



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Egg and Spoon race and KS2 staff for donning an inflatable costumes for a fun race! Well done everyone.

#### GRIMSARGH FIELD DAY

Last Saturday, we joined together, once again, to take part in Grimsargh Field Day's procession through the village. The turn out from our school community was incredible and we were all amazed by the costumes and effort from all involved - thank you!

Our field day committee worked tirelessly to create a set of 3 wonderful floats. Many thanks to them for the time and dedication to these - they looked fabulous! We were also proud to receive the best float award and also the accolade of the overall winner, taking home the Rose Bowl for the 3rd year in a row. We will see you again next year!





#### The Circus-PTFA

We enjoyed a spectacular summer treat as the National Festival Circus rolled into town for a one-day-only fundraising event.

Organised by the school's Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA), the event was a magical day under the big top, with three dazzling circus performances held on the school field. There were clowns and contortionists, hoop acts, showgirls and the beloved Pom Pom the Panda! Alongside the live entertainment, those in attendance enjoyed a range of refreshments and sweet treats, as well as family-friendly stalls, and a BBQ run by the school's very own cook, Sarah Hall and her team of helpers.

Our PTFA raised a fabulous £2,000- well done and thank you again!

#### Oliver with a Twist

Our year 5 and 6 children performed 'Oliver with a Twist' on stage on three occasionsonce for our school and parishioners and twice for their own families. The children were fantastic and made us all proud. I would like to thank all school staff for supporting the children but in particular Mrs Knight who directed the children, Mrs Giddins, Miss Corkish and Mrs Wane, as the year 5/6 team and all the staff who supported the production.

Search 'grimsarghstmichaels' on Instagram and 'Grimsargh St Michael's C of E Primary School' on Facebook to have a snapshot of some of the things our children have been doing.

On behalf of our school staff, I wish everyone within our Grimsargh community well and hope you all have a lovely summer and continue to support each other and stay safe.

Mr Stuart Booth Headteacher

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"Just as a **body**, though **one**, has **many** parts, but all its many **parts** form one body, so it is with **Christ**. For we were all baptised by one **Spirit** so as to form one body... Even so, the body is not made up of one part but of many...

...Now you are the body of Christ, and **each** one of you is part of it."

from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27



Just as the different parts
of our body need each
other to make a whole,
living person so
Christians need each
other to make a
whole living church!



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SIMOITFE
TOGETHER
ONOSEARS
NGDBQIEN
GIWOUANF
VUFAPARTSM
KETLRLMVYD

Look in the Bible verses for the words written in **bold** then look for these words too!

BWSLEGSOEB

GOD • TOGETHER • EQUAL • ALL • EVERY HEAD • EYES • EARS • MOUTH • TONGUE

TEETH • NOSE • ARMS • HANDS • FINGERS LEGS • KNEES • FEET • TOES • GIFTS



"Though we are many, we are one body in **union** with Christ, and we are **joined** to each other as **different**parts of one body."

from



Aug25 @ deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk







For the children of St Michael's, Grimsargh.







2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month!
———— (term time only) —————



Children aged 3-11



Fun games, music and activities.

St Michael's Church and then the Jigsaw Club hut!



Everyone Welcome!

Optional speaking in Church!

A great way to make new friends!

Jesus Is Great Special And Wonderful

Meeting in church for the first hymn at 10.00am before leaving for lots of activities and fun. For more information please contact the vicar.





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CHURCH	COLL	ECTI	ONS
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June 19th £30.00

June 22nd £153.00

June 29th	£140.00	•		
FLOWER ROTA				
Aug 3rd	Vacant	Sept	7th	Vacant
Aug 10th	Vacant	Sept	14th	Linda Fisk
Aug 17th	Hilary Beattie	Sept	21st	Saundra Loxham
Aug 24th	<b>Holding Family</b>	Sept	28th	Vacant
Aug 31st	Vacant			

July 6th £178.00

£165.00

July 13th

SIDESPERSONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

		10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers Coffee
Aug	3rd	N Maudsley	Acolotant	J Lander J Eccles
Aug	10th	K Thompson B Mackley	L Williams	K Billington L Wood
Aug	17th	John Cowell		L Williams B Holt
Aug	24th	B Mackley K Yates	S Cowell	M Lamberty D Rusling
Aug	31st	R Woollam		L Desai B Mackley
Sept	7th	James Cowell		L Wood N Cowell
Sept	14th	N Maudsley S Fillingham	M Lamberty	L Williams B Mackley
Sept	21st	John Cowell		B Holt K Billington
Sept	28th	K Thompson R Buckley	B Mackley	J Lander M Lamberty

FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

		Leader	Duty	y	Welcome
Aug	1st	Maureen	Jean	Kate	Christine
Aug	8th	Marlene	Eileen	Nellie	Linda
Aug	15th	Jean	Helen	Jennifer	Janet
Aug	22nd	Nellie	Marlene	Eileen	Christine
Aug	29th	Jean	Maureen	Kate	Lindat
Sept	5th	Nellie	Jean	Marlene	Janet
Sept	12th	Eileen	Helen	Kate	Christine
Sept	19th	Jean	Maureen	Jennifer	Linda
Sept	26th	Marlene	Nellie	Eileen	Janet

#### ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR AUGUST

2nd	10.30am	Prayer Group in church
3rd	Trinity 7	
	10.00am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	
4th	7.30pm	FAF meeting at Penny Thompson's
8th		I1.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
10th	Trinity 8	Halis Camananian
4 546	10.00am	Holy Communion
15th		11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
17th	<u>Trinity 9</u> 10.00am	Morning Worship
21st	11.00am	Holy Communion BCP
		11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
	Trinity 10	
	10.00am	Holy Communion
29th	9:30am - 1	11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
31st	<b>Trinity 11</b>	Ç Ç
	10.00am	Morning Worship
		ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR SEPTEMBER
3rd	2.00pm	Craft and Chat Group at the Vicarage
5th	9:30am - 1	11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
6th	10.30am	Prayer Group in church
7th	<b>Trinity 12</b>	
	10.00am	Songs of Praise led by James Cowell
12th		11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
14th	Trinity 13	
4746	10.00am	Holy Communion led by Rev John Ball and Jigsaw Club
	7.30pm	Mothers' Union Evening Prayer in church
18th 19th	11.00am	Holy Communion BCP
		11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
21st	Trinity 14 10.00am	
	11.30am	Baptism of Felicity Jacques
	6.30 pm	Churches Together Creation service at St Wilfred's Longridge
22nd	7.30pm	PCC meeting in School
26th	9:30am - 1	11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
28th	Trinity 15	
	10.00am	Holy Communion with Jigsaw Club
	11.45am	Baptism of Joshua Homson
		CADLINE for the October magazine is 15th September.
	Aruci	es to be sent to Mrs Cowell (pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk

Articles to be sent to Mrs Cowell (pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk) and/or B Mackley (bjmackley@aol.com)



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