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PARISH LETTER

Disappointment turned to Joy

In 1998, a year after my quadruple by-pass, I was told by my doctor that if I continued in the then parish, I would not live to draw my pension! She said I should seek early retirement. To cut a long story short, I took her advice seriously and the bishop backed this. We then went to live in our house in Wensleydale. I wondered, perhaps even worried, what the future held for me. After six months of complete rest my health began to pick up. I began to do some locum ministry which I coped with and enjoyed. I also enrolled on a course in stained glass at Darlington Arts Centre. Then towards the end of that year I was asked by the bishop if I would be priest-in-charge of two small parishes in Swaledale. My doctor said I was fit enough to do this. I spent seven very happy years in this ministry where the number of sheep was many times greater than the number of people!

I continued on the stained-glass course and in my workshop worked to improve my skills. I made a window for our house and a window for the Bishop of Knaresborough's chapel. I also entered a stained-glass nativity set of nine figures in the Wensleydale Show and won a first prize. I made many more of these sets and sold them to raise funds for the Melanesian Brothers. We chose to move to Longridge to be nearer to our family when I retired in 2007. I continued to make the nativity sets and sell them. I have lost count of how many I have made but an estimate would be about 600 sets! They are now also in New Zealand, Philippines, South Africa, Spain, America.

I went to Spain to be assistant chaplain on the Costa del Sol in 2009 for four years. I could not take my tools with me but I soon found that the Chinese Bazaars sold cheap tools including glass cutters and soldering irons. The quality of the tools was not very good but good enough for my work. I bought glass from a stained-glass artist in Malaga and I soon became a regular customer. The artist offered me a large discount on glass and an even larger discount on all metals! He even offered to help me with my work when I explained what I intended to make. When he saw my finished work, he said I did not need any help! I continued to make the nativity sets and to make a window the chapel of a retreat centre at a remote place in Andalucia. The design was based on Revelation 21. I also made a window for behind the altar in the chaplaincy church of St Andrew in Los Boliches. The design was based on the words of Jesus in John 15 "I am the vine. You are the branches".



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Since Spain I have made windows for houses in Longridge and Ribchester (and more nativity sets !!). Last year I made free-standing crosses for each of the ten Melanesian Bishops who came to the Lambeth Conference and the Archbishop of Melanesia asked if I could also make a pectoral cross for him. I had work fast as he was due to return to Solomon Islands the following week but I for him the cross before he departed.

Some years ago, I made large nativity sets for Fosbrooke House chapel in Lytham and Christ Church in Longridge and also Easter scenes for both places. I am thankful that, despite the gloom of (forced) early retirement, I have enjoyed good health and have known God's help in recovery. I am able now to cover in many parishes regularly where there are vacancies and to enjoy this ministry. Also, to learn and use stained glass skills to support the Melanesian Brothers in their ministry. They are a religious order. They are poor in life but rich in faith as I experienced on my two visits to work with them in Solomon Islands. I would like to return there

but I have to be content in supporting them and praying for them as they follow Jesus and make him known throughout the Islands. I value keeping in regular touch on line with Melanesian news and meetings.



The Easter Garden scene I made for Christ Church in Longridge.

John Ball

Garden Party, 2023 – Best Ever!

The Garden Party goes from strength to strength. This year was exceptional, as just over three thousand pounds was raised, the best ever total for the Garden Party.

The day was perfect. Although rain had been forecast, the sun shone. Grimsargh's Rose Queen, Amber Leho, opened the event, the children from the school, under the watchful supervision of their teachers, danced beautifully and the crowds flocked to the stalls. Perfect.

Thanks to everyone for their amazing work in helping to organising the event, to all the people who provided goods for the stalls and to all the stall holders. Thanks also to the teachers who prepared the children for their dance routine – wonderful.

Several of the usual helpers were unavailable this year but others stepped up with new volunteers appearing, proving, if proof was needed, that Grimsargh St. Michael's is a fabulous church community, a community with a very big heart.

The Garden Party is such a wonderful tradition – long may it continue

Prize winners in the raffle at the Garden Party

1st Tracey Leho

2nd Jean Harrison

3rd Anna Putland

4th Neil Maudsley

5th Alana Pickard

6th Ruth Buckley

7th Brenda Croft

Meal for two at The Plough Norma Robinson

Two children from school won the Number of Beads in a Jar and Name the Monkey



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FAF Dates for Your Diaries

Sunday 16h July – “Big Summer Raffle Draw”

Following the “Family Service”, where we hope that children from the school will be singing, we will be drawing the “Big Summer Raffle”. Please bring your own picnics and enjoy an hour of fun and fellowship and games for the children and the adults.

If you would like to purchase raffle tickets, please see any of the FAF team – Nellie, Ruth, Penny, James, Jayne, Eileen, Marilyn, Hazel, Joanne, Joanna and Joy.

Not one to be missed!

Saturday September 30th – Sponsored Walk “Oh we do like to be beside the seaside!”

We will be holding a sponsored walk on Saturday 30th September. The plan is to drive to Fleetwood and walk from the North Euston Hotel, Fleetwood, to Cleveleys. On completing the walk, 4.5 miles, we will purchase “fish and chips” in Cleveleys and then return to Fleetwood by tram. The walk is flat and suitable for pushchairs and dogs. It would be great if as many people as possible could come along and enjoy, in the words of Mr and Mrs Ramsbottom, “some fresh air and fun”.

It is advisable to bring waterproofs, a drink and a snack with you.

If you would prefer not to get sponsors and just give a £10.00 donation per family, that is fine too.

We will put a “sign-up” list at the back of Church and we would be grateful if you could indicate if you are able to take part. If you think that you will “a lift” to Fleetwood, please indicate this on the list. More details to follow.

A Ramble round Rome

Following the excitement of my Greek articles, I follow with articles giving a brief summary of Latin literature. To put the literature into context, let me give a resume of early Roman history. Back in the early hundreds BC Rome was just one of a number of city states on the Italian Peninsula, the main power being the Etruscans. But Rome defeated Etruria, and then dominated the Italian land. It sought to make colonies in the Mediterranean, in Spain in particular which brought it into conflict with the main sea power, Carthage. After Hannibal gave the Romans a nasty shock by invading Italy from the Alps and inflicting several defeats on her, including the massive defeat at Cannae, finally Rome conquered Carthage, and literally destroyed it. Reputedly, by the mid 2nd century BC a plough could run over the ground on which the former city lay, in modern Tunisia. There then followed for Rome a century of vicious

political infighting, and open civil war. It began after the fall of Carthage, with a shift in the social order of the Roman state. As in mediaeval England and elsewhere, wealth and with it, power began to move away from those who held land, to the merchant class.

The problem for the new men as they were known in Rome, was that all the levers of power remained with the old senatorial class who would not yield it up. This led to a challenge by the popularly elected “tribunes of the people”, who initially were dominant through a successful general, Marius, around 100 BC. But that period was followed by a reaction when the old order reasserted itself through the dictatorship of Sulla, followed by vicious infighting by the new men, the first “Triumvirate” as it is known, an informal carve up by the 3 most successful men of the time, Pompey and Caesar, both generals, and a 3rd man of enormous wealth, Crassus, who also took up generalship. In the film Spartacus, the 2 armies which eventually suppressed the slave revolt, shown at the end of the film, were that of Pompey, returned to Rome after a successful campaign in the East, and that of Crassus.

The viciousness of the times is best indicated by this fact, that each of the 3 triumvirs died a violent death; Crassus after an unsuccessful foray in the East where he and most his army were slaughtered, Pompey after defeat by Caesar, and of course Caesar himself, famously assassinated in the Senate building.

This is the background to Latin literature, where at least 2 of the leading politicians of the time left a literary legacy, Caesar and Cicero, who incidentally was also murdered, at the instance of Mark Anthony, who himself committed suicide after military defeat by Augustus, the last man standing, who ushered in the empire, and a period of comparative peace wherein some of the Latin literature was composed.

Mark

Food Bank and thr Salvation Army

With the summer hollidays almost upon us there will be a greater call for support for strugling families. Please could you continue with the support for the food bank in the church. All donations are sent to the Salvation Army in Preston for distribution.

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MOTHERS' UNION

I was shown this poem recently and love the positive attitude. Hope you do!

'Not growing Old' By John Roberts

This poem is based on 2 Corinthians ch 4 v16

They say that I am growing old
I've heard them tell it time untold
In language plain and bold -
But I'm NOT growing old.
This frail shell in which I dwell
Is growing old, I know full-well
But I am NOT the shell.
What if my hair is turning grey?
Grey hairs are honourable, they say.
What if my eyesight growing dim?
I still can see to follow Him
Who sacrificed His life for me
Upon the cross at Calvary.
What should I care if Time's old plough
Has left its furrows on my brow?
Another house, not made hand.
Awaiting me in the Glory Land.
What though I falter in my walk?
What if my tongue refuse to talk?

I still can tread the narrow way
I still can watch, and praise and pray.
My hearing may not be as keen
As in the past it may have been
Still, I can hear my Saviour say
In whispers soft, This is the way
The outward man, do what I can
To lengthen out this life's short span
Shall perish, and return to dust,
As everything in Nature must
The inward man, the Scriptures say,
Is growing stronger every day.
Then how can I be growing
When safe within my Saviour's fold?
Ere long my soul shall fly away
And leave this tenement of clay:
This robe of flesh I'll drop and rise
To seize the 'everlasting prize'
I'll meet you on the streets of gold
And prove that I'm NOT growing old.

'So don't lose heart, though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed every day'



We are definitely not growing old ladies!
Photo taken at the Church Garden Party.
Linda is waiting for her turn next!

M.U Festival at St. Margaret's Church Ingol in June

A good time to share in worship and then chat with other Mothers Union members in the Deanery

June meeting. Joy Rushton, from Ribblesdale Avenue, better known in Grimsargh as Helen's sister, who was deputy at St. Michael's school!

She first shared with us her life as a Vicar's daughter travelling from parish to parish and the way God has always been there.

Her headings for her talk were: -

Trust and Obey

Lost and Found

Fear and Faith

Through which she shared her life growing up and moving onto working in the Blackburn Diocese working with Bishop Jill in the many initiatives inspiring the church to be active and vital in its local community. She said she has seen how the Mothers Union members show the love of Jesus in Grimsargh and encouraged to continue! We finished with the Vision Prayer that God will give us eyes to see His Vision, ears to hear the prompting of His spirit and courage to follow in the footsteps of his son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Next meeting - JULY Lucinda Smith 'From Pakistan to Preston via China. Her Adventures with God' (in school)

SCHOOL REPORT

On Monday 5th June, Reverend Jeff took the lead during our whole school Pentecost service in church. The children sang beautifully and enjoyed sharing their ideas during Reverend Jeff's talk. A group of Year 6 pupils shared the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit from the book of Acts. Pentecost occurred 50 days after Easter Sunday, 50 days after Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus had already ascended to Heaven so the disciples and new believers of Jesus were waiting to receive the Holy Spirit because that's what Jesus told them would happen.

This week our Reception children have taken part in Lancashire County Councils' Stage 1 Right Start Child Pedestrian Training Programme. This Programme teaches children how to keep themselves safe when out and about in the traffic environment and to apply the rules of the Green Cross Code every time they cross a road.

They have been taught how important it is that they:

- Think- is this the safest place to cross the road?
- Stop- with their feet back from the kerb, which gives them time to Look and Listen.
- Look- for any vehicles that might be coming on the road – remember, children of this age are unable to judge speed and distance.
- Listen- for vehicles. They may hear something before they can see it – remind them though, that electric cars make very little noise.
- Think again- have they followed the rules, and will they keep Looking and Listening the whole time they are crossing the road?

They have also been reminded to play in a safe place away from traffic and to wear or carry something bright so they can be seen at the roadside by other road users. Please can you continue to reinforce these messages when out and about with your children.

Our excellent year of sport has continued with one of our school teams winning the Quad Kids event. Our team will represent Preston and compete against the other winning schools in Lancashire in the Lancashire Youth Games at Stanley Park, Blackpool. Our year 4 'Quad Kids' team competed in a series of 4 athletics events in

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the searing heat on Monday 11th June, at Corpus Christi. They showed amazing resilience and endurance in 4 events: vortex howler throw, standing long jump, 50m run and a gruelling 300m run. The performances both individually and as a team were exceptional. They were constantly urging each other on and all gave their maximum. We are very proud of Anabelle L, Ruby W, Ellie R, Jocelyn B, Charlie B, Charlie C, Finley H and Malachy W- massive well done to you all!

I would like to say a huge congratulations to all children who have put themselves forward to represent our school and to all those who were successful in being selected to do so– you have worn our school kit with pride and have been great ambassadors for our school. I would also like to thank our parents/ carers who have helped with transport to and from events and to those of you who have supported our children during the events. Finally, this would not have been possible without staff who are willing to organise and take our teams to these sports events– this includes our office staff who play a significant role in the organisation. I would like to single out Mr Fletcher and in particular Mr Brooks who have led us to these achievements.

It was lovely to see our school and parish communities come together at the Parish Garden Party on Saturday 17th June. Our school children performed their dances with great energy and lit up the afternoon with their colourful costumes. Thank you to Heather and Alice, our dance teachers, for choreographing all the dances. Each year, our Grimsargh Parish contribute to our school Barchester account which acts as our school ‘savings’ account. We use funds from this account to support school developments. The funds raised at the Garden Party go towards the annual contribution our Parish make towards our Barchester account. In total, the church raised approximately £3,000- our children and staff played such a huge part.

Next week, we look forward to Sports Week- we have many sporting opportunities planned, including some inter-school sporting competitions and some in-school orienteering time trails! We also have sports day itself, planned for Thursday so fingers crossed for the weather!

On Saturday 24th June, our school have a ‘Roald Dahl’ themed float to parade as part of the field day so we are excited to showcase our school community and our float that our amazing PTFA members along with other parents/ carers have spent many an hour preparing!

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 continue to support each other and stay safe.e.

Kind Regards

Mr Stuart Booth

Headteacher

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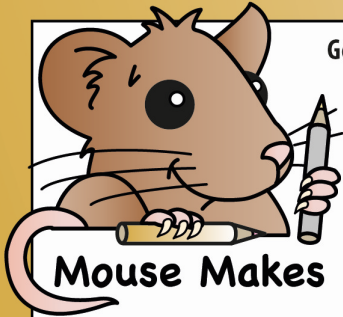
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Mouse Makes

Where did Goliath come from?



1 Samuel 17:4

How tall was Goliath?



_____ cubits.

1 Samuel 17:4

What was Goliath's armour made of?

1 Samuel 17:5,6

What weapons did Goliath carry?

a JAVELIN,

a _____

and a _____

1 Samuel 17:45

How many stones did David take from the stream?



1 Samuel 17:40



Where did David's stone hit Goliath? On his _____

1 Samuel 17:49

Goliath, the champion of the Philistine army, taunted the Israelites.
"Choose a man to fight with me and if he kills me then we will be your servants!"



The Israelites were afraid, but **David**, a shepherd boy who had come to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield said:

"The Lord who delivered me from the lion and bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."



So David went out to face Goliath on his own...

Read the story of how David defeated Goliath in 1 Samuel 17 verses 1-58



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 I T L E B A T T L E O V O
 L E B E A R J A V E L I N
 T S S I X M K H C F I D Z
 S T A F F O R E H E A D E
 T R U I I U P L A L T L G
 O U L S G R I M M L H O O
 N C P R H S H E P H E R D
 E K G A T H I T I D E D O
 S H I E L D G R O U N D M
 P H I L I S T I N E S O U

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May	28th	£215.40
June	4th	£178.30
June	11th	£136.50
June	15th	£114.00
June	18th	£120.00

FLOWER ROTA

July	2nd	Vacant
July	9th	Ruth Buckley
July	16th	Betty Sweetman
July	23rd	Vacant
July	30th	Chris Holding

SIDESPERSONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

	8.30am	10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers	Coffee
July 2nd		John Cowell		J Eccles B Mackley	L Eccleston
July 9th		D Rae	M Lamberty	N Cowell Vicar	T Taylor
July 16th		N Maudsley		Youth Reader	J Lander
July 23rd		K Thompson	S Cowell	L Wood Vicar	L Fisk
July 30th		R Woollam		S Cowell D Rusling	P Thompson

FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

	Leader	Duty		Welcome
July 7th	Jennifer	Christine Y	Marlene	Jean
July 14th	Jean	Helen	Eileen	Janet
July 21st	Nellie	Maureen	Kate	Marlene
July 28th	Marlene	Kate	Christine Y	Linda

Funeral
June 1st **'I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.'**
Shirley Brown 88 years

ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR JULY

- 2nd** **Trinity 4**
10.00am Morning Worship
- 7th** 9:30 - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 9th** **Trinity 5**
10.00am Holy Communion and JIGSAW club
- 10th** 7.30pm PCC Meeting in School
- 14th** 9:30 - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 16th** **Trinity 6**
10.00am Family Service followed the Family Picnic
(The big raffle will be drawn)
- 17th** **7.30pm** FAF meeting at Jayne Woollam's, 204 Preston Road.
- 19th** 7.30pm Lucinda Smith - From Pakistan to Preston via China
My adventures with God.
- 20th** 11.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
- 21st** 9:30 - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 23rd** **Trinity 7**
10.00am Holy Communion and Jigsaw club
- 28th** 9:30 - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 30th** **Trinity 8**
10.00am Morning Worship

**DEADLINE for the August/September magazine is 15th July.
Articles to be sent to Mrs Cowell (pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk)
and/or B Mackley (bjmackley@aol.com)**



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