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JULY 2024



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- MOTHERS' UNION Every third Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm
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- BROWNIES 2nd Grimsargh Every Wednesday at 5.30pm in the Village Hall
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PARISH LETTER

Election fever?

I'm sure we're all aware that our next General Election is on the 4th of July, when we have the chance to vote for our next government. No doubt by the time you read this any excitement has become boredom and even frustration given the amount of coverage on our TVs, radios and in the press and the levels of lies, smearing and fear mongering.

How do we, as Christians, decide who to vote for on Thursday the 4th? I am certainly not going to advise you who or which party to vote for, that is a very personal decision. I would encourage you to vote and not give up on democratic rights which have been won at a cost over the years – given that many people around the world aren't able to truly have a say in their future government.

But how do we choose who to vote for, which party will best serve our country over the next few years? We do need to think of both local representation and national concerns. As Christians I would hope we can also look beyond the short-term promises given by different parties on how their government will make our lives richer (certainly in financial terms).

I believe that we need to be thinking about which party's policies, that we can realistically expect them to fulfil, will serve all in our country – especially those who are the poorest and least in our society. Much of Christian history is filled with people who have felt that it is imperative to look after those who, for what ever reason, are struggling or in need.

Here are some words of wisdom from Bishop Philip about how we might approach casting our vote on the 4th of July.

- **Pray.** Our most important work will be to hold this process up to the Lord in prayer and pray especially for candidates and for those deciding how to vote.
- **Encourage people to use their vote.** It is so important that the Christian voice is heard in this election and that means getting our people out to vote.
- **Model good disagreement.** There is so much that is unhealthy in our political dialogue at the moment. In our conversations, we can model what it means to disagree well.

There are candidates out there who seek to serve people, have the courage of their convictions, and want to make our country a better place for all – just like us. Let us take these next days seriously, consider our options, and above all VOTE.

Blessings, Andy



Grimsargh Club



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see our Facebook page for all the latest events

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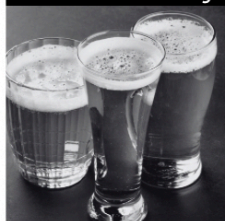
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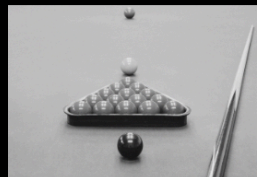


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Leading our prayers

It is great that many people help in different ways on Sundays in our worship. I hope that we also might be able to have a team of people who will lead the intercessions. It would be great to have different voices, including Jayne's and mine, leading our family in prayer. I know several people have done this in the past but it would be good to get it on a more regular basis.

It doesn't matter if you write your prayers beforehand, find suitable prayers from other sources, or do your own thing.

We'll have a meeting with all interested (no pressure on doing this if you want to know more) on a Sunday morning to see if we can make this work.

Thanks
Andy

Grimsargh Flower Produce and Handicraft Show

Grimsargh Flower, Produce and Handicraft Show has been running for 32 years. It is a traditional village show, which is loved by all our residents and visitors from further afield. In 2024 the show will be held on 10th August at Grimsargh Village Hall. The show is open to novice and amateur entries from Grimsargh and beyond. Last year's show was a huge success and we have added and adapted classes for 2024 to ensure that there is something for everyone. Classes include photography, art, handicrafts, jams and preserves, fruit and vegetables. There are also classes for flowers and flower arranging and baking. The cake to a recipe class is always popular and this year's bake is traditional Lancashire parkin.

This year we have a strong committee and are looking for additional volunteers to assist us on the day with the kitchen and front-of-house tasks. If you can spare a day or just a few hours please contact Louise Burton on 07447970096.

We are passionate about showing off the talent found in Grimsargh, so if you have a pot of tomatoes in your garden or a passion for painting, we hope you enter the show. Entry forms can be found at local shops and amenities from June, on our Facebook page or by scanning the QR code below.



Guest preacher

On the 7th of July at our Morning Worship we will have Mike Chesterton as our guest. Andy and Louise have known Mike for many years. He is passionate about the church making a difference in people's lives and has worked for several Christian charities helping churches and Christians make links to people who need our help.

Mike currently works for 'Home for Good' which is a charity helping people to explore fostering and adoption. Mike is an engaging speaker who speaks from his and God's heart so don't miss out on what he has to say. If you have experience of fostering or adoption and would let Mike interview in the service for a few minutes please speak to Andy, thanks.

You can find out about Home for Good at <https://homeforgood.org.uk>

News from FAF

Big Raffle Draw, Friday 19th July

During the Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club, at 10.30am, the draw for the “Big Summer Raffle” will be made. Please come along and enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat too!

Tea Towels and Pens

Hopefully, you will have already seen the tea towels and pens that we were selling at the Garden Party and Field Day. The tea towels and pens, co-ordinated by Ruth, are just brilliant! The be-spoke, cotton tea towels, with illustrations of Grimsargh’s landmarks, are on sale for £5.00, while the pens, inscribed with “Grimsargh St. Michael’s” on one side and “God Bless You and Keep You” on the other, are on sale for £3.00. We are indebted to the artists Liz Emmott, Hazel Taylor and Diane Tomlinson for their wonderful ink drawings of the Grimsargh Landmarks.

Date for your Diary

Sunday 29th September we are hoping to have a St Michael’s Day lunch for everyone, following the morning service. More details to follow.

PLEASE WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS for the REFRESHMENT ROTA after SUNDAY SERVICES

Refreshments after Sunday services have always been popular. We have relied on the same team of helpers for a number of years. Happily, due to an increase of the congregation staying we have found that at least 2 to 3 helpers are needed each week.

I am refreshing the Coffee team rota at the end of July and would really appreciate more Volunteers to make the drinks on Sunday morning.

We only ask that the named volunteer on the rota is responsible as the main refreshment maker perhaps every 5/6 weeks. That means they bring along the fresh milk, set up the mugs on trays and make the tea and coffee at the end of the service. There are usually plenty of people to help hand out the drinks on trays and to help with the washing up. You do not have to provide biscuits. There are plenty found in a tub in the church kitchen. Some volunteers however like to contribute when they are on duty.

I tend to ask all volunteers when they are available before I send out the final rota. If you feel that you might be able to help please phone or email me Penny Thompson 01772651850 or pjthompson247@gmail.com

Garden Party

Many thanks to all who helped to make it a successful day. Despite the forecast the weather remained dry and people could enjoy the children dancing. The total raised on the day was just in excess of £2000.



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15th July – St Swithun (or Swithin), saint for a rainy day

St Swithun is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15th July, it will then rain for 40 days after that. It all began when Swithun was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly, everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun. Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England

A Ramble round Rome (continued)

The historian Tacitus lived in the later 1st century AD. There is a tenuous connection between him and these parts. His father-in-law was Agricola, the general and governor of Britain from 77 to 85. He was also responsible for further conquests in Britain, specifically in Wales and Anglesey. He then went on campaign to Scotland and won a battle against the tribesmen somewhere in the north, probably in the Grampians, for which the Roman name was Mons Graupius, the exact site of the battle being unknown. It is therefore quite possible that Agricola passed this way, on a journey from Anglesey to the north. I may be wrong but I do not believe it can be said with any certainty when the Roman fort at Ribchester was first established. Back in the day Pan books presented a series of paperbacks on English history, one of which is entitled the Roman Conquest of Britain. As the authors remark in their preface, "we are better informed of the way the Romans consolidated their conquests than that by which they were won." So it is possible that Agricola passed through Ribchester.

It is incidentally interesting to observe how Ribchester escaped being a city, like the sites of the Roman forts on either side of it on the Roman route north on the western side of the country. Lancaster is in effect a port, quite close to the coast, and on a river. Manchester though on the Irwell, in the Middle Ages was a small place of little consequence until the 18th century and the building of the ship canal in the 19th. Ribchester on the Ribble was in Roman times clearly a place of import and a crossroads for goods transported up river west east, and for transport on by the Roman road system north or south. Its escape must be by silting of the river so that it ceased to be a trading hub, a role taken up by Preston. Back to Tacitus; he wrote histories of the early empire, of which only a small part remains, the reign of the 2nd emperor Tiberius being that which remains extant. He also wrote of his father in law's exploits and of the battle in Scotland.

He put into the mouth of the local tribesmen's leader a very famous and pithy observation. Referring to the Romans and their urge ever to conquer he said "ubi solitudinem faciunt, pacem appellant." (Where they make a desert, they call it peace.) The fact that Latin has no articles like "the" and "a" makes the language shorter and more dramatic. Does his observation put you in mind of any recent wars? There is no new thing under the sun.

Mark

The Rectory

St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

You should not complain about doing duty in other churches when their clergy are on holiday. It is only in other churches that you will be appreciated. Beatification only comes from your own church on the day you leave – which is a way of firing a shot across the bows of your successor. I remember being greeted by a churchwarden on my first day here at St James the Least of All with the encouraging words: 'I've seen six Rectors of this parish; each one was worse than the last.' As the years have gone by, I am sure I will have entirely fulfilled his expectations.

No; when you visit another church, you will be told all the many defects of their own vicar, and whatever *you* do will be praised. Store up these memories for the day you return to your own patch – when you will then be told how outstanding your own temporary replacement has been and how congregations thrived in your absence.

Naturally, this gives you the right to make similar remarks about your own congregation in the churches you visit. Unfavourable comparisons with the bell ringers, vergers and congregational singing in your home patch to the superb standards in the church you're temporarily serving will be much appreciated. Just make sure that the church you are staffing is sufficiently far from your own that word will not get back to your home team.

It is a mistake I made only once. After filling in for a colleague, I happened to complement the choir on the singing of the anthem. Unknown to me, a tenor was the second cousin of my organist, who received a rather embellished story that I had compared my own choir back home unfavourably with theirs. On my return the following Sunday, all the hymns were played fortissimo and at double speed and the choir in rotation dropped hymn books throughout my sermon.

Inevitably, when you staff another church, you will be told: 'It's the normal Service.' It will be *nothing of the sort*. Hymns will appear in unexpected places, Sunday schools will enter and leave (and enter again) apparently at random, objects will be brought to you to be read from, placed on the altar or blessed - just as you were about to try and find the pulpit. In any case, wherever you are standing, you will find you should have been standing somewhere else. But not to worry - most mistakes will be forgiven – provided your sermon is short.

So - enjoy your visits to other churches. And above all, make sure that your temporary replacement is so spectacularly incompetent that your own people will welcome you back with open arms on your return.

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MU REPORT

June Meeting

The Mothers Union and many friends were entertained by Dave Guest, the former BBC Northwest Tonight chief reporter at the June meeting. After starting the evening with the hymn Great is thy Faithfulness Dave told a full church of his life and time at the BBC - working first as a reporter at 16 for Lancashire Guardian and News of the World then progressing onto Look NorthWest, as it was called in 1983.

Dave obviously loved his job and the many unpredictable situations he encountered while working there— from the amusing to the exciting, frightening and very sad.

The list was very impressive, the big events like Hillsborough, the Cockle pickers, fires on Winter Hill, the IRA bomb in Manchester to flying on Concorde's last flight, reporting from New York and Jerusalem!

More stories about working with animals who wouldn't perform when on camera, the duck that thought it was a dog, the St. Bernard rescue dog, Paddy, that wouldn't rescue him, leaving him in the freezing water of the Albert dock to meeting two ladies on the pilgrim to Rome for the funeral of Pope Paul when their flight was diverted and nearly missing the funeral !

He recalled all the stories with a warmth that shows how much he enjoyed the challenge of the job.

Though having retired officially from the BBC he is still very involved with them, being called to report if he is in the right place at the right time! He is also involved passing on his great knowledge to young people by exploring new technical ways reporting, Information sharing and advertising matters close his heart like Morecambe where he has fond connections since he was six months old! Definitely not retired in anyway.

We wish him well. Thank you, Dave. God bless you in all your ventures and 'retirement'! We were able to send £326 to St Johns Hospice , Lancaster . Dave's chosen charity

Next Meeting

July 17th in School - Stella Holt - God will provide

Next magazine - June & July birthday girls.

Watch out, I'll be looking out for you!!



SCHOOL REPORT

Welcome to what is almost a sports edition of our school report this month!

PARISH GARDEN PARTY

It was lovely to see our school and parish communities come together at the Parish Garden Party on Saturday 15th 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 and for Heather who supported all the children during their performances. 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 Just over £2800 - our children and staff played such a huge part.

British Values Day

On Tuesday 22nd May, the children and staff enjoyed a change from the usual timetable for a special day focusing that focused on British Values.

The Worship Council started the day off with whole school worship and they reminded everyone about the British values. The children then worked with their house team and rotated around their key stage, as each teacher offered a different activity based on one of the British Values. Each classroom door is decorated with a British Value to remind the children of the content of the sessions.

At the end of the day, we all gathered together in the hall for a celebration. The children shared details about the workshops relating to each of the British Values. We celebrated a year of King Charles' reign with Mr Booth formally presenting a portrait of our King to the worship council, followed by us singing our National Anthem.



SPORT

GYMNASTICS- Year 1/2

Our year 1 and 2 gymnastics team competed in the local gym competition at Longridge Gymnastics Club. Each gymnast had to perform a set floor routine and a vault. Our gymnasts performed excellently and after all the judges scores were counted, we achieved the 7th highest overall score. Our gymnasts were a credit to our school and supported each other superbly.



Myerscough Football Festival

On Wednesday, eight pupils from year 4 and 5 had a fantastic day of football at Myerscough College. The children spent the morning being led around skills stations which included possession games, shooting practice and speed tests. After lunch, the team then participated in a tournament of 10 teams. We played in a league of 5 so had 4 group games and a knockout game. We finished in 3rd place. An enjoyable day of football all round with some excellent football on display by our team and other schools.

Dynamos Girls' Cricket

A team of eight year 5 and 6 girls competed a cricket tournament at Fulwood and Broughton Cricket Club. The team played four matches and performed well, however narrowly lost each match. Notwithstanding this, the girls improved well throughout the morning, listening well and enjoyed a morning of cricket. They gave it their all and represented school brilliantly. Well done to the girls!

Reception Mini-Skills

On Tuesday morning, six children from our Reception class proudly represented our school in the Multi-Skills competition at West View Leisure centre. Neve, Sienna, Saint, Summer, Joshua and Charlie competed against teams from seven other schools, in a variety of games/ athletics activities which included football skills- scoring goals, bucket ball, throwing and catching a ball and relay races. The children worked extremely well as a team, encouraged each other and persevered when the challenges were tough.

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SPORTS WEEK

Tuesday

On Tuesday, classes participated in the GB Athlete visit sponsored event. Milly Tanner, GB Cyclist, led our children through a variety of events, set up as a fitness circuit. The children had fun, were challenged and hopefully inspired them to be more active!

Some children represented school in the inter-school Sports Festival at UCLan. We had teams compete in the year 3/4 football, year 5/6 netball, year 5/6 cricket and year 5/6 hockey. The children represented our school superbly throughout this event. Thank you to all the parents/ carers and grandparents who helped transport the children and for staying to support them too.

Wednesday

Thursday was our actual Sports Day itself. Both KS1 and KS2 events were enjoyed by staff and children and there was a super turnout of family members! The children again demonstrated qualities of effort, talent, resilience and sportsmanship. Some very talented runners were on display, including some parents/ grandparents and staff! Well done everyone.

Friday

Sports week finished 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.

PTFA

We are looking forward to the upcoming PTFA event- the NEON DISCO! Our children from KS1 and KS2 will dance the night away while glowing brightly under the neon lights.

ASSESSMENTS

Our year 1 children have made us incredibly proud as they have completed their phonics screening assessments. They showcased their learning incredibly well and did so with incredible confidence and maturity.

Our year 4 children have recently completed their Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). By the end of year 4, children are expected to know their 'times tables' to 12x12 and they are assessed on these during the MTC weeks. Again, our children made us incredibly proud as they responded to the quick -fire questions with calmness.

Search '**grimsarghstmichaels**' on Instagram, '**Grimsargh St Michael's C of E Primary School**' on Facebook and '**GSMPrimaryArtDT**' to see 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.

Mr Stuart Booth
Headteacher

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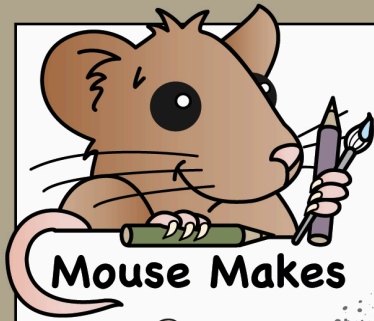
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Mouse Makes

How many days did the Lord tell Joshua to march around the city of Jerico?

Joshua 6:3



What did the priests carry that were made from rams' horns?

What was carried along behind the priests?

The _____
Joshua 6:4

Joshua 6:4



On the seventh day how many times did they march around Jerico?

Joshua 6:6



Who was saved from Jerico along with her family?

Joshua 6:17

READ
the story
in Joshua
5:13-6:27

DAY SAWALK
AJOSHUARKE
SEVENIOFLATW
YNTRFXUELBOI
IPRIESTSOUND
AAUCLISWRCA
RIMOLKIBDNEW
OSPSCAMPHORN
URECGUARDBK
NATIFIREXLI
DESTRUCTION
ELRYRAHABWG

JERICO • LORD • JOSHUA • ISRAEL • KING • PRIESTS • GUARD
CAMP • MARCH • AROUND • DAYS • WALK • ONCE • BLOW • HORN • SOUND
DAWN • SHOUT • CITY • WALL • FELL • FLAT • FIRE • BURN • DESTRUCTION

Find the question answers in the word search too!

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With God, all things are possible. *Mathew 19:26*

JIGSAW CLUB

For the children of St Michael's, Grimsargh.



When?



2nd and 4th Sunday of each month!
(term time only)

What?

Children aged 3 -11

Who?

Fun games, music and activities.

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

Where?

Everyone
Welcome!

Optional
speaking in
Church!

A great way
to make new
friends!

Jesus
Is
Great
Special
And
Wonderful

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before leaving for lots of activities and fun.
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		£22.74	Baptism
June	2nd	£224.51	
June	9th	£274.95	
June	16th	£176.75	
June	23rd	£180.62	

FLOWER ROTA

July	7th	Ruth Buckley
July	14th	Betty Sweetman
July	21st	Vacant
July	28th	Chris Holding

SIDESPERSONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

		10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers	Coffee
July	7th	John Cowell		S Cowell B Mackley	
July	14th	R Buckley	M Lamberty	B Holt D Rusling	
July	21st	B Mackley		N Cowell J Eccles	
July	28th	R Woollam	N Cowell	M Lamberty L Williams	

FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

		Leader	Duty		Welcome
July	5th	Nellie	Christine	Jennifer	Janet
July	12th	Jean	Helen	Eileen	Linda
July	19th	Marlene	Maureen	Kate	Janet
July	26th	Nellie	Christine	Eileen	Linda

ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR JULY

- 3rd** 2.00pm Craft and Chat Group at Marlene's, 16 Lindale Ave
- 5th** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 7th** Trinity 6
10.00am Morning Worship
- 8th.** 7.30pm PCC meeting in school
- 12th** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 14th** Trinity 7
10.00am Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club
- 17th** 7.30pm Mothers' Union - Stella Holt – God will provide - in School
- 18th** 11.00am Holy Communion BCP
- 19th** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
The Big Raffle will be drawn
School closes for the summer holiday
- 21st** Trinity 8
10.00am Morning Worship
- 26th** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 28th** Trinity 9
10.00am Holy Communion

**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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