

Consider

Christ Church Aughton Parish Newsletter

No 542 ~ June/July 2019

In my Aughton home

BY the time this *Consider* magazine reaches your doorstep, I will be able to say the words "In my Aughton Home" as we will have finally moved into the vicarage. As a family we feel very blessed to be part of an amazing well established community, and personally to be Vicar of a Church which has stood as a beacon on the hill for over 150 years sharing the good news of Jesus.

Having a outstanding School, activities for our young people through Scouts and Guides, the U3A, our church Toddler group, Luncheon Club, FACT, Knit and Natter group, Mothers' Union, Girlie Night In and of course Café Vista we very much hope that local people as well as those who come from afar will find a friendly, caring community, a place of belonging.

As a church we are spending time considering "Why we do what we do?" in order to ensure that what we offer will reach out to people of faith, no faith and those who are still searching. As we approach 2020 our vision is to ensure that Christ

Church is inclusive, relevant accessible, extending the hand of invitation and friendship to everyone in our community.

This last month I have been reminded of the importance of these community values in the life and recent death of Jean Vanier, Catholic theologian, humanitarian and founder of L'Arche a community around the world that supports people with developmental disabilities.

Vanier wrote "One of the marvellous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals. When we pool our strength and share the work and responsibility, we can welcome many people, even those in deep distress, and perhaps help them find self-confidence and inner healing." (Community and Growth).

What a wonderful thing to work towards here in our Aughton home, a community that cares for those in distress, those who are struggling with their emotional, physical and spiritual health. As you read this edition of Consider I hope that you will start to



feel as excited as we are about the future and the new things that are happening.

As the year continues we are keen to offer more events to help people in our community so keep checking our webpage or come into the Ministry Centre for an update. In all things our aim is to reach out to share God's love, again in the words of Jean Vanier " We are not called by God to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love".



What's happening in June and July

Pontville School - a pop-up Café in Café Vista

On Monday, 24th June and Monday, 1st July, 6th form students and staff from Pontville School will be running a pop up café in our Café Vista. This is a joint community venture initially for two Mondays giving pupils work experience with a view to a more permanent arrangement in the autumn. The Café will be open from 10.00am-12 noon and will be serving drinks and cakes. Please support our local school by joining us on the above dates.

Thy Kingdom Come – All welcome

From Monday, 3rd June until Sunday, 9th June, 9.00am-9.00pm Christ Church will be open for those who want to pray or escape from the busyness of life.

June-July 2019

Sunday, 2nd June

8.15am: Holy Communion
10.45am: Holy Communion
4.00pm: St Michael's, Aughton

Sunday, 9th June

8.15am: Holy Communion
10.45am: All Age Pentecost Service
4.00pm: Evening prayer

Wednesday, 12th June

2.00pm: Holy Communion in the Ministry Centre

Sunday, 16th June

8.15am: Holy Communion
10.45am: Baptism Service
4.00pm: St Michael's, Aughton

Sunday, 23rd June

8.15pm: Holy Communion
10.45am: All Age Service
4.00pm: Holy Communion

Sunday, 30th June

8.15pm: Holy Communion
10.45am: All Age Service
4.00pm: Evening prayer

July

Wednesday, 3rd July

2.00pm: Holy Communion in the Ministry Centre

Sunday, 7th July

8.15pm: Holy Communion
10.45am: Holy Communion
4.00pm: St Michael's, Aughton

Sunday, 14th July

8.15pm: Holy Communion
10.45am: Parade Service
4.00pm: Evening prayer

Sunday, 21st July

8.15pm: Holy Communion
10.45am: Family Service
4.00pm: St Michael's, Aughton

Sunday, 28th July

8.15pm: Holy Communion
10.45am: Family Service
4.00pm: Holy Communion

'Girlie Night In'

Our final Girlie Night In before the summer break will be a summer fest with canapés, cocktails and jazz music. We are hoping that the sun will shine on **Friday, 21st June**, the longest day of the year as we

celebrate three years of 'Girlie Night In' events. 'Girlie Night In' is a free event that takes place in the Ministry Centre on the 3rd Friday of every month from 7.45-10.00pm.

Open to ladies over 18 we offer different events each month, an opportunity to meet new friends or to catch up with your own friends in a relaxed, friendly environment. For more information contact our Ministry Centre office **424 530**.

Introducing LYFE Groups

LYFE groups were launched at Christ Church this month. There are currently eleven LYFE groups who are meeting in homes, cafes, pub and even those who like to ramble. The aim of LYFE groups is to encourage a community of people who intentionally share life together, discuss and grapple with the Bible. If you are interested in finding out more about the Christian faith then why not contact us at the Ministry Centre and someone will be in touch.

FACT

FACT (Feeling Alone Come Together) is proving to be a great source of friendship and support for many people. **Bridget Wainwright** and **Mary Lynn Gill** who run FACT write:

We are a friendly, sociable group

Bible Motto verse for 2019

JEREMIAH 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".

always interested in meeting newcomers, male or female. We have lively chats over tea, coffee and biscuits. Discussions, exchange of books and a monthly visit from an Age UK representative,

which is providing us with some extremely useful information and an excellent, friendly link to the organisation.

If this sounds like fun, please come and join us each Friday, 11.00am to 12 noon upstairs in the Ministry Centre, in the meeting room next to Café Vista.

For more information contact the Ministry Centre Office and ask for **Bridget Wainwright**.

LIFE Events at Christ Church

Christ Church is there for all the important stages in people's lives. Please get in touch and we will help with Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals.

Baptism/Thanksgiving

To find out about having your child christened or for a Thanksgiving service why not contact us. These services are the start of an amazing journey of faith for your child and a special day for all your friends and family.

Weddings

Marrying in church can be personal, meaningful and spiritual. Christ Church is a special and unique place to get married in - the prayers, promises and the whole service of celebration can become part of your marriage, on the day itself and beyond.

Funeral

At Christ Church we are there to help you through one of life's most difficult times. A Church of England-led funeral is available to everyone, giving support before, during and after the service, for as long as it's needed.

Opportunities to Volunteer

Do you enjoy meeting people and have a few hours to spare?

Café Vista is a key *Café Vista* part of our ministry at Christ Church and is run by a wonderful team of volunteers. With the summer fast approaching we are looking for extra help to cover the summer months (June-August) while our regular volunteers have their well earned holidays. We are looking for friendly, reliable people who will be welcoming to customers. You should be able to carry out instructions as well as being able to use your own initiative. You won't be required to do any cooking. Hours are flexible between 10.00am and 4.00pm. This role would be particularly suitable for a school/college student (minimum age 16) who is looking to gain some work experience or for someone who has a few hours spare.

New to Aughton - West Lancs McMillan Cancer support group at Christ Church

Caroline Flynn writes:

Following on from the highly successful Macmillan Cancer Support event held here at the Ministry Centre, which invited residents within the area to meet the West Lancashire Macmillan Information & Support Team to see what support is on offer, we are really pleased to announce the Macmillan team will

now be available here at the Ministry Centre for two hours every month providing a support group and the opportunity to have a private 1-1 with them starting Friday, 12th July 10.00am-12 noon. This will help to provide information and support closer to your home.

We know cancer can leave you facing many challenges, from coping with your cancer diagnosis, to finding the help you need or even planning a holiday after a diagnosis. The Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service is a team of experts and trained volunteers to answer your questions. They aim to give you a 'time away' from the cancer clinic, where you can find a listening ear and information on everything from local support groups to help for the financial problems cancer may create. (Any clinical issues should be directed back to your oncology team)

You don't need an appointment to speak to the team. And you're welcome whether you have a cancer diagnosis now or in the past, are worried about cancer or are visiting on behalf of a friend or relative.

Come along and see what the Macmillan Information team can offer which includes a personal assessment (Holistic Needs Assessment), access to the Move More programme, support groups, HOPE Course (Help Overcoming Problems Effectively) and much more. We look forward to seeing you.

At other times you can contact the team Monday – Friday 9.00-5.00pm on 01695 656533 or drop into the Macmillan Centre at the Concourse Shopping Centre, Skelmersdale open weekdays 1.00-4.30pm.

Community support through Dial-a-ride

Can't get to the bus?... We'll come to you!

Dial a Ride is a service for any resident of West Lancashire who cannot use public buses because of disability, age or rural



isolation. We operate fully accessible minibuses and our drivers will assist you on and off the bus. Dial a Ride also operates a Community Car scheme. If you can get into a car then one of our volunteer drivers will be pleased to call for you.

All our services are door-to-door and we can take you anywhere in the general area of West Lancashire. Our passengers use us for medical appointments, shopping and visits to friends and family. We also offer scheduled group trips to neighbouring market towns.

To use Dial a Ride you must first become a member for which there is a small membership fee. Once you have joined you can ring one of our friendly staff – **Debbie** – or **Yvonne** – and request a booking. Fares apply to both our minibus and car services. If you would like to know more about Dial a Ride, please ring **01704 893 373** weekdays 09:00 - 14:00.

Community news

Sue Kerrigan, District Commissioner of the Guides writes:

Yet another busy term has gone past with plenty of badge work within the Girlguiding units at Christ Church.



Rainbows have been busy exploring various aspects of Feel Well covering such things as different types of food, how both sleeping and laughing are good for you and how

important it is to keep moving. They have also been working towards their Communicate badge, which includes activities about working together as a team, learning some Makaton and discovering if they are a chatterbox or a good listener (or both!).

A new aspect of our programme is the availability of badges which Rainbows can do at home on their own, it has been very pleasing to see the efforts which some are putting into this. It all plays a part in developing young members' independence. Working on badges at home is not something new for Brownies and they have been very active working on their Baking and Collectors badges amongst others.

In their meeting times they have been busy with many craft activities, drama and activities about friendship and looking after each other and of course, trips out to local venues such as having a good look behind the scenes at Morrison's supermarket.

I was fascinated to see the board games which the Guides had created when developing their skills for their Live Smart badge. This was a fun way of trying out various methods that will be used for DIY jobs around a home. It was amazing to see how many different ways they had found to attach squares to a board to create the game plus the ingenious uses for decorating the game using offcut wires, etc. In addition, they have completed activities around money management, life hacks (tips on how to save time and make life easier), the importance of good nutrition and how to keep themselves safe and know how to seek help. All very important skills explored with friends

with laughter.

At the moment the Guides are practicing their campfire cooking skills ready for the Division Backwoods competition in the middle of May when they will cook two courses on an open fire without the use of any pans. A few weeks later they are competing in the County Water Sports day.

Good luck to them, the end result doesn't matter as long as all enjoy themselves.

News from the Scouts Annette Marshall writes:

So far this term, the Beavers have undertaken the Cyclist Badge and have learnt how to look after a bicycle and how to keep safe when cycling. They have also planted seeds to grow into herbs and have learnt about trees in the different seasons. Congratulations to Daniel and Henry who have gained the highest award in the Beaver Section – the Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

The Wednesday Cubs have been working towards the My Faith Badge culminating in a visit to church with our Vicar, Sarah. They have also visited the Fire Station and taken part in fire safety badge work. Thursday Cubs have been working on the Home Help Badge and have carried out a big litter pick around the HQ.

The Scouts have learnt how to use a drill, wire a plug, iron their uniform and sew a button on as part of the Skills Challenge Badge. Six Scouts have completed the Scout Expedition Challenge Badge and Duke of Edinburgh's



Bronze Expedition by planning a route to walk to Tawd Vale, camp overnight and walk back the next day while carrying all their equipment.

The Explorers have held a camp at Tawd Vale and some Young Leaders, along with some of the 18 – 25 year old Leaders, have completed their Duke of Edinburgh's Silver and Gold Practice Expeditions in Snowdonia.

Christ Church School

Headteacher Mr Kennedy writes:

Summer is finally here and brings with it one of the busiest times of the year for everyone in school. Whilst busy, it is also one of the most exciting times in school with our sports days approaching, trips in every year group, our school residential trips for Years 4, 5 and 6, school productions and of course the time of year when we say good bye to our fantastic Year 6 children as they prepare to move onto High School.

We are also preparing to welcome 30 new children into school and are looking forward to getting to know them and their families as they begin their education journey.

As I write my notes for Consider, all children in school are undertaking an assessment period and our Year 2 and 6 children have their statutory assessments. It is important to note how very proud we are of all the children and the way they approach their work, particularly in an assessment period.

Our school value this half term has been friendship and the School Council have been busy discussing Uganda links and building relationships with children in a



different part of the world. We are delighted they have chosen to sponsor seven children through education in our partner school Koch Goma, who without support would not be able to gain an education.

Each class in school have been learning about the lives of our new friends and raising money to help them gain the education they deserve. We are all excited and proud to be working in this way which reflects our ethos as a 'Caring Christian Community'. Ensuring children are aware of the world and their place in, it is something we place great value on and the work the School Council will lead will help our children grow into caring global citizens.

Aside from developing this exciting project and our assessment period in school, there have been many enjoyable events in school for all of the children. Our Reception class have enjoyed trips to Ormskirk Library and Midstream Garden Centre as well as learning to ride on balance bikes. They also have loved watch a chick change and grow in their class room as spring has moved on which has inspired the children to paint and write about the chick.

Year 1 have been out in the school grounds investigating the weather and watching the temperatures rise as spring moves into summer. All our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are looking forward to Den building in the summer as part of their outdoor education and Year 2 are excited about their pending trip to Knowsley Safari Park.

Year 3 continue to astound everyone with their developing

Ukulele skills and have been enjoying learning to orienteer as have Year 4 who are now preparing for a summer camping expedition. It was also fantastic to see 33 of our Year 3 and 4 children perform so well at the West Lancashire cross country event, with one of our Year 3 boys winning the overall race. Year 5 showed what truly unique and talented children we have at our school as they lead worship by presenting a class assembly for their families. Through this they showed many great attributes and through song and drama reflected on what has been a super year so far. Year 6 continue to show the way for all children through their exceptional attitude as leaders across all aspects of school life. As we enter the last 10 weeks of the school Year, we will be reflecting in many ways with these very special children who have contributed so much to our school during their time with us.

So, as the weather warms and our thoughts turn to summer holidays, I'd once again like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families all the very best on behalf of everyone at Aughton Christ Church C of E Primary School. I look forward to letting you know how all our exciting events unfold this summer.

Advance notice

Our annual Tower Open Day is always a popular event with people and those who are interested in local history. This year we are planning a whole weekend of events for the 25 year anniversary of Heritage weekend.

The Tower will be open on **Saturday, 21st September**, 12 noon to 4.00pm so keep your diaries free.

Competition Time

As part of our Heritage weekend in September we are launching an Art competition. Using a variety of artwork mediums (ceramics, digital, drawing, glass, mixed media, painting, photography and sculpture) we would like entries to capture the theme 'In my Aughton Home'. There will be four categories:

1. **Over 18s**
2. **16 – 18**
3. **11 - 15**
4. **4- 10**

The competition will open on **Monday, 10th June** and all entries need to be handed into the Ministry Centre by **Tuesday, 16th July**. Judging will take place week beginning **22nd July** and winners and runners up will be announced in August/September edition of *Consider* and displayed in church on **Saturday, 21st September** during our annual tower open day. First prize for

each entry will be a free lunch/breakfast for two people in Café Vista, plus your entry will be displayed in our Ministry Centre until Christmas 2019.

From the Registers Baptism

**19th May: JACK FURNIVAL and
SERENA LIVESLEY**

Ministry Centre Office

This is open Monday to Friday,
9.00am-1.00pm. For any information,
including requests for baptism and
thanksgiving services, weddings,
funerals and room bookings, call in or

☎ 424 530,

or email:

ChristChurchAughton@gmail.com

Vicar: **Rev Sarah O'Donoghue**

☎ 07847 931 323

Tales of the Unexpected

Saturday 8th June

An evening of music, humour, drama and honest recollection celebrating the extraordinary 60 year story of the birth, death and resurrection of Scargill House. Scargill House was recently featured on BBC Songs of Praise.

The evening will be hosted by Adrian and Bridget Plass, featuring music by Anna and Andreas Weister-Andersson, and insight of Community life from Rev Phil and Diane Stone, leaders of the Scargill Community. Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30 start. Refreshments included in the ticket price.

Tickets can be purchased on <eventbrite.co.uk>