

St. Michael's Church Shotwick



Newsletter May 2012

Welcoming and active at the heart of the Parish

Church Officials

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PCC Treasurer:

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Visit our website:-

www.shotwick.org.uk



A Message from Our Vicar

Celebrations are a wonderful time to get people together. The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth's succession to the throne following the death of her father, King George VI is to be officially celebrated on Tuesday 5th June this year, although the actual anniversary of her Coronation is 2nd June 2013.



Right across the country and the Commonwealth, many will be celebrating by holding services, hosting official beacons, picnics, tea parties and community events over that Bank holiday weekend.

Here at St. Michael's Church on Tuesday 5th there will be a joint Celebration Service for both churches held at 2pm. For those who are fit and able, we then plan to walk back across the fields...*in the sunshine!!*..... from Shotwick to Burton where everyone's invited to bring their picnic from 4pm onwards on the field behind the Gladstone Village Hall. The bell ringers from both churches will ring before and after the service along with bell ringers in towers all around the country in celebration.

Everyone is welcomed to turn up with their picnic. There will be live music from the Burton Boogie Band and teas and coffees available as well as the bar.

It's a good opportunity as we celebrate this very important event for everyone from all three villages to be involved.

I wonder how many are aware that a 'Jubilee' is not just another

name for a celebration but is an Old Testament principle of social reform and one of the most demanding of levitical laws! There are many festivals and holy days outlined within the Old Testament Law, opportunities for God's people to gather together, to be thankful, and to remember God who blessed them.

The lists of festivals culminate in the provision for the year of Jubilee and for the Sabbath year. Those involved in agriculture or horticulture will know the principle of laying the land to rest every 7 years, the Sabbath year, but the year of Jubilee was the Sabbath of Sabbath's. Every fifty years, which is after seven lots of seven years, the principle was also to be applied to social structures which were to be completely reset. Property and not just the land [although not houses inside the city walls] were to revert to their original owners, slaves were to be released and allowed to return home. The idea was that everyone had the chance to start again. No matter how life had treated them, in the year of Jubilee, they could 'wipe the slate clean' and start again.

Unsurprisingly, this rarely happened, there is only one recorded instance in Jeremiah 34 when all the slaves were freed. Sadly they were all then promptly taken back into slavery!

But what an amazing principle of having the opportunity to completely start again...not great if you were really happy with your lot, but for those who were trapped in slavery it must have been a wonderful ideal to hope for.

Jubilee now means a joyous celebration of an anniversary, but as Christians we can still celebrate that God has given us all the opportunity to 'wipe the slate clean', to have that fresh start in our lives when we seek his forgiveness for doing life our own way and to turn to Him.

As we have just celebrated during this Easter time Jesus died and rose again to give us that fresh start, to enable us to have a living and loving relationship with God the Father. We can all have our own Jubilee.

That's something worth celebrating.

Cathy Helm

Thursday 24th May 7.30pm

We welcome Gavin Hunter, co-author of local history books, landscape historian, honorary archivist and historian to the Leverhulme family, who will talk on

“Historic Villages of Wirral Dee Coastline”

Gavin regularly speaks and lectures to societies and groups throughout Wirral on the history of our amazing peninsula.

Refreshments provided

Donations welcomed to our heating appeal

Church Services

All at 11.30am

1st Sunday (in the month)	All age Worship (Family Service)
2nd Sunday	Holy Communion (Book of Common Worship)
3rd Sunday	Morning Prayer (1662 Prayer Book)
4th Sunday	Holy Communion (1662 Prayer Book)
5th Sunday	Holy Communion (1662 Prayer Book)

Matins services:

In the light of last year's celebrations of the 400th Anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible we will be using this version for 6 months at Matins services after which the PCC will review its use.

Church Festivals And Special Services

Sunday 14 th October	Harvest Festival 3 pm. No 1130 am service. Service will be followed by Harvest Supper at Shotwick Hall. £8.00 adults £4.00 Children, under 4's free.
Sunday 11 th November	Remembrance Sunday. Gather in Church at 10h50am to prepare for short ceremony by Memorial.
Sunday 2 nd December	Thanksgiving Sunday
Sunday 23 rd December.	Carol Service at 4 pm. No 11.30 am service on that day. Please note the earlier time this year
Tuesday 25th December.	Christmas Day. 11.30 am service.
Early January 2013.	Plough Sunday. Celebrate the beginning of the agricultural year with prayers for the blessing of the land, followed by a ploughman's lunch in Church

Community & Social Events

Saturday 5 th May	Church & graveyard spring clean – 10 am onwards. Please bring utensils
Thursday 24 th May	Local Historian Gavin Hunter will give a talk on Historic Villages of Wirral Dee Coastline. 7h30 pm in Church. Refreshments will be served. Donations in aid of our heating appeal welcomed.
Saturday 26 th May	Parish Outing to Lichfield and Arboretum with Burton Church members

Community & Social Events

Monday 4 th June	Royal Weekend Celebration at Shotwick Hall Farm. Ticketed charity BBQ. Beacon lighting
Tuesday 5 th June	Service in Shotwick Church at 2 pm followed by walk to Burton and Picnic at the Gladstone Village Hall
Saturday 16 th June	1.00pm onwards Burton Village Fete – as usual donations of jams, cakes and saleable items are welcome
Saturday 30 th June	The Oriel Singers will be giving us an evening of music in Church. Ticketed event to raise funds for maintaining and improving the central heating.
Saturday 14 th July	Shotwick Family BBQ 1 Hall Lane 12 noon. Bring your own meat. Straw bale pool for those who want to swim.
Saturday 13 th October	Harvest Festival Decorating. 10-12 noon
Saturday 17 th November	Christmas craft making in Church. 2-4 pm Refreshments provided.

From Our Visitors Book

The Axons (relatives) were baptised here in the tenth century.

Peaceful lovely Church!

Quiet and have loved the tranquillity

Most wonderful!

Warden's report Annual Church Meeting 2011-12

A full Wardens Report for the year 2011-12 can be seen on our website, along with the Vicar's report.

The Church has had a busy year on the community front with evening talks, community craft making events and other social activities. There have been many visits to the Church with over 300 signatures in the Visitors' Book during the year.

The Bishop of Birkenhead, Bishop Keith Sinclair, came to preach at our Harvest Festival service, and we enjoyed the usual Harvest Supper at Shotwick Hall Farm afterwards.

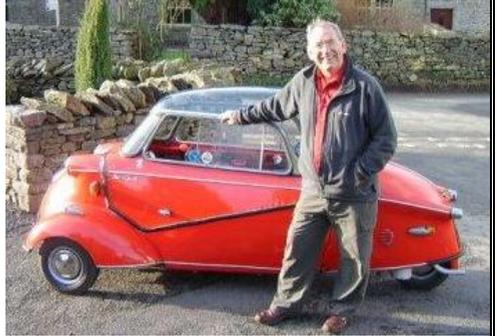
We will be visiting Lichfield with our friends at Burton on May 26th to see St John's Hospice without the Bars, Lichfield: Lichfield the Patrons of Burton. A trip to the National Arboretum will take place en route.

The open nature literally and figuratively of the Church is vital to its future survival. One element of discussion within the PCC has been use of the King James Bible and we need your feedback on what you feel about this. The Vicars' remarks and Wardens' report cover this discussion in more detail.

Jenny Sneddon & Joan Norman.

The Power Of Fred!

Granada TV weatherman Fred Talbot visited Shotwick earlier in the year as part of his “Where’s Fred” feature, broadcast on a Tuesday evening as part of the 6pm evening news bulletin.



If you haven’t seen the feature, viewers are invited to guess where Fred has travelled to in his red Messerschmitt bubble car. On a normal day our website has around half a dozen “hits” – on the few days after the broadcast we received nearly a thousand as people searched for the correct answer!

Hopefully a lot of people learned more about the history of Shotwick and the beautiful church of St. Michael’s.

Unfortunately the video of the programme is no longer available for viewing on the Granada website.

Guilty!

From the Court Rolls of the Manor of Castle Shotwick dated from 1338-1343 (*courtesy of the National Archives*)

For cutting wood and sticks William Jowe was fined 3d

For making a habit of allowing his cattle to destroy his neighbour’s corn Hugh Mayle was fined 4d

Richard Bosse acknowledged that he killed a salmon belonging to the earl of Chester – fined 12d

Henry Gille and 7 others were made to pay 4d each for brewing and selling ale without a licence.

Deanery Synod Report

Tuesday 28th February 2012

An interesting and varied meeting with representation from a dozen or so Parishes within the Deanery and over 30 in attendance.

The main topic for discussion and debate was The Anglican Covenant and whether this was needed or not.

In essence the idea for a Covenant came from the Windsor Report (2004) that recommended the idea in order to provide a brief statement of what should hold the Churches of the Communion together during a time of great debate and even division over sexuality questions. It recommended a 'Covenant' because it is about relationships as Churches united in Christ rather than about legal or confessional formalities. As a result a text was drawn up. A text was eventually adopted in 2009 but immediately received criticism, concern and consternation - and dissention.

And it was in this climate that the debate took place and we were required by the Rural Dean to vote in the end on the motion that

'This Synod approves the draft act of Synod adopting the Anglican Communion Covenant'

The motion was overwhelmingly defeated as Members of the Deanery Synod saw this as something that would result in more dissention than adhesion and feared how it would be 'policed' and what sanctions would be imposed for non-adherence

Voting was

Clergy: For - Nil, Against 6, Abstentions 0

Laity: For - Nil, Against 14, Abstentions 3

SF



Grand Charity Barbeque!

In aid of Cancer Research UK.

OFFICIAL JUBILEE BEACON LIGHTING SITE

Monday 4th June 2012
7.30pm til late

Venue: Shotwick Hall Farm, Shotwick,
Chester, CH1 6JB

Tickets Only:
Adult - £10, Under 12s - £5

BBQ

Open
Farm

Live
Music :
"Wax
Lyrical"

Raffle
Licensed
Bar

Bouncy
Castle

And much
much more...

For further information or to buy
tickets: Please contact
Dorothy Coar on 01244 881717
or on 07837 378336

Send All Ticket Enquiries to:
Shotwick Hall Farm,
Shotwick, Chester,
CH1 6JB.

Make any cheques payable to
Mrs D. Coar.
Please enclose a stamped
addressed envelope for the
return of the tickets.



Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England
and Wales (1089464) and in Scotland (SC041666).

Event Organisers:
Puddington & District Parish
Council & M & D Coar

Bell Matters



This summer in the world of bellringing will be quite a busy one with special ringing for the Queens Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics. Also the Central Council of Church Bell-ringers (yes there is such a thing) are having their 125th AGM in Chester this June so there will be a lot of extra ringing attached to that event .

I am personally looking forward to ringing for the Jubilee and I am sure we will ring a quarter peal at Shotwick in honour of the event.

Syd Roberts, who was my old tower captain when I first started to ring at Capenhurst, used to have a lot of sayings and one that I think is very true, is that a good bellringer is one that turns up to ring on a Sunday. In other words you might be able to ring all sorts of complicated methods but if you do not ring on a Sunday it does not count for anything.

Thankfully at Shotwick we are blessed with ringers who do come on a Sunday and I am pleased to see that quite a few of them stay for the services

Congratulations are due to John Morris Best – (*affectionately known as J.M.B!*), for ringing his first quarter peal two or three Sundays ago, well done John.

F.P.

Bell ringing practice takes place every Friday evening. Contact Frank Parry for more details.

THE WORLD OF ANTIQUE AUCTIONS



On 22nd March Alexander Clement, the sale-room director at Bonhams auctioneers in Chester, came to Shotwick to give a talk on “The World of Antique Auctions.”

Bonhams was founded in 1793 and is one of the world’s oldest and largest auctioneers of fine art and antiques. It was owned by the Bonhams family until 2000, when it was taken over by Robert Brookes and merged with Phil-

lips. Alexander joined the company in 1998 and became saleroom director in 2007.

Alexander explained that when an item comes to Bonhams the first stage is for it to be valued. There are three different types of valuation: auction estimate, probate valuation and insurance replacement. The owner will then decide whether or not he wishes to sell.

If he decides to go ahead the auctioneers will catalogue the item and send out an auction catalogue to subscribers and the names on their mailing list. When the time comes for the auction the seller may set a reserve, which means that the auctioneer will bid for the seller up to that price. Bids can be made online and by telephone as well as in the auction room and there is provision for absentee bidding, which means that someone who is not present can authorise the auctioneer to bid on their behalf up to a set maximum figure. When the gavel falls it creates a contract between the auctioneer and the buyer, although it is not legally binding until the money is paid.

Items sold at Bonhams in Chester include Asian art, furniture, works of art, silver, clocks, pewter and sporting memorabilia.

Alexander then auctioned a watercolour of Shotwick church which had been donated to raise money for the church.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Cathy and the evening finished with refreshments kindly provided by the catering committee.

SEC

Church Heating

There was a nice surprise for everyone who attended Church on the 29th April – despite the cold and rainy weather the Church was actually WARM!

The old fan heaters in the Church have been replaced by modern, efficient radiators which emit a lot more heat than the old ones and are quiet in operation. They also look discreet and toned in with the fabric of the building.

This has involved expenditure of over £7,000 and we are once again asking our generous supporters to contribute towards the cost.

Donations to the heating fund can be given to our Treasurer, George Makin (0151 336 5126)

Many thanks to those who have given us an email address as a means of communicating with you. The saving in printing and postage is significant..

If you want to subscribe to the newsletter delivery and event reminder service just send an email to newsletters@shotwick.org.uk with the subject line of "Subscribe", or visit our website and click on the link there. Or just write your name and email address on a piece of paper and push under the vestry door

We promise not to send your email address to any other organisation.



Shotwick Church.

Shotwick Church 1852

Thanks to Gavin Hunter