

# *The New Sentinel*

July / August 2025



St Chad's, Poulton-le-Fylde

St Hilda's, Carleton

St Anne's, Singleton



# Welcome to the July/August 2025 issue of the *New Sentinel* magazine

## Magazine Articles

Short contributions that may be of interest to readers are welcomed by the Editor and will be published, space permitting, in the next magazine following their receipt. The Editor reserves the right to reject, cut or amend articles if deemed necessary for any reason. *The views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Vicar or the PCC.*

## Magazine Deadlines

To ensure the magazine is published on time, contributions must be in the hands of the Vicar or the Editor by the cut-off date. The next magazine will be the **Sept/Oct 2025** edition. Any contributions must be with us no later than **15<sup>th</sup> September** to be considered for inclusion in the next edition.

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A warm welcome from the Benefice of St Chad’s Poulton, St Hilda’s Carleton and St Anne’s Singleton. We are part of Blackburn Diocese within the Anglican Communion and are members of the Poulton and Carleton Churches Together community. We hold a pattern of regular prayer and worship at all three churches, details of which are published on our websites.

The *New Sentinel* magazine brings to you recent news from around the Benefice.

## From the Vicarage

Dear Friends

I have become a virtual grandad! Last week my daughter gave birth to Baby Jack, who arrived suddenly, eight weeks early and is set to spend the next few weeks in Colchester Hospital. I say a virtual grandad, because so far, I've only seen him on my phone, alternatively filling the screen in a close up shot and then a tiny three pounds doll in his parents' arms. Sadly, I am far more interested in him than he is in me! Hopefully that will change as the months pass and I see him in person, and in due course get to hold him for myself.

I am reminded of the creation story from Genesis 2, when Adam is introduced to the creatures of the earth, culminating in Eve, formed, we are told, from Adam's rib, and he exclaims "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh". This week in school worship I've been telling the story of Abraham, whom God called to leave Haran and go to the land of Canaan. It is a time of year when children are facing change, whether a new class or a new school. Abraham trusted God and we must do the same. Though old and childless, Abraham is promised that his descendants will be more than the stars in the sky, or the grains of sand on the shore, and the birth of Isaac marks a sign that God's promise will be fulfilled. Indeed, every birth is in some sense the fulfilment of God's promise, and Baby Jack is no exception.

Events such as this give life a welcome new perspective. They force us to think again about what is of true and lasting significance. It is easy to lose perspective in church life, to fail to see the wood for

the trees. Perhaps the danger is even more acute amongst the clergy, who find themselves stressing about the state of the church building, or the deficit in the accounts. Such matters are important of course. In the coming months we will be launching the Parish Giving Scheme at St Chad's, to address the failure of our contributions to keep pace with inflation, and the need to be realistic about our giving in relation to our income. However, the Christian faith does not begin with such questions, it begins with a baby, whose mother was Mary, and whose grandmother was St Anne, after whom Singleton Church is named.

This baby comes as an expression of God's love and with the assurance that God is with us. Baby Jack too is an expression of God's love and a focus for the love of so many around him. Another Jack, Bishop Jack, former Bishop of Lancaster, used to say that if we loved our church like we love our grandchildren, then all our financial problems would be solved. I'm sure he was right.

I heard of someone recently who left a local church because they thought there was too much talk of money, but there can never be too much talk of love. At its best a financial gift is an expression of love, and we must all wrestle with what generosity looks like in love and in money. Love also involves sacrifice and the Child of Bethlehem went on to die on the Cross, as the supreme expression of his love for us. We would sacrifice much for our grandchildren, and those who walk with Baby Jack may need to share the challenges he will face as a premature baby, but for now we rejoice in the blessing of a gift from God!

As your Vicar I urge you to consider the Parish Giving Scheme and to note the events of our Open Week in September, as set out in the Vicar's Notes.

As a grandparent I urge you to embrace the life affirming moments that put life in perspective and remind us once more that what truly matters is love- our love for others, their love for us and God's love for us all!

Every blessing!  
Martin Keighley

*The Shell*

*Upon the sandy shore an empty shell,  
Beyond the shell infinity of sea;  
O Saviour, I am like that empty shell,  
Thou are the Sea to me.*

*A sweeping wave rides up the shore, and lo,  
Each dim recess the coiled shell within  
Is searched, is filled, is filled to overflow  
By water crystalline.*

*From a poem by Amy Carmichael 1867 – 1951*

**St.Anne's Patronal Festival - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July**

Were you baptised at Singleton church? Did you get married at the church? It would give great to see you again, so why not come and join us on July 27th for the church's feast day Communion Service at the 930am service or at the Parish and Village Celebration in the afternoon starting at 1pm.



# Celebrate St Anne's Day!

Sunday, 27th July 2025



## AFTERNOON CELEBRATION

### Parish and Village Party

1pm - 8pm  
Singleton Village Hall

Come and join us for a relaxed, fun filled afternoon for everyone.

- 2pm Shared Meal: bring your favourite dish
- Entertainment for the children
- Fancy dress competition for the children
- Cash Bar open all day
- Live Music 4pm-6pm (Ian Hooper)

## MORNING CELEBRATION

### Special Patronal Holy Communion Service

930am - 1030am. St Anne's Church  
Singleton

Come and join us for a special service marking the feast of Saint Anne, the patron saint of our church.

The service will include :

- Music from the Occasional Singers to enrich our worship
- A joyful, welcoming atmosphere suitable for all ages
- Prayers of Thanksgiving for our parish and community life
- Whether you are a regular member of the congregation, an occasional visitor, or new to the parish, you are warmly invited to share in this important day.

Let us come together to celebrate our faith, our history, and our future.

To reserve a free ticket for the parish party contact  
[TonyBrindle2@gmail.com](mailto:TonyBrindle2@gmail.com)  
**07989423027**

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

May	25th	Harriet Amaia Dodds Reuben Alexander Ramskill-Cross Honey Rose Rudge Freya Ashton
	31st	Arnie Jasper Banks
June	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Cooper Alexander Leach Rosie-Mae Goodwin
July	13 <sup>th</sup>	Elsie Charlotte Dixon Georgia Elizabeth Webb

### Weddings

May	24 <sup>th</sup>	Joshua Potts and Louise Jayne Johnston
	31 <sup>st</sup>	Adam Lee Banks and Jessie Anna Leybourne

### Funerals

May	30 <sup>th</sup>	Claire Obersby
June	10 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Muir
	11 <sup>th</sup>	Ken Creegan
	13 <sup>th</sup>	Kathleen Holding
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Thelma Jones
	26 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Campbell (St Hilda's)

July	4 <sup>th</sup>	Debbie Redman
	10 <sup>th</sup>	Beryl Robson
	15 <sup>th</sup>	Joyce Summers

### **Charles Evans**

Thank you to all friends at St. Hilda's and St. Chad's for the many cards and kindness shown to the family at such a sad time.

With love, Mavis and Christopher Evans

### **Vicar's Notes –**

#### **St Chad's Open Week - September 12th to 19th**

Openness has many dimensions. The doors of St Chad's are open daily to worshippers and heritage visitors, we seek to be open to the community, to be open to God and to help others be open to God too.

In Open Week all these things come together. I hope you can make it for one of our events during the week.

#### **St. Chad's "Faith in Art" - Friday 12th September 7.30 pm**

Retired art teachers John and Diana Morrison will talk about how the Christian faith has influenced not only the great painters of the past, but also the work of many modern artists too, including their own contemporary work. Free admission including cheese and wine.

#### **Eilidh Patterson in Concert - Saturday 13th September 7.30 pm**

Spend an evening with Eilidh, a warm, engaging, singer songwriter, as she shares her story of faith and performs songs from her albums Journey Maker and Safe Place. Free admission with refreshments provided (Suggested donation £5).



## Exhibition - Monday September 15th to Friday 19th - 9am to 3pm

Throughout the week there will be displays about the heritage and history of the building, the Good News of Jesus Christ and how to find out more, and a presentation of the financial challenge of maintaining the parish and its landmark building.



**POULTON ST CHAD'S**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Women in the Old Testament

In Year 5 this half-term, our RE unit has been exploring the lives of significant women in the Old Testament. One of the women that we have learnt about in depth is Jochebed. We learnt about who she was – discovering that we know a lot more about her than we actually thought that we did. We learnt about the time period in which she lived and why her actions were so significant and inspirational. We then put ourselves into the shoes of Jochebed and wrote some diaries from her perspective.

Dear Diary

The evil Pharaoh is killing all the poor little baby boys; he thinks one day one of them will free all the slaves of Egypt (imagine if that happened!). I have just had a beautiful baby boy. I decided that I wanted to keep him safe and not let him be murdered. I am going to put my baby in a basket and send him across the River Nile.

I went into the river, to the reeds. It dawned on me that I will never see my baby again. I wonder what will happen to him? He might be eaten or injured by vicious crocodiles and humongous hippos. He may get battered by colossal boats and ships.

I placed him in the wooden, straw basket and closed the lid. Then, that was last moment I would ever see my baby boy again. I pushed the basket and sent him down the river with tears in my eyes.

Later, Miriam (my daughter) came and told me that the pharaohs daughter had found my baby and named him Moses. She took Moses into the palace. Then she asked ME to babysit and nurse him. This is incredible but sad news; I will not be able to tell him I am his real mother.

Amelia – Year 5

Dear Diary,

These are dark times in Egypt: the Pharaoh is trying to kill all the baby boys. However, I have just had a baby boy. I quickly decided that I should send him down the river so he doesn't die. I put him in a waterproof basket (coated in tar) and placed him on the river. He was soon washed downstream. I felt really sad doing this but I had to or else he would die.

Then, the Pharaoh's daughter saw my baby and wanted to keep him. In an even more surprising bit of news, I was then asked to look after the baby. I am going to look after MY baby but I can't tell Moses (or anyone else) that I am his mother or else we will both be killed!

Jack and George – Year 5

## *Christian Aid*

Poulton Christian Aid Group would like to thank St. Chad's, St. Annes, and St. Martin and St. Hilda's for their support during Christian Aid Week. The Coffee Morning raised £465.40 and overall, thanks to your generosity and that of the other churches we will be able to send to Christian Aid about £ 4,500. This was a result of church collections, street collections, collections in the Teanlowe, a collection at Crocus Court, Croft House, tips at the Methodist shop, the Coffee Morning and Elizabeth's 100Miles in May.

However you supported us, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Parish Church of St Chad and St Hilda's

Charity Number 1131531

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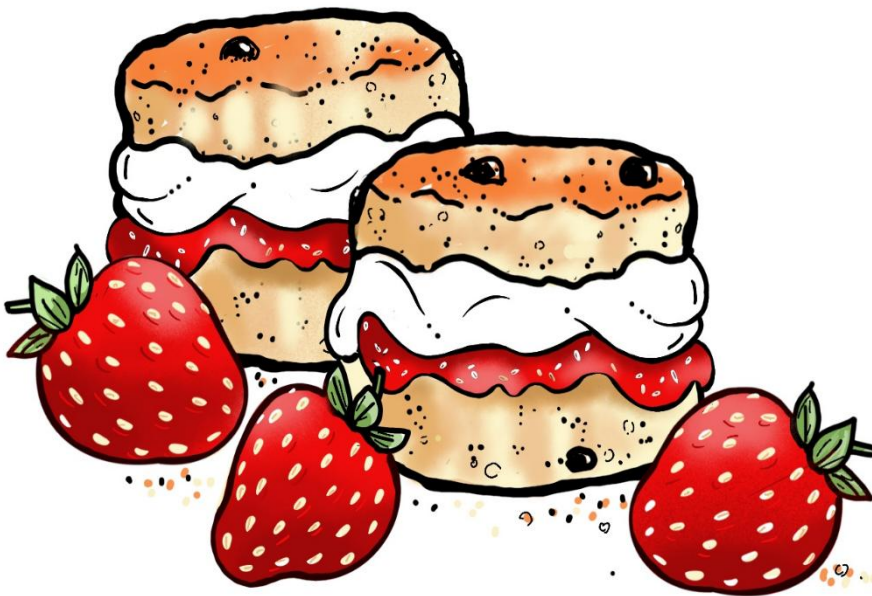
Jul/Aug 2025

We do have another event to raise much-needed funds for the charity and we do hope that you will be able to support us again.

### **Strawberry Tea**

On Saturday 26th July, 2pm - 4pm, there will be a **Strawberry Tea** in the garden at St. Martin's and St. Hilda's Church, weather permitting. Tickets are £5. Whilst it would be very helpful for catering if you could buy a ticket, we will not turn you away at the door!

Come and spend a couple of hours in friendly company and lovely surroundings. All net profits are for Christian Aid.



### **Mothers' Union**

On Wednesday 28th May, Kiran Birtles and Susan, a volunteer, from the Women's Refuges inspired 15 members talking about the work they do. On Wednesday 25th June, 16 of us heard Linda Smithson talk about 'Working on Flog It'. By the time the New Sentinel is out, we will have enjoyed Afternoon Tea on Wednesday 16th July at the Thyme Restaurant.

At EMU, on Tuesday 10th June, Jean Cooke and Jennie Sly gave a wonderful presentation of poetry and flower arrangements to 12 of us. On Tuesday 8th July, we had a 'Jacob's Join' of snacks at my home when 8 members came and we welcomed Archdeacon Anne to our get-together. Our next EMU is our planning meeting on Tuesday 9th September. Before that, we have the Deanery Festival on Wednesday 3rd September at 2pm at Christ Church Thornton when 4 of our members will receive long service certificates.

We continue to collect items for the Women's Refuges. They need any size of nappies, shampoos, conditioners and any cleaning items. They do accept some small kitchen electricals - they get them PAT tested before giving them out and also accept plates, bowls etc and pyjamas.

The books we collected for the Refuges were sorted out with others from the Archdeaconry and sent out.

We heard from Caroline Eccleston Volunteer Co-ordinator Fylde Coast Women's Aid -

*"Thank you so much! We have built the bookshelves and already re-homed some of the books with the children in refuge. The books have gone down a treat, and have been really appreciated by the children (and their mum's) that have received them so far!"*

This shows one bookcase in situ.



## Theme – Refreshment and enrichment

*Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.*

*For the measure you use, it will be measured to you. (Luke 6 v38)*

Lord God, we thank you for the inspiration which led to the setting up of Away From It All, and for all the families who have so far benefited from our holidays. We pray in hope that they will look back on their holidays with joy, remembering how they were given in love. We give thanks for Mother's Union as we seek always to reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen.

June Challis

## *An update from the bellringers*

Two of our young ringers turned 18 in April & May. Another of our young ringers moved to Greece in early June. We were very sorry to see her go but we wish her all the very best.

We are delighted that Morgan, who started to learn bellringing in October 2021, arranged and rang a Quarter Peal to celebrate his 18th birthday. On Tues 27th May, the band rang 1250 Cambridge Surprise Minor in 42 mins at Chad, Poulton. It was Morgan's first quarter of Cambridge Surprise minor and believed to be the first quarter peal of Cambridge rung at St Chad's in 70 years.

A few weeks later, Morgan rang his first Peal: 5040 minor - Extents 1,3 of Kent Treble Bob minor. Extents 4,5 of Cambridge Surprise Minor and Extents 2,6,7 of Plain Bob minor. This was his first attempt, and was rung at Goosnargh on Tuesday 10th June 2025 in 2hrs 36 minutes.

We are all in awe of Morgan and the progress he has made. Well done!

## ***BELL TOWER AFTERNOON TEA – 23<sup>RD</sup> August at St.Chads***

On Saturday 23rd August, we will be holding an Afternoon Tea in the Ringing Chamber as well as having a **cake stall**. There will be 3 sittings with 6 people per sitting (12:30pm, 2pm & 3:30pm). Tickets are £15 each. Pop in at the belfry door or contact Helen Kay on 07940995690.

Helen Kay, Tower Captain

## **St. Anne's Saint Day - 26<sup>th</sup> July**

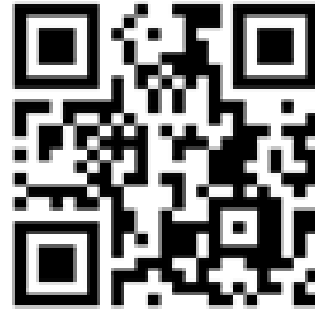
One thing is certain – Mary the mother of Jesus must have had parents. Beyond that, nothing is certain – but church tradition offers some details.

The first mention of Anne and Joachim as being Mary's parents was found in the apocryphal Gospel of James (second century) which has no historical validity. James says that after years of childlessness, Joachim was praying in the desert one day when an angel appeared to Anne to tell her that she would conceive. Anne then promised to dedicate the child to God, as Hannah had done with Samuel.

Certainly Anne, mother of Mary, has been honoured from as early as the sixth century, when a church was built in her honour in Constantinople. Other relics and pictures of her found in Rome date from the 8<sup>th</sup> century.

The sad truth is that, as the Bible is silent on the subject, we will never really know about Mary's parents. But one thing we can assume, because it is based on the character of Mary herself. Her gentle humility and graciousness and informed knowledge about her faith point to a childhood spent among devout believers in God.





## Websites and Social Media Information

St Chad's and St Hilda's Websites:

[www.stchadschurch.org](http://www.stchadschurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/st-chads-parish-church](https://www.facebook.com/st-chads-parish-church)

[www.facebook.com/St-Hildas-Church-Carleton](https://www.facebook.com/St-Hildas-Church-Carleton)

St Anne's Website:

[www.singletonchurch.co.uk](http://www.singletonchurch.co.uk)

## Contacts

Licensed Lay Minister	- David Gascoigne	07768 303462
Churchwarden (St Chad's)	- Lynne Brackpool	01253 892440
Churchwarden (St Chad's)	- Geraldene Rogers	01253 822877
Churchwarden (St Hilda's)	- Joan Swan	07887 880497
Churchwarden (St Anne's)	- Frank/Hilary Loftus	01772 673201
Safeguarding Officer	- Lynne Brackpool	01253 892440
Verger (St Chad's)	- Margaret Llewellyn	07857 349147
PCC Secretary	- Dorothy Griffith	01253 899602
Mothers' Union	- June Challis	01253 864534
New Sentinel Distribution	- Elizabeth Harrison	01253 884131
New Sentinel Editor:	- Ian Files	07778 521233

email - [ianf723@gmail.com](mailto:ianf723@gmail.com)

The Clergy and Churchwardens will be happy to field enquiries and put you in touch with the correct contact in Church.

## Sunday Service Times

8:00 am	Holy Communion (St Chad's)
9:30 am	Holy Communion (St Anne, Singleton)
10:00 am	Parish Communion (St Chad's) All Age Worship (1st Sunday of the month)
11:00 am	Holy Communion (St Hilda's)
4.00pm	St,Chads@4 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month)

The 10 o'clock Sunday Service from St Chad's will be streamed to the St Chad's Website and Facebook page (which can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Chads-Parish-Church-474539146054369>)

## Midweek Services

Tuesday	10:00 am	Holy Communion (St Chad's)
Wednesday	11:00 am	Holy Communion (St Hilda's)
Thursday	11:30 am	Holy Communion (St Chad's)
Friday	7:30 pm	Holy Communion (St Chad's)

For any queries about our churches, baptisms, marriages or about our services, please contact the Vicar

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