

WW1 Remembered

July 19th 1917

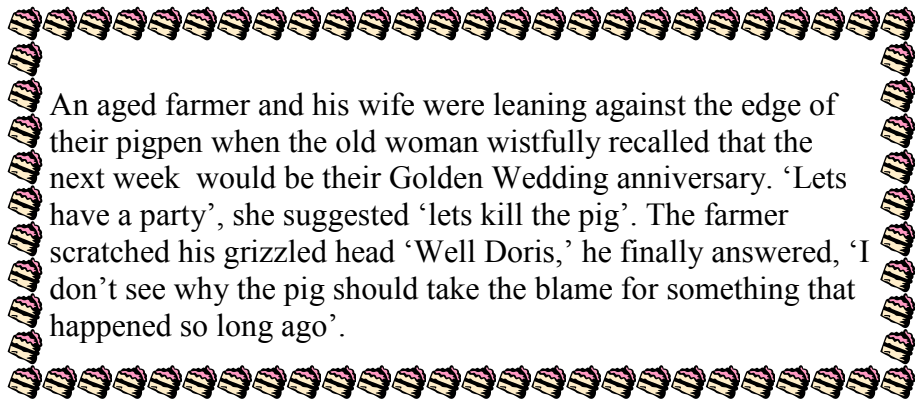
King George V issued a royal proclamation changing the royal name from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha to Windsor.

August Passchendale

On July 18th 1917, a heavy artillery barrage was launched at the German lines. This lasted for ten days. Three thousand artillery guns fired over four million shells. Therefore, the German army in the area fully expected a major Allied attack – so any vague hope of surprise was lost, as was true in any attack that started with a major artillery bombardment.

The infantry attack started on July 31st. The main assault was led by Sir Hubert Gough's Fifth Army. To their left were units from the French First Army led by Anthoine and to Gough's right was the Second Army led by the victor of Messines, Sir Herbert Plumer.

The Germans, as happened at the Somme, were fully prepared and the Allied attack, launched across a eleven mile front, made only small gains. Then in the early days of August, the area was saturated with the heaviest rain the region had seen in thirty years. The area in Flanders became effectively a swamp. Tanks, sent forward to help the infantry, simply got stuck. Infantry soldiers found movement very difficult. The impact of the artillery bombardment had destroyed the drainage systems of the region which greatly added to the problem. The shell craters made by the Allied shelling filled with water and did not allow advancing men the opportunity to hide in them. The fields through which men should have gone became impassable.



An aged farmer and his wife were leaning against the edge of their pigpen when the old woman wistfully recalled that the next week would be their Golden Wedding anniversary. 'Lets have a party', she suggested 'lets kill the pig'. The farmer scratched his grizzled head 'Well Doris,' he finally answered, 'I don't see why the pig should take the blame for something that happened so long ago'.

St Bertoline's –Why we're here.

That the community we serve may know that St Bertoline's is here to profess the faith, to celebrate it in worship and prayer, and to share it in fellowship, so that we may say, "We would see Jesus".

June 14th 2017

The Rectory
Barthomley

My dear Friends,

Twice a year we have a double edition of Parish News – December/January and this time, July/August. For some reason these are the occasions when I find it most taxing to write this letter. Perhaps it is because things are stretched out so far ahead. At this time of year we have just come to the end of our yearly reliving of the story of our salvation. Next Sunday is the first of the twenty Sundays after Trinity – pretty well half the year and a sea of green in church till the end of October with just one interruption on August 6th which is the Feast of the Transfiguration.

In our three-yearly cycle, this is Year A – St Matthew's Gospel being the anchor for our bible readings. Our last two Sundays of June and July 2nd have been recording Jesus' calling and preparation of his disciples for their mission. July recalls the teaching of Jesus himself with a series of agriculturally based parables and their interpretation, together with parables of the kingdom and the promise of the abundant harvest of the kingdom of heaven.

The record of the mission and martyrdom of John the Baptist is left out because that will be a major theme during Advent. Nevertheless, there is an increasing tension brewing between Jesus and the Jewish leaders. They see Jesus as a serious threat to their legalistic approach to matters of faith. At the end of August we shall be reading of the apostles acknowledging Jesus as the Messiah at Caesarea Philippi, together with his command to tell nobody of this, and what lies ahead for him as he sets out on the final journey to Jerusalem. That journey we shall follow through September and October.

Matthew's gospel is written by a Jew for Jews. It is full of claims that Jesus is the fulfilment of the Old Testament promise of the Messiah, an argument that would be found powerful among his readers, convincing for those persuaded by them, but infuriating for those who rejected such claims.

A little Summer exercise as you wait patiently for our September edition: the Gospel readings for each Sunday are printed in the calendar opposite for you to read beforehand.

Have a good Summer!

Best wishes to all,
Darrel Speedy

**CALENDAR FOR AUGUST
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD**

- 6. SUNDAY** 10.30am Sung Eucharist (CW) St Lk 9:28-36
- 13. SUNDAY** **NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
10.30am Family Communion St M 14:22-33
12noon. Organ Recital: Graham Brown
- 18. Friday**
- 20. SUNDAY** **TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
10.30am Sung Eucharist (BCP) St M 15:10-28
21. Monday 1pm Marriage:
Christopher Dale and Kate Moran
- 27. SUNDAY** **ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
10.30am Sung Eucharist (CW) St M 16:13-20
3pm Holy Baptism: Teddy & Renz Harper

4th July
Motion of the Ocean
Hazel Griffiths
Hostesses: S Linkman, K Morris, K Salmon
Flowers: I Jackson
Vote of Thanks: J Walker
Competition: 'Seascape'



1st August
A Passion for Stones
Sally Evans
Hostesses: J Smith, B Lea, C Bailey
Flowers: S Bailey
Vote of Thanks: K Morris
Competition: 'Rock /Stone/Pebble-Which has Meaning For You & Why?'
Members were charmed and captivated by Paul and Nick Bianchi, our speakers at the June Meeting. They are of course the owners and family founders of the Arighi Bianchi furniture store and owners of the iconic building in Macclesfield.
The business was founded in 1854 when Antonio Arighi and Antonio Bianchi came over as Italian immigrants from Casnate on the shores of Lake Como. Paul and Nick managed to weave their family and business history alongside the social change taking place at the time making it an enthralling story. Their humour and warmth lit up our meeting. From making parachutes during the war they now have a nationwide reputation for producing high quality furniture and a business built on trust. Many of our members were able to thank them personally for their service. We were delighted to welcome 3 visitors to our meeting and are always pleased to see new faces so why not come along to our next meeting at Barthomley Village Hall on 4th July at 7 p.m. Our speaker will be Hazel Griffiths who will be telling us about "The Motion of the Ocean" - intriguing eh!"

STRAWBERRY TEA

*In the Rectory Garden
(In the event of rain—in the Village Hall)*

**Sunday 30st July
3pm—5pm**



Strawberries & Cream—Scones and Tea (or bring your own wine)

*If you can bring a folding chair for yourself—that would be grand!
Please try to come - there's plenty of room for everyone*

Tickets £5.00 in support of St. Luke's Hospice available soon from the Rectory or PCC members

ORGAN RECITALS

Friday 21st July @ 12 noon

George Robey

Friday 15th September @ 12 noon

John Beasley



*Barthomley Bowling Club
**RE-ARRANGED OPEN DAY
& BARBECUE**
AT THE BOWLING CLUB
**SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST
2017***

1PM TILL 5PM

*FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY
GAMES, BRING & BUY AND REFRESHMENTS
FURTHER INFORMATION NORMAN LAWSON 01270 876447*