

Moses and Aaron 2

Continued from the September Parish News.

The note written by Revd. Skene to thank Earl Stalbridge for returning the pictures to Barthomley Church was a puzzle. We knew nothing about Earl Stalbridge except that he was the Chairman of the LNWR. The computer tells us that he was a descendant of the Grosvenor family of Chester.

We began searching again. I had e-mailed the LNWR study centre in Kenilworth, for despite the fact that the Company no longer existed there is still great interest in its history. I sent them a list of questions to all of which they gave negative answers except for one. This was: 'Where might the pictures have been kept in the missing years?' The writer replied that there was a church in Crewe that had been built by the LNWR and maybe there was some connection. This news prompted another visit to Crewe Reference Library where I began to learn about the history of the town as a railway junction. The town was already a stopping place on the Manchester –Birmingham line and by amalgamating the Grand Junction railway and the London-Birmingham lines, it was possible to connect London, Birmingham, Crewe, Manchester, Chester and Liverpool. In 1846 the LNWR was officially established with Crewe as the Junction and London as the headquarters. It had taken several years to develop the area as in 1837 Parliament had decreed that land should be given by Lord Crewe for the Junction and the Station. This was done with bad grace by Hungerford Crewe as he had fought to keep his land as it was. In fact his response was that the Station would be quite enough for him. The town was eventually built in and around Church Coppenhall on land which adjoined his Lordship's, but was ultimately about 2 miles from the station. Many people were brought in from the Liverpool area, Wales, Ireland etc. to work not only on the Railway but to build houses and develop the town. There were at least nine different churches and chapels offering different strands of religion. With it all came confusion both political and religious. Services were held on a Sunday afternoon in the Carriage works and later after consecration by the Bishop of Chester the Revd John Appleton (curate of Coppenhall) became the first Chaplain of the company in 1843. Eventually a church was built.

The question now was: where is this church and how was it connected with our paintings?

To be continued.

Val Allan.

Margaret, Trevor, Richard, Gareth Veal & Family wish to thank everyone for their prayers, messages and cards of condolence following the tragic loss of Damian, a precious Son, Brother and Uncle. Special thanks to Darrel, Angela and the congregation for their prayers over the years and especially at this time.

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".

The Rectory

September 22nd 2018

Barthomley

My dear Friends,

Most of you have probably heard by now that our lead stealing visitors have been back, after eight years, to strip our N. Aisle and Choir Vestry roof of its covering. Last time they went away with a quarter of it, but this time they were much greedier and have taken it all.

Of course, we are insured. There has been so much lead stealing from churches in this century that insurance companies have insisted on a maximum to their liability – that is £7500 if, and only if, the church roof has been treated with 'Smartwater' which encodes the metal with irremovable identification. Fortunately this had been done after the last attack in 2008.

The Diocesan Chancellor has granted permission for the replacement metal to be stainless steel rather than lead as before. The new material is only a little less expensive, but it does have the great advantages that it is very difficult to remove clandestinely and has no scrap value – so why steel it?! I'm told it can be very noisy in a hail storm!

The robbery was discovered on Saturday 1st September. Luckily it was a dry weekend – or almost, just a little drizzle through Sunday night, and a little more so on the Monday morning. By lunchtime on the 3rd all was covered in plastic. So the possible disaster of water damage was avoided.

Progress towards repair is moving quite quickly. The change of material hurdle has been half overcome as far as the church authorities are concerned. We may have to get approval from Cheshire East as well. We have also now received the necessary three tenders from roofing contractors. That is not good news, to say the least. The cost with fees and VAT is not a lot under £30,000. The VAT, about £4750, we should be able to recover. That still leaves £23-24000. Another £7500 insurance cover will make our bill somewhere near £16-17000.

There's always a brighter side. One stalwart parishioner, having heard of the robbery, turned up at the Rectory with an enormously heavy bag. It contained his copper and small silver change that had accrued over the years. 'Here's a start.' A few hours adding up and bagging the spoils, showed that there £104.11. 1p x 3500, 2p x 1750!!

Thank you very much indeed.

Best wishes,

Darrel Speedy



"CURTAIN UP"
with the
ALSAGER U3A ORCHESTRA

On Saturday, 20th October I will once again front a 60 piece orchestra to stage an evening of music and song at St. Mary's Concert Venue.

We will be joined by the Trent River Big Band under their leader Jane Olphin. We shall present a wide spectrum of musical styles from the orchestra's Stage and Screen favourites to popular Big Band Swing.

Joining the Orchestra this year will be singers Virginia Meir and Robert Lawton. Robert will reprise his role of Alfred P. Doolittle, which he sang recently at the Victoria Hall. Virginia, having played the lead in "Hello Dolly" at the Rep, will join him in concert arrangements of "South Pacific" and "My Fair Lady".

Both orchestras are really looking forward to entertaining you again at St. Mary's Church on 20th October. Remember that our last Concert sold out and doors were closed. If you would like to join us, ask me in church about ticket availability or ring me on 747848 to get the best seats still available. Numbered Tickets are £12. Family (4) £42.

Licensed Bar from 6.30. Plentiful parking at the nearby Car Park behind the Civic Centre.
Bill Freeman

BAG AGM

The BAG AGM will be held on Thursday 22nd November in the Village Hall. All are welcome. If anyone who is not already on the Committee would like to put themselves forward, can you please contact Viv Belcher by 1st November.

2nd October

The world of Pearly Kings and Queens

Jane Thomas

Hostesses: P Catterall, B Edwards

Flowers: V Isom

Vote of Thanks: B Newton

Competition: Buttons Make the Item.

Our September speaker appeared dressed as "A Tudor Lady", complete with velvet gown, jewellery, a headdress and of course a corset! Sheila Walsh is a guide at Speke Hall in Liverpool and she was brilliant. Of course she told us about the typical life of a woman at that time; married at 15 then doomed to a life of drudgery looking after children, keeping chickens, brewing beer and spinning – but with the satisfaction that you know you were able to cure jaundice by drinking lice in your beer! Sheila told us so much about life in Tudor times, she is a wealth of information. I believe she takes on many character roles at Speke Hall, one of which is leading a ghost walk around the house in complete darkness. Sounds well worth a visit.

Centenary of the Armistice 1918

As you may have read in September's magazine, a folder has been compiled commemorating those men with connections to Barthomley or Balterley who were killed, or who subsequently died as a result of their involvement in the Great War. The folder has now been completed - though we continue to welcome any additional information - and it will form a focus for our Remembrance Service on 11th November at 10:30am.

The following thirteen names will be specifically commemorated:-

Capt Basil Owen Tatham, Harry Booth, Joseph Edgar Ginders, George Percy Ginders, Harry Jenkinson, Thomas Henry Lovatt and Alfred Platt.

These are the seven men named on the War Memorial on the Chancel wall. In addition the following six men are memorialised in St Bertoline's graveyard:-

Capt the Hon Arthur Edward Bruce O'Neill MP, John William Bailey, William James Willshaw, Archibald Angelbeck, John Sydney Austin and Henry Leslie Eden.

We shall, of course, also be remembering those killed in WW2:-

Edwin Farrington and Joseph Reginald Holland

Starting on Sunday 7th October their lives will be marked by the reading of short biographies in the weeks leading up to the Remembrance Service.

We should be very pleased to welcome to the Remembrance Service any relatives of those who gave their lives for their country. More details of the Service will appear in the November issue of the magazine.
Gill Thorley

ST BERTOLINE'S CHRISTMAS FAIR 2018
Saturday, 24th November, from 9.30am until 1.00pm.

Barthomley Village Hall

A hugely popular event in the Barthomley calendar, come along and join us for a festive, fun, family morning!

A most important date for all your diaries!

