



ST NICHOLAS AND ST MARY'S

FEBRUARY 2023 ISSUE

Editor's email: mirrie1@sky.com

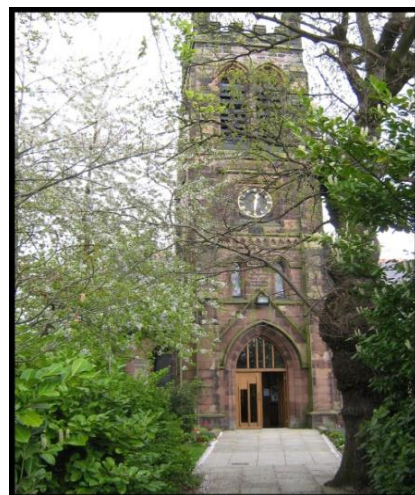
Articles for the March issue to me by 20th February 2023 please.



Church website
www.halewoodparish.org

*Please feel free to send me
any articles that may be of
interest to our readers.*

*Email address above.
Margaret*



May God bless you and keep you in the months ahead,
as the cost-of-living crisis and the NHS crisis continues.
He alone is our refuge and strength when times get tough.
May we continue to do our work for Him in the grace
which He alone can provide.

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St Nicholas Centre
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Halewood Village
LIVERPOOL, L26 6LB
Telephone: 0151 487 9965
email: halewoodparish@btconnect.com

TEAM VICAR

Andrew Radford
revandyhhc@gmail.com
St Hilda's Rectory
07966033648

TEAM RECTOR

Vacancy
The Rectory
Rectory Drive
Halewood

YOUTH & COMMUNITY

Mike Sutcliffe
mike.circuitchildren@gmail.com
07867489463

LAY READERS

Matthew Hargreaves
07810872987
mattharg@mac.com

Jen Radford
07966624729
jennyradford@hotmail.co.uk

Carol Burke
Burkie.carol@hotmail.co.uk
07588848667
Adam Grey 07814727622
adam_grey@msn.com

ST NICHOLAS WARDENS

Graham Elliott
07516852066
Lesley Webb
0151 4877234/07852778839
Lawebb74@hotmail.com

**ST NICHOLAS DEPUTY
WARDEN**

Andrew Reynolds
07776250718
andy@nadiareynolds.co.uk

Alison Shacklady
288 Higher Rd, H'wood
L26 9UF
486 2415/07909652442
Alison1.shacklady@btinternet.com

ST MARY'S

WARDEN - VACANCY

METHODIST STEWARDS

(for Sth Lpool Circuit)

Gill Dover 487 5137
gillian.dover@gmail.com
Mark Harrison
51 Hever Drive, H'wood
L26 6LN, 487 0086

MINISTRY MESSAGE

February, the month for shining Light and building Love

Well ... we have reached February! Often people are so pleased to get to the end of January and start the brand new month of February. January is a strange month because it comes after a full month of the excitement and build up to Christmas, followed by New Year celebrations, but then all too quickly it means: back to work, dark mornings, and nights, often freezing or wet weather and worst of all, financial recouperation for all the Christmas spending! I'm selling it really well aren't I! January starts so promisingly at the toll of midnight and with New Year Resolutions firmly decided upon with the promise of a better future. **How are those resolutions?** Are they still intact? Don't give up hope if they are not!

February is one of my favourite months because, with February, comes **the hope of spring, the hope of lighter days** to come and soon, very soon, **the hope of Easter**. We will think more of that in a bit.

Have you walked around Halewood recently? Walking around Halewood is definitely preferable to driving at the moment, because they haven't invented 4-way temporary traffic lights on the pavement (yet)! Sitting at the traffic lights, or walking your favourite route, you can't help noticing the developments that are progressing at a very quick pace all over the town. Whether you like the plans for Halewood or not, the birth of new housing chimes the start of a new era for the area, welcoming others into this, our vibrant community. Watching the houses being built has been so interesting! Seeing the land prepared, with so much time spent primarily on the foundations, before watching walls rise, demarcating each room and plot, before roofs and other essentials are added. Then suddenly lights appear in windows, along with plants and other evidence of 'real people' giving life to the bricks and mortar. A house needs people to make it a home, a community also needs people, but what 'binds' that community together is what **really makes** community.

This whole idea of building and 'filling the space' got me thinking for this Ministry Message. February is a month that has hope at the end of it, but to get to the hope, lots of preparation needs to be done - foundations to be secured before building new hope and new potential.

February starts with **Candlemas (2nd Feb)**, a Festival that links us back in this new year to Christmas, where we remember Jesus 'Light of the World', who banishes all the darkness in life. We remember Jesus' naming day at the Temple and, most significantly, the Prophetess Prayer Warrior Anna and devoted servant of God Simeon, who both recognised the baby Jesus as Messiah, the long-awaited Saviour. The name Jesus means, 'the Lord is Salvation'. The Angel was very specific in telling Mary that Jesus would be the name for her baby. Isaiah and Matthew's Gospel name Jesus **Emmanuel**, which means 'God with us' and shows us that Jesus came to bring us Salvation, to show that God IS with us, His people. As John 3:16 showed, this light, this salvation, is for the world...a new hope and tells us it was given with love. Simeon announces in the Temple: *"For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles (non-Jews), and the glory of your people Israel."*

During the winter, we long for light and lighter, warmer days. **Light brings hope**. In life, there are dark times but there is also light that shines hope in the darkness. As Christians we pray about areas of suffering (darkness) in the world and for God's light to shine. As Christians, we are not only commanded to pray, but also try to *bring* light to the dark situations so we can have a positive impact on them and show God's love and light in action. **Is there something on your heart you long to see the light and warmth of God to change? Do you pray for that situation? Do you actively find ways to make a difference, or support those who can? Could this be a February challenge to make this new month your opportunity to shine?**

Alongside **light**, another attribute we see coming from God is **love**. Love is also a theme very much associated with February. **14th February** is when we celebrate love and remember St Valentine. We do not know much about Valentine, but we believe he was a Priest who served and ministered during Roman times. It is believed that the Emperor at the time (potentially Claudius II) banned all single soldiers from marrying because he wanted them to focus on being hardened fighters, not distracted by love or families. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered in 278AD, Claudius ordered that he be arrested and put to death. It is believed that Valentine demonstrated 'love' to others in his jail, because of the horrible conditions they were kept in. He preached the love of God and wanted to show that same love, even in the dank dark prison. He wanted to add **light** ... and **love**, foundations that were already strong in his own life. Biographers say he was known for his loving character. It is also alleged that the imprisoned Valentine sent the first 'valentine' greeting or letter himself, after he fell in love with a woman, possibly his jailor's daughter, who used to visit and speak with him. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed, '*From your Valentine*'. Whether this is true or just folklore, it reminds us of the power of love, and the power of **hope** that love brings. There is a saying, 'When you say no-one really loves me...God tells you, 'I love you.' Read John 3:16 and John 13:34. Remember, Jesus: salvation, light, love, and **God with us**.



Next on our whistle-stop tour of February, we have **Shrove Tuesday** on the 21st and **Ash Wednesday** on the 22nd, both of which remind us of the important time of **Lent**. Halewood, along Bailey's Lane and beyond is currently one massive building site. In the same way, Lent is our personal calling and challenge to build on our own individual 'sites'. Shrove Tuesday is a day to enjoy eating pancakes, remembering how the monks used up the 'fats' before entering the holy time of Lent. It was the last chance to indulge before 40 days of fasting, and also an opportunity to use up food that couldn't be eaten during Lent, including eggs, fat (butter), and milk which were made into pancakes and eaten on that day. Believers would go to Church to be 'shriven', cleansed of their sins before using Lent as a time to re-order their spiritual lives, to build strong foundations, to re-align with God before celebrating Easter. Lent lasts for 40 days, beginning on Ash Wednesday. Lent can be used to remove vices that take us away from God's light, to give up things we know 'dim our Christ-lights' or stop us loving our neighbours or ourselves.

Lent can also be a time to take things on, maybe deciding to read a piece of scripture daily. Maybe remembering to pray for situations around the world more often, or even looking where we can spread God's love through our words and actions. **Lectio365** (<https://www.24-7prayer.com/resource/lectio-365/>) is a great way using our phones to read scripture, be led in reflective prayer, and then be challenged to do something about it. It works for busy people and for when you have more time.

- **Could your action be for your own family? Telephoning them or giving them more time more often?**
- **Could it be checking in on a neighbour?**
- **Could it be supporting Food Bank or Baby Bank each week during Lent?**

There are so many easy ways that we can add simple quick wins to our already busy lives and once we do them repeatedly over Lent, they may become a permanent habit, making those foundations of ours strong. Lent is a long 40 days on purpose because it gives us the optimum time to assess, to reflect, to act and then to realign on God's path, in His light.

When thinking of community and showing **God's love and light in Halewood**, there are so many worked out examples already. The **Warm Hubs** that have been set up is one example, sharing the heat within a building with those who cannot afford the same basic resource in their own homes. Be it in a Christian Church (such as Thursdays at St Nicholas' Centre) or in a Civic building or Youth Club, this is God's love and light in action.

Baby Bank that ruins from **Shining Lights** (current Stay and Play and soon to be Nursery based in St Mary's) is another example of our community proactively and practically demonstrating that same love. Shining Lights regularly puts out a call for basic baby essentials to be donated via their Twitter, Insta or Facebook, so those who were struggling can ask and receive a 'helping hand' without prejudice or a feeling of having to be vetted first. This seed initiative quickly led to people donating baby clothes, then came Moses Baskets, cots, prams and practically every

single item a baby may need. Once the item came in, it almost immediately went out, delivered to a home that desperately needed it. The kindness of the community has continued to grow, where people began thinking of

'mothers' as well as their babies, leaving 'mum essentials and some treats to add to the support package and show they were not forgotten. When the call came for items to support older siblings, that was answered loud and clear too. Clothes and toys telling older siblings that their new born baby bro or sis is important but so are they. When a 4 year old child cries with joy, because his new coat means he can finally start going to play in the park again, or the teenager is warm walking to school in a coat that he or she is proud to wear, shows the level of need that is in our town. Shining Lights Baby Bank has now supported over 70 families in Halewood and the surrounding areas and brought **light** and **love** with every single 'gift' that gives real tangible **hope**. **This is community helping community.** No one knows who has donated, all they know is that it was donated **with love**. **Sacrificial giving and sharing what we have is Godly living.** Foundations that are strong allows others to build their lives with **hope** because of the light and love brought to them at a dark time. The need always grows bigger, especially in a cost of living crisis but the light will always extinguish the darkness. Generosity also always grows bigger when there is a heart for change and we want to stand side by side.



"Dear Shining Lights Halewood,

I want to say a BIG THANK YOU for the donations of clothes to 3 of my kids ages 6,10 and 13. Truly you are a blessing. I just moved to the area and have spend so much on bills, buying clothes was something else but I was referred to you and you helped!

I also want to thank the staff that came out in the cold to help me find my way to the venue! You are a Blessing! You are doing a lot for families in the community and this has gone a long way to help me save me money that would go into other needs at home. Keep doing the good work because you are saving families. Thank you again and again."

I would like to thank everyone who has donated and helped my sister. Your generosity at a time when so many people are struggling is honestly humbling and makes me so grateful to live in a Community that will come together and help each other. Thank you for helping. Honestly thanks the world to me and my sister ❤️ xxx

"I would like to thank shining lights from the bottom of my heart. I have never found myself in this position before and reached out for help and I am completely overwhelmed with what they have helped me and my family with and will be eternally grateful. Thank you all so very much."

Could you be a Shining Light this Lent and make this your Lenten challenge?

For information on Shining Lights Halewood / Baby Bank, email shininglightshalewood@gmail.com.

Why not look at Twitter: @ShiningLightsHW

Facebook: Shining Lights Halewood

Insta: shining_lights_halewood_cic ?

So how are you feeling about February? Are you ready to make a difference in your own life or in the life of another?

We need to work to ensure we have our own foundations strong, building our lives with bricks that are in the **light** and using mortar that fills with **love**. After that, we are strong enough to reach out to others and respond to their call.

In February, and always: be assured that Jesus, Salvation, God with us, is ALWAYS with us and His light will give us the strength and confidence we need for any call. As we re-build, re-new and become re-stored this Lent, **let us be determined to become a person who shines with the hope that is within us**, because we know the everlasting Father, Emmanuel. Isaiah put it neatly... *"Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength"* (Isaiah 40). **Be renewed** and let's **look to the light and walk in the light**, spreading **light** and **love**, because with the Christ-light, the darkness will **never** put it out.

Lent ... we are ready for you! Halewood, world: **are you ready for our lights to shine?!**

Happy February,

Matthew

Taken from the sermon at St Nicholas 22nd January 2023 – thankyou Rev Graham Amey

To: Jesus, Son of Joseph, Woodcrafter Carpenter Shop, Nazareth

From: Jordan Management Consultants, Jerusalem

Dear Sir

Thank you for submitting the resumés of the twelve men you have picked for management positions in your new organisation. All of them have now taken our battery of tests: we have not only run the results through our computer, but also arranged personal interviews for each of them with our psychologist and vocational aptitude consultant.

It is the staff opinion that most of your nominees are lacking in background, education and vocational aptitude for the type of enterprise you are undertaking. They do not have the team concept. We would recommend that you continue your search for persons of experience in managerial ability and proven capability. Simon Peter is emotionally unstable and given to fits of temper. Andrew has absolutely no qualities of leadership. The two brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, place personal interest above company loyalty. Thomas demonstrated a questioning attitude that would tend to undermine morale. We feel that it is our duty to tell you that Matthew has been blacklisted by the Greater Jerusalem Better Business Bureau. James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus definitely have radical leanings, and they both registered a high score on the manic-depressive scale.

One of the candidates, however, shows great potential. He is a man of ability and resourcefulness, meets people well, has a keen business mind and has contacts in high places. He is highly motivated, ambitious and responsible. We recommend Judas Iscariot as your controller and righthand man. All the other profiles are self-explanatory.

We wish you every success in your new venture.

Sincerely

Jordan Management Consultants

FEBRUARY SERVICES

Sunday 5th February:

Candlemas (Hebrews 2.14-18, Luke 2.22-40)

10.30 am St Mary Morning Worship: Kip Crooks

11.00 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Andy & Jen Radford

6.30 pm Evening Worship: Matthew Hargreaves

11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Bill Forster

Thursday 9th February:

9.15 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Nicola Milford

Sunday 12th February:

2nd Sunday before Lent (Genesis 1.1-23, Matthew 6.25-34)

10.30 am St Mary Holy Communion: Andy Radford

11.00 am St Nicholas GMJC/Parade: Matthew Hargreaves

12.30 & 1.00 pm St Nicholas Baptisms: Andy Radford

6.30 pm St Nicholas Evening Worship: David Goodwin

11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Carol Burke

Thursday 16th February:

9.15 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Sandra Doore

Sunday 19th February:

Sunday before Lent (Exodus 24.12-18, Matthew 17.1-9)

10.30 am St Mary Morning Worship & Baptism: Graham Amey

11.00 am St Nicholas Morning Worship: Godfrey Butland

6.30 pm St Nicholas Holy Communion: Stephen Gough

11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Andy Radford

Wednesday 22nd February:

Ash Wednesday: Service to be confirmed.

Thursday 23rd February:

9.15 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Andy Radford

Sunday 26th February:

1st Sunday of Lent (Genesis 2.15-17 and 3.1-7, Matthew 4.1-11)

10.30 am St Mary GMJC: Matthew Hargreaves

11.00 am St Nicholas Morning Worship: Carol Burke

6.30 pm St Nicholas Evening Worship: Alan Kennedy

11.00 am St Hilda Holy Communion: Andy & Jen Radford

6.30 pm St Nicholas Evening Worship: Alan Kennedy

Thursday 2nd March:

9.15 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Andy Radford

The Language of Love – copied from The Parish Pump

Valentine's Day reminds us of the importance of expressing our love to those close to us. But how can we go beyond simply offering flowers and a card? Jesus says: '*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another*' (John 13:34). How can we express love like Jesus in our everyday relationships to our partner, children, neighbours or work colleagues?

Listening

We need to listen to others, just as Jesus did. He asked questions of people and waited for them to process their answer. According to James, '*everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry*' (James 1:19). How well do we listen to others? How often do we find ourselves already thinking of what we want to say before somebody's finished speaking? Listening takes time; don't rush it!

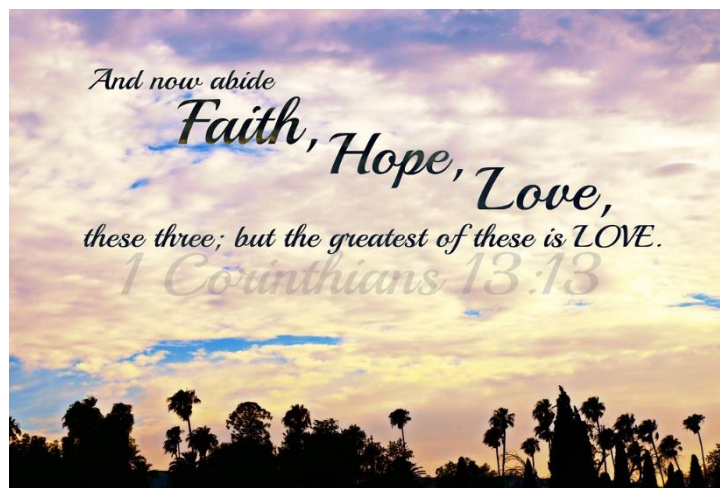
Touching

Jesus reached out to touch the untouchables in His world, including lepers, the sick and children. This was completely out of character for rabbis of His day. For us today, a warm handshake may be of value. Of course, it should always be an *appropriate* touch – helpful for the other person, not just for ourselves.

Speaking

Jesus' conversation was always full of grace and truth (John 1:14). Do we speak words of *grace*, by offering comfort, giving encouragement or expressing care and concern? However, we should also be ready to speak words of *truth*, in asking for forgiveness, seeking reconciliation or addressing conflict. As Paul urges us, don't avoid: '*speaking the truth in love*'.

Where is the challenge for us in expressing love this Valentine's Day?



SOME LATE REMEMBRANCES!!

REMEMBRANCE OF A REMARKABLE VC in the 19th Century

William Edward Hall was born at Horton, Nova Scotia, in 1827 as the son of Jacob and Lucy Hall, who had escaped American slave owners in Maryland during the War of 1812 and were brought to freedom in Nova Scotia by the British Royal Navy as part of the Black Refugee movement. The Halls first lived in Summerville, Nova Scotia where Jacob worked in a shipyard operated by Abraham Cunard until they bought a farm across the Avon River at Horton Bluff. Hall first worked in shipyards at nearby Hantsport, Nova Scotia before going to sea at the age of seventeen. He sailed first on merchant ships based out of the Minas Basin including the barque Kent of Kentville, Nova Scotia. Hall briefly served in the United States Navy from 1847 to 1849, during the Mexican–American War. He served for a time aboard USS Ohio alongside John Taylor Wood, who later supported Hall's US Navy pension claim.



Hall volunteered for the Royal Navy in February 1852, serving at first aboard HMS Rodney. Hall fought in the Crimean War serving ashore in a Naval Brigade from Rodney at the battles of Inkerman and Sevastopol in 1854. After a brief tour on HMS Victory, Hall transferred to the screw frigate HMS Shannon, where he became captain of the foretop.

When the Indian Mutiny broke out in May 1857, Shannon was among the fleet escorting a troop detachment to China. Upon arrival at Singapore, news of the situation in India reached the fleet, however the fleet completed its mission, arriving at Hong Kong. There, Shannon was ordered to Calcutta (since renamed Kolkata). A brigade from Shannon, comprising 450 men, was constituted under Captain William Peel. The ship was towed over 600 miles (970 km) up the Ganges River to Allahabad. Then the force fought across country to Campbell's headquarters at Cawnpore and were in time to take part in the Siege of Lucknow.

Relief of Lucknow

On 16 November 1857 at Lucknow, India, naval guns were brought up close to the Shah Nujeff mosque, one of the key locations in the siege. One of the gun crews was short a man and Hall volunteered to fill out the position. The gun crews kept up a steady fire in an attempt to breach and clear the walls, while a hail of musket balls and grenades from the opposing fighters inside the mosque caused heavy casualties. Two guns were ordered closer. Of the crews, only Able Seaman Hall and Lieutenant Thomas James Young, the battery's commander, were able to continue fighting, all the rest having been killed or wounded, and between them they loaded and served the last gun, which was fired at less than 20 yards from the wall, until it was breached. The citation in London Gazette read:

Lieutenant (now Commander) Young, late Gunnery Officer of Her Majesty's ship "Shannon," and William Hall, "Captain of the Foretop," were recommended by the late Captain Peel for the Victoria Cross, for their gallant conduct at a 24-Pounder Gun, at Lucknow, on 16 November 1857.

Hall remained with the Royal Navy for the rest of his career. He joined the crew of HMS Donegal in 1859. On 28 October 1859, he was presented with the Victoria Cross by Rear Admiral Charles Talbot while Donegal was anchored at Queenstown Harbour. Hall rose to the rating of Petty Officer First Class in HMS Royal Adelaide by the time he retired in 1876. He returned to his home village in Horton Bluff where he ran a small farm until his death in 1904. In 1901, the future King George V, visiting Nova Scotia, saw Hall at a parade, recognized his medals, and spoke with him.

He was originally buried in an unmarked grave without military honours. He was reinterred in 1954 in Hantsport, Nova Scotia where his grave is marked by a monument at the Baptist church. Hall's original Victoria Cross was repatriated from Britain in 1967 by the government of Nova Scotia and is on permanent display at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax.

Hall is also featured in exhibits at the Halifax Citadel and at the Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia. Canada Post commemorated William Hall on a stamp, first issued on 1 February 2010 in Hantsport, Nova Scotia and officially launched at the Black Cultural Centre on 2 February 2010. Hall was designated a National Historic Person by the Canadian Historic Sites and Monuments Board at Hantsport on 8 October 2010 and a new plaque was unveiled in his honour.

The fourth ship in the Royal Canadian Navy's Harry DeWolf class will be named after William Hall. The ship keel was laid at Irving Shipbuilding's yard in Halifax in February 2021.

William Nelson Edward Hall VC (28 April 1827 – 27 August 1904) was the first Black person, first Nova Scotian, and third Canadian to receive the Victoria Cross. He received the medal for his actions in the 1857 Siege of Lucknow during the Indian Rebellion. Hall and an officer from his ship continued to load and fire a 24-pounder gun at the walls after the rest of the party had been killed or injured by the defenders.

Women were first conscripted in WW1....

But this is a look at the role of women in the Second World War.

With thousands of men away serving in the armed forces, British women took on a variety of jobs during the Second World War. They also played a vital role on the home front, running households and fighting a daily battle of rationing, recycling, reusing, and cultivating food in allotments and gardens.



From 1941, women were called up for war work, in roles such as mechanics, engineers, munitions workers, air raid wardens, bus and fire engine drivers. At first, only single women aged 20-30 were called up, but by mid-1943, almost 90 per cent of single women and 80 per cent of married women were working in factories, on the land or in the armed forces.

ATS girls "manned" the Anti-Aircraft guns and also the Searchlights - particularly dangerous as enemy planes bombed and machinegunned them as they were obviously visible.

There were over 640,000 women in the armed forces, including The Women's Royal Naval Service (WRNS), the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF) and the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS), plus many more who flew unarmed aircraft, drove ambulances, served as nurses and worked behind enemy lines in the European resistance in the Special Operations Executive.

The most notable member of the ATS during the Second World War was the then Princess Elizabeth. She trained as a driver and mechanic and reached the rank of Junior Commander. Winston Churchill's youngest daughter, Mary Churchill (later Lady Soames), also served as a member of the ATS.



Away from these vital roles more than 80,000 women joined the Women's Land Army, enduring tough conditions and long hours in isolated rural outposts in order to prevent Britain from being 'starved out'. The women who worked on farms were known as 'Land Girls'. They were given a uniform and had to live on the farms where they were sent to work.

Also recruited was the WTC - Womens Timber Corps (Lumberjills) felling trees etc to make up for the loss of trees from occupied Norway.



In cities, the Women's Voluntary Service prided itself on doing 'whatever was needed', including famously providing support (and much needed tea and refreshments) to victims of the Blitz and those sheltering in Underground stations. In the Special Operations Executive (SOE), Churchill recruited around 60 women "to set Europe ablaze". They were deployed behind enemy lines, usually by parachute or fishing boats, to help form a 'secret army' of resistance fighters preparing the way for the Allied invasion.

As well as serving in the war, both abroad and on the Home Front, artists have extensively documented the breadth of work undertaken by women during Second World War. For example, Evelyn Dunbar, Dame Laura Knight and Cecil Beaton, among others, took us into the lives of women during this time with their photographs and paintings.

Author of '**Women Heroes of World War II**', Kathryn J. Atwood wrote:

"...most of these women - the famous and the obscure - had one thing in common: they did not think of themselves as heroes. They followed their consciences, saw something that needed to be done, and they did it. And all of them helped win a war, even though many of them paid the ultimate price for their contribution."

Taken from www.gov.uk/government/news/the-women-of-the-second-world-war

More than Half a Million Women served in WW2 and 2000 were killed.

THE CHARITY MAN !

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Born: 1 November 1901 Forest Gate, London, England

Died: 9 August 1979 Kent, England

Alma mater: Balliol College, Oxford

Cecil Jackson-Cole was an English entrepreneur and humanitarian. He was associated with a number of charities including Oxfam, Help the Aged and ActionAid.



A devout Christian, Jackson-Cole set up charitable trusts including the Voluntary and Christian Service Trust that ultimately gave rise to the charities Help the Aged (1961), the Anchor Housing Trust (1968) and Action Aid (1973). He was a co-founder of the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief which became the largest charity of its kind in the British Commonwealth. He was the founder of the Andrews Charitable Trust (formally the Phyllis Trust and World in Need) the first modern Venture Philanthropy organisation.

In 1946, Jackson-Cole founded Andrews and Partners Estate Agents as a business with an ulterior purpose: the development of charities. In 1965 he created Phyllis Trust (later renamed to World in Need, and later to Andrews Charitable Trust), and the Christian Initiative Trust. The Christian Book Promotion Trust was formed in 1967. Andrews & Partners is 100% owned by Andrews Charitable Trust, who are its only shareholder.

Cecil Jackson-Cole was a successful business man as the owner and manager of Andrews Furnishers with branches in London and Oxford. According to an advertisement in the shop window in 1976, the last day of trading for the furniture franchise was on 14 May 1976. The advertisement reads: 'Interment of a business: This business established in 1845 is closing down after 131 years of successful existence. For years past the dividends have been largely for the benefit of charity and now the shop is to be used entirely for charity work.'

In 1946, Leslie Swain and Raymond Andrews joined Jackson-Cole in business, both answering an advertisement from 'a Company which gives a third of its profits to the staff, a third to charity and the remaining third for the organisation'. The company was Andrews & Partners. Raymond Andrews was engaged to manage it, and Leslie Swain to set up its mortgage and insurance broking department. Jackson-Cole believed that, to be successful, a charity had to be run as a business. To transform Oxfam into a national body, Leslie Swain was seconded to Oxfam for a year from Andrews & Partners, where he had been since the business was set up in 1946. In 1962, Raymond Andrews set up the National Association of Estate Agents as a way of upholding good practice and high professional standards in UK Estate Agency. Raymond resigned as Chairman of Andrews in May 1986, and Alec Reed succeeded him. He put in financial controls and took out the unnecessary costs to transform Andrews from making a loss of £297,000 in 1985 to making a profit of just over £1 million in 1986. Alec Reed said; "In a way, he's my hero, although I never met him, but I liked the way he went about things, such as creating companies that could contribute to charities.' Jackson-Cole created a Trust funded through Andrews and Partners called the Voluntary Christian Service.

Andrews is owned by three charitable trusts which derive most of their income from annual dividends, and has helped to found a number of large charities including Oxfam and Action Aid.

Charities

Jackson-Cole first became involved in charitable work through the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Watford. The work carried out by Andrews' staff in the organisation of charities was mostly done through an informal committee set up in 1953 and known as the Help for Vital Causes Group. The title was later changed to Voluntary and Christian Service. Through the VCS, Jackson-Cole created and developed Help the Aged, several Housing Associations and the children's charity, Action Aid, to a point where they could be spun-off as self-governing charities. Jackson-Cole set up trusts not only to support charitable work but primarily to underpin his involvement in charity. He had an all-consuming vocation to relieve suffering in the world and he constructed an elaborate alliance of businesses, trusts and charities to achieve his aims.

Help the Aged

The Help the Aged Refugees Appeal was set up in 1961 by Jackson-Cole in response to the needs of older refugees and other older people following natural disasters and conflict in the former Yugoslavia, former East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) and Rwanda. The appeal raised £105,302 in its first year.

Jackson-Cole founded HelpAge India. In March 1974, when Jackson Cole, founder of HelpAge International visited India, Samson Daniel, a philanthropist, approached him for financial help to set up a member organisation in Delhi. Cole instead offered to train him to raise funds. After a three-month training course in London, Daniel and his wife returned to India and organised a sponsored walk with schoolchildren in Delhi. It was so successful that in 1975 HelpAge International recruited more staff to cover Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.

Oxfam

The driving force behind the continued existence of the Oxford Committee was Jackson-Cole. The Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (subsequently Oxfam) was formed with Jackson-Cole as first honorary secretary. He became the business brain and dynamic driving force behind this relief and development agency. In 1948 the question arose of whether Oxfam should terminate its activities because Europe was felt to be on the road to recovery. The committee

decided unanimously against this, and Jackson-Cole spearheaded the growth and expansion of the charity. For five years he virtually ran it himself. As a member of Oxfam's council of management he retained his interest and involvement until 1979, serving as secretary emeritus in later years. His vision led to the setting up of autonomous Oxfams in Canada, Quebec, the US, and Belgium.

Despite the improvements in European conditions, there was throughout the world great suffering and need, and as long as this was so – and surely it would indefinitely be so – 'the work' must go on. An efficient if modest vehicle has been developed. When the Committee met in September 1948 to discuss whether to close down, Jackson-Cole had laid the groundwork for a decision in favour of widening the scope of its activities.

Jackson-Cole's most important contribution to Oxfam, and to the charitable movement in Britain generally, was to discard this conceptual straitjacket. In doing so, he trod on toes, and ruffled feathers, but his vision and persistence, backed by his reliance on his own company to provide risk capital, eventually changed the face of charitable activity in the UK. His contributions to Oxfam were recognised in 2002 with a blue plaque outside 17 Broad Street, where he helped establish the first Oxfam gift shop.

Action Aid

Jackson-Cole founded Action Aid (then known as Action in Distress) under the Voluntary Christian Service in 1972 as a child sponsorship charity. He found 88 UK supporters to sponsor 88 children in India and Kenya. The focus was on providing children with an education.

Toc H

Jackson-Cole was on the central finance committee at Toc H for a number of years. In 1930, he bought Warden Manor in Sheppey, and let Toc H use it as a holiday retreat for the elderly and a resting place for soldiers.

Andrews Charitable Trust

Jackson-Cole endowed the Phyllis Trust with shares from Andrews in 1965. The trust changed its name in the 1980s to World in Need, and in 2005 to Andrews Charitable Trust. It remains the largest shareholder and recipient of the business's dividend. Like Jackson-Cole, the trust practices engaged philanthropy, sometimes called venture philanthropy, by providing both grants and business advice to the grantees.

Christian Book Promotion Trust

The Christian Book Promotion Trust was founded in 1967 by Jackson-Cole. He created the charity because there was little Christian literature to help him when his wife Phyllis died, and limited information available when he was growing up. The trust is also known as Speaking Volumes. They help libraries and schools stock Christian books that are accessible to everyone.

Christian Initiative Trust

The Christian Initiative Trust was established in 1968 by Jackson-Cole as a grant making trust providing small grants to support Christian Initiatives that promote and share the Christian faith and provide practical help for disadvantaged and marginalised people within communities, as a demonstration of the Christian faith and principles.

Death

Cecil Jackson-Cole died of pancreatic cancer on 9 August 1979 at Burrswood Hospital in Kent.

Thanks for all three articles, Colin.

PARISH WALK

On Sat 14th January, in the new year of 2023, we met at the Centre for our guided walk around the parks in South Liverpool and on to the Anglican Cathedral. Penni Conlon was team leader and after butties at Strawberry Fields we made off to Sefton Park to start our walk.



By now the dreadful weather had subsided and the skies were brightening up. We did this walk in November 2021 and it was well worth another trip.

After mingling with the birds of the earth at Sefton and Princes Park we went down Princes Avenue to the Anglican Cathedral. We rested



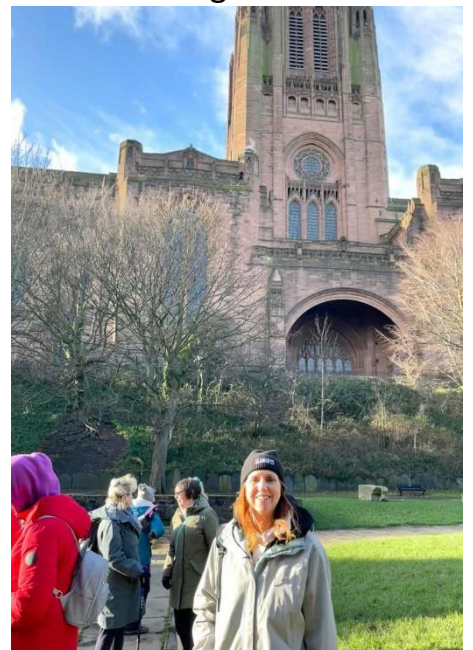
at this grand location with refreshments and benefitted from the Cathedral choir doing a rehearsal session.



It was assumed that we must have missed a downpour as there was a lovely rainbow across the skies near Parliament Street and Hope Street, as we headed back to the starting location.

We were 11 in number, had really good weather and managed to clock up the miles, a

few past our normal 5-mile stint. However, it was not without raising a few aches and pains, only expected across the age ranges involved. We dispersed at Sefton Park, looking forward to the next walk and getting our boots off after this one.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers Needed - We have a small dedicated band of cleaners who clean at St Nicholas' Church every Thursday after our communion service. They would welcome some additional help from 10 am for around 30-40 minutes. All cleaning materials provided.

If you are able to help, even if it is on occasional weeks, please speak to Lesley Webb or Graham Elliott. Thanks

Request from Mothers' Union

Mother's Union have been asked to donate items for refugees coming to the Liverpool area particularly for pregnant or new mothers. The items particularly requested are: Large size sanitary towels; breastpads; nipple cream; nice smellies for mums; baby bath foam and similar items; nappies size 0-2; baby grows/baby clothes; small blankets. Also, craft items, eg wool and needles; large saucepans.

For more information or to donate contact Sheila Bersin on 486 7565.

Sheila also says: If anyone could knit some "Teddies for Tragedy", it's a good way to use up the oddments of wool. Sheila has the pattern if anyone needs it. Very easy and colourful and it's only garter stitch with stocking stitch for the head. And doesn't take long!

Help needed with Children's Work at St Mary's - A message from Katie Cardwell

So, since reopening after lock down, the numbers at St Mary's Junior Church have more than tripled which, of course, is an answer to prayer: however, we are struggling with the small number of helpers that we have. If you are able to go onto the rota to help with this please contact Katie on katiemc84@googlemail.com

A Message from Mike Sutcliffe

We need some help because we are struggling to run the after-school clubs, as we need at least another adult (as well as myself). We have 3 clubs at the moment:

JAM Club is a club for children in years 1, 2, and 3 and we're currently making our way through the New Testament. It takes place on Wednesdays from 15:30-16:30. **Boss Club** is a club for children in years 4, 5, and 6 that takes place on Thursdays from 18:00-19:00. **Next Level** is a club for secondary school children that takes place on Thursdays from 19:30-20:30.

If anyone is available during these times and might be able to offer some assistance that would be amazing. You can contact Mike on mike.circuitchildren@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed - St Nicholas' creche

A number of our volunteers have had to step down recently so we need to recruit some new members of the creche team. If this is something in which you would be interested please contact Catherine Williams catherine12725@gmail.com for more information.

Baptism Sponsors

We are currently reviewing some of the arrangements for booking baptisms at our two churches but in the meantime we need some more volunteers to act as Baptism sponsors. The main role of the sponsors involves supporting families during the Baptism services. If this is something in which you might be interested please speak to one of the wardens.

Knowsley Winter Warm Knitting Project

This year, as in previous years, we are knitting and crocheting items for the Knowsley Winter Warm Project: hats; scarves; neck warmers; fingerless mittens; shawls; knee blankets etc. This year these will be needed more than ever with the rising costs of fuel. We have simple patterns and a budget for wool. So if you are not already knitting for this and would like to be involved please contact Alison who will provide wool and whatever else you need.

New Parish Administrator

Jessica Forrester has now taken up her post as Parish Administrator. She can be contacted every morning at the St Nicholas' Centre. At the moment she is still using the email address halewoodparish@btconnect.com

John Cleator, who was covering the post on a temporary basis, has now reverted to his substantive post as premises manager on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Thanks to John for helping us out in the intervening period.

Prayers - If you would like us to include someone in prayers on a Sunday morning and/or evening, there is a book at the back of each church to which you can add names. Please ask the duty warden/steward .



Cost of Living Support

Visit
www.knowsleynews.co.uk/cost-of-living-support

Call 0151 443 3300
Monday to Friday 9am until 5pm

Or speak to an Online Chat Advisor
at www.knowsley.gov.uk

DATES TO REMEMBER

The Pirates are coming to St Mary's

On Friday 10 February at 7.30pm the Bentley Operatic Society will be performing a semi staged version of the Pirates of Penzance in St Mary's Church.

Tickets £12 each see Alison or Kate.

Next Vestry Date for Wedding and Baptism enquiries

Thursday 16 February 7-7.45 at St Nicholas' Centre

Calendar Girls at St Hilda's Church Hall

Woolton Drama Group will be performing Calendar Girls from the 13 to 15th April at St Hilda's Church Hall - £7 adults, £5 Concession

Tickets available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/woolton-drama-group

Mike Sutcliffe-Change of Email Address

Mike Sutcliffe our Children's and Youth Worker now has a new email address mike.circuitchildren@gmail.com. Please use this if you wish to contact him.

HALEWOOD WARM HUBS

MONDAY

The Arncliffe Sports & Community
Arncliffe Road
12pm - 2pm

TUESDAY

Halewood Youth Centre (Boyzee)
Lichfield Road
12pm - 2pm

WEDNESDAY

St Marks Parish Centre
Pennmann Crescent
1pm - 3.30pm

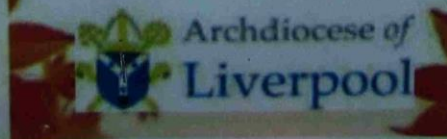
THURSDAY

St Nicholas Centre
Church Road
10am - 12pm

FRIDAY

Halewood WI Hall
Baileys Lane
10am - 12pm

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NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Bishop John to be installed on April 22nd at 3pm

Bishop John Perambulath will be installed as the 9th Bishop of Liverpool at a special service at Liverpool Cathedral. The service will take place at 3pm and all are welcome.

Bishop John said "I am full of hope and trust as I look forward to my installation on 22nd April when my public ministry in the diocese will begin. There are challenges to face and opportunities to explore. We will love each other and learn together as we serve God and the world he loves. I am excited about getting to know the people and places in the diocese and journeying alongside you all.

I thank Bishop Bev for her leadership during this vacancy and she will continue to be the Acting Diocesan until my installation. I hope and pray that the installation service will be an occasion of celebration where we give thanks to God for our mission and ministry as the people of God in Liverpool, and an opportunity to renew our commitment and vision."

We continue to hold Bishop John and his family in our prayers.

Bishop John has his election to the office of Bishop of Liverpool confirmed at York Minster

In the next stage of his journey to becoming Bishop of Liverpool, the Rt Rev John Perumbalath had his election by the College of Canons at Liverpool Cathedral confirmed. The confirmation took place at York Minster with the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell.

Bishop John will next pay homage to King Charles III, the first Anglican bishop to do this before he is installed at Liverpool Cathedral on April 22nd at 3 pm.

We announce acting Archdeacons for Liverpool and Wigan and West Lancashire

Following the announcement that Archdeacon Mike McGurk is leaving us for the Diocese of Manchester, Bishop Bev is delighted to announce two temporary appointments to cover the work.

Canon Sam Nicolson will act as Archdeacon for Wigan and West Lancashire, while Revd Miranda Threlfall-Holmes will act as the Archdeacon of Liverpool.

Both will start in their roles shadowing Mike and working with brother Archdeacons in early January with the posts taking legal effect from February 1st. They will cover these roles for three days a week, remaining in their parish roles for the rest of the time.

Bishop Bev said "It is really important to have continuity of Archidiaconal support for parishes and deaneries and I am delighted that Miranda and Sam have agreed to fulfill these extra responsibilities. Their ability to shadow Mike is invaluable and I believe this will bring strong leadership and support in the coming months. I will pray for them both as they take up their new ministries". I am also deeply grateful to their respective PCCs for releasing them to these roles.

The next stage will be to work to discern and specify the role of a permanent Archdeacon role and to determine the shape of our archdeaconries. We will publish the full details and the application process in the first part of this year.

Canon Michael Wolfe Memorial Evensong

On **Sunday 5th February at 3 pm** Evensong at Liverpool Cathedral will be a memorial for Canon Michael Wolfe, who has died aged 93. He was one of the most distinguished and beloved priests in the Diocese. Following a private family funeral, this service will be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for his life. Clergy and Readers who wish to robe in choir dress, are invited to come to the Baptistry Vestry at 2:40 pm.

LENT – *taken from The Parish Pump*

Immediately after His baptism in the River Jordan, Jesus faced and resisted three powerful temptations during 40 days in the wilderness of Judea. This time of testing and temptation was His preparation for the work God had sent Him to do on earth. It's the principle behind the season of Lent, which begins on 22nd February.

Although the temptations were personal to Jesus, many of us will recognise their relevance in our own lives.



The first was simple. 'You're hungry. You can do miracles. Well, turn these hot stones at Your feet into loaves of bread'. It sounds quite plausible, but in fact it's an invitation to put one's own needs first. Temptation rejected.

Then came the second: 'throw yourself off a pinnacle of the Temple. You know that God will send His angels to catch you before you hit the ground'. Again, it's plausible (there was even a verse from the Bible to back it up). But this would be to substitute one spectacular publicity stunt for the hard slog of travel, preaching, healing and touching individual lives. Temptation rejected.

The third was outrageous. 'Fall down and worship corrupt and evil power, and You will have infinite worldly power and success'. In other words, the divine Son of God should deny His Father and worship the devil, to glean success without going to the Cross. For the third time, temptation resisted.

I know these temptations were tests of the Messiah Jesus, but can't we see in them temptations that come to all of us from time to time? Look after number one, and all will be well. Take the short cut to success and avoid all the hard slog. Compromise your integrity, in order to fulfill your ambitions. Or choose the hard way: walk the narrow path of honesty, commitment, and truth. That's really the Lenten choice.

Live Steaming of services on YouTube

Thanks to some grant funding from Community Foundation Merseyside, we have installed cameras in St Nicholas' to enable us to live stream services on YouTube. The YouTube channel is called St Nicholas St Mary's Halewood Team and the direct link is: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_QFMMV0MxaTa38ibdkzVag.



We are streaming Sunday and Thursday morning services live and it is also available for you to watch later. You may wish to make use of this if you are unable to attend church in person for any reason.

If you subscribe to our YouTube Channel (It's free) it will make it easier to access in future.



“We asked food bank managers and users across the UK, and these are all the things people say consistently – time and time again – they need, but they are not things people often think to buy,” says Hodson. “And they make such a difference.”

1. Toilet roll

This is self-explanatory, and always necessary. “One food bank is having to ration it to one roll per household,” says Hodson.

2. Sanitary towels and tampons

“We don’t have the data on how users of the food banks break down across gender lines,” says Hodson. “When someone comes to the food bank, they’ll often pick up for the whole household.” But she adds: “[Feminine hygiene products] are an awkward thing to say that you’re short of. If you’re at the point where you can’t afford food, chances are that you’re not going to be able to afford sanitary products either.”

“It’s really important, especially in terms of dignity, to be able to cope. We’ve heard some horrible reports from some of our food banks where women were [having to use newspaper and that sort of thing](#). Obviously, you have to be resourceful in these situations and people come up with all kinds of coping mechanisms, but we’d prefer they didn’t have to cope, and that they actually were able to have what everybody else has.”

3. Tin openers

“There are all kinds of people who don’t have these, especially women who’ve been relocated because of domestic abuse,” says Hodson.

And as food banks get a lot of tinned, non-perishable food, this is a handy thing to drop off at the collection point.

4. Nappies

Generally, food banks would prefer disposable nappies over cloth nappies. “The best thing people can do is call their local food bank and find out what they need,” says Hodson.

“We get parents with children of all ages. Some of the most stark cases are women who have literally just given birth and haven’t got anything, and are really struggling as well as being a new mum.”

5. Toiletries (shampoo, shower gel, deodorant)

You know how at Christmas, lots of people get packs of toiletries they don’t want, because it’s a bit of a standard present? Bring them along to your local food bank collection point. “If people don’t want them,” says Hodson, “it’d be amazing if they gave them to the food bank, because it’s the kind of thing that makes a massive difference.”

Shaving gels and foams are also welcome.

6. Baby food

Baby food is another item that many people don’t think to include on their list of donations to food banks, says Hodson. Well, now you know. *(taken from the Foodbank website)*

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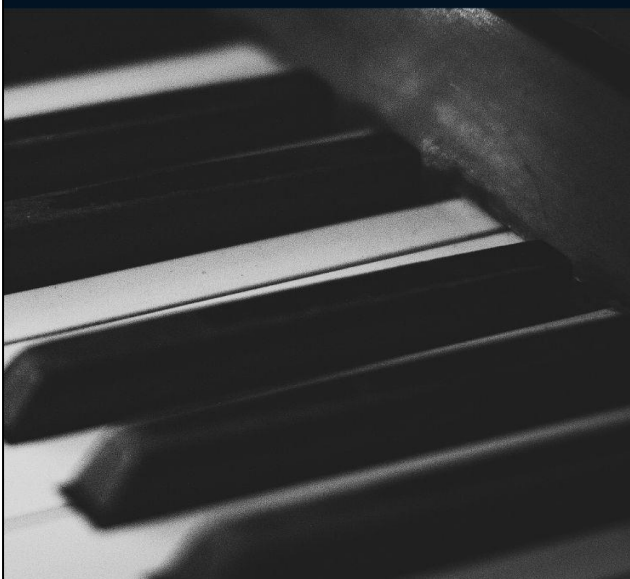
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