

# CONCORD ~ November 2012

## Prayer for the Month

Blessed Lord,  
who caused all holy scripture to be written for our instruction,  
help us so to hear it, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest it,  
that through patience and the comfort your word gives,  
we may embrace and hold fast the hope of everlasting life,  
Through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

*A prayer for hope  
based on God's word, from the Prayer Books*

Northenden Rectory, Ford Lane.  
0161 998 2615

Dear Friends,

Buildings continue to be a prominent feature of Concord this month. My only comment here is that what is done on all sites should be good for Northenden, and practical.

Thanks to everyone involved in the Concert given by the Palatine Wind Quintet in mid-October in aid of the Booth Centre. We raised £138. There will be a recital given in the Church by our organist at 7.30pm on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov., also for the Booth Centre. We hope to run the usual Folk Carols in December, though other commitments make the date uncertain at present.

And note the Service on 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. at St, Michael's, with the Bishop of Manchester, as they celebrate 75 years of worship and service in the community in Northen Moor.

So now read on. **Greg Forster**

## **WANTED – GOOD NEIGHBOURS!**

### **Are you aged over 55?**

Would you like to live in a **secure, safe, welcoming** environment?

Would you like **your own flat**, one that is **easy to look after**?

Looking for **social activities** and like-minded neighbours?

Do you want to live somewhere with a **sense of community**?

Would you like the **peace of mind** of having support if you need it?

If this sounds like you or someone you know, call Jo Harrington to arrange a viewing of Lee Court, Northenden

For more information or to arrange a visit, please  
**call Jo, on 0161 998 8705, Monday – Friday, 9am - 5pm**

# Northenden Methodist Church

Minister: The Revd. David Bown,  
5 Kenworthy Lane, Northenden, M 22  
0161 – 998-2158

## Sunday Services.

***1st Sunday every month***

Family worship ~ Sunday breakfast club ~ MESSY CHURCH  
All start off with breakfast\*\* together at 9.00am, then do activities with your child(ren) followed by a story, songs, and prayer based on the activities ~ finishes about 10.30am.

\*\*Currently now increased to **£1.50p** per person.

For details contact Amy Carline, 07816 888 704

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>            9.00am    Messy Church  
                         11.00am    The Rev. David Sanders (Communion)  
6.30pm    United Service @ Northenden Methodist Ch.  
                         (The Revd. David Bown)

### **11<sup>th</sup> 10.45am Remembrance Day Parade Service**

The Revds David Bown & Charles Nevin

18<sup>th</sup>            11.00am    The Rev. Malcolm Purdy

25<sup>th</sup>            11.00am    Mr. Duncan Rutter

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>            11.00am    Morning Worship \*  
                         6.30pm    United Service at St. Wilfrid's

9<sup>th</sup>            11.00am    Morning Worship \*

\* Details of the December Services are not yet available

## **Community Lunch**

Wed., Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> 12 noon - 1.30pm ~ (Next lunch to be confirmed)

## **A Step into the Future.**

Many members of the church and other readers of Concord will already know of the discussions about the future of our complex of buildings, or will have seen press publicity about it or been at the open meeting held to unveil the proposals. They are exciting.

What is needed is a place to continue the tradition of service to the community and service to God which has been the hallmark of Methodism in Northenden for the past 150 and more years, since a Chorlton man who had been inspired by Wesley's own preaching used to pass by the village on his summer evening walks, and

noticed what a Godless place it was. This service involved running a school, for instance, and then handing over the educational baton when the local authority caught up and opened their own. Now we look for new ministry for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The partnership with Northenden Players means both a requirement for a dedicated theatre space, but also the opportunity of finding funding through Arts organisations. The proposals include a tiered theatre, with changing space, and a lounge area.

The teamwork of Wythenshawe Oasis both provides resources to look for funding, and manage the project; it also creates a need for comfortable space for small meetings and counselling. The project includes offices and small meeting rooms on the lower floor of what is now the church area.

For some church meetings, and also the partnership with children's dance and drama groups, a larger hall is needed, and the scheme allows for this in an upper floor inserted into the Palatine Road end of the church building, accessed by a lift as well as stairs. And who knows what other groups in the village may decide to use fresh, modern facilities

And crucially, a worship area, with the present organ, will be created at the pulpit end of the present church, with the complex accessed through a new entrance near the present vestry door. Parking has long been an issue, especially for the neighbours in Victoria Rd., since car ownership proliferated. In addition to the existing spaces beside the Youth Centre/Autistic Society building, some eight new spaces are proposed where the present entrance and lawn lie.

So what next? Your prayers, and hard work to find funding and in working with partners on the design and development.

## **The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)**

### **South Manchester Meeting**

**There is a meeting for worship**

**at the Friends' Meeting House, Wythenshawe Rd.,  
at 10.30am every Sunday.**

Children welcome. \*Details from Roger Hensman, 980-5158.

The main hall and smaller rooms are available for hire;  
~ contact Peter Todhunter (Meeting House Warden) 834-5797

## That Building ... part 2 !

Greg

Forster

This is an ongoing saga, the latest episode of which comes too late to be reported on here. After the decision by the Government Inspector that the building as it has now been built is not acceptable, the developer met with the council planners in early October, and was told to come up with a new application for an acceptable scheme. If no scheme was presented by the end of November the council would take legal action to have the building demolished. The developers, they added, would be well advised to talk with the local community, particularly Northenden Civic Society.

This they have done, initially approaching me, and then having an informal meeting with some other local representatives, whose ideas differed, though they share a desire for a solution right for the village. Following this, an public meeting was convened for 24<sup>th</sup> Oct. in the Church Hall to here the plans and react to them ~ too late to be reported on here.

The developers recognise that the building as it now is cannot remain. They seem to be thinking along the lines, which (rightly or wrongly) they reckon the Inspector was tending towards, of reverting to the plan that was accepted in 2005 ~ namely removing roughly the top storey of what is there now, and lowering the lift mechanism and stairwell. This *they* price at  $\pm$ £250,000. (The informant I quoted last month was not a builder himself.) They have suggested that they will be bankrupt even before this.

Discussions behind the scenes at the Inquiry suggested that such a scheme would not now be acceptable under planning regulations ~ but we shall see. Certainly there are people in Northenden who would very much like to see the building totally demolished, and a Community building put in its place. Others are more content with the status quo or something like it.

At one stage in 2010 the developers asked me whether I had any ideas for a name for the building. In the next breath they indicated that they were not too keen on the current vogue for "Points", ruling out Northenden Point. I had been about to suggest, tongue in cheek, that "Talking Point" would be suitable. I left my tongue in my cheek and bit it. Whatever it is called, it certainly has been a talking point for residents and visitors to the village, and it will be for many months to come ~ I hope with mutual respect if not agreement. We shall have opportunity to react to it not only in a

local meeting, but also through the formal processes of a planning application, before the councillors again come to a decision.

# St. Wilfrid's Church, Northenden.

Ford Lane, M22 4WE

Rector ~ the Revd. Greg Forster,  
Northenden Rectory, Ford La., M 22 4NQ

Tel. 0161 998 – 2615

Email; gsf @ stwilfridsnorthenden . org . uk

## Services:

On Sundays there will be a communion service at 8.00am.

On Thursdays at 10am there will also be a communion service.

We run "Scramblers" ~ which I mustn't call a Sunday School ~ for children from 3½ to 7 ~ in the Church Hall, ...

... and "Sunday Club" ~ for children from 7 upwards ~ in the Rectory, both between 10.30 and 11.30am Sundays ..... except when there is a Family Service in church ( Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, Nov.4<sup>th</sup>, &c.)

**The Nigerian Anglican "Restoration" Congregation** now meets weekly at **12.30pm** for about 2 hours in St.Wilfrid's Church. The service is a communion, and includes traditional and modern music

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Family Communion & Parade Service

**6.30pm Evening Worship at Northenden Methodists'.**

This was not clear in the October issue.

11<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion

*(as usual now the Remembrance Service is at the Methodist Ch.)*

6.30pm Evening Worship.

18<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evening Worship

25<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Prayer

6.30pm Holy Communion

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am Family Communion & Parade Service

6.30pm United Evening Worship (@ St.Wilfrid's)

9<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evening Worship

Drop in on St.Wilfrid's ...

**On Sundays from 2.30 till 5.00pm (or dusk if earlier)**

**the church is open**

**for private prayer, for enquiries, or just to look around.**

To visit at other times, please contact the Rector.

Dates for your Diary ~ it's all happening!



Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. St. Michael's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service 3.00pm  
 Weds. 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> Bible Studies in Rectory, 8.00pm  
 Thu. 15<sup>th</sup> Organ Recital, Josh Stephens 7.30pm in Church  
 Wed. 21<sup>st</sup> Deanery Synod at St. Paul's, Withington.  
 Thu. 22<sup>nd</sup> PCC meeting, Hall, 7.30pm  
 Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> Autumn Fair, in the Church Hall.  
 Mon. 3<sup>rd</sup> **Dec.** School Governors' Meeting.  
           7.00pm Women's Group Party.  
 Wed. 5<sup>th</sup> Bible Study, as above.  
 Thu. 13<sup>th</sup> Folk Carols & Concert. (Date to be confirmed)  
           7.30pm in Church ~ Kieron Hartley & Folk.  
 Note the two **Farmers' Markets** on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Women's Group.

I have combined the October and November meetings as I was not free the first two weeks of October. John Garrard, the Chair of the trustees of The Booth Centre, has kindly agreed to come and talk about the work of the centre. The date for that is/was 29<sup>th</sup> October. Our next gathering after that will be the Christmas Party, on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Sue F.**

### The Parish Registers –

In Memoriam ...



Steven Wright (Baguley) 49.

Married, in the Parish Church on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Nicola Entwistle to Paul Brian Bainbridge

Baptisms;

On Sunday 21st October,  
 Imogen Louise Paton, Emily Mia Wraxall,  
 Mia Grace Howarth.

### Soups and Blankets.

We expect to have our usual collection before Christmas of easily heated soups and drinks, and of warm clothing or blankets,

for Manchester's street people, via the Booth Centre and the like. Items may be brought early in December.

### **Children's Society.**

There was a Coffee Morning on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October . Joan Mycock writes:

The Coffee Morning on 13<sup>th</sup> Oct. raised £104.53. Many thanks to all who came and supported us. Special thanks too to all those who helped on the day, namely the two Joans, Pauline, Sumi, Jean and Roni and Warren Armstrong, because without them the morning would not have been so successful. *Joan Mycock.*

*And thanks of course to Joan herself for organising it all.*

# **Church Road**

## **Chippy**

**78 Church Rd., Northenden**

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Magpie ...

... there are not many neurons in a slug. Magpie has seen the figure of 80.000 banded around, though how would anyone count them? Anyway, slugs must put their neurons to some intelligent use, it seems. A couple of them were heading purposefully for a plate of cat food when the plate was removed to be cleared up. A couple of minutes later the slugs were seen on the spot where it had been, with their heads in the air, feelers outstretched, reaching up and casting around for the lost food.

... and while we are on the subject of molluscs (or whatever they are) snails have a homing instinct, it seems. Someone was suspicious that he recognised some snails that he had thrown over the garden fence the day before, so he marked their shells with nail varnish, and threw them over again. Sure enough, the next day they were back in their old haunts. History does not

relate whether there was a neighbour ~ perhaps not ~ but if so what he thought of fashion-conscious snails.

... and now for something completely different, and rather more significant. Magpie bumped into Mohammed Jamil the other day ~ or rather Mohammed Jamil nearly bumped into him, as he drove up Boat Lane from the Tatton Arms. He had been there because it had been broken into, yet again. Such break-ins were an ongoing problem. Yes, he had taken note of the protest march of a couple of weeks before. No, there was not much he could do about it, and he wished people could understand that instant solutions to the problem of derelict properties were not possible. The solution would be an upturn in the general economy, and in the property market in particular. No, he was not doing nothing. Only that month he had been talking with a potential developer, who (he said) reckoned it would cost him £800,000 to renovate the building and convert it into five flats. The going rate for flats in Northenden is £125,000 ~ perhaps £150,000 on such a prime site ~ and people can do their own maths. It would make a loss, even before the capital cost of the building was taken into account. In fact he was losing thousands a year in interest payments on that. He had bought in 2007, just before the banks and property markets crashed and then the lessee who was turning it into a restaurant had run out of money or credit and gone to the wall. The only way the site could be put in order would be for some houses to be built alongside the Inn, on the bowling green and the woodland next to it ~ the trees are only sycamores, after all. Couldn't Magpie present this side of the story too?

A property owner's life is not all profit and success, when you do hear this side. You have to agree ~ but should such owners expect it to be? This is a business proposition, which might involve loss as well as profit as a result of the speculation. So should he sell up and accept his losses? Perhaps, but in the present climate who would buy? And would a new land speculator do any different?

... has seen some interesting headlines; try this one ...

*Police begin campaign to run down Jaywalkers. Or this Miners refuse to work after death. Or Juvenile Court to try shooting defendant.*

# Mobile Hairdresser

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