

20 ~ October ~ 08

BOAT LANE
COURT

VERY SHELTERED HOUSING

**BOAT LANE COURT,
BRETT ST., NORTHENDEN.**

RETIREMENT FLATS

ALL ENQUIRIES TO :

**THE MANAGER, BOAT LANE COURT, NORTHENDEN, M 22 4 EZ
TEL. 0161 945-7064 OR 07970 676785**

Cover Picture; Did St. Wilfrid sit here? The "Frith Stool" in the dark chancel of Hexham abbey. A Saxon stone chair which dates from the time of St. Wilfrid or soon after, known to have been used as the bishops' or abbots' "seat" there.

Prayer for the Month.

Almighty God and Father,
who have created the heavens and the earth,
and all that is in them,
teach us to recognise your hand in all your created order,
and to use your gifts within it with gratitude and respect;
teach us to restrain our greed, and share your world's resources,
that with all your creation our life in this world may be sustained,
and our hope for this world and the next may be maintained;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Northenden Rectory, Ford Lane.

0161 998 – 2615

Dear Friends,

Firstly an apology for the state of September's Concord. The page order was utterly chaotic, and I am sorry about that. One person was kind enough to say that it made her concentrate all the more on following what was being said, but that is no justification of what happened! And what happened was this; I had more material to fit in than was really comfortable in the twelve pages, so shifted articles and cut and pasted wildly on the word-processor. This resulted in a totally confused set of page numbers (at one stage there were three page threes, I think!) I

was too hasty then in fixing separate pages together to produce the printer's copy, and got the pairing of pages wrong. Oops, try harder next time!

I hope you will all try to join us, at St. Wilfrid's or at the Methodist Church, to thank God for his gifts to us in the Harvest of land and sea, our planet's resources and human resourcefulness. Details of services are set out below, of course.

I am writing this with news of bank take-overs and financial turmoil ringing in my ears. I hesitate to comment, if only because by the time Concord hits your doormats the situation may ~ almost certainly will ~ have developed in ways neither I, nor possibly even the financial experts, can predict. 20/20 hindsight is a wonderful thing, but I can claim to have been disturbed by the degree to which individuals, companies and nations have been living off debt. Perhaps now the emperor's new clothes are being exposed for what they were, but that is not a comfortable state of affairs for the emperor, or for us as onlookers, and to be honest, stakeholders in our country's ~ and our own bank's ~ financial wellbeing.

Having said that, it is no bad thing to be made to realise that even in our comfortable country financial security cannot be taken for granted. And secondly, I would affirm that "Man does not live by bread alone, ..." ~ we are not beyond the support and reach of God, though how that support will be experienced is not something I can spell out in advance.

Yours faithfully,
Greg Forster

***Harvest
Forster***

Greg

So, as I asked last month, how are we going to celebrate harvest, and what are we praying for, looking for, and working for in connection with the world's resources and their fair and sustainable use? But how far can we as individuals do anything to alter the way it works economically? We live in a finite world, and should not use its "capital" as "income". It is God's world, and we should not take his gift for granted. It is our world, not to hoard, but to share, because we are dependent on each other far more than we realise. It is a rich and varied world, within an even richer and more wonderful creation, and our awe at what it contains should be transformed into a worship of God its

Creator. So whether you are looking at

We should not
take God's gifts
for granted.

a beautiful sunset, or a TV programme about some exotic location, reading about that huge new atom-smashing machine in Switzerland or hearing about a new medical discovery, realise that you are learning what God already knows, because his hand is behind it all.

Our harvest festivals themselves are not until this month ~ long after most of the harvest has (we hope) been safely, if rather damply, gathered in. I suggested last month that I might think about the interconnectedness of our world, and what has been happening in the world economy recently has demonstrated this. Food costs rise here because of a drought in Australia, and the increased costs price somewhere like Ethiopia, Haiti or the Gambia out of the market altogether. We grumble, they starve. Part of the problem has been that it became cheaper for them to import rice than grow their own millet (I simplify, I know), and they could grow something ~ even like cut flowers ~ which we would buy, even though they had to be flown in halfway across the globe! (And the irony is, that uses less fuel, emits less CO₂, than growing them in hot-houses in Holland!)

So, in the words of the harvest collect, our lives are so ordered that we are dependent on one another ~ though we need to wonder whether my purchase of a luxury (flowers) here contributes to the wealth and wellbeing of their growers in Africa, or some multi-national company which has bought the land there, but takes its profits here all the same. I do not know the answer, but I do wonder at the wisdom of not aiming to produce at least basic foods as close to where they are to be eaten as possible. To be mutually dependent is perhaps a good thing; it should make us see our fellow-humanity; to be dependent on the good-will and the surplus of another is perhaps not; it opens the way to greed and selfishness, if not on a conscious, personal level, then in the way we behave as a society.

So as our prices rise, we should perhaps accept that we cannot have all we want at the cost of others' shortfall; we cannot honestly and morally expect to have fruits out of season if it means someone else does not get their food in season; but that we can value and appreciate what we do receive in its due time for its variety and specialness. And, I believe, that we should approach all we receive and enjoy with the harvest festival

attitude ~ that all of this is God's generosity for all people, and should be used fairly, gratefully and generously. "The Market" should be a means of fair sharing and trading.

Northenden Methodist Church.

Palatine Road.

Minister: the Revd. David Bown,

5 Kenworthy Lane, Northenden, M 22 4 JF

0161 998 – 2158

Sunday Services.

- 5th Oct. 11.00am Harvest Festival ~ David Bown.
 6.30pm United Evening Worship ~ David Bown
- 12th 11.00am Holy Communion ~ David Sanders
- 19th 11.00am World Church service
 Methodist Relief and Development Fund (MRDF) **
- 26th 11.00am Malcolm Purdy
- 2nd Nov. 11.00am Morning Worship
 6.30pm United Evening Worship @ St. Wilfrid's

And please note that the British Legion Remembrance Day parade service, will be in the Methodist Church, starting at 10.45am on 9th Nov., and progressing afterwards to the war memorial just opposite.

COMMUNITY LUNCHES ...

2nd Wednesday in October only ~ 8th Oct.
12 noon to 1.30pm.

Fun Bingo: Sat. 25th Oct., noon to 2.00pm.

** Saturday 18th Oct. ~ a special coffee morning and bring-and-buy sale in aid of MRDF.

WesleyOwen Books and Music

123 Deansgate, Manchester.
(Opposite John Rylands Library)

The place to go for Christian books and music, Bibles and bible-study aids, Christian presents for your god-children, and for Christmas ~ or for a cup of coffee while you are in Manchester.

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 Lesley Thomson (491-1323)

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

Quaker Quest

If you'd like to find out more about Quakers, come along to Quaker Quest - a series of "stand-alone" sessions at the Friends (Quaker) Meeting House, 6 Mount St, Manchester City Centre (opposite the back of the Central Library).

Each session will begin at 7pm following refreshments at 6.30, and finish at 9.15pm.

Dates and topics are as follows:

Thu 2 nd Oct	How Quakers worship
Thu 9 th Oct	Quakers, simplicity, peace and the environment
Thu 16 th Oct	Quakers, God and religion
Thu 23 rd Oct	Quakers, truth and equality

Each session will include informal presentations by local Quakers, discussions and questions, experience of Quaker worship and an opportunity to browse literature.

For more details tel. 0161 834 5797 or visit
www.manchesterquakers.org.uk

Farmer's Markets on 4th Oct & 1st Nov. ~ use it or lose it!

Drop in ... 2 - 5pm.

St.Wilfrid's church is open each Sunday
from 2.00 – 5.00pm,
for prayer, visiting, enquiries, ancestor hunting, &c.

St. Wilfrid's Church,

Ford Lane. (Off Church Rd.)

Rector: Greg Forster (998-2615)

Organist: Arthur Mellor (928-0472)

www . stwilfridsnorthenden . org . uk

Services:



Communion on Sundays at 8.00am,
and on Thursdays at 10.00am

There is a "Sunday Club" for 7 – 11+ year olds meeting in the Rectory at 10.30am, for about an hour, and ...

... "Scramblers", for children from 3½ to 6+, meets in the Church Hall from 10.30 till about 11.30am., except when there is a Family Service (for parents and children together) in Church.

Oct. 5th 10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving.

6.30pm United evening worship @ Methodist Church.

12th 10.30am Morning Worship (St. Wilfrid's Day)

6.30pm Evening Worship

19th, 26th. as 12th. (minus St. Wilfrid !)

Nov. 2nd. 10.30am Family Worship

6.30pm United evening worship @ St. Wilfrid's

Morning Worship ... Evening Worship ...

We blithely announce services of worship, of whatever kind. It is worth thinking, if only briefly, what we reckon is going on in a "service". What follows is a version of the introduction we use at the beginning of morning and evening worship, set out as a check-list.

1. We meet in Christ's name, ...
2. to bring our praise ...
3. and thanksgiving to God,
4. to hear and receive his holy word,
5. to pray for the world's needs ...
6. and for our own (needs)
7. and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
8. so that by the power and grace (= generous initiative) of the Holy Spirit
9. we may give ourselves to the (wider) service of God.

It is in this frame of mind that we should come before God.

Booklets

The booklets on the church's history, its bells and its stained glass have been reprinted (for September's open days) and are available in church. The story about St. Wilfrid should be re-done soon, and copies of the "Once upon a time" stories about the Big BANG and Footprints in the Mud are also there. GSF

IT'S ALL HAPPENING ... for your diaries

Wed. 1st Oct NO Bible Study. N.B. !!!
Sun. 5th Harvest Lunch after morning service.
Mon. 6th. Women's Group; belated birthday party ~
come and celebrate!

In the Rectory at 7.45 for an 8.00pm start.

Wed. 8th 8.00pm Bible Study, in the Rectory.
NB St. Wilfrid's Day is Sun. 12th Oct., but this year there are no
"Open Days" associated with it.

Wed. 15th 8.00pm Bible Study in the Rectory.
Thu. 16th School Harvest Festival (to be confirmed) 9.15ish am.
No bible study on Wed. Oct 22nd.

Sat. 25th 10.00am ... Coffee Morning, Church Hall.

Wed. 29th 8.00pm Bible Study, Rectory.

PCC meeting to be arranged.

Women's Group, Mon. 3rd Nov. Bible Study, Wed. 5th.

WOMEN'S GROUP meets in the Rectory

at 7.45 pm for 8.00pm start on

Monday 6th Oct. A late birthday party ~ Come and celebrate.

And the next meeting will be November 3rd.

Details to be arranged and announced later.

From the Registers ~ In Memoriam ...

Nancy Hardman (Robt. Owen Gdns.), Diana Brickell (Polruan),
Eric Shingleton (Chapel Rd.), Emily Dickinson (Longley La.) 105,
Alan & Enid Large (Wilmslow), Timothy McGouran (Longley La.)

"Cream Team" ~ "Lunch Bunch" ? Sandy Latham

Last month I thanked everyone who helped, came or
donated to our St. Wilfrid's Cream Tea. Lack of space meant that
I could not go on to say that the Cream Team are happy to invite
new members. We are not a formal "Committee", but rather a
small group of friends who enjoy planning, and sharing in,

parties! And the more the merrier, so if you'd like to be part of this successful scheme, get in touch ~ the more hands we have the better! (Contact Sandy Latham or Gwyneth Lloyd.)

And we look forward to meeting up with you all again ~ as helpers or eaters ~ at Harvest, Oct. 5th., for lunch, after the Sunday Morning service.

Roofing G.S.F.

There are delays in beginning the planned work on the side aisles of St. Wilfrid's Church, partly because of a break-down in communication between our architect and the diocese, and partly because a member of the diocesan advisory committee on such things doesn't trust anyone else to know how to put metal on roofs properly. Meanwhile, fortunately, the leak that developed at the beginning of August appears to have sealed itself again, at least for the moment.

M a g p i e ...

... wonders, in the light of the last item, how does the hymn go? Is it, ...

Like a mighty tortoise moves the church of God,
Brothers, we are treading where we've always trod.

... like most of you, has heard the saying, "if you owe your bank £1,000 you're in trouble; if you owe your bank £1,000,000 then your bank's in trouble." It seems there's a rider to that: if 1,000 of you owe your bank £1,000, the bank's in trouble too.

... has noticed that after a quiet period, when nothing seemed to be happening, the British Legion Club building is shooting up. The delay was something to do with the foundations rather than anything financial ~ would the beer-drop be in the way of construction vehicles going to the houses and flats being built behind it, or something like that ~ but it has obviously been sorted out now. Good luck to them!

... has heard that our transport maestros are not very keen on reinstating a station at Northenden, or at other places along that line. All the more reason, he says, for squawking more loudly about it. It can take vehicles off the M60 at a point which is notoriously bottlenecked. It can link Northenden and Wythenshawe with the city centre; sell it right and it can take pressure off the Parkway from commuters coming in from Cheshire. In whose interest is it not to reopen our line to us?