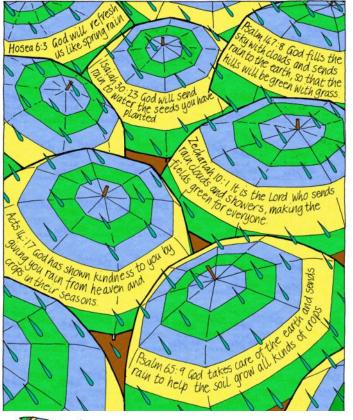
# St.Thomas' and St. Luke's Ashton-In-Makerfield Church Magazine

**Price : 50n** 





March 2017

www.stthomasstluke.org.uk

# Church Services in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in-Makerfield

S	U	n	d	a	y s
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St Th	nomas's	S	t Luke's
9.00a.m.	Holy Communion	8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (1st Sunday Only)
10.45 am	Family Worship (1st Sunday Parade & 4th Sunday Family Communion)	11.00 a.m.	Family Worship (2nd Sunday Family Communion)
6.30 p.m.	Evening Worship (3rd and 5th Sunday Holy Communion)	4.15 p.m.	Holy Communion (3rd Sunday Only)

### Weekdays

Thursday 9.45 a.m.

Holy Communion (BCP 1662) Other services and Saints' Days as announced. Please see weekly notice sheet or visit website for dates, details or exceptions.

<u>Parish Office:</u> St Thomas's Church Vestry, **Thursday 6.30 – 7.30 p.m:** For all enquiries regarding church matters and arranging baptisms and weddings. Contact - 01942 721 484.

<u>Deadlines:</u> Handwritten material should be given to Malcolm Taylor, and email material to stthomasandstlukesmagazine@gmail.com

Deadline	April 2017	May 2017
Hand Written	12th March	9th April
Computer	19th March	16th April
Magazine Release	2nd April	30th April

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### Important Parish Information

#### **Baptisms**

Thomas Baptisms are held at St Church at 12.45 on the 2nd & 4th Sundays, Baptisms at St Luke's are at 11 am on the 3rd Sunday.

To qualify for baptism parents should evening. live within the parish boundaries or be a regular worshipper St Thomas's/St Luke's. Parents and Godparents should also bе prepared to undertake baptism preparation classes.

### Marriage

You can marry in a C of E church of your choice if certain criteria are shown to be met. For details please contact the vicar or call in at Vestry Hour on a Thursday

#### **Funerals**

Every parishioner has the right to a service in church, followed by a committal.



### Letter from the Curate

In the beginning, God scooped handfuls of dust and blew on it. Breath and dust mingled. Humanity was born.



Scientists say that the fabric of your being was formed in the white hot heat of stars. The

oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, calcium, and phosphorus that form you began in the explosion of a star. Eight-billion-year-old breaths, spanning out across the universe. Coalescing into planets, turning into people. Joni Mitchell was right: "we are stardust." That is one thing that we can all agree on: we are born from dust.

You are dust. Sacred, bloody, God-breathed, star-breathed, dust. Born in the imagination and will of God; formed in the white hot heat of a star. Mortal, finite dust, that comes from a world light years away.

We are dust, and to dust we shall return.

The Jewish people used to have a saying. At the time of Jesus, a Rabbi's disciples would follow him everywhere. Walking right behind him, eating

what he ate, sleeping where he slept. If someone saw a Rabbi of extraordinary ability, they would say to his disciples: "May you be covered in the dust of your Rabbi." That is, may you walk so closely to him that the dust from his sandals rises up and covers you.



To follow Jesus is to walk so closely behind him that the dust from his sandals rises up and covers us.

We are made from dust; may we also be covered in the dust from the sandals of our teacher.



### Letter from the Curate

And so, once a year, on Ash Wednesday, we take dust, smear it on our foreheads and hear those words one more time: *You are dust, and to dust you shall return.* There is the miracle, and the invitation.

We are made from dust. We have our life and being simply because God has breathed and willed us.

But the dust, the ash we take each year, comes from palm crosses, burned almost a year before. We recommit to walk so closely to Jesus that his dust, the sign of his cross, covers us.

My hope for us this Lent, is that we would know that we made of dust, that we are finite, limited, penitent. And that we would walk so closely to Jesus that those around us would see dust-shaped cross on our foreheads.

#### Sam Green



### Verse for the Year

'Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together'

Hebrews 24-25a (NLT)





### Daily / Weekly Events in our Church - March 2017

<u>Tuesday</u> Coffee Morning. (Church Hall) 10:00am-12:00pm

Church open for prayer. 7.30-8.30pm

WednesdayMorning Prayer.9.00amThursdayHoly Communion.9:45am

Vestry hour. 6.30-7.30pm

These are the usual events in our church, please see the notices for details of other activities taking place. For details of organisations and who to contact see back page of magazine.

Streets for Prayer: This month we are praying for the people who live and work in Cansfield Grove, Balmoral Road, Helen Street, Grey Road (Diamond Club), Osborne Road, Eastwell Road, Spion Kop (Labour Club), Pretoria Road

### **OPNAT**

TANGO at St. Marks Church, Haydock support and resource families within the Haydock/Ashton area by providing food; clothing; furniture and household items.





If you have any items of furniture that you no longer want TANGO will collect Free Of Charge from your home.

If you want more information about TANGO or to arrange a collection please ring: 01744 607388





# Parish News



### **The Leprosy Mission**

A big thank you to all at St. Thomas' and St Luke's who contributed to the Leprosy Mission Parulia Hospital Project at the end of January.



Many thanks also to Viv and Isobel who helped with refreshments after church on 29th January. The grand total raised was £330 which has been forwarded to H.Q., a very good result for such a worthwhile cause.

**Barbara and Margaret** 



For advertising in the Church magazine, please contact Rachel Webster on 01942 273453.

For magazine delivery please contact Jack Stuart on 01942 276972

Or to be added to the mailing list and receive the magazine online please visit

www.stthomasstluke.org.uk to sign up!

# **Mothers Union**

#### **DIARY**

### **Women World Day of Prayer**

**Friday 3rd March** is Women's World Day of Prayer the Service this year will be held in the Independent Methodist Church Garswood at 1.30pm.

**Wednesday 15th March** in the Church Hall 7.30pm the speaker will be Andrew Bullen who will tell us more about the Ashton Churches Together Food Bank.



**Tuesday 21st March** the Deanery Festival is to be held at St Elizabeth's Church Aspull at 7.30pm. Please let me know if you wish to attend.

**Mothering Sunday 26th March** Once again there will be an opportunity in a special way to show that your Mum or grandma are in your thoughts. Each gift puts Mothers at the heart of faith and change in communities throughout the world especially Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda and the UK. Gifts range from £6.00 to £100.00. Pick up a leaflet at the back of church and send them to Mary Sumner House by the 10th March.

Sadly two more of our members Marian Bullen and Alice Ashley died in January. Both were Indoor Members having become such when their health prevented regular attendance at our meetings. I am sure that all our members will join me in expressing sympathy to their respective families at their sad loss.



On a happier note I am please to say that Pat Hamilton has kindly agreed to take on the role previously so efficiently filled by Margaret Hilton, that of our Branch Secretary. When necessary Pat will be assisted by Margaret Lyon. I must express my thanks to these two willing volunteers for stepping in at this time.

# Mothers Union

Loving God,

on this special day we thank you for mothers, our own mothers and mothers everywhere. We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have loved and laughed and laboured as they cared for their children.



We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have wept in sorrow and joy for their children.



We praise you, our God, for Jesus, born of a woman and nurtured in her love, and for Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting love. Grant your wisdom, guidance and support to all entrusted with the responsibility of motherhood. Lord of all love, hear our prayer in the name of Christ.

Amen

### Love and prayers Barbara





# St. Thomas' C of E Primary School

### Rock Kidz

Two hundred and fourteen of our pupils became rock stars over a four-day period. It all started on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January when two gifted musicians, Si and Johnny, who both play in Christian bands, came into our school.



It was as part of an educational programme giving our children the opportunity to learn and sing four original songs, record a CD and perform a concert. The songs were based on the school Christian values of respect, truthfulness, forgiveness, and service.



The programme provided the children with lots of fun whilst learning valuable life skills including anti-bullying, self-esteem, friendships, and the importance of always following their own goals and dreams.

The last day of the programme was the perfect time for a very energetic rock concert which took place in church at 6.00pm that evening. The children dressed as rock stars and some of the fun loving and talented parents joined in, providing a great sense of joint ownership of the work the 'rock stars" had done.

Thank you to Si and Johnny for this unique, fun learning, musical experience.

### Student Prayer of the month

Dear God,

Thank you for the great opportunity to rock out with the Rock Kidz at school. Please help us to always remember to be kind, caring and treat others with respect.

### Amen Amelia Middlehurst Year 1

Bible Verse: Luke 6:31

Do for others just what you want them to do for you.

Peace be with you,

### Elaine Mateus





#### **Opening Times**

Monday 9am-5pm
Tuesday 9am-5pm
Wednesday 9am-5pm
Thursday 9am-5pm
Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 9am-4pm
Sunday Closed Except for Mothering Sunday

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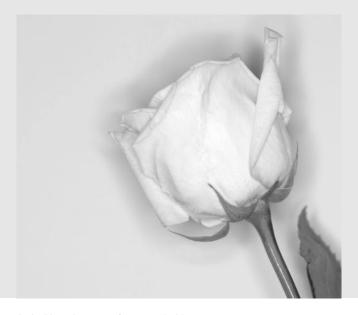
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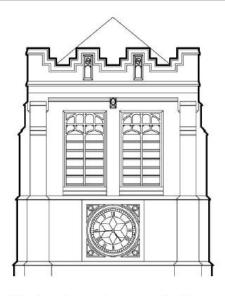


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Cheese Board Assortment of Small Cakes Scones with Jam & Fresh Cream

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### St Thomas' Donations March 2017



Please place your donation in an envelope with your full name and amount written on it. Please hand in at church or post to the vicarage. Please make any cheques payable to **St Thomas' PCC**. If you want the donation to be for something specific, please write clearly on the envelope.

Thank you.

#### **GIFT AID**

If you are a UK tax payer and would like church to be able to claim back 25p for every £1 you donate, please complete a Gift Aid form or state on your envelope that you are a UK tax payer, would like the donation to be Gift Aided and include your full name and address.

#### With Thanks for Home Communion:

Brenda Percival, Georgina Jones, Alice Ashley

#### Other Donations:

D Dalton (Africa Fund), Anon, Anon, Coffee Morning (Asylum Fund), Olive van der Boon (Africa Fund), Dorothea Mather (Asylum Fund)

Funds currently in use are: Africa Fund, Audio Visual, Church Hall, Building & Maintenance, Garden of Rest, General, Grave Maintenance, Heath Road Graveyard, Heating and Youth worker

Unless otherwise stated donations will go into the General Fund.

### TOTAL DONATIONS RECEIVED BY ST THOMAS' MARCH 2017 £1813.75

If you want to discuss any issues around wills and legacies please ring the Parish Treasurer Sarah Riley on 01942 722747

### In Loving Memory of

Elsie Stone from her family and friends.

My Dear Husband and Son Stuart from Jean Rose Brown

Our Wedding Anniversary (18th March) and Birthday (20th March) of **Joyce Gibson** from her husband Eric.

Julien and Irene Bosy from Allan and Neina Woodward

A Dear Cousin Fred Lockett from Alan, Jean and Family

### Birthday Remembrance of

Thomas Tagg (4th March) a dear Grandson, from Grandma

### Birthday and Anniversary Remembrance of

My Dear Husband **David Bowen** from Isabel and all the Family

### **Anniversary Remembrance of**

**Billy Lyon**, a dear Husband and Dad (9th March) From Margaret, Elizabeth, Beverley and Heather

A dear Mum (26th March) and Dad (3rd April) **Peggy and Thomas Knocker** from Margaret

**Elizabeth Alice Winstanley** (25th March), a dear Mother and Mother-in-Law, from Nancy and George

Clara Shaw (5th March) a loving Mum and Grandma From Barbara, Malcolm and Family



P						
In Loving Memory of Margaret Hilton						
Alison, Adrian, Rebecca and Christopher Hurst						
Sheila Small and Family	Diane Gray					
Alison and Ray Webb	Nancy and George					
Linda Lazenbury Howe	Mavis Scott					
Kath and Ken Millett	Gordon and Muriel Halliwell					
Susan, Jean, Peter & Katie Riley	Hilda Bramwell					
Avril, Jim, Adam, Nicola,	Tom, Jessica & Matt Littler					
Valerie and Henry Hunter	Bobby Masnyk					
Olive van der Boon	Joan and Terry Randall					
Joy, Paul, Janine & Andrew	Rosie Gartland					
Mr and Mrs Hilton	Linda, Peter Andrew and Alison Starkey					



Birthday and Anniversary Remembrance of James Scriven, a dear brother and uncle					
Freda	Gary, Leah, Mason and Alyssia				
Karen, Jimmy, Laura & Andrew	Wendy, Adrian, Michael & Bethany				
Tracy, Ian, Ethan & Jessica					



### St Thomas' Flowers



#### NO FLOWERS IN CHURCH DURING MARCH—LENT

#### **DONATIONS**

Birthday remembrance of Margaret Hilton (7th Feb) from Alison, Adrian, Becky and Chris.

Memories of Margaret Hilton from Edna Smith.

### St Lukes' Donations



### For Church Funds

From Mrs Barton Anonymous

### In memory of Val Boon

with thanks for all your support and love over the last few months from John



## The Film Review With Rob Carson



#### Sing (U) Directed by Garth Jennings

Stars the Voices of: Matthew McCounaghey, Taron Egerton, Scarlett Johannsen, Reese Witherspoon, Seth McFarlane, John C. Reilly, Tori Kelly, Nick Kroll, Peter Serafinowicz, Jennifer Saunders, Jennifer Hudson, and Nick Offerman

In a Nutshell: If I come along and say 'Hey, there's a new family animated movie with a bunch of animals singing songs'... surely you'll just think 'oh again?' but I say to you, there's a massive chance these things can be utterly amazing once in a while too. Especially if you factor in a genius director and a cast of literally everyone who is awesome almost... plus that post-Zootopia love of a cityscape populated by people like animals. Essentially what could go not right? And it's fairly brilliant from start to finish, whether it is the fantastically sketched characters and their subsequent terrific voice actors or the beautiful animation and riveting storyline which flies alongside all the clichéd plotlines but still does it with aplomb and shine. You have riveting characters such as the gorilla gang, the pig family, the koala struggling to make ends meet, or the porcupine romance... all done perfectly and with just pure brilliance in every frame. It helps that director Garth Jennings, of the perfect Son of Rambo and a favourite of mine Hitchhikers Guide, is a genius and with a good eye for good gags and perfect characters and dialogue, so it looks great and is just basically great. A real animated treat for the whole family, here and

beyond! Rating: 9/10

### A Monster Calls (12A) Directed by J.A Bayona

Stars: Lewis MacDougall, Liam Neeson, Felicity Jones, Sigourney Weaver, Toby Kebbell, and Ben Moor

In a Nutshell: It's a really unique and wonderful thing, when you can blend a genre like fantasy or science fiction with a real unique and tough real life drama to make something so unique and original and vivid that it lasts with you for years and makes a unique impact, that is a good way to describe Pan's Labyrinth, and it really sums up this unique masterpiece too. Bursting with imagination, tragedy, pain and depth and wonder... it's a striking and magnificent piece of fantasy cinema that will also break you into tiny pieces. Anchored by utterly stunning performances from Jones and MacDougall, their relationship is so touching and heartbreaking and really anchors the central core of the movie, whilst great support is offered by a terrific Sigourney Weaver not to mention a ferocious Neeson as the Monster. Furthering improving upon the seamless mix of fantasy and realism, the effects on the monster are outstanding and beautiful to behold, whilst the many stories that become a vital part of the narrative are stunningly represented. Not for everyone by any means at all, this is one stunning and emotionally draining piece of fantasy cinema that deserves to be seen as many as can possibly handle it's devastating and beautiful power.... try not to miss it!

Rating: 10/10



# The Film Review With Rob Carson



#### Also Seen:

Assassin's Creed (12A) 6/10 La La Land (12A) 10/10

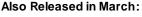
Resident Evil: The Final Chapter (15) 7/10

T2: Trainspotting (18) 9/10

Split (15) 8/10

xXx II: Return of Xander Cage (12A) 8/10

Hacksaw Ridge (15) 9/10



Certain Women (12A) (March 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Fist Fight (15) (March 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Logan (15) (March 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Trespass Against Us (15) (March 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Viceroy's House (12A) (March 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Elle (18) (March 10<sup>th</sup>)

Kong: Skull Island (12A) (March 10<sup>th</sup>)

Rules Don't Apply (12A) (March 10<sup>th</sup>)

Beauty and the Beast (PG) (March 17th)

Get Out (15) (March 17<sup>th</sup>)

Persona Shopper (15) (March 17<sup>th</sup>)

Chips (15) (March 24th)

Life (15) (March 24<sup>th</sup>)

Power Rangers (12A) (March 24th)

The Lost City of Z (15) (March 24th)

Free Fire (15) (March 31st)

Ghost in the Shell (15) (March 31st)

Man Down (15) (March 31st)

Smurfs: The Lost Village (U) (March 31st)







#### MAD MARCH GALES

The month of March has a reputation for a wild and blustery start but usually changes to much milder weather before it ends ... as the old saying goes 'March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb'.

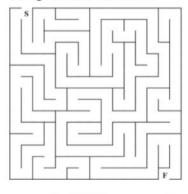
People's homes are flooded or big trees uprooted in high winds. Even if it doesn't happen to us we see the pictures of other people's suffering in the media.

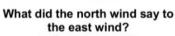
There was a time when Jesus' friends were frightened because a fierce storm blew up while they were fishing. The disciples thought their boat was going to sink and they were very frightened. You can read about it in St Mark's Gospel, chapter 4, verses 35-39.

I get frightened when the wind blows so hard that the trees bend and the lights flicker but then I remember that Jesus is with us all the time. Just as He was with the disciples in the boat, He is with us when we are afraid. Jesus gives us hope, courage and strength.

#### SAFELY HOME

Can you find your way home through the maze of streets?





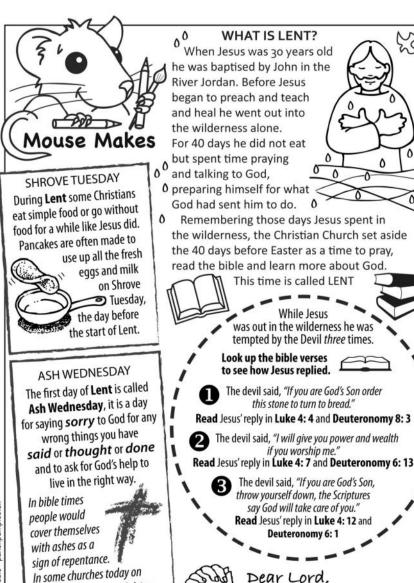
Let's play draughts



How easy is it for wind gusts to talk to each other?

It is a breeze.

What does a cloud wear under her raincoat? Thunderwear!



Mar17 @ deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

Ash Wednesday the minister

will draw a cross shape on our foreheads with ash.

Please forgive me for

Amen

## Bleste

It can be read in the Bible in Jn1:29-34,Mt3:13-17,Lk3:21-4:13,Mk1:9-12

### A short story from the Bible

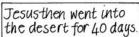
People came to John to be baptised-washed in the river Jordan- to say sorry for what they had done wrong. Then Jesus came...





Jesus in the river Jordan

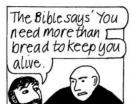


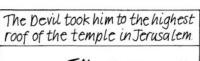






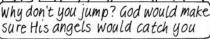




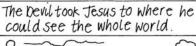




The Bible says' Don't try to manipulate God









this, and I could give it to you.



Go away! Only God is to be worshipped!



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alive washed God Jesus manipulate jump Jerusalem precious Spirit
Devil
world
stone
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John
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baptise eat sorry bread angels desert worship Jordan



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# The Registers



### Funerals - "May they rest in peace"

2nd Feb	Harold Erentz	Tarn Close	75
6th Feb	George Garry	Crescent Avenue	82
7th Feb	Charles Tillston	Fairview Close	67
14th Feb	Alice Ashley	Church Road, Haydock	93
15th Feb	Neil Cunliffe	Old Road	51
23rd Feb	Marlene Catherine Wilson	Glebe Avenue	76

### Holy Baptism -

"We welcome them into the Lord's family"



12th	Ava Maria Coombes	Lichfield Grove		
Feb	Jasper Brent Knox	Lazenby Crescent		
	George Adam Green	St Thomas' Close		
19th Feb	Mohsen Karimi	Bolton Road		
	Seid Saeid Mosavi	Bolton Road		

# Church Organisations in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in Makerfield

Boys Brigade Captain: Gareth Hamlett (07903866501) Anchor Boys (Tuesday: 5.45 p.m.) Olwen Wright (389595) Junior Section (Tuesday 6.45 p.m.) Kat Duckworth (07517486188) Company Section (Tuesday: 7.30 p.m.) Contact Gareth Hamlett	Girl Guides Rainbows (Tuesday: 5.30 p.m.) Anne Wooff (724207) 3rd & 4th Ashton Brownies (Wednesday and Thursday: 6.30 pm) Irene Taylor (Wednesday) (703410) Susan Hughes (Thursday) (725291) St Luke's Brownies (Tues: 6.15 p.m.) Susan Hughes (725291) 3rd Ashton Guides & Ranger Guides
Music Group Mary Owen (203277) Sunday – 10.45 a.m.	(Tuesday: 7.15 p.m.) Rachel Starkie (718350)
St Thomas' Choir Sunday - 10.45 a.m. & 6.30 p.m. Practice – Thursday: 7.00 p.m. Paul Tushingham (711085)	Coffee Mornings at St Thomas' Tues - 10 a.m. Thurs - (after 9.45 a.m. communion) Barbara Taylor (205136)
Children's Sunday Clubs – 10.45 a.m. Bubbles (Pre-School) Splash (R-Y2), Xstream (Y3-Y6) Bell Tower (Y7-Y11) Sue Thomas (727275)	St Luke's Over Sixties Monday – 2.00 p.m. Meet at Stubshaw Cross Labour Club
sue@stthomasandstluke.co.uk	St. Luke's Donation Secretary Mike Pye (517318)
Wednesday Weenies Wed – 1.00 p.m.: Jan Cornthwaite (721626)	<u>St. Luke's Treasurer</u> John Boon
<u>Youth Work</u> Sue Thomas (727275)	The PCC Secretary Dorothy Burgess (701542) dottibl@yahoo.co.uk
<u>Duke of Edinburgh's Award</u> (14-18+) Sunday 6.30pm Church Hall Ceri Mansell (727417)	Flower Guild Meta Laites (723679)
St Thomas' Mothers' Union 3rd Wed: 7.30 p.m.: Barbara Taylor (205136)	Bowling Club Henry Hunter (712709)

# Church Officials in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in Makerfield

<u>Vicar</u>	Church Office				
Rev Jeremy Thomas 727275	721 484				
Curate	Ordained Local Minister				
Rev Sam Green	Rev Izzy Schafer				
389940	717300				
<u>Readers</u>	St Thomas' Church Wardens				
Malcolm Bold	Ken Laites				
276379	723679				
Alan Harrison 718618	<b>Paula Gillespie</b> 711270				
Tricia Hancox	Deputy Wardens				
201 540	Barbara Taylor				
Carole Pye	205136				
517318	Tony Cornthwaite				
	721 626				
Electoral Roll Secretary	<u>St Luke's Church Warden</u>				
Paul Weston	Carole Pye				
202649	517318				
<u>Treasurer (St Thomas)</u>	Church Architect				
Sarah Riley	Bill Schafer				
07712 584954	717300				
Church Hall Bookings	St Thomas' Organist & Choirmaster				
Church Office	Paul Tushingham				
721 484	711085				
Gift Aid Secretary	<u>F.W.O. Secretary</u>				
Clare Hayton	Jackie Wilson				
273183	712368				
St Thomas' Donations Secretary	Magazine Co-ordinator				
Anita Archer	Jack Stuart				
760082	726972				
<u>Magazine Editor</u>					

**Rachel Webster** 273453 - contact for advertising