Diocese of Liverpool

Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
August 2020



Bible Verse for 2020

" *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever* ." Hebrews 13:8

Prayer for 2020

God, grant me the Serenity to
accept the things I cannot
change... Courage to change the
things I can, and Wisdom to know
the difference. Amen.
Reinhold Neibuhr

50p

Contact Details

Website www.holytrinitybickerstaffe.co.uk. **Twitter** @HolyTrinityBick

VICAR

Reverend Captain Andrew Housley, CA 10 Church Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk L396SB. Tel: 01695 423204. Mob: 07788 256 776, E-mail: andrew.housley67@gmail.com.

Requests for weddings and baptisms should in the first instance, be made to the Vicar at the end of the Family Service. Arrangements for funerals and interments may be made with the Vicar by telephone.

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Letter from Andrew Housley

Dear Friends,

We are very fortunate at both St Michael's and Holy Trinity to have so many volunteers who support the pastoral ministry, children's work, worship ministry, fellowship, as well as administration and finance work. St Paul used the metaphor of the body to describe the value that each one of us adds to the life of the church. By using our gifts and skills, we are enabling the church to extend ministry in our church, school, and surrounding community.

In recent months members of our congregations have learnt new skills so we can sustain our worship, ministry, and worship during this pandemic. When we next meet in person, the hope is that these new skills will continue to be used as we seek new ways of being Church as we face new challenges. As disciples, we need to remember that we all have a part to play in ministry and at times we need to adapt to new ways of doing things for the sake of others.

As we face unchartered waters and look towards returning to church in the near future, we need to think and pray how we use the gifts and skills God has given us so we can adapt and grow.

Ephesians 4:11-13
11 *So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,* ***12*** *to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up* ***13*** *until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

Andrew

Worship & Learning

2nd August: The hour is late
Matthew 14:13-21
In a dramatically political atmosphere, Jesus organises a meal for a multitude in the wilderness as a sign of compassion, and a lesson to the disciples that they need to look around them, see the need and meet it.

A personal prayer
Lord, a new week lies ahead of me
and I don't really know what it will bring.
Help me to be aware of people around me
who are struggling in any way.
May I be sensitive to their needs
and seek your wisdom as I come alongside them.
I want to be there for them, Lord, bearing your blessing. Amen.

9th August: Testing the water
Matthew 14: 22-33
Jesus reveals a little more of his identity in dramatic fashion by walking on the water to where the twelve are battling a storm. Peter thinks he can do it too; but he needs to be rescued and learns a crucial lesson in trust.

A personal prayer
O Lord my God,
you are worthy to be praised.
You are the Son of God who walks on water,
who mesmerises huge crowds with powerful words,
but who also calms a frightened Peter –

and you calm me and give me peace.
Thank you, Lord. Amen.

16th August: Listen and understand

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus has two tricky encounters, first with the Pharisees, then with a Canaanite woman, that seemed to be linked by food. In fact, the link is deeper – faith and membership of God's people – and the outcome of the encounters is something of a surprise.

A personal prayer

Lord, the Pharisees were offended by your words.
You could have been offended by the Canaanite woman's words.
I ask that, as I go about my business,
I will take the time to consider each person I meet
as unique, special to you, and worthy of my listening ear.
May I not be offended
just because something is out of my comfort zone. Amen.

23rd August: A better story

Matthew 13:16-20

Taking the twelve disciples a long way north, Jesus wants to know if they have understood who he is yet. In the shadow of empire, they declare him to be king, and he assures them that this confession will help them break the grip of that empire on them and others.

A personal prayer

Mighty God, I think about the keys I hold. Each one shows a responsibility of some kind. Thank you for all that you entrust me with. Thank you most of all for Jesus, who gives me the keys of the kingdom. Amen.

30th August: Take up your cross

Matthew 16:21-28

Having acknowledged the truth of Peter's declaration, Jesus tells his friends what kind of king he will be: one that suffers. And he tells them that they too will suffer if they come after him; it is the only way to find the life they seek.

A personal prayer

Lord, when we are faced with bad news,
or a tricky situation,
it is human nature to make snap judgements,
to do the first thing that comes into our head.
Lord, help us to lay aside our own judgements,
and always be willing to seek your wisdom. **Amen.**

Benefice News

Pastoral Visits

If you know of anyone who would like a pastoral phone call, then please speak to Irene or Andrew.

Charity Collections

A reminder that we continue to collect good quality **children's clothes** and other school items such as football boots, and goggles, which will be donated to Litherland Moss School.

Gift of **men's clothes** will be forwarded to Bootle Salvation Army.

The Skelmersdale **Food Bank** remains a vital service for members of the community. Non-perishable food items are therefore very much appreciated. **Please leave any items at your local supermarket**. Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Free dial-in worship phone line



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has launched a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus.

Daily Hope, which is available from today, offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

Bickerstaffe Fledglings Pre School

Bickerstaffe Lodge

Open 8am to 6pm

Bickersplatts

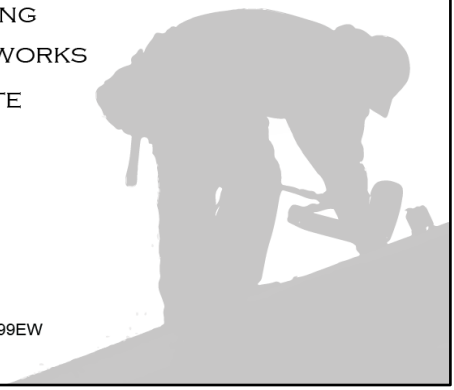
Home of **Fledglings Pre School & Nursery** – Places available for children from 6 months old. We have free early education places for eligible 2 & 3 year olds.
Home of **Bickersplatts**, Breakfast, After School & Holiday Club for children 6 months to 11 year olds.

Bickerstaffe Lodge is operated by **Bickerstaffe Children's Services Ltd**, a not for profit social enterprise. For all enquiries, please e-mail bickerstaffelodge@yahoo.co.uk, tel **01695 720238,** or call to have a look around.

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Coronavirus Church Closures

A quick reminder of the regular worship programmes available on the radio:

- Thought for the day – BBC Radio 4 at 07.45am
- Daily Service – BBC Radio 4 Long Wave at 09.45am
- Pause for thought – BBC Radio 2 at 05.45am and 09.20am
- The Sunday Service – BBC Radio 4 at 08.10am

Each Sunday you will also be able to watch a pre-recorded service and we're sure you'll recognize a few faces. Please tune in by visiting our website or by using the following link:

https://tinyurl.com/RevAndrewTV

Useful church links

All links can be accessed via the website.

Weekly Online Service
https://tinyurl.com/RevAndrewTV

Tuesday Bible Study Group (online). Each Tuesday 7.30pm
https://tinyurl.com/RevAndrewBible

Wednesday Pray Meeting (online). Each Wednesday 2pm
https://tinyurl.com/RevAndrewPrayer

Facebook page
https://tinyurl.com/RevAndrewFacebook

Church Opening

Unless circumstances change, both St Michael's and Holy Trinity will open for some public worship from September. When you attend your contact details will be recorded for track and trace purposes. Please view the websites for regular websites.

Below are some the current guidelines, which may be updated nearer the time.

- You will be directed to vacant pew and sit as household group or by yourself
- Use hand sanitizer gel when you both enter and leave the church building. If you don't have you own, please use the hand sanitizer gel at the entrance of the church.

- Wear a face covering while in the church building, covering both your mouth and nose.
- Avoid areas which are cordoned off or blocked.

Tuesday Prayer Meeting (online)
Please join us from 7.30pm each Tuesday as we discuss the book of James.

Wednesday Bible Study Group (online)
Please join us each Wednesday from 2pm for our prayer meeting.

Prayer Chain
Please contact me on 01695 423204 if you would like to be on our prayer chain at St Michael, Aughton and Holy Trinity Bickerstaffe.

Andrew

Holy Trinity News

Churchyard
We are not able to organize a churchyard work party, but feel free to pop along to the church yard in your own time to do a bit of gardening. We especially need help in doing the front area of the church.

Finances

Due to the church building closing, **Holy Trinity's cash flow is critical**. We are not receiving funeral fees or monies from the open plate, which includes the envelope scheme.

Giving

We would appreciate that people with weekly envelopes, send a cheque with the number of the envelopes to Andrew or Stan on a regular basis or set up a standing order with their bank (please see the form at the end of this magazine). Cheques or standing orders are also welcome from people who don't have weekly envelopes. Thank you for your support.

Tesco Covid19 Grant

Holy Trinity Church have been awarded £500 from Tesco to fund a Community Lunch event. This will be something nice to look forward to hopefully later in the year. Thanks to Edward McCarthy for seeking this funding.

Prayer Time

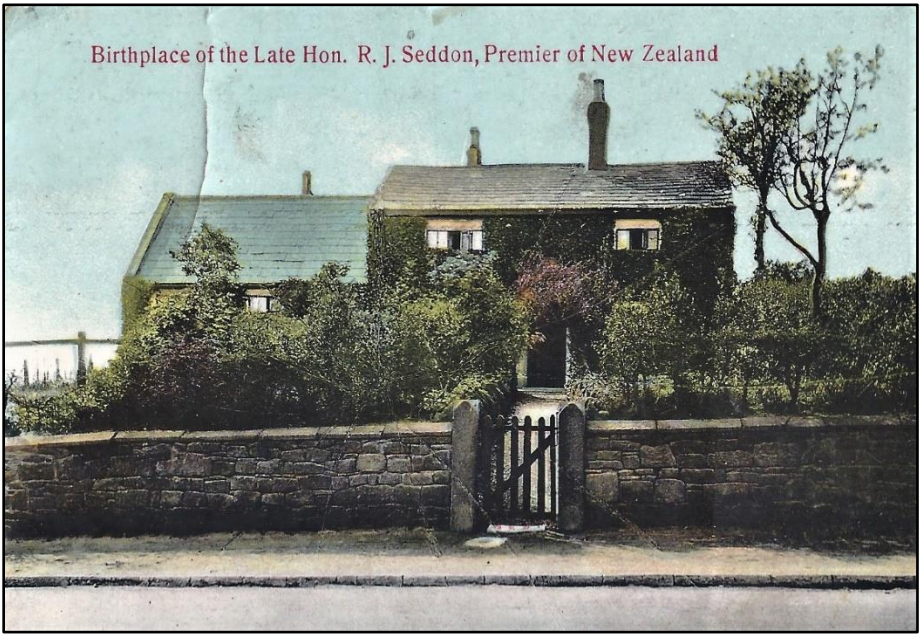


God bless each step
that you take today,
whether that road
is rough or smooth.
And in God's strength
step out in faith,
step out in love,
step out in peace,
and bless this world
with God's presence
in and through your life.

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Salad Days of a Prime Minister – Part 4 By Owen Taylor

Rumours were rife when news broke that the Prime Minister of New Zealand had received an invitation to Edward VII's coronation. It was already known that St. Helens Corporation had instituted an Act to confer the Honorary 'Freedom of the Borough' upon him, likewise, his native Parish of Eccleston had made arrangements to pay homage to the Right Honourable Gentleman.



Earliest photo of the Premier's Birthplace in Eccleston, St. Helens.

In Bickerstaffe, people were unsure whether he could spare enough time to visit his boyhood home. The answer came on Monday 30 June 1902, when a young lad rushed into Mr Pennington's Barrow Nook workshop, shouting "Preemier's here, Preemier's here! Him an' his Mrs are hevin tay at Stockley's farm!". Carpenter John said, we were so excited, my father Edward slowly removed his work coat, adjusted his

tie and then we both briskly walked down the lane. Once around the corner the Premier's coach and four beautiful groomed horses came into view, a large throng of residents including many children had gathered at the farm entrance. As we arrived the Premier was just saying goodbye to the Stockley family and then started to walk towards us, he noticed my father at the rear of the crowd and walked straight to him and grasped his hand saying, "How are you Edward nice to meet you after all these years". They then exchanged memories of bygone days, which seemed to last for ages, eventually my father introduced me to the Premier, but all I did was look in awe at this great statesman.

Premier Seddon then gave all the children a few pennies each before he crossed the road to meet his Aunt Julia Seddon at her sweet and grocery shop. It is not known if he called at his grandfather's old farm, but he passed within a short distance when arriving here from his prior engagement at Kirkby.

Overall, the Seddon administration put in much good work, including *The Old Age Pension Act* of 1898, that was personally identified with the premier. Other beneficial laws placed on the statute book were *The Arbitration Act* and *The Land Settlement Act*. His popularity never waned, and even when he toured Australia in 1906, newspapers praised him for his innate qualities of leadership. No one realised that this would be his final journey, as he was waved off by cheering crowds at Sydney Harbour. Tragically 140 miles out to sea on board the Steamer, 'Oswestry Grange', he collapsed in his wife's arms and died. He left nine children, six girls and three boys.

Besides a beautiful bronze statue erected in his honour at Wellington, many streets and hospital wards were named after him. A memorial near his burial place reads, 'We will ne'er look upon his like again'.

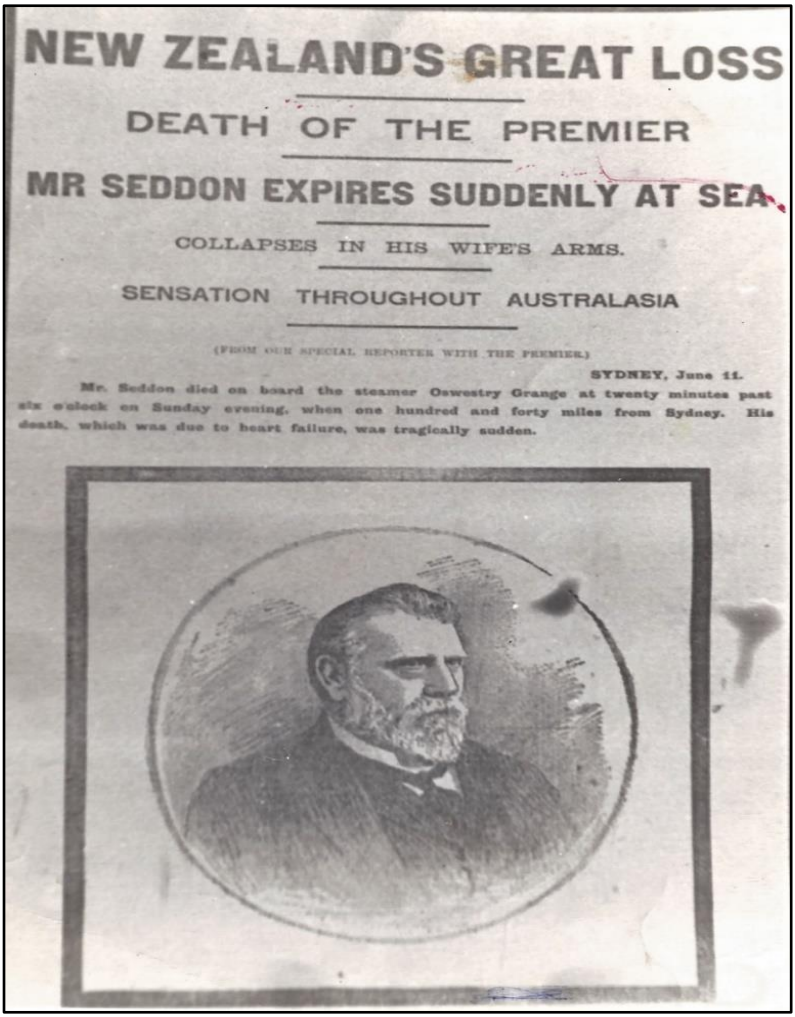


Juliana Seddon's Sweet and Grocery Shop, on Barrow Nook Lane, Demolished in 2005.

It appears both farm names were altered in 1868 when a new farm was built for John Stockley and renamed Barrow Nook Farm. Old Barrow Nook Farm was renamed Barrow Nook Hall Farm.

Only a couple of ponds and a few trees remain from Seddon's plantation, most were returned to agricultural use in the Great War

In 1919 the Premier's Son, John Stewart Spotswood Seddon, called on Mrs Ann Taylor and family, at Wood End Farm whilst on leave from the army of occupation in Germany.



NEW ZEALAND'S GREAT LOSS

DEATH OF THE PREMIER

MR SEDDON EXPIRES SUDDENLY AT SEA.

COLLAPSES IN HIS WIFE'S ARMS.

SENSATION THROUGHOUT AUSTRALASIA

(FROM OUR SPECIAL REPORTER WITH THE PREMIER.)

SYDNEY, June 11.

Mr. Seddon died on board the steamer Oswestry Grange at twenty minutes past six o'clock on Sunday evening, when one hundred and forty miles from Sydney. His death, which was due to heart failure, was tragically sudden.

The New Zealand Mail's announcement of Premier Seddon's death.

Owen Taylor

Acknowledgements:
New Zealand Mail (1906 edition). 1851 Census - Richard John Seddon, Old Barrow Nook Hall Farm. 1854 PJ Manex Directory - W Stockley Lower End Farm. John Pennington. Angela Chaderton.

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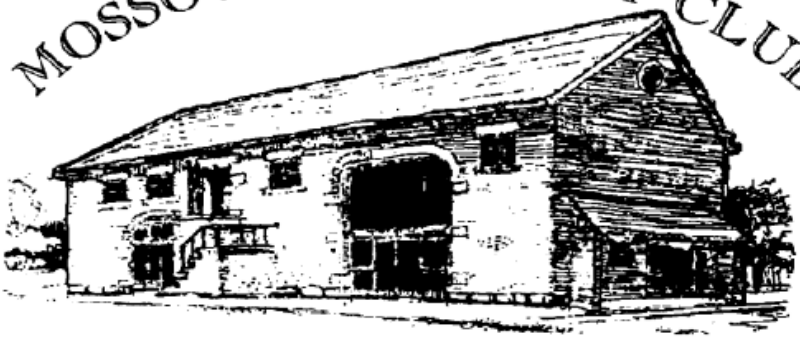
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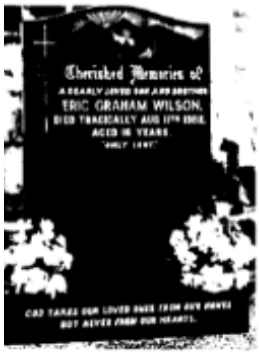
We welcome new members, visitors and students alike.

Please see our website for up-to-date information.

Meetings (when held) are at 7.30pm at Four Lane Ends Mission. Further info. via 01704 631191.

www.ormskirkhistoricalsociety.co.uk

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The love of God
be in your hands
The joy of God
be in your soul
and in the song
that your life sings.

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Editorial News



The deadline for the September magazine is **Friday 21st August.** As always, please pass articles to myself, or e-mail it to jo.housley@gmail.com. I will do my best to publish articles when space and copyright allows.

Please note we will only publish online during the Pandemic.
Thank you.

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