

**Christ Church Walmersley
and
St John with St Mark Bury**

in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road



Corpus Christi (Thanksgiving for Holy Communion)

3rd June

June 2021

50p

REGULAR SERVICES

COVID-19: Please be aware of current restrictions as you read this edition, together with advice on best practice as we leave some restrictions behind. Both churches have secure protocols in place.

Sunday			
9.00am	All	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Service of the Word	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	All	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	5th	Holy Communion	Joint (venue tba)
7.00 p.m.	Final, Sunday @ Seven		Venue tba
Wednesday			
10.00 a.m.		Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
Thursday			
12.30 p.m.		The Gathering	Zoom
2.00 p.m.	1 st	Holy Communion	Christ Church
7.30 p.m.		Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
Other services as announced.			
Services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.			
Morning Prayer is said each day at 9.30 a.m.			
Evening Prayer is said each day at 5.00 p.m.			

If you need transport to church please contact the wardens.



Both churches have Fairtrade status

4 extra days?

On the May Day bank holiday, I had Jeffrey (the lovely American priest who has taken over from me in Radcliffe) round for tea. He is settling in really well and now knows what "tea" means round here. However, there are still some things about life in the UK which puzzle him. He recently got a car and is learning to drive on the "wrong" side of the road. He asked me about roundabouts! I am not the best person to ask to be honest. Then we moved onto bank holidays, and he had a lot of questions; what was the May Day thing all about, why would you get an extra day/not get an extra day for New Year depending on where you live? I spent the next hour or so trying (without cheating) to remember the ones that we have and why. Why not have a go? *For answers see page 17.*

Of course, come the end of May there is another bank holiday, officially nameless but often called Spring or Late Spring. It was actually linked to Whitsuntide but was moved in the seventies. Bank holidays, at any time and for any reason, are generally very welcome but I did wonder with the enforced time-off so many have experienced over this last year if they are still as special/full of promise? I know that since I retired, they don't quite have the same meaning to me.

Maybe this coming (insert name of your choice) bank holiday will be different because we are almost back to normal (yes, probably jinxed it now)! The problem with bank holidays is that we expect a lot from them; we want to get the most out of this precious free time. Some will put an awful lot of planning into the day but quite often they will build their plans on the weather (always a mistake) and when the day dawns as a 'typical bank holiday' the plans are in ruins.

Other folk will have an alarmingly full schedule: an early trip to the supermarket; gardening after that other bank holiday staple the garden centre; decorating; cleaning the car; sorting out the attic etc. Whilst others will just decide the day is about doing nothing, have a lie in and just relax. Great, until you realise you have done diddly squat and feel racked with guilt. I have not forgotten all those people who have to work (with or without additional pay) and don't really want to think about bank holidays at all, thank you very much.

Perhaps it is as well that in the UK we do not have as many bank holidays as many other countries do. Cambodia has 28, Sri Lanka has 25 and a

good number of countries have between 21 and 12, in fact everyone seems to have more than us. Even the USA, which Jeffrey felt was badly done to, has 11. We are right at the bottom with 8. But before you get too indignant, if the Labour Party ever gets in power, they promised to give us 4 more bank holidays. The plan is that they will honour the patron saints of Great Britain. To save you thinking/googling: St David's Day (1 March); St Patrick's Day (17 March); St George's Day (23 April) and St Andrew's Day (30 November).

So, what would we do with those 4 extra days? You have probably got quite a lot of time to think about it but perhaps the saints themselves might give us a clue as to what to do.

St. David became a monk and a great teacher. So perhaps we could spend some of our day learning something – even getting to grips with one or two things from the bible that have always puzzled us. And, as in Wales many of the celebrations centre around food, maybe some time cooking could be fun (leeks optional).

St. Patrick had a significant role in introducing Christianity to the Irish (and more recently increasing alcohol sales). So, how about spending a little time thinking about how you might tell someone about your faith – and even doing it? After that, and after would probably be better, spend a bit of time relaxing with family and friends, enjoying a glass or two of your favourite tipple.

St. George – no actual dragons for us to slay but how about tackling that job you have been putting off for ages and then going to your own particular "royal" family to seek your reward by doing something you enjoy together.

St. Andrew – one of the first disciples who carried out Jesus' mission. It took over a 1000 years for Scotland to recognise him so why not use his day to recognise someone who has helped you. Is there something you could do for someone else?

Well, whether we get those extra bank holidays or not I hope you enjoy the ones we have, balancing work with enjoyment and remembering that, whatever the weather, these are precious days: *This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24*

*Yours in Christ,
Elizabeth*

BIBLE READINGS FOR JUNE

Jun 6	1st after Trinity Genesis 3: 8-15	2 Corinthians 4: 13 - 5:1	Mark 3: 20-35
Jun 13	2nd after Trinity Ezekiel 17: 22-end	2 Corinthians 5: 6-17	Mark 4: 26-34
Jun 20	3rd after Trinity Job 38: 1-11	2 Corinthians 6: 1-13	Mark 4: 35-end
Jun 27	4th After Trinity Lamentations 3:23-33	2 Corinthians 8: 7-end	Mark 5: 21-end
Jul 4	5th after Trinity Ezekiel 2: 1-5	2 Corinthians 12: 2-10	Mark 6: 1-13



Flowers in church

At Christ Church

June 6	Mr & Mrs Silvester
June 13	Mrs J Wood in memory of the Beck family
June 20	In memory of Wendy Riggs
June 27	Vacant

If you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers in church, perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, please speak to Hazel Bamford (Christ Church) or Rosemarie Ashworth (St.John with St.Mark).

FROM THE REGISTERS

CHURCH FUNERAL SERVICE

May 18 Michelle Carswell

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD AT THE CREMATORIUM

May 19 Geoffrey Stephenson

INTERMENT OF ASHES IN THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

May 9 Pauline Andrew

May 16 Bert Mather

May 23 Marjory Chester

"I am the resurrection and the life....."

ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION

WEDNESDAY 9 JUNE – Bury Parish Church.

(Only Clergy & Churchwardens to attend in person)

Social Media

If you are users of Facebook, Twitter or Instagram please have a look at our profiles and hopefully follow us. These are good ways to keep up to date, and an easy way to share with your friends what is happening.

Our two churches have separate Facebook pages so search under individual names; for Twitter and Instagram look for 'C of E on Walmersley Road'.

If anyone is interested in helping to manage any of these profiles please have a word with the Vicar or Wardens.

ST.JOHN with ST.MARK: YOUR PCC

Following the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 16 May 2021,
this is the full list of the elected Parochial Church Council
for St.John with St.Mark's.

The Revd. Dave Thompson - *Chairman*
Rosemarie Ashworth – *Church Warden*
June Banks – *Church Warden, Deanery Synod*
Keith Duckworth – *Deputy Warden*
Ian Banks – *Deanery Synod*
David Robinson – *Deanery Synod*
Julian Hartley Sue Law
John Brennan Mary Howarth
Debbie Cooper Marjorie Evans

CHRIST CHURCH: YOUR PCC

Following the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Monday 24 May
2021, this is the full list of the elected Parochial Church Council
for Christ Church.

The Revd. Dave Thompson - *Chairman*
Jason Edwards – *Church Warden*
Jennifer Wood – *Church Warden*
Catherine Hilton – *Diocesan Synod*
Barbara Taylor – *Deanery Synod*
Hazel Bamford Geoff Hamilton
Lillian Lees David Peters Ian Riddick
Geoff Stokes Patricia Stokes
Barbara Silvester – *Reader representative*

If you would like any matter to be raised at a meeting
of your Parochial Church Council, please contact any member.

From the Vicarage

* As lockdown restrictions are eased throughout the nation, I am hopeful that this month we will be able to see further relaxing of the rules. In church, the wearing of masks and not being able to sing has been a source of frustration. We will keep you in touch with developments. In the meantime, ensuring that our buildings are Covid secure continues to be vital.

A number of organisations are now beginning to meet again in our church halls and we have plans for social activities to resume when they are allowed.

* The Parish Office is open every Wednesday evening between 6.30-7.00pm at St.John with St.Mark Church Hall. This can be for enquiries about baptisms or weddings or any other matter.

* Churches Together in Bury represents most of the Christian Churches in the town. The group meets every two months, with a prayer group which meets fortnightly. Currently, all meetings are on Zoom and are open to all. Please contact Barbara Taylor or Elizabeth Binns if you would like a link to join.

* Porch Boxes are always in need of food and toiletries especially in this current situation. A box is available at the back of both churches. We also support Caritas and the Porch Project as they seek to help those in need.

* The Ministry Team consisting of all the Clergy, Licensed Readers and our Authorised Lay Ministers meet every month – usually on the second Monday evening. If you have an issue that you would like us to discuss, please contact one of the team.

* Regular attenders to church are encouraged to join our planned giving scheme. If you would like to do so or would like some further information, please speak to one of the Treasurers

Following the recent APCMs the list of PCC members for both churches can be seen on page 7.

There are still vacancies on both church councils. Parochial Church Council members must

- Have been on the church electoral roll for at least 6 months
- Be an "actual communicant" meaning that you have received communion at least three times during the past twelve months

We are also looking at increasing the number of sidespersons. They are appointed to assist the churchwardens - mainly being responsible for the ministry of welcome and of overseeing seating arrangements in church.

If you would be interested in being a sidesperson or PCC member, please contact myself or one of the churchwardens.

It's that time of year again



(Well to be honest this is three months later than usual!) Many of you buy this magazine at the back of church each month for 50p. For those who have it delivered the cost is £5 per year, covering 10 editions which include two bumper editions in July/August and December/January.

Our grateful thanks to all who faithfully deliver each month and to all who are involved in ensuring it is available.

Your distributors will be collecting over the next few weeks. It was not possible to approach people last April / May because of the pandemic so we will collect for 2020 whilst we are collecting for 2021 (i.e. £10), now that restrictions are easing. We realise that last year some still managed to hand over their monies, so don't worry – we do not expect you to pay twice!

We hope you enjoy the magazine and we always welcome contributions which will be of interest to our readers in both parishes.

*Taking responsibility for what we have
and what we have been given.*

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TIME, TALENTS & OTHER RESOURCES

*Offering of ourselves to help, support and enable
the mission and ministry of the Church of God.*

STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

*Part of the Fifth Mark of Mission
– supporting environmental and green projects.*

STEWARDSHIP OF MONEY

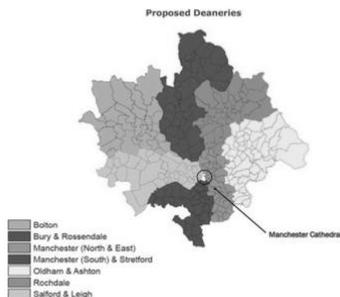
*Encouraging the biblical teaching of tithing and generous giving,
which is both tax-efficient and organised.*

These three aspects of stewardship should be regarded as linked and none should be viewed in isolation from the other two.

Each has a particular focus and all are important elements in our Christian journey.



INTRODUCING NEW DEANERIES



The Diocesan Deanery structure is being changed this month, as we move from 20 to 7, with a full time Area Dean in post for each area.

The new Deaneries are Bolton; Bury & Rossendale; Manchester North & East; Manchester South & Stretford; Oldham & Ashton; Rochdale and Salford & Leigh.

The Seven full-time Area Deans will be commissioned at a service in Manchester Cathedral on Sunday 6 June. They have been appointed to enable the Diocese to achieve its inspiring vision for 2030 of being: *'a worshipping, growing and transforming Christian presence at the heart of every community'*.

The Diocesan website reports that the new Area Deans - *"Working closely with the Lay Chairs and other ordained and lay leaders in each deanery, will lead the delivery of the diocese's transformation programme at local level. They will be responsible for carefully targeted interventions on the ground to achieve the diocese's ambitious targets for increased church attendance, particularly in the most deprived areas; greater opportunities for people to explore their faith, especially children and young people and their families; and for the Church to be able to lead the way in every local community, supporting those who are deprived and excluded."*

Please pray for our new full time Area Dean, The Revd. Canon Dr. Rachel Mann as she prepares to start her new role in the former deaneries of Bury, Rossendale and Radcliffe & Prestwich.

June 3 **Day of Thanksgiving**
for the Institution of Holy Communion (or Corpus Christi)
falls on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday.

This is the Post Communion prayer from Common Worship

All praise to you, our God and Father,
for you have fed us with the bread of heaven
and quenched our thirst from the true vine:
hear our prayer that, being grafted into Christ,
we may grow together in unity
and feast with him in his kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

On June 12 we mark **HM The Queen's official birthday**
and this prayer from Cardinal Newman seems particularly apt
but is for each one of us

God has created me to do him some definite service;
he has committed some work to me
which he has not committed to another.
I have my mission – I may never know it in this life,
but I shall be told it in the next.
Shown how I am necessary for his purposes;
as necessary in my place as an Archangel in his.
I have a part to play in this great work;
I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.
He has not created me for nothing.
I shall do good, I shall do his work;
I shall be an angel of peace,
a preacher of truth in my own place.
Deign to fulfil your high purposes in me.
I am here to serve you, to be yours
to be your instrument.

June 14-20 is marked in the UK as **Refugee Week**

Heavenly Father, you are the source of all goodness, generosity and love.

We thank you for opening the hearts of many to those who are fleeing for their lives.

Help us now to open our arms in welcome, and reach out our hands in support.

That the desperate may find new hope, and lives torn apart be restored.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,

who fled persecution at his birth

and at his last triumphed over death.

Amen.

©Church of England

June 20 is **Father's Day**

I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. Ephesians 3:14-15

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of families.

Lord, you have placed us into our family circles;

you have called us to love, serve, and support each other.

In times of joy, let us celebrate;

in times of sorrow, let us be a source of comfort;

in times of trouble, let us uphold each other;

and may God's peace and love ever abide with us. Amen.

Evelyn Alleyne, Mothers' Union USA



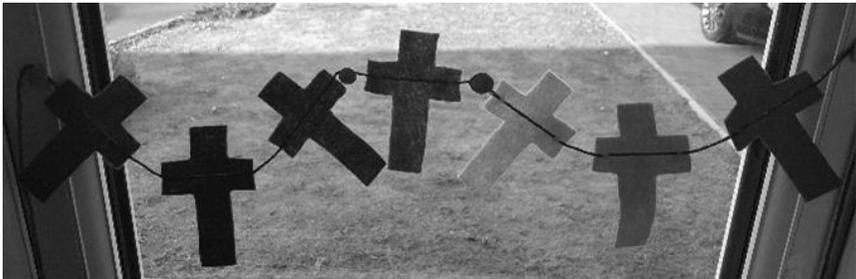
HELPING IN THE PANDEMIC

A new survey has shown that more than 4,000 Church of England parishes are estimated to have stepped up their support to local communities in the face of rising levels of poverty, loneliness and isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Church volunteers have carried out a range of tasks from food deliveries to shopping, dog walking and collection of prescriptions since the first lockdown, according to a report by the Church of England and Church Urban Fund.

Other sources of help include gardening projects, 'phone buddies', job-hunting support, and helping people to get online.

Church buildings were used to help communities come to terms with the effects of the crisis and became in the words of the report *"symbols of hope."*



(rainbow crosses from a Mothers' Union member in lockdown)

The Chair of the Report, The Bishop of Newcastle, Christine Hardman, is quoted as saying, *"The past year will stand out in our memory as one of radical change and of needing to learn to live in a new landscape. The Covid-19 pandemic drastically transformed our daily life, and our understanding of what it means to be Church. Stay-at-home orders and travel restrictions meant that Jesus' call to 'love your neighbour' has become grounded in the hyper-local. No longer able to meet in person, churches across England found ways to continue to worship and serve their community together, whilst remaining apart."*

ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK APCM NOTES

This year's meeting took place in a hybrid setting, both in the Church Hall and also online, at 12noon on Sunday 16th May.

The meeting began with the election of wardens and the deputy warden, all of who agreed to stand again.

All necessary approvals of the policies on children, young people and safeguarding of adults took place.

Ian's Treasurer's report highlighted how our finances have been impacted by the last 12 months of Covid closures and restrictions, both in terms of planned giving, but especially hall rentals. There was however thanks for all who have continued to give this year and those who have increased their contributions. There was an encouragement to anybody who has not reviewed their giving to consider this over the coming weeks and months.

The Vicar thanked everybody who has continued to be a presence in Church life over the last year, even whilst the building was closed, and especially now Covid guidance has meant additional work. The increase in online worship over the last year was also noted and how this has been a lifeline for so many. This is likely to form the basis of a future discussion, even when in person services eventually get back to normal. The Vicar also explained the future of the newly restructured Deaneries.

Election of PCC members took place and there was thanks recorded to David Andrew, who is stepping down from PCC, and for his work and service over the years.

There were various reports from different Church groups and organisations to review in the APCM booklet.

An additional PCC meeting took place on Wednesday 19th May, mainly on Zoom, to elect officers to various posts and for the Vicar to provide information following the latest easing of restrictions. There were also updates on which groups are now back using the Hall. It was noted that Ian's licensing as Reader is on Sunday 11th July. Next PCC meeting is on Thursday 1st July at 8.00pm.



Sunday @ Seven

We next meet for our regular Sunday evening informal worship (song/reflection/prayer)

June 27th at 7pm

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord”



We are very hopeful that we shall, at long last, be able to actually get back together for this month's meeting. If we are still not able to sing indoors then we shall meet outdoors - a beautiful summer evening is expected! And we shall give appropriate thanks for all that by singing praise to our Creator God. Do come and join us. Details of venue, etc will be confirmed nearer the time.

It's over twelve months now since we had to take to the internet and the mighty Zoom for our Sunday @ Seven services. I was half hoping that this merry month of May would see us back together meeting in person but I don't think we can. However I am assured by 'No. 10' that in June it will be ok for us to meet and sing our hearts out - to make up for no singing in church for so long!

I do thank you all for your support over the past year. Zoom has not been available for everyone but with delivery of paper copies I feel that we have been able to stay in touch and maintained our fellowship. It has to be noted that through Zoom we have actually increased our fellowship numbers. Regularly people are joining us, not just from our Benefice but also from miles beyond! Heywood, Ramsbottom, London and even Cornwall are now brought together at 7pm on a Sunday evening. I do hope that we shall all be able to continue to worship together when we have 'live' meetings again. Ian Banks is looking into the technological possibilities!

If you want to know more about Sunday @ Seven please contact Ian Banks, Cath Hilton or myself and Barbara. Or just come along on Sunday June 27th at 7pm and join us. The service is themed "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord" so I think you can work out what we shall be highlighting - something of a 'Songs of Praise'. Venue to be decided, depending on the results of Ian's technological research!

God bless. See you soon.

Nigel

Answer to Elizabeth's question (page 3)

England and Wales only have eight public holidays in total: New Year, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, late May bank holiday, August bank holiday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

As I write, we are still being advised not to meet as a group but hopefully it will not be too long before we are able to do so. My thanks to members who responded to my request last month for ideas of meetings they thought would be a good way to restart our programme. Ideas are still very welcome.

Although we are not meeting we can, of course, continue in many ways to make a difference as members of Mothers' Union.

At Council in May the Let's Chat initiative was launched and we are being encouraged to reach out to each other, to those who have been shielding for so many months, meeting safely on walks or in gardens, getting to know each other better, to socialise and to plan for the future. To quote our president in the recent Manchester newsletter, "This brings to mind the women in Jesus' time gathering at the well each day to fetch drinking water, mingle with friends and exchange news."

If you missed seeing this newsletter please ask for a copy or download at www.mothersunionmanchester.org as there is so much information there.

There is news about Wiggle Worship and if you would like to knit Wiggle for use in school and nurseries across the diocese please have a word with Tricia Stokes for more information about our working with the Board of Education once again.

Thursday Prayers in June will be available on YouTube from noon on 10 June. These services last 15-20 minutes and are well worth viewing.

The Summer Appeal, launched from Mary Sumner House, this year recognises that the movement is 145 years old. We are challenged to have FUN as we FUNdraise with MU On the Move. There are several suggestions of ways in which we could use this as a focus for fundraising. A few are listed on the opposite page but use your imagination too. Just let us know what you are doing and share photos if possible.

Also in the latest newsletter were figures showing the difference we make to families, here in Manchester. From October to April an amazing total of 5,942 people were reached by our projects here. There is more detail and this is something we can justifiably be proud to share with others.

Ideas for MU on the MOVE

- ✓ Have a target— maybe £14.50
- ✓ Run or walk 14.5 km (or miles)
- ✓ which could be as a relay, or in stages (*remember Captain Tom*)
- ✓ Tell 14 / 15 people about Mothers' Union and its work
- ✓ Set a group target of £145
- ✓ Use the prayer points available on the website
- ✓ Set up a collection jar
- ✓ Hold a quiz
- ✓ Involve those who are not members

One project which has been on hold recently is the provision of "New Beginnings" packs which are given to people leaving HMP Forest Bank. During the pandemic there have been no releases but now men are being allowed to leave. Many have no home and family to welcome them back.

Could we collect useful items as per the list below, or monetary contributions towards buying the backpack (£16.99) to contain them?

Comb	Hand sanitiser
Small towel and flannel	Toothpaste
Disposable razors	Toothbrushes
Palmolive Shaving stick/cream	Soap/soapbox
Shampoo	Shower gel
Roll-on deodorant	Tissues
Underwear and socks	Pen and notebook
Zip lock bags to pack items	Biscuits/Sweets/Chocolate
Cold weather (hat/gloves) warm weather (t-shirt)	

With my prayers

Bob Taylor
Branch Leader

Jumping over the Toadstool

Monday 19 April....and Christ Church Brownies and Guides meet face to face!

After a year of Zoom meetings the day had arrived – we were able to meet once again outdoors. So far the weather has been kind, let's hope it continues.

We started on the first week back with the popular games night and campfire including hot chocolate and s'mores!

Four Brownies were able to jump over the toadstool to join Guides and two were presented with their Gold Awards – an indication that life in Guiding did not stop during lockdown. (*See back page*)

Sue, one of the Guide Leaders, was presented with her 20 years long service award. This represents a fantastic commitment to the organisation and the girls.

For subsequent meetings the two groups have met separately, each for an hour. The past few weeks have seen the Brownies and Guides outdoors taking part in a variety of activities including:

map skills,
nature crowns,
scavenger hunts,
obstacle courses,
superheroes
and jousting.

If you know any girl aged 7-10 or 10-14 years who would like to join in the fun please register their details at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/join us](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us) and we will contact you.

Brownie and Guide Leaders
25th Bury (Christ Church)

Plants for sale – St. John with St. Mark

All profits to Church funds

Aloe Vera - £1.50

Rosemary - £1.00

Rhubarb - £2.50

Perennials

Sweet pea - £2.00

Yellow iris - £1.50

White phlox - £1.50

Pink phlox - £1.50

Pale pink peony - £4.00

Hosta - £3.00

Dead Nellie yellow - £1.00



Anyone interested can call Rosemarie Ashworth

Freely, freely



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Please share this free phone line with anyone who may find it helpful. It is especially beneficial for those who do not have access to the multitude of resources available on the internet.

Personal details have been removed in our online edition for data protection purposes.

Please contact us through our websites or social media accounts and we will ensure your message reaches the correct person.

Enquiries about baptisms or weddings / marriage banns etc or any other matter, should be made at the Parish Office held at St.John with St.Mark Church Hall any Wednesday evening between 6.30-7.00pm.

Lots more info on our websites: www.ccwalmersleybury.org.uk
<https://stjohnstmarkchurchbury.com>

Please send your articles for the magazine by 14th of the previous month to wrub@live.co.uk

Jumping over the toadstool!

from Brownies into Guides



are Daisy, Ciara, Lottie and Eva



Emily and Ciara receiving their Brownie Gold Award

Sue receiving her 20 year long service award

