

**Mary Butler**

After a long and painful illness Mary Butler died on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Mary had so many friends in English Martyrs parish and I know from speaking to Val, Viv, Jean, Jet, Geoff and many others how much she will be missed. I first knew Mary when our two daughters both named Clare were friends at St Thomas More school. Mary was obviously an expert in bringing up daughters—she had six—and I received the benefit of her vast experience even if I didn't always heed it. When our girls left school we lost touch, but then in 2002 when St Igs was left to fend for itself, I was given lots of advice from Pip and her friend Mary which was really helpful. Mary worked so hard for parish in many capacities and could always be relied on. Val, who knew her for nearly forty years, told me how much she did for English Martyrs school and about their many visits to Lourdes where she tended the sick. When she finally gave up her church work it appears several people were needed to fill the void. She was very supportive of Enigma and enjoyed reading about the walks which she collected for Fr Tom.



She was obviously adored by her husband, son and daughters and she talked proudly about them. We pray for them all in their loss especially her husband, Mick.

In Holy Week, Mary obviously in great pain, attended the Passover and the Triduum services refusing to take her pain relief so she could follow the prayers. On Good Friday there was a very poignant moment when Cynthia stopped at her wheelchair to commiserate and it is good to think they are now reunited in heaven.

**Rest in Peace Mary**



Remember this is your magazine so please continue to send us information and tell us your stories. Geoff, Lesley, Cynthia & Margaret want to hear from you. Put material in the boxes at the back of church or email [enigmaarticles@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:enigmaarticles@hotmail.co.uk)

Hello! I'm back after an incredible visit to China. I hope, with support from some of our super cooks, to have an Asian evening in September with some pictures and a glimpse into Chinese life. Thanks to Lesley for collecting articles in my absence. Some material has been held over for future editions.

**Visit to Oberammergau** recently I fulfilled a lifelong ambition to visit Oberammergau for the Passion Play. It was a wonderful experience, which I shared with my sister Mary, Anne Oastler and her friend Vivienne.

The play dates back to 1633, when the Black Death killed many of the villagers. The rest made a vow that, if spared, they would act out the death of Jesus every ten years. The plague died out and no one else died. At first, the plays were held in the graveyard where the plague victims were buried, but in the 19th century crowds became so large that they built a theatre.

The present building holds thousands of spectators with a massive stage. Half the villagers participate in some way. The men don't shave or cut their hair for a year and rehearsals go on for 3 years.

Animals also play their part. There was a herd of goats, horses, doves and even a couple of camels. There was also a 49 people choir. Performances start at 14.30 until 17.15. Then there is a 3 hour break for people to have a meal and at 20.00 the play recommences for another 2½ hours. Between the scenes of the play are Living Images, tableaux with actors in motionless scenes from the Old Testament. The whole performance is very impressive.

In the audience were Japanese, Americans, Indians and Europeans.

They expect over half a million visitors this year.

**Margaret Blackburn**

**Parish Walk** there were 2 walks in May .The first was to the Darwin area. On May 29<sup>th</sup> 8 of us went on a beautiful walk around Roby Mill. It rained most of the time but because we had a 4 year old, Georgina, with us that gave us permission to enjoy ourselves. Some of us hunted the Gruffalo in the dark woods and one of us jumped out from behind hedges. Several climbed into a hollow tree. Someone had a good time in the playground running up slides, on the seesaw and playing on musical tubes. Others ran round the Ashurst Memorial being Kings of the Castle and playing “Boo”. What fun! We also saw the most amazing stand of trees on an old golf course before a pleasant interlude at The Fox.



Saturdays in June are very busy, especially for Fr Tom, so the next walk/walks will be at Silverdale on July 10<sup>th</sup> For details see the Parish News.



**Dorothy Hayes** was born in 1913 in Chorley coming to live in Preston aged 3. She went to St Ignatius’ school. She and her husband Tom lived on St Stephen’s Road where they brought up Patricia, Bernard, Vincent and Veronica. Dorothy became involved in English Martyrs community. She belonged to the C.W.L. and the S.V.P. She

helped in the sacristy and answered the presbytery door. She regularly attended funerals especially where there were few mourners. She loved sewing, knitting, walking and listening to classical music.

In the last few years Dorothy was cared for in Meadowfield House where sadly she died in February aged 97.

**Blooming Marvellous** Bored with your begonias? Fed up with your ferns? Tired of your tulips? Then get down to St Igs any Saturday between now and the end of June and see what Tony Robinson can do for you. Tony the owner of Black Leach nurseries, Catforth, has set up shop from 10am to 4pm in the church grounds and will donate 10% of his takings to the church, so you can kill two birds with one stone—beautifying your garden and supporting St Ignatius’.

Although he has only attended St Igs on a regular basis for the last few years, Tony’s association with the church goes back much further, as his parents were married there. He is known in the parish for the care he takes of the church gardens and he has just built an impressive rockery which he is in the process of stocking with his own plants

On Saturdays, he is selling a variety of perennials and vegetables, but if you are after the latter, get there early, because local allotment holders have realised that the quality and price of Tony’s veg. compare very favourably with his competitors.

So come along next week and decorate your gardens with luscious lupins, healthy hostas and tasty tomatoes—all at bargain prices See you there! *Lesley Maloney*

Tony will also have a stall at the Summer Fair. Other attractions include a Cake Stall, Tombola, Fancy Goods, Raffle, Books and Music, Groceries Toys, White Elephant, Bottle Stall Bouncy Castle and a variety of games to keep the children entertained.

**Come and have fun on Saturday 19th June at 1pm**

**This Month’s Wisdom**

**God grant me the serenity to accept the people I can’t change, the courage to change the one I can and the wisdom to know it is me**