



Church Family News

The last time I wrote this page the children had not even broken up from school and it seemed there were weeks and weeks of summer ahead of us. Now, all of a sudden, so it seems, the children are getting ready to go back to school. Our love and best wishes to **Emily Evans** and **Evan Gilchrist** who will be starting school. We hope they will be really happy. Best wishes to **Jensen Gilchrist** who will be moving on to secondary school and to all our children who will be moving classes and changing teachers. Hope you have a brilliant year at school this year.

Many congratulations to **Sam Owen, Millie Aspinall, Caitlin Barton & Megan Ryan** on their excellent GCSE results. This means that Sam, Millie & Megan can move on to college to follow the courses they have chosen & Caitlin will be adding to her impressive results in her final year at High School. Many, many congratulations to **Jake Owen** on his amazing A level results. Jake will be moving on to Lancaster University & we wish him every success in the future. As I write this, Jake & Sam are in Finland serenading the people there on their violins. What talented young people we have!

I am sorry that in my list of birthdays in the last edition, I missed our friend **Rev. Leon Cook** who celebrated his 95th birthday in July. Happy 96th birthday to **Kathy Walters** in September. Hope you have a lovely day Kathy. We not only have amazing young people, we have truly amazing seniors with so many well in the 90+ range. How blessed we are. Our dear friend **Melissa** has become a bit of a celebrity this week having been a patron of the Southport Flower Show for 90 years, this year being no exception and **Peter Proctor** who returned safely from his Norwegian cruise.

There has been sadness and difficulties for several of our church family over the past few weeks. We were so sorry that **Brian Flatt** passed away in July. This was a very upsetting time for all the family and our thoughts and prayers are particularly with his wife **Pam** who is currently receiving care in hospital. **George Phillips** had to have further treatment following his knee surgery. We hope it is well and truly on the mend now. It is good to know **Brenda** has made a good recovery and does not require further treatment. **Liz Tomkins** was in hospital recently but is now well. However, she is awaiting the result of tests and may require surgery. You don't have time to be ill, Liz. Good to see you bouncing around at Holiday Club!

Ron Rimmer has been unwell for several weeks and is currently in hospital. We do hope they get you sorted, Ron and that you will very soon feel better. Our thoughts and prayers are once again with **Marion Halpin** whose brother is very poorly. God bless you and your family Marion at this difficult time.

Wendy Pierce should have been amongst those received into membership last week, but unfortunately was in hospital. Our love and best wishes to you Wendy. We remember **Frances Thomas** in our prayers. Frances is at present a resident in a care home. We miss you Frances and send you our love. You are very much in our thoughts and prayers. **Natasha Simpkin- Watkinson** was admitted to Alder Hey with acute appendicitis and had her appendix removed. Thankfully, she made a very good recovery but that is not the best way to spend the school holidays! **Scarlett Aspinall** has had to attend hospital with back problems. Poor you, Scarlett. We know how painful that can be. Hope you feel better very soon. I believe you and your mum **Carmen** have been keeping the NHS busy this week!

Our love, thoughts and prayers are with **Jane Biggs & Margaret** on the loss of Jane's husband, Jim. Jim, who was blind, had been in residential care for several years and has recently been quite poorly. He died in hospital on 14th August at the age of 96. Jane is not able to get out as much these days and has been unable to attend church for some time but really values visits and phone calls from friends from church.

It was lovely to have 7 members of our congregation received into membership of the Methodist Church last week and we pray they will all now feel very much a part of our church here at Marshside Road. Best wishes to **Nancy, Julie, Kath, Stephanie, Scarlett, Isabelle and Lisa**. God bless you all.

Holiday Club was once again an amazing experience, not just for the children but for the great team of helpers as well. The children had a great time but it makes it even more special to hear stories of how the lives of children and their families have been touched by the love of God through Holiday Club. Thank you for praying for us. Please keep praying that the work begun in these lives will continue and grow.

God Bless you all,
Dorothy Simpkin.

Some thoughts from Facebook

I am in competition with no one.
I run my own race, I have no desire to play the game of being better than anyone, in any way, shape or form.
I just aim to improve, to be better than I was before.
That's me and I'm free.

When you judge another, you do not define them, you define yourself.
A flower does not think of competing with the flower next to it. I just blooms.
There's no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end.