



St. Mary's Dalton Holme Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 10

August 2016



Church Wardens

The Lord Hotham 01430-810771
Mr. Giles W. Peacock 01430-810254
Mrs. J. Creaser 01430-810662

Services for August

7th	11th Sunday after Trinity	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
14th	12th Sunday after Trinity	9.30 am	Holy Communion
21st	13th Sunday after Trinity	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
28th	14th Sunday after Trinity	9.30 am	Holy Communion

Thoughts from Rev. John McNaughton

August sometimes gives us a chance to enjoy the beauty all around us, and share happiness with others. We are all grateful for modern technology, but has it so overwhelmed our modern lives that we have no time to think about the most fundamental features of our life? The words of John Wesley often appear to be as true today as when he spoke them more than two hundred years ago: "Our people have not turned away from Christianity. They don't know what it is." Thankfully for our nation, with amazing energy he developed the Methodist movement and brought understanding to millions.

It was always his passionate hope that the Methodist movement would remain in the Church of England. Sadly that did not happen, for reasons which would take too long to explain here. The fact is that he had a profound concern for the eternal well-being of our people.

I think it was shared by Charles Darwin! He was studying to become a Church of England minister. Not surprisingly, his mind led him into natural research and he went on to write learnedly of evolution. He wrote of the Creator and took his family to church every Sunday. Latterly he did not go in himself.

I suspect it was for reasons which I share. I do not believe that creation was completed in seven days. Nor did the author of Genesis when he wrote those words thousands of years ago!! People of his own time wrote of God that: "A thousand ages in thy sight are but as yesterday."

The author of Genesis was ahead of his time. He was concerned to stress the vital importance of rest and recreation for slave and master alike. He tried to bring that truth home to those around him in his wonderful picture of the creator resting on the Sabbath. We need to take careful note!

It is easy to understand Darwin's disillusionment with church leaders who taught that it only took seven days of twenty-four hours to bring our existence into being! He must have felt even more frustrated and angry when one of them in Darwin's time claimed to have calculated that it happened in the year 4,004 B.C.!!

Thank heavens for Charles Darwin and Genesis! They help us to understand that each one of us is a still evolving product of creative evolution, able to enjoy eternal life if we learn to love God and our neighbour as Christ taught. Right now, it's worth remembering he walked on troubled waters to help his friends. Let's make sure we say our daily prayers and join together in church to share understanding of our amazing existence. (Rev. John McNaughton 01377 270869)

September Issue

Due to my overseas travelling this present issue will simply provide details of the services and John's thoughts. We should return to the normal version in September with the closing date of **Thursday 19th August**. Articles should be sent to me in **word format only** at rac.pfl@btinternet.com.

Robert Coates 01430-810504



South Dalton Playgroup

Takes place in the village hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 am till 2 pm,
Places are available.

Contact: Julie Wilson 01430-810151

