

Welcome to the November 2024 edition of your United Benefice magazine.

If you know anyone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please ask them to email unitedbeneficebms@outlook.com or, for anyone who is not online, please phone 01254 814041.



St Leonard's Balderstone

St Mary's Mellor

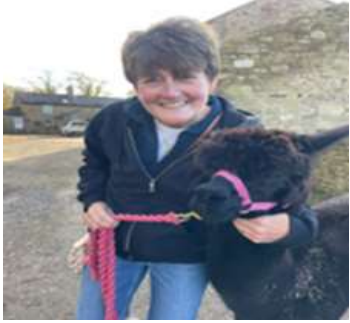


St Leonard the Less
Samlesbury

Rev'd Karen has asked that Saturdays be respected as her day off. If you feel you have a genuine emergency, on a Saturday, that requires help, please contact a Church Warden first and they will help to advise you. Please find their contact details on page 18 of this magazine. The Vicarage office phone number is 01254 814041 and the email address is unitedbeneficebms@outlook.com.

New United Benefice Administrator and Magazine Editor

A huge thank you to Michael for all his hard work as our UB Administrator for the last 3 years, he's left some big shoes to fill! From 1st Nov Angela Preedy will be taking over as our United Benefice Administrator and Sam Metcalfe will be taking over our Benefice Magazine, alongside her continued work on the notice sheets and Facebook. The office email address/telephone number will remain the same.

<p style="text-align: center;">Angela Preedy (Ange) Parish Administrator – United Benefice Introduction</p>	
<p>Hello</p> <p>Those of you who visit the library will know me, however, for anyone who doesn't, I am the Library Officer at Mellor and, from November I will be providing admin support to Reverend Karen and the United Benefice family.</p> <p>I'm taking over the reins from Michael, who has reluctantly decided to step away, however, I'm hoping that I can continue the great support he provided, also working closely with Sam.</p> <p>I'm looking forward to being involved and working with you all. Please bear with me as I learn the ropes!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ange x</p>	

Sam Metcalfe – United Benefice Magazine Editor

I'd like to introduce myself as the new magazine editor. I'm Sam and I've been working behind the scenes on our UB social media since 2021 and on the Notice sheets since last year. I'm hoping to continue the success that Michael has made of our wonderful magazine, if you'd like to contribute, please send in stories, pictures and posters to the usual email address. I'd also like to share some of the wonderful news and events on our Facebook pages so people can see how great we are, if there are any images you'd rather not be used this way please let me know.



United Benefice Church Services: November 2024

	<u>Balderstone</u>	<u>Mellor</u>	<u>Samlesbury</u>
Friday 1 st November	19:30 United Benefice Commemoration Of The Faithful Departed Service at St Leonard's Church, Balderstone		
Sunday 3 rd November	09:30 Holy Communion	09:30 Morning Prayer	11:00 Holy Communion
Sunday 10 th November	9:00 Book Of Common Prayer Holy Communion Service at St Mary's Church, Mellor		
Sunday 10 th November	10:30 Remembrance Service	10:15 Remembrance Service	11:00 Remembrance Service
Sunday 17 th November	09:30 Holy Communion	11:00 Holy Communion	<i>No Service</i>
Sunday 24 th November	16:00 Forest Church	09:30 Family Service	11:00 Book Of Common Prayer Holy Communion
Sunday 1 st December	09:30 Holy Communion	16:00 Festival Of Light Service	11:00 Holy Communion

Forest Church with Bishop Joe



Join us at Balderstone Church
Forest Church
Sunday 24th November 4pm

We are delighted that the Right Reverend Dr Joe Kennedy, the new Bishop of Burnley, is joining us for our Forest Church service on Sunday 24th November at 4:00pm.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to demonstrate how Forest Church is a great intergenerational way to bring The Bible to life through nature.

We will meet in church, head out into the churchyard and then gather in school for delicious refreshments and fun craft activities. We always recommend you bring a waterproof and walking shoes or wellies. You might like to bring a torch as well!

Hope to see you there!

Rosemary and Sian

Commemoration Of The Faithful Departed

On Friday 1st November, at 7:30pm, we will be holding a United Benefice Service, at St Leonard's Church, Balderstone to Commemorate the Faithful Departed. This will be an opportunity to pray and hold a silence in remembrance of those who we miss and to light a candle in memory of them. This special service is not only for those who have had to bear a recent loss, but also for those who still grieve the passing of a loved one, however long that may be. The light of the candles blazing will serve as a poignant symbol of those who have left us for the peace of God's eternal home, but who also at the same time remain with us, united with the glorious company of the saints in light. Please join us if you can. Everyone welcome!




Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer will be said every **Mon, Wed & Thurs** starting at **9:00 am**, unless otherwise stated. All are welcome to join Rev'd Karen as we pray for our churches and our world.

Mellor 4th, 6th, 7th November
 Samlesbury 11th, 13th, 14th November
 Mellor 25th, 27th, 28th November



Please note there will be no Morning Prayer on 18th, 20th and 21st November.

<u>PRAYER DIARY</u>	
	Each month, as a United Benefice, we will be focusing our prayers on a strand of the Diocesan Vision 2026. Every week, we will pray an aspect of that strand, as we seek God's face and will for our Benefice.
NOV	Making Disciples of Jesus Christ
Week 1	Dear Lord, help us to know the Scriptures better through reading, teaching, preaching and study. Open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to your word. Amen
Week 2	Father, we long for your Kingdom to come, may we pray with greater depth and urgency for you to be known in our Benefice and in the world. Amen
Week 3	Lord Jesus, we ask that you fill us afresh with your Holy Spirit as we worship you and seek your truth. Amen
Week 4	Dear God, as you have given us so much through your Son Jesus, may you help us to give generously of our time, talents, and money to the cause of Christ. Amen

Midweek United Benefice Services

Everyone is welcome to come and join us at our weekly, midweek United Benefice services.



Our midweek United Benefice Holy Communion Services are held on Tuesdays at 9:30am at St Mary's Church, Mellor. These services are open to all from Balderstone, Mellor, Samlesbury and beyond and are followed by coffee and friendly chat. Please do come along for worship & fellowship.

Midweek United Benefice services are also held every Friday, at 4:00pm, when Rev'd Karen will be saying Evening Prayer at St Mary's Church, Mellor. All are invited to join her as we pray for Church Growth across our parishes of Balderstone, Mellor and Samlesbury.



2025 Church Flowers for St. Mary's, Mellor

If you wish to be included in the weekly rota for donations for church flowers at St Mary's Church, Mellor, in 2025, please contact Joan Moss on 01254 813581. Donations can be made for anyone or anything you wish to remember or celebrate, or simply because you wish to donate to continue to have our lovely flowers in church. Thank you.

Pie and Praise



Sixty plus of us assembled in school at 4:00pm for 'Pie & Praise' - another of our 'Golden Opportunity' services. Headteacher Jo kicked things off with some pie history, including asking us where pies come from, to which a wit called out Wigan!



George had us on our feet to sing our hearts out with such great songs as 'Bless the Lord oh my soul'. George said he was a little surprised but pleased we had remembered the songs he'd previously played for us in church.



In her talk, Rev'd Karen informed us there are no references to pies in The Bible but food, and God's provision of it frequently features in the good book.



George had us on our feet again to sing, but this time with actions! Once he'd demonstrated how to move, all ages joined in praising God. Love of God and each other was alive in the room - what a joy!



Hungry now, we tucked into delicious pies and peas, with trimmings, served by Debbie, Helen and Chris.



Thanks to the Worship Team for putting on such a great service, to all who contributed and, in particular, to Debbie and Helen for the pies and to George for the music and armography!

More please! 🙏😊

Richard Jones

United Benefice Diary Dates

For further details of any of these diary events, please see our event posters, read through the articles in our magazines or email unitedbeneficebms@outlook.com.

Date	Event	Time
1 st Nov	Rev'd Karen leading Collective Worship at Balderstone CE Primary School	
1 st Nov	United Benefice Evening Prayer at St Mary's Church, Mellor (Repeated Weekly)	4:00pm
1 st Nov	Commemoration Of The Faithful Departed Service at St Leonard's, Balderstone	7:30pm
2 nd Nov	Pop-Up Café at Mellor Village Hall	10:00am
2 nd Nov	Lego Club at Mellor Library	10:30am
4 th Nov	Quiet Day: Space to be led by Ann Jepson at Whalley Abbey	9:30am
4 th Nov	Rev'd Karen leading School Worship at St Leonard the Less Church, Samlesbury	2:45pm
5 th Nov	United Benefice Holy Communion Service at St Mary's (Repeated Weekly)	9:30am
6 th Nov	Organ Concert with Angela Sones at Blackburn Cathedral	12:15pm
6 th Nov	St Mary's Choir Practice at St Mary's Church, Mellor (Repeated Weekly)	6:30pm
6 th Nov	Bell Ringing Practice at St Leonard the Less, Samlesbury (Repeated Weekly)	7:00pm
8 th Nov	Botanical Casting Workshop at Mellor Village Hall	6:00pm
8 th Nov	Interstellar 10 Concert with Roger Sayer at Blackburn Cathedral	7:00pm
9 th Nov	Balderstone Bonfire at Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary School	6:00pm
9 th Nov	Quiz Night at Samlesbury War Memorial Hall	7:30pm
10 th Nov	'What A Life - Kathleen Ferrier' - Special Event at Mellor Brook Community Centre	7:30pm
11 th Nov	Churchwardens' Meeting via Zoom	6:00pm
12 th Nov	Mellor Mothers' Union Meeting at St Mary's Church, Mellor	7:00pm
12 th Nov	Balderstone & District Women's Institute at Mellor Brook Community Centre	7:30pm
13 th Nov	Organ Concert with Richard Walker at Blackburn Cathedral	12:15pm
15 th Nov	Rev'd Karen leading Collective Worship at Mellor St Mary CE Primary School	
16 th Nov	Community Litter Pick at Samlesbury War Memorial Hall	10:00am
19 th Nov	Balderstone Mothers' Union Meeting at 11 Long Meadow	2:00pm
20 th Nov	Organ Concert with Emma Gibbins at Blackburn Cathedral	12:15pm
23 rd Nov	Christmas Afternoon Tea at Samlesbury War Memorial Hall	2:00pm
24 th Nov	Forest Church at St Leonard's Church, Balderstone	4:00pm
24 th Nov	Film Club at Mellor Brook Community Centre	7:30pm
26 th Nov	Little Angels at St Mary's Church, Mellor	2:15pm
26 th Nov	United Benefice Concurrent PCC Meeting at Samlesbury CE Primary School	7:00pm
27 th Nov	Organ Concert with David Hardie at Blackburn Cathedral	12:15pm
29 th Nov	Rev'd Karen leading Collective Worship at Balderstone CE Primary School	
29 th Nov	Christmas Tree Festival begins at St Mary's Church, Mellor	7:00pm
30 th Nov	Quiet Day: Paper Angels led by Hilary Murphy at Whalley Abbey	10:00am
1 st Dec	Brass Band Christmas Concert at St Leonard's Church, Balderstone	6:30pm
2 nd Dec	Rev'd Karen leading School Worship at St Leonard the Less Church, Samlesbury	2:45pm
2 nd Dec	Christmas Wreath Making at Mellor Village Hall	6:00pm
6 th Dec	Samlesbury Lunch Club at Samlesbury War Memorial Hall	12:30pm
7 th Dec	Artisan Christmas Market at Samlesbury War Memorial Hall	10:00am
7 th Dec	St Leonard's Christmas Fayre at Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary School	2:00pm

Mellor Mothers' Union



Twenty six Mellor Mother's Union members enjoyed fabulous food and fellowship at their Autumn meal in The Millstone Hotel. Two past members of Mellor Church and Choir, Mary Parr and Betty O'Brien, were welcomed by Margaret Ashton and Rita Gorman. We all sang Happy Birthday to Betty as she celebrated her 90th Birthday. Margaret thanked Pam Jackson and Christine Redwood for organising the lunch.



Everyone is welcome to come to our next meeting on November 12th at 7:00pm in Church. Our speaker is Phil Rainford, whose talk is entitled "Apples and Pears"!

Margaret Baldwin

Wave of Prayer

On Monday 21st October Mellor Mother's Union participated in a 'Wave of Prayer' which was led by Margaret Ashton at St Mary's church.

A table was set out between the choir stalls with a large candle bearing the MU badge, a map of the world and six small candles. We began by singing 'Brother Sister let me serve you' and following the lighting of the large candle Margaret asked us to pray for people around the world and Sheran Harper, our worldwide President. Other MU members lit the small candles in turn followed by a prayer representing the Dioceses of Bhopal, Guinea, High Veld, Nambale, Niger Delta and Blackburn. We then said the Mother's Union prayer.



Joining hands we sang the very cheerful hymn 'Bind us together Lord' and ended by saying The Grace.



Members stayed for a very welcome cup of coffee and biscuits and thanked Margaret Ashton for the poignant service and Margaret Baldwin who played the organ 'guiding' our singing.

Frances Jackson

Pop-Up Café

The pop up café will be open at Mellor Village Hall on Saturday 2nd Novmber, serving hot drinks and cakes from 10:00am - 12:00pm. Please call in – everyone welcome!

FOBS (Friends of Balderstone School)



The Friends of Balderstone School are hosting Balderstone Bonfire on Saturday 9th November at Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary School. Doors will open at 6:00pm, with the bonfire being lit at 6:30pm and a firework display at 7:00pm. For safety, the event is strictly no sparklers. Refreshments include a barbecue, bar, curry, samosas, hot chocolate, cakes and sweets. Entry is just £10 per family, £4 per adult and £2 per child. Please note this is a cash only event. Everyone welcome!

Mellor Church Events

A **Christmas Tree Festival** will be held at St Mary's Church, Mellor, and will be open at the following dates and times.

- Friday 29th November (7:00pm – 9:00pm)
- Saturday 30th November (10:00am – 4:00pm)
- Sunday 1st December (3:00pm – 4:00pm)

The Christmas Tree Festival will conclude with our annual **Festival of Light Service**, which will be held at 4:00pm on Sunday 1st December.

Please save the date for the following events in 2025:

- **A Plant Sale** - 3rd May
- **A Choir Event** - 16th May

Margaret Baldwin

St. Mary's Church Choir

Last month we welcomed Christine Hobkirk to join our sopranos and we now look forward to welcoming Hilary, Jane and Julie as we rehearse for our Christmas services.

We invite everyone to come to the Festival of Light service 4 p.m. on December 1st the 1st Sunday of Advent which will bring to a close our Christmas Tree Festival,

Margaret Baldwin.

Samlesbury Christmas Afternoon Tea

You are welcome to join us for our annual Christmas Afternoon Tea from 2:00pm to 4:30pm on Saturday 23rd November at Samlesbury

War Memorial Hall. Entry is £12 for adults and £6 for high school children, please, while entry for primary school children and under is free. There will be the usual delicious home-made afternoon tea, along with a raffle, tombola, lucky dip, wreaths, handicrafts, cakes and preserves, kids' craft activities and a special guest visit from Santa!!



Samlesbury Lunch Club

The next lunch club date is **Friday, 6th December** at 12:30pm. Anyone in the community, who would enjoy friendship and a meal, is very welcome. Although there is a suggested donation of £6, we are very happy for anyone who is less able to pay to join us. For those without transport, please let us know and we will arrange a driver to collect you. To book a lunch on Friday 6th December, please contact Grace Eastham on 01772 877076 or Gaynor Dockerill at gaynor.dockerill@gmail.com.

Ros Slinger

Samlesbury's Artisan Christmas Market

Samlesbury's second Artisan Christmas Market will be held at Samlesbury War Memorial Hall on Saturday 7th December from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

This is a perfect event for part of your festive celebrations.

For more information, or to book a stall for £15, please contact Imogen on 0777344 2763.



SAMLESBURY HARVEST 2024

'All things come of Thee O Lord, And of Thine own have we given Thee.'



Harvest resonates particularly in rural communities. It is the third Sunday of the Church's year that reminds us of our reliance on God for food, and is the culmination of the farming year – following Plough Sunday (January) and Rogation Sunday (May).

As usual, our Church was beautifully decorated, and Monday morning saw the distribution of produce. Our schoolchildren

gathered it all together and then forty-six gifts were delivered in the parish.

The remainder was divided between the Salvation Army in Preston, and our local charity, *Future Directions' Care in the Community* at Stanley Grange.

Susan Bell



Are you interested in Volunteering?

Due to retirement, Mellor Brook Brownies are looking for 2 volunteers to continue the unit from January 2025.

Brownies

If you feel this is something you would like to do, then please refer to the Girl Guiding Go! website to express your interest.

Alternatively come and see us at Mellor Brook Community Centre on Monday evenings (term time) between 6.30 and 7.45pm or email gaynor.dockerill@gmail.com.



Many thanks,
Michelle and Gaynor

Balderstone Church Events

Thank you to everyone who managed to join us for the Harvest Supper in October.

There was good support despite our evening clashing with other events. As always thanks must go to our wonderful chefs who provide the excellent supper each year. Thanks also to our kitchen staff, the Oddie team, for giving up their evening to serve the food.

Thank you to all who helped set up the hall, which just looked perfect, and for the help at the end to clear away, including washing up !

Huge thanks to Vicki and her staff for their hospitality in allowing us the use the hall and kitchen, always so helpful.

Our next event is **The Candle-Lit Christmas Concert, with the brilliant Coppull & Standish Brass Band, is on Sunday 1st December 6.30pm in church.**

The cost is £6.00 adults and children free.

Our excellent Pop-Up Choir will be performing and there will be an opportunity for the children to get involved.

Mulled wine, soft drinks, mince pies and chocolate biscuits will be available in school after the concert.

Donations for the refreshments would be appreciated.

Tickets will be available nearer the time or please pay on the door.

The Christmas Fair will be held in school on Saturday 7th December at 2pm

Entrance cost £1 adults 50p children with donations for refreshments.

Father Christmas will be in his Grotto and there will be stalls, games and raffles etc

The school children will open the Fair and the brilliant Ukuleles will be playing during the afternoon.

Please do come and enjoy a friendly and festive afternoon whilst also supporting our church.

Dates for next year's events haven't yet been finalised, hopefully they will be in December's newsletter.

Our next meeting of the Social Committee is on **Thursday 6th February 7.30pm at Pickering Fold Farm.** It is very informal, and we would love to see new faces.

Many thanks for all your support, help and generosity and we look forward to seeing you,

Best wishes Catherine Dixon 01772 877289 / 07976 550882 / Catherine@dixonrainage.co.uk

Balderstone Pop Up Choir

Our Pop Up Choir will be popping up again at our Christmas Candle lit Brass Band concert in Balderstone church at 6.30pm on Sunday 1st December!

Our rehearsals will be in Balderstone school at 7.30pm on the following Fridays:

8th November, 15th November, 22nd November, 29th November

Do encourage any ladies you know who love to sing to come along and join in!

Rosemary Cummings

Mellor Card Ladies – Recycled Cards

This month we have supported the Teenage Cancer Trust with a donation of £25, made in memory of Christine Taylor's nephew, James Addyman. We have also sent a donation of £25 to Marie Curie Charity.

Our Christmas cards are now available in Church, a selection of packs of 10, or individual cards, as well as other styles.

Please also look out for our hand-made poppies, now at the back of Church. All contributions will be sent directly to the Royal British Legion.

Thank you all again for your continued and valued support

The Card Ladies

Mellor Brook Parent & Toddler Group

Everyone is welcome, parents and grandparents, to our happy group at Mellor Brook Community Centre (09:45 - 11:45) for £4.00 per family, each Monday, during term time. To request to join our Facebook group or for further information about our activities, please email me.britcliffe@btinternet.com.

Maureen Britcliffe (07940 709165)



Balderstone Mothers' Union

We held our part in the wave of prayer during the October meeting. Everyone took part, Janet brought her ukulele and led us with the hymns. It is always a lovely little service enjoyed by us all.

Our deanery literature rep came along and we were able to purchase diaries and Christmas cards etc. from her. An easy way to shop.

We then had a cup of tea and biscuits which were kindly provided by Ruth.

Our next meeting at the usual time 2pm at 11 Long Meadow is on Nov 19th and our Presiding Member is coming along to talk to us about her time in Thailand. Sounds like it will be interesting.

Susan Baron

Little Angels

A happy afternoon thinking about our eyes... removing blindfolds from teddies...then sticking eyes on teddies to take home... Always lovely to see our little angels and this month we welcomed Harriet's baby brother, Edmund....

Please come along and join us, from 2 o'clock until 3:15pm on November 26th.

Rita Gorman



Balderstone and District Women's Institute

Firstly may we say thank you to Michael for all his hard work in making the news letters so interesting and keeping us all so well informed for all the three parishes. Our last meeting was a talk on Derian house where such good work has been done for so long helping children with such desperate needs. November sees our AGM where we will see a change in our leadership as our president Jennifer McNamee is retiring.



As we are thinking of the future our December meeting will be in the form of a Jacobs joint and will be held on Tuesday 10th at Mellor Brook Community centre as usual.

This month our strollers braved atrocious conditions to do a walk at Hurst Grange Park near Penwortham. The rain never stopped but we were undeterred. We enjoyed lunch at their cafe and were made very welcome even though we must have made puddles every where.

Next month has to be decided but we have lots of ideas. Our walking group meets on the last Wednesday of each month and are planning future outings. We have started our craft groups again in the last Monday of each month from 2 till 4. This month we will be attempting Quilling, one of the subjects for next year WI Clitheroe show.



Janet Edmondson



Thriving in the Early Years at Balderstone

Our youngest children have just completed their first half-term and this seemed like the perfect opportunity to give you, our Benefice family, a glimpse into our Rabbit class and their learning. Our early years class is made up of our Bunnies (Pre-schoolers aged 3-4) and our Reception Rabbits (aged 4-5 years old). It is a warren of exploration, outdoor fun and lots of creative and explorative learning too!



The Rabbit class team is led by Mrs Kate Turner and two other full-time members of staff, who help create a warm, calm, welcoming and creative environment for our youngest learners. Mrs Turner says her role is to sow the seeds of a lifelong love of learning and she certainly does this EVERY day in lots of crazily creative ways! Here are some of the things the children have been up to in their first few weeks at Balderstone.



Gardening, growing and outdoor learning

As part of our continuing commitment to outdoor learning and

sustainability, the children have been busy

planting and looking after their own food. So

far, they have grown potatoes and beans and

they enjoyed helping Miss Lee in the kitchen prepare, cook and then eat them! The

children have their own garden area to cultivate seeds, grow plants and flowers and

to explore seasonal changes. The team have just been awarded the Step Outside

Lancashire Quality mark for their outstanding outdoor provision.



Forest Fridays and Woods Wednesdays

Every week (sometimes twice a week) the children and staff put on their waterproof suits and wellies and get out and about for their Forest Friday sessions. They have

been exploring our brook and finding minibeasts, mud tree face making, tree climbing, autumn treasure hunting and just enjoying being wet, muddy and 4 years old! The children discovered that the apples were ripe in our mini-orchard, so picked them and learnt how to make their own Gruffalo Apple crumble. It was yummy! The children have also been encouraged to tree climb and to take measured risks (like we used to do when we were younger). However, in Mrs Turner's enthusiasm to model the fun of tree climbing, she found herself floating on her back in the brook!



Independent learning and daily social skills snack time sessions

Every day our Pre-School and Reception children get allocated times with their Buddies. Their buddy is a carefully matched Year 5/6 child who models best Balderstone behaviour, politeness, excellent conversation and also how to play kindly and imaginatively together. Their buddy sits with them at lunchtime and models servant leadership. The Reception children LOVE buddy sessions where they get to play, problem solve and have fun together. Every day the children's key adult sits down with the children for a snack/afternoon tea time. The children serve each other, learn to set a table, make toast and snacks independently and then get a chance to sit, eat and chat together. The children have all learnt to make their own toast, spread toppings, set a table setting and always use their table manners and ask to leave the table. The team have also taught them how to do their own washing up – so there are no excuses at home!

Coach Joe and Balanceability Bike fun

Every week our very own sports coach – Coach Joe – takes our Reception class for a PE session to work on their fundamental movement skills. The children have a bike riding lesson at **least once a week** with our two trained Balanceability coaches and we have LOTS of our children who are already able to ride pedal bikes without stabilisers! We also have a session a week building our gross, core strength using the large apparatus in the hall. This is because great core

and shoulder strength means that we are ready to become amazing hand writers. We are already putting this strength training to good use in our fab phonics and writing sessions!

Phonics and a love of reading and story

Our whole school curriculum is based on a high-quality spine of books. We LOVE reading at Balderstone, so our littlest readers are immersed in stories every day. This half-term they have been learning *The Gruffalo* by heart and also exploring the stories of Winnie the Witch who has been dropping her items all over the schools – her c-a-t, her p-o-t and her d-o-g were even found in our churchyard! The children take home a story sack, reading book and library book weekly and have been outstanding story tellers – making Mrs Gow giggle with their own renditions of *The Gruffalo* using shadow puppets.



As you can see, our littlest learners have been up to some mighty things in their first six weeks at Balderstone. They have truly learnt to live our mission of Loving God, Loving Learning and Loving Each Other in their first half-term. You are welcome to come and see the Rabbits in action any time. Just ring school and come and join the fun (bring 'yer wellies though, as they will probably be outside!)

Mrs Gow and the Balderstone School Family

Our United Benefice schools have decided to share news with us on a monthly rotation starting with Balderstone but will be providing links to their newsletters so that you can still find out what's going on at each, please see below the links to each schools newsletters

Balderstone weekly newsletter. <https://sway.cloud.microsoft/XMjp9ZslzcPYvq31?ref=Link>

Mellor St Mary's -

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/mellor-st-mary-cofe/UploadedDocument/6042ea69-a561-42e6-baf0-8b7c6d534b19/oct-news-2024.pdf>

Samlesbury Newsletters - <https://samlesburyceprimary.co.uk/parents/newsletters>



Samlesbury Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/people/Samlesbury-CE-Primary-School/100086396911494/>



Community Ukés

October saw the band taking part in the Chorley Live Music Festival. We performed at the United Reform Church in Chorley, along with Blackrod Community Choir, the Happy Voices choir and a fantastic guitarist called Joseph Hanratty. The audience was very keen to join in with the songs and the Mayor of Chorley honoured us with his presence.

In November, we are looking forward to playing at a local family's special birthday celebration.

The band is keen to welcome new members and take part in events where live music would be appropriate.

Janet Hindle (01254 813210)





Mellor Library Update

November 2024



Hello again.

November is almost upon us and we're still enjoying some sunny times!

As our thoughts turn to shorter days, darker nights and bonfires, why not stock up on reading materials to help you through!

The New Lancashire Reading Trail is in full swing, however, there is always room for more children to sign up.

What is the Lancashire Reading Trail?

This is a year-round reading scheme aimed mainly at ages 5-12.

The trail now consists of 3 maps that take you around Lancashire:

The bronze trail (10 books), then silver (20 books) & finally gold (20 books)

Each time a child attends the library they will receive a sticker on their map and certificates when they complete each trail.

Children are encouraged to provide a review of the book(s) they have read. This can be verbal, written or drawn.

There is a series of cards to collect with facts and missions on each one and these can also be used for games between the children who are taking part.



What's On in November?

November is Remembrance Month, and we will have the Book of Remembrance on display throughout the month.

We will be celebrating Chemistry Week with the opportunity to try a simple experiment called Kitchen Roll Chromatography

Yep, a piece of kitchen roll, some water, a bowl and a marker pen!

Why not pop in to find out more!!

Our monthly Lego Club is held on the 1st Saturday of each month. Adults and children welcome!

The next Little Steps event is planned for Wednesday 20th November at 9.30am.

Warm & Welcome Space

As in previous years, during our usual opening hours, we will be offering hot drinks, a safe space and access to all our usual services throughout the winter months.

Digital Support: In addition to access to our public computer and free Wi-Fi, Richard, our volunteer Digital Champion attends the library each week to offer help & support with your digital devices.

He is usually available on Saturday mornings 9.15am-10.15am (Please Note: this has changed from Friday afternoons)

There is no requirement to book an appointment.

If you wish to check that he is planning to attend on a particular day, please pop in and ask.

November Book of the Month

January 1950. Lady Anne Coke, daughter of the 5th Earl of Leicester, is in Scunthorpe on a business trip when she is called home after a sudden death in the family. She returns to Holkham Hall to discover a mystery; her beloved grandfather has been found dead at the bottom of a flight of stairs with a valuable piece of jewellery in his pocket. No one can find a cause of death, and some even suspect foul play from the ghost who supposedly haunts the house. But Anne's suspicions are aroused; she grew close to her grandfather when they lived together during the war, and she is determined to discover the truth. During World War II, Holkham Hall was an army base with large sections out of bounds, and 11-year-old Anne was in the care of a



new governess, whom she hated and believed to be deceitful. Although she had been told to stay away from certain parts of the house, Anne used the secret passageways and the cellars to move around unnoticed. And something she saw then could unlock the mystery of her grandfather's death now Full of rich, historical detail, this is a gripping novel of wartime secrets, intrigue and deceit.

Macmillan Fundraising

In my last update, I was preparing for my 32.4-mile sponsored walk on 28th September! Well, despite the distance, the odd blister & the good old Lancashire rain, my line dance friend and I completed the challenge. I won't deny, there were times during the 13-odd hours it took us, that we had doubts about whether we would complete it, along with questioning our sanity! A huge thank you to all those who supported me. Our final fundraising total was £9,888.77 which will be spent in our local area to support families living with cancer. Looking forward to see you all again soon

Ange x

Quiz Nights at Samlesbury War Memorial Hall

Samlesbury War Memorial Hall Quiz Night
We are trialling a new format on Saturday 9th November 7.30pm.
It will be £3 per person with under 11s free.
Please bring your own nibbles & drinks.
Tea & coffee will be provided.
Cash Prizes.

Please contact Clare Lewis on 07739 585860 or
info@samlesburymemorialhall.co.uk
with the number in your team & your team name.



Everyone welcome.

The December Samlesbury War Memorial Hall Quiz Night will be on
Saturday 7th December at 7.30pm

Samlesbury War Memorial Hall Burns Night Ceilidh

Saturday 25th January 7.30pm.
Live Ceilidh Band - with 'caller'.
Scottish supper of haggis, neeps & tatties.
Traditional addressing of the haggis.
Bring your own drinks.
£20 adults, £10 accompanied children.

Always a popular event of music, dancing & dinner.
Book your tickets from Clare Lewis on 07739 585860 or info@samlesburymemorialhall.co.uk

Caroline Coughlin

Samlesbury Area Civic Society News

Please join us for our upcoming litter pick on **Saturday 16th November**. Please meet on Samlesbury War Memorial Hall car park at 10:00am, where all protective clothing will be provided. We try to send groups of at least two out together, for safety reasons. If you can come, for just an hour, we can really make a difference to our community.

John Greaves



Wednesday Worship at Samlesbury

In October we had our first Wednesday worship in Samlesbury. The service was planned with a team of children from our primary school and they thought of some magnificent ideas. We thought about the parable of the Lost Sheep and how Jesus never gives up on us. Jessica, Theodore, Tilly, Jax, Bea and Eliza came up with some wonderful choices of hymns and games.



We started by thinking about how hard it when you lose your mum and we read the



Monkey Puzzle by Julia Donaldson to help us imagine what it might be like. Whatever we think about him, Jesus loves us more than our parents and will never stop searching for us. Then we hid some sweets around church which we had to find. It was such an enjoyable scramble with lots of laughter and sweet eating, just as there is joy in heaven when we turn to Jesus.

In our prayers we thought of someone we wanted Jesus to find and we placed their name on a cut out head of a sheep. The team collected them all and Eliza placed them into the shape of a cross, reminding us that Jesus is through all we do.

I particularly enjoyed the children coming to the front to do the actions for one of their hymns. We hadn't planned to do

it but they were happy to share with everyone and it brought the hymn alive.

Some children and parents stayed for drinks after the service as it was a chance for a good chat.

Our next Wednesday Worship is on November 13th so come along and join us. Everyone is welcome.

Pam Daunton



[Mellor Village Hall - Upcoming Events](#)

Please find below details of upcoming special events at Mellor Village Hall.
To book tickets, please visit: <https://www.mellorvillagehall.org.uk/event-list>



Please join us for a six week course of exciting ceramic classes with artist Kim Stuttard, starting on Wednesday 6th November! Classes will take place from 6:00pm – 8:30pm.

Whether you're a beginner or have some experience, everyone is welcome. All materials will be provided, and Kim will guide you step-by-step to help you create your own unique and beautiful pieces.



During a Botanical Casting Workshop, on Friday 8th November, from 6:00pm – 9:00pm, you can learn how to prepare clay for casting, how to select the correct seasonal flora and how to arrange and create a unique design. You can also learn techniques for pressing different flowers and how to mix and prepare the cast. We will be making around four tiles and a plaque.



Join us on 2nd December from 6:00pm – 9:00pm for a festive wreath making class with prosecco. All materials included with a choice of decorations to add to your wreath to personalise it. Wreaths will last around four or five weeks and are suitable for outdoors.



Join us for a fantastic New Year's Eve celebration at Mellor Village Hall! The hall will be completely transformed into a dazzling venue for a night to remember.

[Regular Classes and Groups at Mellor Village Hall](#)

If you are interested in any of the following activities, please click on the link below to find out more about the regular classes and groups at Mellor Village Hall.

[Girl Guides](#) [Knit and Natter](#) [Line Dancing](#) [Singing](#) [Indoor Bowls](#) [Walking Netball](#) [Walking Football](#)
[Dog Ways](#) [Genjitsu](#) [Badminton](#) [Mellor Tots](#) [Aerobics](#) [Gaming Night](#) [Yoga](#)
[Ukulele Lessons](#) [Arts and Crafts](#) [Balderstone Brass Band](#) [Saturday Café](#) [Pickle Ball](#)

<https://www.mellorvillagehall.org.uk/classes-groups>

United Benefice Contacts

St Leonard's Church, Balderstone

Churchwardens: Mary Shorthouse – mary.shorthouse@outlook.com 01254 812710
Ryan Dixon – ryandixon466@gmail.com 07976 323221
PCC Secretary: Kathy Evans - kabelliveau@btinternet.com
Treasurer: Keith Roberts
Headteacher: Victoria Gow - 01254 769150

St Mary's Church, Mellor

Churchwardens: Sarah Lees - sarahlucy93@hotmail.co.uk 07450 295417
Lloyd Brown – 07714 791256
PCC Secretary: Ann Doolan - anndoolan@btinternet.com 07969 047984
Treasurer: Mary Brown – 07832 625646
Headteacher: Jo Embley-Peers - 01254 812581

St Leonard the Less Church, Samlesbury

UB Licensed Lay Minister: Canon Pam Daunton - 01772 877017
Churchwardens: Paul Daunton - 07979 496499
John Eastham - 01772 877076
PCC Secretary: Dr Nick Buckley – nickb2505@gmail.com 07542 762941
Treasurer: Gaynor Dockerill - 07563 262784
Co-Headteachers: Lucy Sutton & Louise Quayle - 01772 877200

United Benefice Administrators: Sam Metcalfe & Angela Preedy unitedbeneficebms@outlook.com

Useful Website Links

Our United Benefice

<https://www.facebook.com/BMSBenefice>

St Leonard's Church, Balderstone

<https://www.facebook.com/balderstonestleonards>

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11534/>

St Mary's Church, Mellor

<https://www.facebook.com/mellorparishchurch>

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11535/>

<https://www.mellorparishchurch.org/>

St Leonard the Less Church, Samlesbury

<https://www.facebook.com/stleonardlessamlesbury>

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11517/>

Blackburn Cathedral

<https://blackburncathedral.com/>

Mellor Brook Community Centre

<https://mellorbrook.org/>

Mellor Village Hall

<https://www.mellorvillagehall.org.uk/>

Samlesbury War Memorial Hall

<https://www.samlesburymemorialhall.co.uk/>

Whalley Abbey

<https://www.whalleyabbey.org/>

MELLOR BROOK & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE

Whalley Road, Mellor Brook, BB2 7PR.

The Community Centre is the perfect venue for a variety of events such as private functions, children's parties, conferences and meetings. It offers excellent amenities including a fully equipped kitchen, conference room set-up, Wi-Fi and IT facilities, PA system and a brand new state of the art lighting rig. With excellent transport links, it's situated in a rural, yet central, location within the heart of the Ribble Valley.

Hire Costs Per Hour

For one off bookings: £15 Main Hall, £13 Front Room, £13 Foyer, £13 Upstairs Room, £4 Kitchen.

Regular weekly / fortnightly bookings: commercial organisations receive a one third discount and charitable organisations receive a two thirds discount off the standard hire rate.

Regular activities in Mellor Brook & District Community Centre, include:

- Parents and Toddlers on Mondays (09:45 - 11:45) during term time
- Brownies on Mondays (18:30 – 19:45) during term time
- Pilates on Mondays (20:00 – 21:00) see contact details below
- Palatine Fiddlers on Tuesdays (14:00 – 16:00)
- Cheryl's Dance Studios on Tuesdays (17:00 – 19:00) during term time
- Beavers on Wednesdays (18:15 - 19:45) during term time
- Little Voices BDRV on Thursdays (16:30 – 19:15) during term time
- Community Ukulele Group on Thursdays (19:30 – 21:30)
- Cheryl's Dance Studios on Fridays (17:00 – 19:00) during term time
- Film Club – Sunday 24th November

Pilates classes take place every Monday evening at 8:00pm. Come along and improve your core stability, enhancing posture, increase body strength and create leaner and stronger muscles. For further information, please phone Linda Walton on 07882 095449 or email lindawalton@live.com.

We now have a fully equipped training and meeting room upstairs with a projector, screen, flip chart and white board. To book this room, or for further information, please contact us using the details given below.

We continue in adhering to Covid 19 guidelines as issued by the government and Ribble Valley Halls Association.



Please check out our website www.mellorbrook.org, Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064876410507> and X @MellorBrook for news and forthcoming events.

Contact Us

Tel: 07436 271153

Email: rachael@mellorbrook.org

Rachael Calvey

Mellor Library

<u>Opening Times</u>	
Day	Times
Monday	1pm - 7pm
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	9am - 1pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	1pm - 5pm
Saturday	9am - 1pm
Sunday	Closed

Mellor Library
6, St Mary's Gardens
Mellor
Blackburn
BB2 7JW

Librarian – Angela Preedy

All our libraries will be closed on bank and public holidays and some additional days.

About the Library

We are a warm and welcome space where you can access information, reading material, advice and spend time with others. During the winter months, hot drink supplies are available free of charge.

We have a wide range of books including fiction, non-fiction, large print and audio books. There is also a section on biographies, autobiographies and local history. We also have a dedicated children's area with appropriate reading material for all juniors.

The library has a Windows 10 desktop computer, a flatbed scanner, printing facilities and free Wi-Fi. (Printing charges apply.)

This offers access to the internet, word processing, spreadsheet, presentation and database applications and printing using the [People's Network](#) computers. Computers may be used for up to two hours a day, but may be restricted at peak periods, such as school holidays. You may be able to use a computer for longer, if demand allows.



Children under eight can use the computers, but they must be always accompanied by a responsible adult who logs in using their own library card number and PIN.

People's Network computers in libraries can be reserved, in advance. You will need your library card number and PIN. Just logon, select the library you want and book a session.

Please note that the computers are switched off ten minutes before the library closes.

An A4 photocopier is also available for public use (charges apply).

Events And Activities

<u>Get Online at Your Library</u>	<u>Little Steps Sessions</u>
	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mellor Library, Ribble Valley • Every Friday (2:00pm to 4:00pm) between 02/02/2024 and 31/01/2025 • Free event - no booking required. <p>Start your digital journey today. Free help to learn digital skills to apply for jobs, online forms, using email, find free entertainment, follow your hobbies and use public services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mellor Library, Ribble Valley • 3rd Wednesday each month (9:30am to 10:30am) between 20/03/2024 and 29/01/2025 • Free event - no booking required. • Delivered in partnership with the Children and Family Wellbeing service. <p>Come along to this regular family session aimed at children aged 2 to 5. It's all about chatting, playing, reading, and learning.</p>

[Magazine Adverts – Working Together in our United Benefice](#)

For full contact details, of the businesses listed below, please view their adverts in our two advert supplements. To join our community of advertisers and place an advert, please contact Sam Metcalfe by emailing unitedbeneficebms@outlook.com. An advert costs just £25 for 12 months.

A&G Chimney Sweeps	07944 099871
Absolute Enigma Studio	07817 398494
Andrew Ball Plumbing & Heating Ltd	07817 844002
Andy Brunnschweiler Car Servicing	07798 827224
Balderstone Logs	07976 323221
Ben Lewis Tree Services	07843 018973
Birch Health & Wellness	07987 036364
Booths The Good Grocers	01772 693800
Bowland IT Support Services	01254 947082
Bowland Vets	01254 311311
Canberra Fitness Centre	01254 765084
Community Ukes	01254 813210
C P Simm Fencing & Landscaping	07807 337717
Crochet Classes & Tuition with Keely Robertson	07904 590552
D.J. Worcester Chimney Sweep	01772 616467
Evabel Sundecks	01254 813089
Fabric Box	07712 413904
Farleys Solicitors	01254 606000
Fired 4 U (Paint, Pottery and Clay Studio)	01772 203060
G.Cross Agricultural Engineering Ltd	07802 278525
GO Driver Training	07931 316109
Goose Foot Gin	07909 700311
Green Clean Upholstery & Stone Cleaning Services	07737 932607
Hair By Amy Campbell	07770 238258
Hatha Yoga – Live Yoga UK with Blair	07511 591880
Heritage Café at Samlesbury Hall	01254 812010
Hoghton Contractors: David Devaney	07887 843085
Hoghton Village Vet	01254 782737
Home Care Mellor	01254 689981
Homewise Society: Home Improvements Handyperson – Small Repairs	01254 232249
Hoze-It Power Cleaning Services	07841 348290
Ian Wilde Independent Funeral Directors	01772 902345
James L Knowles Electrician	01772 877469
Jane's Hairstylist	01254 812677
Karina's Crafty Creations	07890 789138
Kerry Woods Photography	07894 878847
Let's Foster Carers (Mike Dixon)	07855 963740
Lilac Tree Interiors at Holland House Garden Centre	07714 794623
Mad Cow's Catering	07837 453497
Mellor Brook & District Community Centre	07436 271153
Mellor Plant UK	01254 812937
Mellor Pharmacy	01254 812999
M J Barton Contractors	07999 711926
M W Holdsworth Builder & Property Repairer	07970 200371
My Adventure Campers	07383 449449
N & T Construction	07503 053375
North West Autocare	01772 314873
NSS News	01772 455421
Old Oak Farm Nurseries Garden Centre	01254 852065
Osbaldeston Riding Centre	01254 813159

Pennine Service Station Ltd	01254 812715
Peter Whalley Plasterer	07709 673310
Pete's Sports Massage	07584 655855
Preston Garden Services Ltd	07855 974540
Progressive Wills Ltd	07543 238543
Promedica 24 Care At Home	01254 411004
Red Rose Insurance Solutions	01254 790796
Ribble Home Surveys	07764 490589
Right At Home Carers	01254 658899
Samlesbury Secure Dog Run	07798 575750
SG Animal Feeds	01254 261866
Stevenson Memorials	01254 202019
St Mary's Court Community Hall	01254 812333
Stones Young Estate Agents	01254 682470
Stove Installer	07787 858585
Stuart Taylor International Ground Care & Trailers	01254 813175
Taylor's Chippy	07999 192884
T.Forrest Pet Food	01254 852873
The Flooring & Carpets Studio	07743 192833
The Garage at Mellor Brook (Beauty Treatments with Zara Booth)	07398 711578
The Old Coach House Antiques and Interiors	07598 878498
The Retro Bungalow	01254 852723
The Wilpshire Clinic	01254 246144
Tiggis Italian Restaurant	01254 769133
Wherry Gardens – Bespoke Garden Maintenance	07508 455694
Wilpshire Dental Clinic	01254 205529
W.M.Alty & Sons Ltd: The Alty Funeral Service	01254 503240
X-Press Ironing Services	07712 413904