

Old Malden News



The Parish Magazine of
St John the Baptist, Malden

August 2022

50p

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**The Parish Magazine of
St John the Baptist Parish Church Malden**
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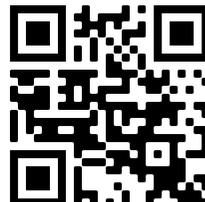
Details from the Bookings Secretary – Pat Sutton
Tel: 020 8942 8321

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Parish Administrator	Mrs Sally Pusey	020 8330 2817
Safeguarding Officers	Mrs Sally Pusey Ms Marie McGuire	020 8330 2817 07535 878107
Church Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Steve Clarke	020 8337 2392
Hall Bookings	Mrs Pat Sutton	020 8942 8321
Parish Website:	www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk	
Parish Office:	administrator@stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk	

To receive the Parish Mailing please scan the
QR code with your smart phone camera



Services for August



St John's is OPEN

St John's is open for worship so please see the Parish Mailing for details. Live Streaming of services will continue so you will be able to see services live via our YouTube Channel.

Sunday 8am - Said Eucharist

Sunday 9.45am - Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 11am — Said Eucharist

The midday Eucharist on Wednesdays has been moved to 11am to cater for the Mothers' Union which on the 1st Wednesday of the month will have a coffee morning at 10am followed by the Eucharist at 11am .

Please make sure you are signed up to our mailing list to get up to date information regarding the services.

<http://eepurl.com/gNz4Tf> or scan the QR Code

Vicar's Letter

School is out and the heatwave of Mid-July is behind us. As I preached at the last Worship for All service, we all need time out to just be, to sit and listen to ourselves, our families and friends, and to God. August invites everyone to take that time out and have fun while the weather holds, it doesn't matter if you can fly to the other side of the world or simply sit at home in the garden; summer has something to offer all of us. For my part I was away just after the Patronal festival and before the school holidays to the lovely Norfolk coast. I have a lot of sympathy for families with school-aged children who have to pay full price for their summer holidays as we rarely go on holiday in August as it's too expensive. But whatever you do, enjoy yourselves. St. John's will be here as always and raring to go for September.

We thank Ro King and Becky Horton for their leading our Little Fishes for several years and look forward to Charlotte Budd taking over in August. Margaret Barrington is continuing to lead Children's Ministry but she would welcome a couple of volunteers to help. There are opportunities to volunteer helping plan and deliver our occasional Messy Church activities as well, the next one in the run up to our Harvest celebration. If you might be inspired to help us do let me know, it would be much appreciated.

Harvest itself is the 4th of October rounding off our Season of Creation that begins on Sunday 4th September. The PCC will be discussing the possibility of St. John's signing up as an official Eco Church, an initiative across the churches in England and Wales as we seek ways to be more sustainable and limit our impact on the environment. We already do a lot with our churchyard thanks to Chris Beales and Graham Burley as St. John's is a haven for wildlife and rare plants, but we have an opportunity to take that another level and look at sustainable energy sources for our heating and electricity as well as reducing our use of plastics, paper, and other materials that end up in landfill or are burnt in the incinerator poisoning the landscape and our air. There are many ways we can all raise our own awareness and share that knowledge with our community too. We have also been encouraged to look at becoming an information centre for the Hogsmill Nature area with grants possibly available to provide information boards for visitors. This feeds in nicely to Open Church on Saturdays when the Church is open for viewing and visiting. I've already had a couple of groups of walkers doing the London

Loop pop in to a Church they have often seen from outside but never been in.

The Grant Committee has met and the Parish Architect has laid out the scheme for the restoration work that needs to be done to the building. Kirstie Tong and the team now can apply for funding as we tackle this in stages, the repointing, stone work repairs, and dormer window all require scaffolding so we will start with that and then address the drains with the implementation of French drains to remove as much water from the site as possible. This should go some way to dealing with the damp issues inside Church. These two are the most expensive items on the agenda, leaving redecoration to finish. It is also the time to be looking further ahead and planning for a replacement for our heating system when our boiler gives up or the Government finally bans gas boilers, whichever comes first. This is in the longer term, but technology is catching up and we could be in line for energy from either on site or greener supplies from dedicated suppliers to move away from carbon-based fuels. There is actually money available for these schemes and we have a small group exploring these possibilities.

So as I look ahead to autumn and the Season of Creation, I am encouraged that we have quite a lot to think about and work towards real change. In the meantime, enjoy Creation and take that time to have some fun! And whatever you do, don't forget the suncream.

With all good wishes,
Michael.

The Vicar's recent letter

I wholeheartedly endorse the views expressed by the vicar in his recent piece in the OMN and am delighted to see the refreshingly honest views expressed by him regarding the scout hut – clearly a man of principle and such a shame that there appears to be a dearth of principled people.

However, thinking ahead, it seems clear to me that the “church authorities”, once they have driven the scouts and guides out of their hut will wonder what to do with an unoccupied building on the church hall site? Redevelopment is the answer! So, our church hall (with all its users/uses) will disappear and be replaced by some town houses and the proceeds will go into the diocesan church coffers and St John's presence will disappear. Knowing as we do that the church is out of sight at the margin of the parish this will be a further nail in the coffin of St John's.

Patricia Sutton

GRAND DRAW WINNERS

My thanks to all who bought tickets for the Maeldune Festival Grand Draw. I am sure you will want to know who won, so here is the list:

1st Prize £100 Monica Drake

2nd Prize Hamper Chris Benson

3rd Prize Champagne Andy Jonner

4th Prize Gravi Trax game Christine Bunce

5th Prize Champagne Geoff Little

6th Prize Bottle of wine Kim and Joshua

7th Prize Assorted Specialist Teas Michelle Newman

Thank you, too, to all who donated the prizes. Janet Jeal

TWO EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN SEPTEMBER:

9th – 12th September

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

St. John's will be open for this National Event and we will need people to welcome visitors to our church. Towards the end of August a chart will be available in church for you to indicate when you are able to help.

Heritage Open Days celebrate all aspects of local heritage with thousands of walks, talks, openings and events, all of them free. For details about other participating venues, locally and nationally go to www.heritageopendays.org.uk

Saturday 10th September

ANNUAL SPONSORED RIDE AND STRIDE for The Surrey Churches Preservation Trust.

This event is suitable for all ages which can be done on your own or with a group. The last few years several St. John's families took part raising a lot of money and having an enjoyable day discovering local churches. Sponsor forms and a list of participating churches will be available later in August. Any monies raised is divided between The Surrey Churches Preservation Trust and St. John's.

For further information on both of these events please contact Pat Lovegrove.

Back on the Green!!

After a 3 year gap, St John's held its **Maeldune Summer Fair** on Plough Green again. It was a good community event and raised a much needed £2600 for St John's and its Outreach.

It was lovely to see people of all ages enjoying the sunshine, various stalls and games, and relaxing in the refreshment area having a good chat!

We welcomed Matthew Down for the first time as he ably assisted Tony Stubbings on PA and music. Matthew, who has just finished his GCSE's, is 'live' on Sunninghill Radio every Saturday morning (9-11am) <https://uk.radioking.com/radio/sunninghill>

and on 27th August (9am-9pm) he is hosting Sunninghill Radio's 'Music Marathon', raising money for Oxygen Youth Charity!

Good luck Matthew, may it be a great success!

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sunninghillradio>

Serving in the busy Refreshment tent



A big 'THANK YOU' to all who came to the fair, donated items, ran a stall, organised transport and helped in so many ways.

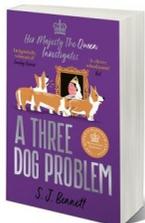
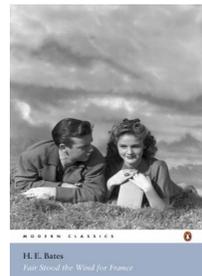
We also thank

- Chessington Garden Centre for their help with transport
- Ross Fruiterers for the donation of fruit for the Fruit Cup stall
- Dave, the manager of Miller & Carter, for his willing support.



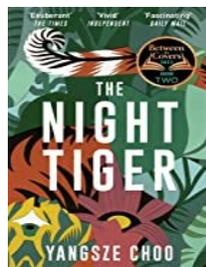
St John's Reading Group August 2022

If you wish to read a war romance – then **Fair Stood the Wind for France** by H E Bates is one for you – a novel written in 1944 and which may seem a little dated in style, but nevertheless is a great read. A Wellington bomber comes down in France: the pilot is injured but he and his crew manage to escape capture and they find a remote farmhouse. The inhabitants take them in and shelter them. Fear of capture is never far away and they all realise how much danger and risk could face their protectors if caught. It reminded me of the novels I used to read after exams had finished all those years ago. A romantic at heart. Most of the group found it a good read – a few could not relate to the main characters, but the book did achieve an average score of 8/10.

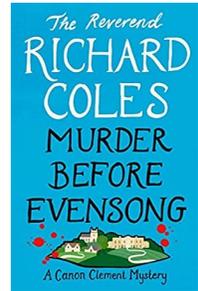


For a complete change of mood for August, we have selected '**A Three Dog Problem**' by S J Bennett as Her Majesty investigates a murder. It is the second in the author's series of 'Royal whodunnits' – following *The Windsor Knot*. A light-hearted change from the drama and tragedy of war and still in Jubilee mood.

Our choice for September is a departure from our usual read: *The Night Tiger* by Yangsze Choo. It is set in 1930s Malaya. Reviews are numerous and include this one: 'A work of incredible beauty.... Astoundingly captivating and striking in its portrayal of love, betrayal, and death.' 'The Night Tiger' is a rich work of historical fiction combined with magical realism, which draws on the mythology and folklore of Malaysia.' In my copy, there are some notes at the end with some reading questions.



If you are a fan of the Grantchester novels, then this new series may interest you. It all starts with the Vicar's suggestion of installing toilets and removing a few pews. I am sure that this will resonate with many in church circles. I think I shall re-read the ending before making a final decision. Not sure how it will be received by non-church goers as there are lots of references to our 'strange practices'!



Our next meeting will be on Thursday 4th August at 8.00pm in the Church Coffee Lounge. Try and keep cool in the heat and 'Happy Reading'.

Marilyn



St John's Knitting & Crochet Group will meet on Thursday 25th August from 2.00pm in the Church Coffee Lounge. So, if you are on holiday and at home, here is the ideal opportunity to catch up with some chat and share some of your projects.

New members and beginners always welcome. Tea, cake and biscuits always on hand so do join us!

Marilyn



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your donations to the Foodbank.**

**Foodbanks are now vital to so many people
and our support is really important.**

Please donate if you are able.

500g bags of rice
pot noodles
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small pasta sauce
Tinned vegetables
Small packets of biscuits
Extras including : ketchup, mayo, pickle, small bottles of oil, mayonnaise,
pickled beetroot.
Shampoo shower gel
Toilet rolls



Bereavement Café

Thank you to everyone who supported the Bereavement Cafe through the Co-op community Charity scheme! You raised over £1,100! The next meeting will be in the coffee lounge at St. John's on Tuesday 16th August 2:00- 3:30pm. We have been very fortunate to be trained and supported by Princess Alice Hospice, who will continue to work with us to provide this needed service for our community.



With things opening up again please help raise much-needed donations for St John's Old Malden - Repairs Fund when you plan ahead and arrange things to do! From booking staycations and getaways to tickets for concerts or other fun activities, remember to use #easyfundraising to raise FREE donations for us. Book now: <http://efraising.org/fx3w1QPP7u>

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