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The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 31 Sun 18th - Sat 24th October 2020
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St. John's Church,
Royal Lane, Uxbridge UB8 3QP
www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

Your Sunday Service Link (10.30 am):

Click on the Loving, Growing sharing Image above from Sunday 10am or on

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89481452808>

Youth Breakfast meet up in breakout room during part of our 10:30am online service on zoom this Sunday morning.

Church Administrator: Nikki Bell

Email stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com

Text/Phone 07972 618584

Vicar: Alan Bradford

Email abradford@hotmail.co.uk

Emergencies Text/Phone: 07847672599



Have you ever listened to a song or a piece of music, and then found that same song or music going through your head again a few days later?

The other night, when I couldn't sleep, I listened to a song and used it as a prayer. Then two days

later, after I was praying before the service on Sunday morning, the same song started going through my head.

The song was 'God is Here' by Ian Smale (aka Ishmael), and these are the words:

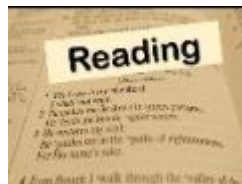
God is here, God is present
 God is moving by His Spirit
 Can you hear what He is saying
 Are you willing to respond?
 God is here, God is present
 God is moving by His Spirit
 Lord I open up my life to You
 Please do just what You want.

*Lord I won't stop loving You
 You mean more to me than anything else
 Lord I won't stop loving You
 You mean more to me than life itself.*

I was thinking about how we can worship God in the quiet, in the night, in the stillness. Wherever we are, whatever we are going through, God **is** here and God **is** present. God's Spirit is moving ... even as we are in coronavirus restricted times. Be encouraged that we are never alone. God is always with us. God is still speaking to us. Are we willing to listen and to respond, to be willing to open up our hearts and every area of our lives?

As I write this, we are not sure what further restrictions are going to be announced. Whatever we are going to face, God **will** continue to be with us, to be present in all situations and to be alongside us whatever we go through.

Maybe the words of this song will be a become a prayer for you, and a sound track in your life in this next season.



Matthew 28:16-20

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



My Story; Jennifer Dewey.

I was born in Hackney where I lived until I was 3. In those days grandparents lived in walking distance. I have since discovered that my ancestors were Jewish. We moved to Chiswick for my Father's work. Dad and I went back to Hackney on Saturday afternoons to visit his mother. His Father died in the Spanish Flu epidemic. I lived in Chiswick until I married Roger in 1975. While living in Chiswick I attended St Michael's, Sutton Court. I was a Brownie and in those days girls could not be in the main Choir so I joined the Family Service Choir. My brother was in the main Choir and also the Cubs. I was confirmed at 13. Roger and I were married at St Laurence Cowley. We had 4 sons who were christened at St. Laurence, attended Sunday School, were in the Choir and 1st and 3rd sons were Servers. When my youngest son went to school I worked for the Playgroup at the Uxbridge Centre. When my sons joined St. John Ambulance as Badgers I was asked if I would be Assistant Badger Leader which I enjoyed. My sons and I have never forgotten our First Aid Training. We are now retired and are enjoying our 4 grandchildren on the zoom for the moment. I do a lot of knitting and crochet for the grandchildren. My wool has overtaken the house. We look forward to the time when we can all meet up again for my youngest granddaughter's christening and their birthdays. *Jenny Dewey*



Jenny and Roger



Roger, Jenny and their Sons.



Zero Carbon by 2030!

You may have read in the newspapers recently that the governing body of the Church of England have agreed that all churches, vicarages, church schools and church offices should be zero carbon by 2030. Last Saturday, two members of the St John's Green Group took part in an on-line conference, organised by St Albans Diocese, to find out how we are going to achieve this target. The Church of England have devised an online "toolkit" to help churches measure their carbon footprint which will be introduced in 2021. Certainly it is going to be a challenge and one that we will all be part of. We were encouraged to hear how 2 churches have already achieved zero-carbon status.

Other environmental matters were discussed too, such as how to lobby M.P's on climate change issues and how to encourage wildlife in our churchyard.

We felt very inspired by all the speakers and we look forward to putting what we learnt into action!

Christine Bartlett



Churchyard News

Autumn has arrived in the churchyard and a weekly task for the time being is sweeping up all the leaves.

The wildflowers which we experimented with in 2020 have finished flowering, so we have cleared away all the debris, hopefully leaving some seeds and Helen Hamlin has sown some even more ready for next year: cornflowers and red poppies. Something to look forward to!

Peter Janssens has now joined the Monday morning team. On his first Monday, he gave the area around the war memorial a bit of a spruce up and also planted some white narcissi nearby. The rosemary which was growing near the cross had got very woody and leggy, so Peter has dug it out and he will be planting a new one next week.

Breeda and Kate Anderson have paid for 2 new shrubs for the Garden of Remembrance. After careful research and deliberation, they decided on Nandina Domestica, which is a small evergreen shrub with lovely red leaves in the autumn. The plants are in memory of Breeda's late husband, Harold John Anderson, always known as John. A photo of the newly installed plants is shown below.

Don't forget, the team are working in the churchyard every Monday morning (providing it's not pouring with rain), please come and say hello if you are passing by. *Christine Bartlett*



Newly Installed Plants in the Garden of Remembrance



What's in a (Road) Name?

One of the most important clues to the history of our local area comes from street and road names, each one has a name but where do those names come from? Some are obvious such as Harlington Road, so named because it's the road to Harlington!

There are some road names that give you a clue to what was on the land before that road was there, for example The Larches, and Towers Avenue, were both named after large country houses that stood where those roads are now.

The road names may also give clues to previous land use. For example, in the area by Merrimans corner, there was a family run business called "Little London Nurseries" which grew and sold plants and fruit. The family who owned the nurseries were Mr & Mrs Barwick. A new housing development now stands on that land and the roads have been given the names Barwick Close,

Little London Close and Glasshouse Close. Kay Sweetman remembers the nurseries well and can remember going there to buy strawberries! Talking of Kay Sweetman, she and Ken live just off the West Drayton Road. This area was formerly cherry orchards, hence the names Morello Avenue, Cherry Lane and White Heart Avenue (morello and white heart are varieties of cherry). Sometimes, individual people are honoured with a road being named after them. For example there are 2 roads which were built on the site of the old Hillingdon Hospital. Rutherford Close and Arklay Close were named after former Medical Superintendents of Hillingdon Hospital, Dr Robert Jock Rutherford and Dr Arklay Steel.

Meanwhile, over on St Andrews Park, the inspiration for the road names on this new development came from significant people and places from the history of the RAF and the Battle of Britain for example Deblin Drive. Deblin, a small town in Poland was an important training centre for polish squadron pilots that fought during the Battle of Britain. It's very pleasing that the developers of St Andrews Park have added information to the road signs explaining the heritage story behind the name.

There are lots more interesting stories of road names in our parish, do you know the story behind the road where you live? *Christine Bartlett*



Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child

At the end of August I shared with you via the online link that St John's will again be supporting this amazing charity.

The Covid -19 global pandemic has disrupted everyday life for millions of people all around the world. Samaritans Purse have looked into ways in which they can modify their collection and processing, following strict government guidelines so that the process is safe and to ensure that boys and girls around the world know that they have not been forgotten during this time of fear and uncertainty.

This year it would be great to reach out and give a gift to as many children as we can. In preparation for this I have ordered plenty of boxes, so you no longer need to worry about wrapping up the boxes. I have also ordered plenty of the leaflets which explains how to pack your shoebox. If you would like to support this appeal please contact me via email on stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com or by phone on 07972 618584.

I am happy to drop and pick up boxes following government guidelines.

All completed boxes will need to be ready for collection by w/c 8th November at the latest.

You can also pack a shoebox online by giving a donation of £20 and Samaritans Purse will pack a shoebox for you, just click on this link for more information <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/> *Nikki Bell*



NOTICES

AGM

Important! This Coming Sunday – Everyone welcome, spread the word!

This Sunday is a special one as it is a time when we reflect back and look a little forward!

We also see in the new PCC who are the trustees of St. John's.

It's our Annual Meeting which will take place as part of the service.

Please try to include anyone you know, especially those who haven't been online, by encouraging them to phone in to you as you attend so that they can take part too!

Thank you!

The Agenda for the AGM [Click Here.](#)
The Minutes of the last AGM [Click Here.](#)

Cupola Update

As most people will be aware, the timber Cupola, which houses the Sanctus Bell, on top of the Church Tower, is in a very poor condition. Both our Church Architect and a structural engineer strongly recommended that temporary supports be urgently installed to stabilise the existing structure. Permanent repairs will need to be undertaken at a later date, as part of a comprehensive programme of external repairs to St. Johns.

The cost of the stabilisation work, which will include specialist investigations into the existing timber of the Cupola, will cost in the region of £30,000. We have now received confirmation from Heritage England that they have awarded us a grant of £24,000 towards the cost of the project.

The remaining balance is being met by a generous donation from a member of St Johns.

Following confirmation of the grant last week, our Architect is currently in discussion with the selected contractor, structural engineer, and specialist timber conservation company to agree a realistic programme of work. Due to the delay in receipt of the confirmation of the Heritage England grant (we had hoped to hear by mid September), the proposed initial start date of 12th October is now unlikely to be met. Using this start date, we had hoped that the works would be completed by 1st November, to enable St John's to open for worship. St Johns has remained closed, following health and safety guidance from the Diocese. Until we have an agreed new programme we are unable to set a new opening target date for the church. This may be up to a month later than originally planned. I will keep you all advised on how things are progressing and Alan and I thank you all for your prayers and support through this difficult time. *Rick Williams*
(Churchwarden)

CHEQUES

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 St. John's Church

STANDING ORDER

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 Barclays Bank, 142 High St,

14/10/2020

The Online Link No. 31 Sun 18th October - Sat 24th October 2020 🗓️

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