

[View this email in your browser](#)

The Fortnightly Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 81 Sun 7th November - Sat 20th November 2021
Registered Charity 1128058

[Donate](#)

Use online giving here to catch up on your giving or to make a donation.

In this Issue!

[Anne's Blog](#)

[Readings](#)

[ECO News](#)

[St John's Histories](#)

[Prayers](#)

[Notices](#)

Your Sunday Service Link (10.30 am):

Click on the church image above from
Sunday 10am or on

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

Church Administrator: Nikki Bell

Email stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com

Text/Phone 07972 618584

Vicar: Alan Bradford

Email abradford@hotmail.co.uk

Emergencies Text/Phone: 07847672599

St. John's Church,

Royal Lane, Uxbridge UB8 3QP

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk



I wonder what is your earliest memory? I have some memories of my very early childhood. I have photographs and things from growing up that add to these memories and the remembering of significant times. Things that we can see or hold can help us in remembering. A Bible, a cross,

and a candle can often help us in remembering God, and help us in our praying.

At this time of year, we see people wearing poppies, and they are a sign of remembrance. The poppy is a symbol of sacrifice and of hope, and a symbol of thanks for those who gave their lives for others. Poppies are not a symbol of war. They do not mean that you support war. They are a symbol of respect. They are a symbol of remembrance and a hope for a peaceful future.

Next week, it is Armistice Day – 11th November, and then the following Sunday is Remembrance Sunday. 103 years ago, on the 11th November 1918, the Armistice – the agreement to stop fighting, was signed at 5am that morning, in a railway carriage in northern France. Then 6 hours later, at 11am, the guns went silent. The following year, on the anniversary, a 2 minute silence was held as an act of remembrance at the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month.

Later, poppies were worn as a symbol of remembrance. They represented the poppies growing in the battlefields. These delicate but resilient red flowers had grown on the WW1 battlefields, despite the devastating effect of the war on the land.

After WW2, Armistice Day became the remembrance for both world wars, and has gone on to include subsequent wars too. We stop and remember at 11 o'clock on both the 11th November and the closest Sunday. It isn't to glorify, or praise war, but to remember those who gave their lives fighting for justice, freedom and peace, to support those who survived or were injured.

On Remembrance Sunday, we will gather in our church Memorial Garden. As we meet together, we will remember those who made a sacrifice for us. On the war memorial inside church, there are 91 names inscribed. Each one was a real person, with a real life, with a family and friends. We, here today, inherit their remembrance. And we pass on their remembrance to future generations.

So as we wear our poppies, as we remember, let us thank God for those who have given their lives so that we are free and able to live our lives. And let us pray for those who are affected and still suffering as a result of war. **Anne Bradford**



Sunday 7th November.

Micah

Micah5:2-5a & 6:6-8

2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

3 Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labour bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites.

4 He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

5 And he will be our peace when the Assyrians invade our land and march through our fortresses. We will raise against them seven shepherds, even eight commanders,

6 With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? 7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the

fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8 He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.



Sunday 14th November

Swords into Plowshares

Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20, 37:1-7 & 2:1-4

36 In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah's reign, Sennacherib king of Assyria attacked all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them.

2 Then the king of Assyria sent his field commander with a large army from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem. When the commander stopped at the aqueduct of the Upper Pool, on the road to the Launderer's Field,

3 Eliakim son of Hilkiah the palace administrator, Shebna the secretary, and Joah son of Asaph the recorder went out to him.

13 Then the commander stood and called out in Hebrew, "Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria! 14 This is what the king says: Do not let Hezekiah deceive you. He cannot deliver you!

15 Do not let Hezekiah persuade you to trust in the Lord when he says, 'The Lord will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'

16 "Do not listen to Hezekiah. This is what the king of Assyria says: Make peace with me and come out to me. Then each of you will eat fruit from your own vine and fig tree and drink water from your own cistern, 17 until I come and take you to a land like your own—a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards.

18 "Do not let Hezekiah mislead you when he says, 'The Lord will deliver us.' Have the gods of any nations ever delivered their lands from the hand of the king of Assyria? 19 Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they rescued Samaria from my hand?

20 Who of all the gods of these countries have been able to save their lands from me? How then can the Lord deliver Jerusalem from my hand?"

37 When King Hezekiah heard this, he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and went into the temple of the Lord. 2 He sent Eliakim the palace administrator, Shebna the secretary, and the leading priests, all wearing sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz.

3 They told him, "This is what Hezekiah says: This day is a day of distress and rebuke and disgrace, as when children come to the moment of birth and there is no strength to deliver them.

4 It may be that the Lord your God will hear the words of the field commander, whom his master, the king of Assyria, has sent to ridicule the living God, and that he will rebuke him for the words the Lord your God has heard. Therefore pray for the remnant that still survives." 5 When King Hezekiah's officials came to Isaiah,

6 Isaiah said to them, "Tell your master, 'This is what the Lord says: Do not be afraid of what you have heard—those words with which the underlings of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

7 Listen! When he hears a certain report, I will make him want to return to his own country, and there I will have him cut down with the sword.' "

2 This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: 2 In the last days the

mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

3 Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.



7th November 2021 COP26 Church Service

On the 7th November 2021 St John's will be joining Tearfund and other churches for an international climate-themed service. A way for all churches to join in with prayer and worship for climate justice. Please join us in person by coming to the 9am service or the 10:30am service or joining us on Zoom at 10:30am.

As we have shared and you may have heard in the news this November, world leaders will gather in Glasgow for the UN climate talks, COP26. This is a critical moment and the church has a crucial role to play in speaking up and praying for our global neighbours.

News from A Rocha

St John's participates in the Eco Church programme - It is one way churches can act to reduce their own carbon emissions and support biodiversity. With over 4,000 churches now registered, cumulatively we can have a significant impact. A Rocha are thrilled to announce the launch of their refreshed Eco Church resources.

This is taken from the resource on Auditing your lifestyle. Maybe now is the time to take stock and look at how we live in relation to each other and nature on God's earth.

Auditing your lifestyle WHY? Changing our personal lifestyles is essential if we're to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength – and love our neighbours as ourselves. 'We all need to make a complete, radical and honest audit of our lifestyles, their impact on the poor and on the planet,' said A Rocha UK co-founder Dave Bookless, 'and to ask God to pinpoint where we should start making changes.'

HOW? It's not always easy to know where to start, or how to get buy-in from other members of the family! A personal lifestyle audit helps you identify where you are doing well and where you could improve. There are many available measuring slightly different things. Focus on your personal decisions at home rather than corporate decisions of the church body, by using the Creation Care website.

The seven categories of questions are in the same areas as the Eco Church survey so the resources we have provided will help you at home as well as at church:

- Worship and prayer
- Home
- Garden
- Community and global engagement
- Travel
- Food
- Possessions

Individuals can take the Creation Care survey alone or churches can register as well.

As households participate, the church they belong to, will see the collective impact of individual choices.

Creation Care and A Rocha UK, encourage churches and individuals to participate:
<https://creationcare.org.uk>

Auditing your personal carbon footprint in detail enables you to set goals to reduce it and to offset the carbon you can't eliminate. Climate Stewards have versions of their calculator suitable for individual households: <https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/>

Take action by looking at 'Count us in'. This website recommends 16 manageable steps you can take to reduce your own carbon footprint and to challenge world leaders. Each step shows the impact and the effort required. As you pledge to join, your personal CO2 saving is aggregated with others around the world. It is an inspiring global drive to reduce our collective footprint: <https://www.count-us-in.org/en-gb/> The audits all point to things you can do to reduce our personal carbon footprint Top tips are 'consume' (buy) less, eat less red meat and reduce your travel. Flying particularly is a problem as, mile for mile, it is the most damaging way to travel for the climate. More than 80% of the world has never flown, many of whom suffer most from climate change. If you do fly, air travel will take up a large percentage of your carbon footprint. Offset it into projects which improve carbon efficiency around the world - whether by tree planting or more efficient cooking methods.

Offsetting is controversial as it is still better not to fly! Climate Stewards provide an easy way to pay a calculated offset: <https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/> (select the aeroplane icon) You can find alternative ways to do your journey through websites such as <https://www.rome2rio.com/> or <https://www.seat61.com/>. A message from your

Eco champions We are now a group of two, Brenda and I, and we would like to ask for your help. Christine began the work in achieving our Eco Church silver award and we need to maintain that achievement and perhaps do more to improve our carbon footprint on the earth. The Eco Church survey originally covered 5 areas: Worship and teaching-Building-Community and global-Land -Lifestyle

They now appear as Worship and prayer

- Home
- Garden
- Community and global engagement
- Travel
- Food
- Possessions

Many of you are working hard to support and maintain the church. We just need your help in monitoring each area as covered in the survey at St Johns and hopefully grow in our mission to live more sustainably. **Christine Rodrigues**



The Cox Family

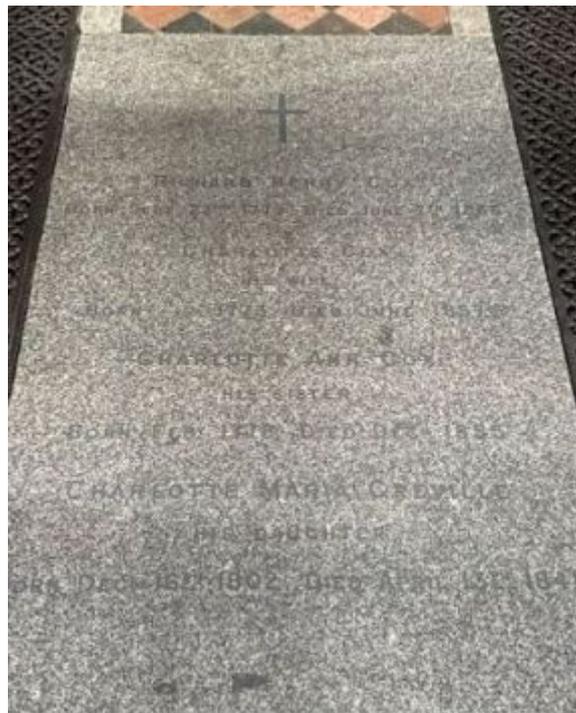
In the middle of the central aisle of the nave you will find the gravestone of Richard Henry Cox (1779-1863). He was part of the Cox banking family and the grandson of Richard Cox, founder of the travel company [Cox & Kings](#). Also buried with him are his wife, his sister Charlotte and his daughter who were all named Charlotte!

In 1810 he purchased Hillingdon House (the large white house in St Andrews Park). He had 4 sons and 3 daughters and his eldest daughter Emily married Sir Charles Mills (who lived at

Hillingdon Court) thus the 2 powerful and influential families of Hillingdon were joined by marriage. In 1840 or thereabouts a fire took hold at Hillingdon House on a Sunday morning, and some church members walking nearby on their way to church saw the flames. The Vicar on hearing the news, decided not to hold the service that morning and the congregation were encouraged to go and help. It would seem that the house was beyond repair and the house was completely rebuilt and finished in 1844.

On the last pillar of the North Aisle is a brass plaque in memory of Sir Charles Cox, who was the second son of Richard Henry Cox. He is buried in the churchyard along with other members of the Cox family. The tomb is very large and made of polished grey granite. Unfortunately it lies underneath a large irish yew tree so it is constantly covered in pine needles and in the autumn red berries. It looks so nice when it is swept clean but it doesn't stay clear for very long. John Kellaway who was butler to Richard Henry Cox for 34 years has a small modest grave stone alongside the family tomb.

In the 1881 census, the following staff were employed by the Cox family: 1 butler, 1 under butler, 4 footmen, 1 usher, 1 coachman, 1 under coachman, 1 groom, 2 stablemen, 1 servant, 1 housekeeper, 2 laundrymaids, 3 housemaids, 1 stillroom maid, 1 cook, 3 kitchen maids and 3 ladies maids. Other information that we can glean from the census is that the occupations of most men in the family was "army agent". An army agent did everything for army officers not within the official remit of the army: for example they supplied or arranged for the supply of all kinds of personal goods, from new uniforms to furniture to books, trophies, even engagements rings! **Christine Bartlett**



Gravestone of Richard Henry Cox, his Wife, Sister and Daughter all named Charlotte.



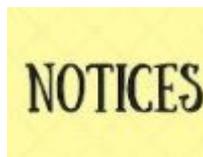
Sir Charles Cox, his wife Elizabeth Memorial



Hillingdon House



Lord of the nations,
We honour the bravery and sacrifice of those who served.
Grant us similar courage to recognise and restrain evil in our own day,
and may those who lead the nations of the world
work together to defend human liberty,
that we may live peaceably one with another.
This we ask in the name of the Prince of Peace,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen



Willesden prayer time together. Everyone is welcome.

Meeting URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8234251254?pwd=VGsxUDdpcENJT1prdWcxTUpzV3AxQT09>

Meeting ID: 823 425 1254

Passcode: stgeorge



Please continue to pray for Brunel University Christian Union and all students studying at Brunel. To find out more about the great work that BUCU have been doing [CLICK HERE](#) for the November Newsletter.



St John's will again be supporting this amazing charity.

A simple shoebox gift packed with love and fuelled by prayer can have a huge impact! Bringing Good News and great joy to children all around the world.

The global pandemic has disrupted and continues to disrupt everyday life for millions of people all around the world.

This year it would be great to reach out and give a gift to as many children as we can.

I have plenty of boxes, so you no longer need to worry about wrapping up shoe boxes.

If you would like to support this appeal or would like a pre wrapped box please contact me via email on stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com or by phone on 07972 618584. I am happy to drop and pick up boxes. Alternatively you can collect pre wrapped boxes on Sunday's or pop in and see me during the week.

All completed boxes will need to be ready in Church for collection by **14th 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 [Shoobox Online \(samaritans-purse.org.uk\)](http://Shoobox Online (samaritans-purse.org.uk)) **Nikki Bell**



We will only have one service in church at 10am for Holy Communion. (we will not be having a 9am Service)

How to join the Sunday service from your landline/mobile (without Internet)

- Dial **020 3481 5237** or **020 3051 2874**.
- Enter meeting ID Code **894 8145 2808** then the # key
- You will be asked to enter your participants' ID. Ignore this, and just press # key
- There is no password. If you are asked for one, then just press the # key.

CHEQUES

Payable to:
Hillingdon Parochial Church Council
St. John's Church
Royal Lane
Uxbridge
UB8 3QP

STANDING ORDER

Set up a Standing Order with your bank or building society using these details:
Barclays Bank, 142 High St,
Uxbridge, UB8 1JX
Sort Code: 208916
Account No: 20465615

[Click here](#) for pdf file of this edition

Copyright © 2021 St. John's Church, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

