

All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

The Magazine



December 2022 - January 2023

All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

Service of Readings and Music for Advent

Sunday 27th November

at 10:30am



All Saints' Church,
Thornton Hough



Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Sunday 18th December
at 5pm

Everybody welcome



All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

Christingle Service



Sunday 11th December
at 4pm
in All Saints' Church

A collection will be taken in aid of the Children's Society

All Saints' Church, Thornton Hough

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December
11:00pm "Midnight" Holy Communion

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December
10:30am Family Holy Communion

New Year's Day, Sunday 1st January
10:30am Holy Communion

Epiphany, Sunday 8th January
10:30am Family Holy Communion



A Wonky Christmas..?

Fruit and vegetables come in all kinds of shapes and sizes. However, until quite recently, supermarkets demanded that suppliers only delivered items which were of a uniform size and shape, a real-life version, shiny and unblemished, of some picture book ideal. The consumer, they argued, would not accept items which weren't of this standard.



What a waste this policy created! And not only was it wasteful, but it also meant that some shoppers began to believe that an apple which was of anything other than the specified dimensions, or the pepper which had grown in a strange shape, wasn't a proper apple – or pepper, or potato, or whatever.

Thankfully, retailers have begun to appreciate that so-called “wonky” produce has a place on the shelves (if the plastic packaging could be removed, so much the better!) and consumers recognise the value of such goods. They taste just the same as their shinier counterparts, and are often a little cheaper. The farmers who work hard to grow the produce get a better return for their labours.

It often feels as if Christmas has to arrive in a particular size or with a particular feeling for it to be “proper.” We see adverts on TV from the start of November which drip-feed us with a sense of what a “proper” Christmas should be like.

But our world is wonky in so many ways. And Jesus comes into our wonky world at Christmas, appearing in ways we do not expect. We celebrate his coming as a tiny baby, not in a lavish palace wrapped up in silks and fur, but swaddled amongst the animals as there was no room for him at the inn.

Perhaps this year we can let go of the pressure to create a “perfect” Christmas and rejoice in all things wonky; the things which don't quite go according to plan, the unexpected items in life's bagging area. God's perfect love comes to us in Jesus, and meets us just as we are. We don't have to live up to a particular image to be worthy of his love. We are simply invited to welcome him as our special guest.

I wish you a happy, peaceful and joyous Christmas.

Vicky



Notes on the PCC meetings held on 11th October and 8th November

At our October meeting we started by hearing about some of the recent events that had taken place. The Bishop's visit had been very successful. Bishop Mark had felt very welcome and had enjoyed Choral Evensong; he commented on what a nicely kept church we have. Margaret Gamble and the ladies who had made cakes were thanked for providing the tea.

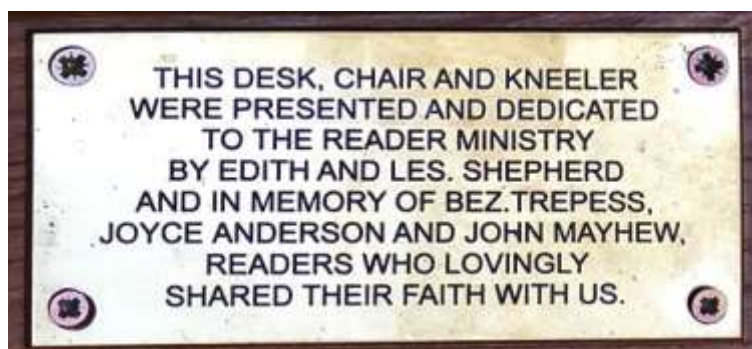
Toybox continues to be successful and we have been welcoming new people at each meeting.

The Pilgrim course has also been well received and has encouraged new people to meet together.



The Harvest Thanksgiving Service was well attended. 184.2kg of food and other necessities were taken to the Wirral Foodbank. Vicky commented that Margaret Gamble's idea of people adopting windows, and making displays of things they wanted to thank God for, had been very successful. The Harvest Lunch had also been well attended and very much enjoyed.

We have received a Faculty with the Bishop's stamp giving permission to attach a plaque to the lay reader's desk and chair and Les Shepherd has now fixed it in position. It remembers lay readers known to many of the congregation.



In October we looked forward to Advent and Christmas. It was decided that we should deliver Christmas cards throughout the parish again and invite people to our services.

The new pew Bibles and new lectern Bible were discussed in October and November. These have now been ordered.

The PCC have approved the purchase of a replacement noticeboard for the main entrance to the churchyard on Raby Road and a small noticeboard at the Raby Road additional churchyard to replace the existing one. Once the wording has been decided, we will get firm quotes and seek permission to install them.

The PCC is still looking to sell some of the investments but we have not yet received some details we need from Chester Diocese Finance Office. Donations and the calendar sales meant that the deficit on the budget was not as great as had been feared at the end of October. Because of the volatile economic climate, in October the PCC decided to delay selling some of our investments for a short time, in the hope that their value would recover.

Parts of the Raby Road Churchyard need attention. It was agreed that the area next to the tree at the top of the steps, on the left, should be cleared and then resown with wildflower seeds. It was also agreed to attending to some hollows in the ground.

Trimming of the box hedges and tidying of the borders will be carried out in late spring next year.

The tarmac at the end of the drive and around the church needs attention and quotes are being sought for this.

One of the main topics of discussion in November was which charities we should support this year. It was finally decided that we should give £200 to each of the following:-

- Wirral Ark <https://wirralark.org.uk/>

Wirral Ark is a (local) charity that supports hundreds of people each year who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Through our accommodation, professional services, and a compassionate ear, we help them achieve good and real outcomes for themselves.

- Maggie's <https://www.maggies.org/>

Maggie's is a charity providing free cancer support and information in centres across the UK and online. They have a centre at Clatterbridge Hospital.

- Shelter <https://www.shelter.org.uk>

Their advice and support services offer one-to-one, personalised help with housing issues and homelessness.

Home is a human right. It's our foundation and it's where we thrive. Yet, every day millions of people are being devastated by the housing emergency. We exist to defend the right to a safe home, because home is everything.

- Church Mission Society <https://churchmissionsociety.org>

Within the UK and overseas, we are specifically called to mission at the margins and cultural fringes, where Jesus is not often followed and which are often overlooked or written off. We believe God is already at work in these spaces and our task is to join in.

- Charles Thompson Mission. <https://charlesthompsonsmission.org.uk>

Since 1892, Charles Thompson's Mission, Birkenhead has been dedicated to providing care and support, food and clothes, to those across the Wirral who are living in poverty.

- Liverpool Seafarers Centre <http://liverpoolseafarerscentre.org>

We give a front-line service offering support to 50,000 seafarers passing through the Port of Liverpool each year. LSC's mission remains firmly focused on providing 'a lifeline' to seafarers, both active and retired, offering a safe and secure place to rest and also receive practical and emotional support.

Christmas returned to the agenda again in November. Finding a suitable date for a Christmas Fair amongst all the other local events and activities this year was difficult. We hope to hold one next year. On a more positive note it was agreed to have refreshments after the Carol Service on 18th December. Mince pies, tea, coffee and wine will be served.

We also planned to have a 'soup and a sandwich' get-together in February and the 4th was penciled in- a date when winter can seem very long and we all need a bit of cheer! A collection for the Wirral Foodbank at the event was suggested.

A recent Deanery Synod meeting took the form of a 'Vision Café'. A fish and chip supper was served before the meeting. The meeting was part of the *Casting the net wide* consultation launched by Bishop Mark "to encourage everyone to participate in setting the vision for Chester Diocese".

At the end of the November meeting Vicky thanked us all for our faithfulness and putting ourselves in the hands of God. "There are signs of growth. If anyone has any wonderful ideas, please share them".

Sue Stinson

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The War Memorial

Once again, on Remembrance Sunday the local community gathered around the village war memorial on the corner of St George's Way to give thanks for all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice serving their country. As usual the service, led by the Vicar, took place in the afternoon - a tradition established many years ago to enable Lord Leverhulme to attend the service in Port Sunlight in the morning.

Wreaths and tributes were laid by the village organisations and local individuals around the cross which is just one of several memorials to members of the armed forces in the village.

The four-metre high Celtic Cross was designed by Lever's company architect James Lomax Simpson, who was also responsible for the design of St George's Church. Constructed of Darley Dale limestone from Derbyshire, the cross was made by Henry A. Clegg & Sons of Brook Street in Chester. Including the plaque, it cost £561.1s.1d and was funded entirely by contributions from 146 local individuals.

The cross was formally unveiled on the afternoon of Saturday 23rd April 1921 by the first Lord Leverhulme at a service attended by local dignitaries, and conducted joint-

ly by the Reverend Herbert A. Bull, vicar of All Saints', and the Reverend T. Langford Burrows, the minister of St George's Congregational Church. Psalms and hymns were sung by a joint choir from the two churches and they were accompanied by the Thornton Hough village band. In all, 125 men from Thornton Hough had served in the forces in the Great War. The bronze plaque on the cross bears the names of seventeen servicemen from Thornton Hough and the surrounding parish who fell in action, or died of wounds or disease.



The magnificent west window in All Saints' Church is also a memorial to those men who gave their lives during the Great War. It was placed there in the 1920s and depicts "St Michael and all the Angels in victorious conflict over the Dragon".

Beneath the window is a Roll of Honour listing the names of thirty men and boys, relatives of families from the church, who died during the First World War. Fifteen of those names are also recorded on the War Memorial.

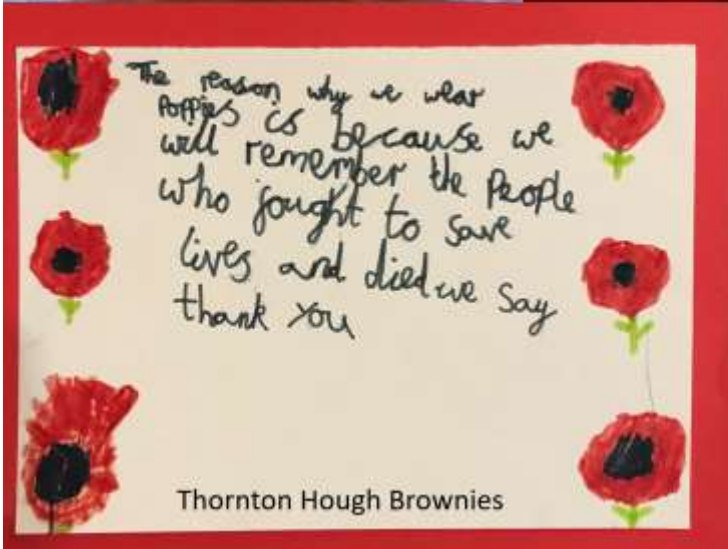
Nearby, entrusted to the care of All Saints' by the Imperial War Graves Commission, is a wooden cross which temporarily marked the grave of an unknown British soldier on the Western Front during the 1914-1918 war and the graveyard is the final resting place of four servicemen, three marked by traditional Commonwealth War Grave headstones, one of whom was just seventeen years old.

'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends'



Gavin Hunter





Christmas Word Search

P	U	C	Q	E	Y	P	R	O	P	H	E	C	Y	X
W	P	E	T	Z	S	T	A	B	L	E	P	V	F	M
R	I	B	M	U	N	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y	R	A
K	K	A	E	W	D	M	O	I	R	L	H	Y	A	N
R	Z	O	J	T	I	G	A	Q	U	P	Z	V	N	G
J	U	S	Q	E	H	S	A	R	W	R	B	V	K	E
C	O	A	P	S	S	L	E	B	Y	C	F	J	I	R
Y	B	S	N	H	O	U	E	M	R	V	Z	M	N	E
B	Y	A	E	E	W	V	S	H	E	I	W	D	C	R
W	C	N	L	P	G	I	G	C	E	N	E	H	E	J
T	A	G	S	H	H	S	P	W	H	M	R	L	N	V
Z	Y	E	Q	E	X	T	B	E	C	R	N	H	S	J
E	V	L	G	R	A	A	A	E	Y	P	I	I	E	M
M	O	S	Q	D	G	R	M	M	X	R	G	S	A	A
C	Y	U	J	W	X	V	D	F	R	R	E	W	T	A

Angels	Gabriel	Manger	Nativity	Stable
Bethlehem	Jesus Christ	Mary	Prophecy	Star
Frankincense	Joseph	Myrrh	Shepherd	Wisemen

UK Postage Stamps

You now have until 31st July 2023 to use any non-barcoded everyday stamps – those with the Queen's profile on (known as 'definitive' stamps) – before they become worthless. Alternatively, you can swap them for barcoded versions for free through the Royal Mail's exchange scheme before the end of July. (Royal Mail has extended the deadline by six months from the original date of 31st January 2023). However, you don't need to exchange Christmas stamps and 'special' stamps with pictures on, as they will continue to be valid after the July deadline.

Long-Legged Fly

That civilisation may not sink,
Its great battle lost,
Quiet the dog, tether the pony
To a distant post;
Our master Caesar is in the tent
Where the maps are spread,
His eyes fixed upon nothing,
A hand under his head.

Like a long-legged fly upon the stream
His mind moves upon silence.

That the topless towers be burnt
And men recall that face,
Move most gently if move you must
In this lonely place.
She thinks, part woman, three parts a child,
That nobody looks; her feet
Practise a tinker shuffle
Picked up on a street.

Like a long-legged fly upon the stream
Her mind moves upon silence.

That girls at puberty may find
The first Adam in their thought,
Shut the door of the Pope's chapel,
Keep those children out.
There on that scaffolding reclines
Michael Angelo.
With no more sound than the mice make
His hand moves to and fro.

Like a long-legged fly upon the stream
His mind moves upon silence.



Gaius Julius Caesar, crafty Roman general, statesman, and dictator



Elizabeth Taylor as Helen of Troy, the most beautiful woman in the world



Michelangelo's painting of Adam touching God's hand, on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel

At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, silence falls, as we remember the fallen of world wars and conflict. William Butler Yeats (1865 - 1939) set great store by silence. In his early poem *The Lake Isle of Innisfree* (1886) he yearns to “have some peace there”. Here, two years before he died, is “one of the most intriguing, tantalising and difficult of all his poems” (Dennis Haskell).



The meaning may be difficult but the language is tantalisingly simple. We are invited to be part of three detailed little scenes, with three famous personalities, two real, one imaginary. We are asked to *quiet the dog, move most gently, and keep those children out*, so that Caesar, Helen and Michelangelo can have the quiet they need: Caesar for planning his attack, Helen for thinking she can be ordinary, Michelangelo for creating a masterpiece.

Yeats imagines the way minds work in silence as comparable to the way a long-legged fly moves on water without sinking. Although many insects can do this, he was probably thinking of a pond skater or water strider. It is a striking and unusual image, suggesting confidence, lightness of touch and a suggestion of other-worldliness. He uses it as a refrain to three striking and unusual imaginary events, without which the world would be completely different.

General Julius Caesar is about to cross the Rubicon, starting the civil war to end the Roman Republic and start the Roman Empire. He needs peace to think, to consult the maps and plan. Otherwise “civilisation” will never happen.

“Was this the face that launched a thousand ships, And burnt the topless towers of Ilium?” is what Marlowe’s Dr Faustus says on seeing Helen of Troy. Here Helen is childish, skipping about her empty palace, unconscious of the damage her beauty is going to cause. Otherwise, the *Iliad*, *Odyssey* and all the other stories associated with the Trojan War, including *Dr Faustus*, will never happen.

Michelangelo is painting his masterpiece, and needs total concentration, so in order that little girls can know what a real man looks like, they must be kept out until it is finished. Otherwise there will be no Sistine Chapel ceiling.



In each case, silence is necessary for something momentous to happen. Yeats’s choice of subject and imagery remains an intriguing mystery.

Caroline Lancelyn Green

Thoughts for December

As this year comes to an end, let us give thanks for all the good things that we have been able to enjoy and take with us into 2023. Although it hasn't been easy for many people, stories of great humanity and humility are often written about showing that the Christian spirit still prevails in this world of ours. Let us hope that this spirit spreads throughout the world and it becomes a happier and safer place because of it.

Peace on Earth and goodwill to all.



Can you contribute and make our Magazine even more interesting?

We are continually striving to improve our magazine with new articles of interest from a variety of sources and on different topics. Could you provide a story or an article on places you may have been to or on something that happened in your lifetime? Perhaps you may have a favourite meal or favourite food which you could share with our readers or know of an interesting place to visit. If you feel that you can contribute, please contact any of the Editorial Team or send by email, text or a written copy to us. We have received many compliments for our magazine and welcome your help in keeping our magazine fresh and full of interest.

A Christmas Prayer

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Mary and Joseph
and the peace of the Christ child
be with us this Christmas.



The Editorial Team would like to wish you all a very peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope that this season of "Good Will" brings good health, joy and much happiness to everybody.

The Pilgrim Porch at Chester Cathedral

Earlier in the year I reported on the Pilgrim Porch project at Chester Cathedral celebrating Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. If you haven't already seen the completed door then can I encourage you to go and see it?

The new door links the parishes in Chester Diocese to the Cathedral. Each parish was asked to submit a photo of something special in their church. A small detail from that photo was then etched into glass and included in the design on the door. The photo will also be used in an interactive display linked to the image on the door. We submitted a photo of the spectacular stained-glass window at the west end of All Saints' Church. The detail they have used shows St Michael's head and his hands holding the cross. At first, I couldn't find this on the cathedral door then I realised that it is quite easy to find if you know where to look!

As you look at the door from inside the cathedral the All Saints' image is the second one above the left hand handle. Do go and look for it if you haven't already done so!

Sue Stinson





ACF

A church fellowship for anyone from anywhere

We have had two very interesting but different ACF talks this autumn. In **October** we were very pleased to welcome our Director of Music, Iain Stinson for an illustrated talk including audience participation on the topic of “Singing the Psalms. Iain has very kindly written a summary of that meeting for you to read (see page 18).

On Wednesday 9th **November** we welcomed John Harrison from the Leprosy Mission of England and Wales to a packed house. It was wonderful to see so many friends come and support this worthwhile cause and learn about the work they do. Leprosy is not a disease of the past as you may think but even in this day and age 200,000 people across the world are diagnosed with it every year; many more don’t realise they have it. Although leprosy is curable millions of people are living with the life- changing effects of the disease which not only destroys the body it can remove hope for that person.

John used the Bible reading Isaiah 43:14-21 as the basis for his talk and talked of God’s love and passion.

John then introduced us to families living with Leprosy around the world. Our first stop was in the country of Niger in West Africa. It is a very poor country made up of 80% desert where many children don’t go to school and this results in poor literacy. There are three things that contribute to poverty: health, standard of living and education. Niger suffers from severe food shortages and high rates of infectious disease, leading to some of the highest rates of malnutrition and mortality in the world. In 2021 there were 304 people diagnosed with leprosy of which 20 were children. We heard about the life of Rabi who is now 30 years old but first noticed patches then sores that affected her hands and feet as a child. Even though her leprosy is now cured she is no longer able to use her hands properly as they have become clawed. As a result of leprosy, she was no longer able to go to school due to the stigma of having the disease; she was shunned by classmates and even teachers.

There is now hope for people like Rabi and her family as education and literacy is improved. Children living in Niger like Rabi’s daughter Salama can get a swift diagnosis and treatment on showing the first symptoms. Funds raised by the Leprosy Mission can help to provide books and uniforms and help to pay their school fees.

Nepal is a landlocked country situated between India and China. Although it is a popular tourist destination, it is one of the poorest countries in Asia with 1 in 10 people living in extreme poverty. In 2021 there were 2394 new cases of leprosy diagnosed of which 126 were children.

Anandaban Hospital was opened in 1957 and it provides high quality medical care to people suffering from leprosy. In 2019 The Leprosy Mission improved facilities and built a new building which houses an emergency department, operating theatres and maternity. On site is a world class research centre and thanks to UK aid and pioneering work it is hoped that Leprosy can be eradicated within the next ten to fifteen years.

John related the story of Shakti who first developed pain and red lumps on her legs when she was only four years old, but she was not diagnosed until she was fourteen. By the time she went to Anandaban Hospital the bacterium was in her bones and she had to have her right leg amputated just below the knee. This meant she was now disabled and instead of following a career in medicine she would need to find a desk job. She has been fitted with a prosthetic leg and it is the love of her family that has helped her to overcome her fears: fear of stigma can lead to women concealing their symptoms due to the worry about how this will impact education, marriage and family life.

The final country we visited was India and we heard the story of Bakkyo who is disabled due to leprosy. She used to work as a labourer. until the disease affected her hands. She now has to work 12 hours per day making firecrackers for which she earns £1.60 in order to eat and pay her rent. Her daughter Nagajothi developed symptoms of leprosy when she was fourteen, and although she was given a cure, she still felt desperate and hopeless due to the stigma from her community. However, an amazing breakthrough resulted in Nagajothi being offered a place at the Leprosy Mission Vocational Training Centre and she was able to start training as an electrician. This has given her new confidence and goals for the future.

We were able to purchase Christmas cards and gifts, and this together with generous donations from ACF members will allow The Leprosy Mission to carry on its vital work around the world.

Helen Tankard



Forthcoming ACF Events

Fellowship meetings held in Parish Hall at 2.15pm unless otherwise stated.

Wednesday 14th December 2022

Christmas Lunch and Carols at 12.30pm.

Come and enjoy a sandwich and mince pie followed by singing of Christmas Carols.

Tickets £3.

Wednesday 11th January 2023.

Tomorrow's Women Wirral with Molly Johnson

Coffee Mornings held in Parish Hall at 10.30am

In December there is no coffee morning, so next one will be on

Wednesday 25th January 2023.

Raffle and Sales Table. **All welcome.**



Sing the Psalms in worship



We were reminded that Psalms are a part of the Old Testament and are often quoted in the New Testament. They were used in worship at the Temple at Jerusalem and in provincial synagogues. The early church was encouraged to “be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit...” (Ephesians 5). We heard how the psalms were read or chanted in Jewish worship and listened to some traditional and modern Hebrew psalm singing. The psalms are Hebrew

poetry: Psalm 119 is one of several acrostic poems found in the Bible. Its 176 verses are divided into 22 stanzas, one for each of the 22 characters that make up the Hebrew alphabet.

The Psalms were used in monastic services (following a Jewish tradition of singing / reading the whole of the Book of Psalms every month) and sung, in Latin, to plainsong / Gregorian chants. We listened to the chanting of Psalm

With the demand to have the Bible available in the vernacular, the production of translations of the Bible, including the Book of Psalms, accelerated during the 15th and 16th centuries. Martin Luther translated the Psalms into German (starting in 1517). Miles Coverdale's translation of the Bible into English ("The Great Bible") was published in 1535.

Thomas Cranmer used Biblical texts from Coverdale's translation, including the Psalms, in the Book of Common Prayer. These texts survived the 1549, 1552 and 1662 revisions of the Prayer Book, and today's Book of Common Prayer includes the text of Coverdale's Psalms. They are organised so that all 150 of them are used once a month. In most cathedrals and in many colleges where choral services are sung each day, the psalms set for the day are chanted using what is termed "Anglican" chanting.

We explored how Anglican chanting works and listened to Psalm 23 being sung to a chant by Walford Davies. Anglican chanting may be used to set almost any text to music – as illustrated by the chanted version of "The Highway Code" (sung by the Master Singers) which reached the charts in 1966.

Metrical "translations" of the psalms were widely used in the reformed church across Europe. The Scottish Psalter of 1564 was the first psalter or psalm book to be published in Scotland. It was published by the Church of Scotland under the influence of John Knox as part of the Book of Common Order. These psalms are sung to tunes with a regular meter (with one note or a group of notes for each syllable of the text). We listened to the metrical version of Psalm 23, "The Lord's my Shepherd", being sung to the tune Crimond.

The Psalms have inspired many hymns (ancient and modern): we sang one of them, "The King of Love my shepherd is" at our ACF service and we listened to Stuart Townend's setting of The Lord's my shepherd".

Psalms have been used directly in many anthems; we listened to Howard Goodall's "The Lord is my shepherd", made popular by its use as the theme music for "The Vicar of Dibley".

We also briefly consider responsorial settings of the Psalms and heard Psalm 23 set in this way by Joseph Gelineau and listened to a Taizé setting of Psalm 23, *Le Seigneur est mon berger*.

The Psalms are Biblical and have been in use since from before the time of Christ. They cover the whole gambit of our life experiences (happy, praising, reflective, penitential, sad, contemplative, joyful). Their use has evolved from Hebrew music, Gregorian Chant, metrical psalms, psalm inspired hymns and anthems. There are many ways to include them in today's worship; they can match the mood and style of the worship. The use of psalms continues to evolve, through new translations and through new music in various genres.

Dedication of the new pew Bibles 10:30am, Sunday 22nd January 2023

We will be having a special service to dedicate the new Bibles at 10.30am on Sunday, 22nd January.

Many people have been extremely generous in enabling us to purchase 90 new pew Bibles and a beautiful new lectern Bible. They are a reminder of those faithful Bible readers who have gone before us and an encouragement to us to-

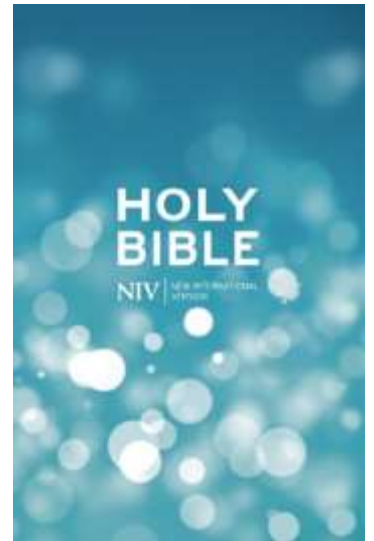
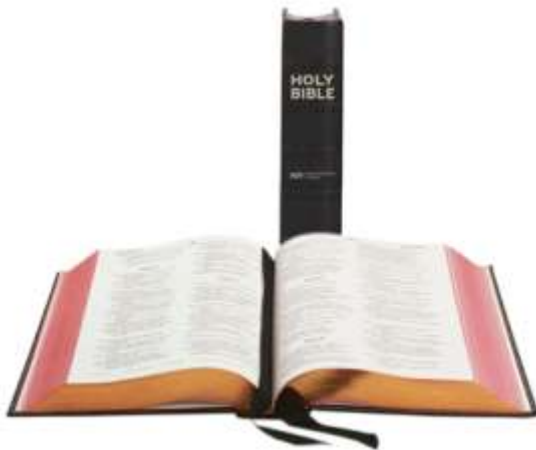
day and to those yet to come. Our service gives us the opportunity to give thanks for this generosity.

We hope that these new editions of the Anglicised New International Version, with a freshly-styled cover, inclusive language and some revised translations in places will enliven our use of the

Bibles and enrich our learning together. Our service gives us the opportunity to dedicate ourselves to studying Scripture and using it in our daily lives.

We are also making a donation to The Bible Society, praying for those who do not have access to Bibles in their own language, and the work of translators.

Rev. Vicky Barrett



All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

ACF Christmas Lunch

and Carols

Wednesday 14th December
12:30pm in the Parish Hall

Come and enjoy a sandwich and mince pie
followed by singing of Christmas Carols

Tickets £3



A REFRESHING TAKE ON LEGAL SERVICES

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Christmas Quiz

1. How many days after the birth of Christ did Joseph and Mary name Jesus?
 2. What was the name of the prophet whom Christians believe predicted the birth of Mary's boy child?
 3. Gabriel was the angel who announced to Mary that she would conceive and give birth to Jesus. What does the Hebrew name Gabriel mean? (Hint: a quality of one's arms!)
 4. According to the Bible, which animals were specifically mentioned as being present in the stable when Jesus was born?
 5. What does the name "Emanuel" mean?
 6. Which two Gospels tell us the story of the birth of Jesus?
 7. Jesus spent some of His early childhood years in a foreign country. Which country did His parents escape to because of persecution from King Herod, according to the Gospel of Matthew?
 8. Who spread the news about baby Jesus throughout Bethlehem?
 9. How many Magi does the Bible say worshipped the baby Jesus and then presented gifts to him?
 10. How many generations were there in all between Abraham and Jesus Christ?
 11. Which Christmas carol was originally written beginning with the phrase: "Adeste fideles"?
 12. What does the name "Jesus" mean?
 13. No date for the birth of Jesus is mentioned in the Bible, so why does the world celebrate Christmas on December 25th?
 14. In which New Testament book do we read about the angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."?
 15. To whom did Luke write his Gospel?
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Answers on Page 31



The Red Fox and Little Fox

Thornton Hough



A classic country pub and welcoming event space

The Red Fox is a classic country pub with open fires, wooden floors, good old furniture and lots of rugs and plants. The bar sits at the heart of the pub, with an array of cask ales on tap, a back shelf crammed with malts and gins and a decent list of over 50 lovingly chosen wines. Our team of chefs continually develop our daily menu with a spine of freshly prepared classic British dishes, complemented by a few more exotic influences here and there.

Whilst nestled right next door, the Little Fox is a completely separate space, with our own bar, amenities and a gorgeous courtyard and garden to make your own. Our aim is to help you create those special memories and ensure your occasion is just how you imagined. Our highly experienced and committed team are on hand the moment you view our beautiful venue right up until you leave. We welcome bookings for wakes, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, and other occasions.

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All Saints' Church Thornton Hough 2023 Parish Calendar

On Sale now **£5.00** each

from Brian Morris or Margaret Gamble and they are also available at The Village Hall. This would make a lovely present for your friends and relatives especially if they have moved from the village. Please support this initiative which raises much-needed funds for the church.



A New Year Prayer

O Lord God, our times are in your hands. May we and all the earth know your peace and loving kindness as we begin this new year. Grant that we may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen our trust in your goodness every day.

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HOTEL & SPA
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The Garden in Winter

Gardening is not easy in December/January as the ground and the weather are cold and often very wet. However there are some things which can be done if the weather allows:-



- Use these months to plan improvements to your garden
- Any areas of the lawns to be seeded in the spring can be dug over and the lawn can be treated for leather jackets
- Check for good drainage and continue with aeration by forking the ground
- Seeds can be started in the greenhouses in preparation for planting outside but do watch them regularly and ensure the greenhouse isn't too cold or too hot (if you use a heater)
- Roses can be prepared for Spring by shortening long stems
- Collect and burn fallen leaves especially if they have black spot
- Clear dead tops of non-shrubby plants from borders and fork over the surface between the plants
- Move containers of patio plants to sheltered spots
- Spread manure on your vegetable plots and dig it in if the ground permits
- Check berry trees for signs of rot so that they can be replaced
- Check the ties and stakes and replace any damaged ones
- Continue pruning if required and burn the prunings
- Take the mower to be serviced (if not already done) and sharpen your tools and shears

Try to minimise the affect of adverse weather but do remember that plants can survive well under a blanket of snow. Hopefully the weather towards the end of January will allow you to do some work outside.

Your enthusiastic gardener

Thoughts for January

Let us hope that the Christmas message of the Good News of the birth of Jesus flourishes throughout the new year. January gives us an opportunity to make a fresh start and carry out the New Year promises made as we begin a new chapter in all our lives. Have you made a New Year Resolution? I wonder how many have been made in the past and are still to be completed?

Ensure that you have a positive outlook on life which can be spread to others around you and influence their lives for the better.



Wirral Shoebox Appeal

I write to thank you all for supporting our Coffee Morning in October to raise funds for our Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Thanks to your generosity, both in attending and from contributions from some who could not get to the coffee morning, we raised £600 which will be used to pay transport costs for 200 extra gift-filled shoeboxes.

Each year we have been privileged to be offered a warehouse by Peel L & P in Birkenhead for use by our charity to collect and process the shoeboxes before they are sent on their way to children in deprived communities in Eastern Europe.

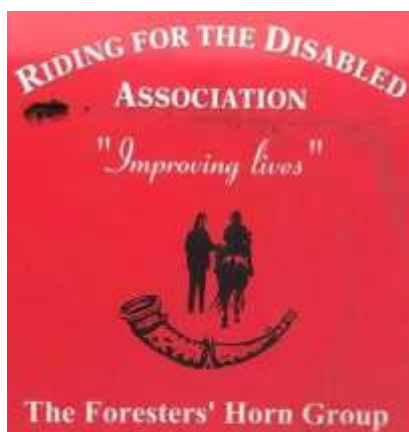
To date we have been working in the warehouse for 2 weeks and have received, processed and sent to our Teams4U HQ in Wrexham nearly 2,000 shoeboxes. These will be loaded on to their first lorry which will be bound for Romania. Other destinations for further loads are Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia and Bosnia.

We have 2 more weeks to receive shoeboxes and we hope to improve on our total of 3,508 boxes achieved last year. Watch this space!



Val Peter

Riding for the Disabled Association



The Foresters' Horn Group are looking for volunteers to help at RDA sessions in term-time at either Ness on Tuesdays (2.30—4.00pm) or Larton Riding School, Frankby on Thursdays (12.30—2.30pm).



They work with a wide range of ages and disability types and training will be given.

If you are interested and wish to receive more information please contact **07751480308** or **07710455075**.

COOKERY CORNER

HERBY TURKEY PIE

Left over turkey cut into chunks. Amount depends on what is available.

Mushrooms quartered , around half the amount of the turkey.

1 packet of chicken or mushroom cuppa soup or left over gravy.

Gravy granules , Salt and pepper to taste

For the crust.

4oz self raising flour, 2oz butter or margarine

Pinch of salt

Good handful of fresh or tablespoon of dried parsley

Fry the mushrooms gently for a few minutes in oil.

Add the turkey pieces, cuppa soup and/or gravy and seasoning to taste. Add gravy granules if needed to give thicker, richer sauce. Put into an oven proof dish.

Blend the flour and butter to a breadcrumb consistency and add the chopped parsley. Add a little cold water to bind. Roll out this pastry to fit the dish. Bake for 25 mins at 180°C, 325°F Gas 2-3 till golden brown.

This pie can be done with chicken or other meats.



RUM OR BRANDY BUTTER

4 oz unsalted butter and 4 oz caster sugar

2 to 3 tablespoons of brandy or rum

Cream the butter in a bowl with the sugar until smooth.

Gradually beat in the brandy or rum a teaspoon at a time.

Pile into a small dish and chill till firm.



2023 Magazines

We hope you are enjoying the Magazines. We have enjoyed composing them and are delighted to bring you some of the stories provided by members of the congregation and magazine readers.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of producing the 2023 Magazines, please place your contribution in the envelope provided with this Magazine and return it to your distributor. Thank you.

The Editorial Team

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The Seadogs concert at the WI Hall on 8th October was great fun. Rousing sea shanties and the opportunity to join in with the singing gave everyone an appetite for the excellent Hotpot supper prepared by Simone: a very enjoyable evening all round with thanks to all who helped to organize the evening and donated to the raffle. Special thanks to everyone who attended and made the evening go with a bang!

The guided walk around Chester on Friday, 14th October, was delightful. Our guide entertained us with interesting stories and showed us areas of Chester we had not visited before.

WI Meeting Times: Meetings for the winter months will start at 7.00 pm. BST begins on Sunday, 26th March 2023, THWI meetings will return to 7.30 pm start time from our meeting on 4th April, 2023. This will coincide with the usual UK standard time changes. All welcome.

Dates for your Diary:

Our next evening meeting will be on **Tuesday, 6th December** at 7.00 pm. **THWI Christmas party night, WI Hall.** Bring a plate to share.

THWI Christmas Bazaar: Saturday 10th December, 11.00 am - 2.00 pm at the WI Hall. Beautiful craft gifts, cards and chutneys are some of the many items to complete your Christmas gifts, stocking fillers or a well-deserved treat for yourself. Entrance: £2.50 includes mince pies and mulled wine. We look forward to seeing you all.

Janet Gaywood

Magazine Adverts

Would you like to advertise in our Magazine or do you know of anybody who might be interested in advertising with us? We are sure that many small and large companies would welcome an opportunity to advertise with us to potential new clients. Adverts can be half or full page. Have you purchased anything recently or had a service carried out as in my experience most people respond positively to a request from their customers. If they show any interest please ask them to contact any of the Editorial Team for further information. Contact details are on page 35.

Registers for September-November 2022

Sylvia Maureen WOOLDRIDGE died 21/7/2022 aged 85.

Ashes buried 17/9/2022

Donald Francis COLLEY died 23/9/2022 aged 83. Buried 28/10/2022

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Christmas Quiz Answers

- | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|-------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | 8 | 12 | He would save his | 15 | To the Roman leader |
| 2 | Isaiah | | people from their | | Theophilus, to tell him |
| 3 | God is my strength | | sins. | | the truth about |
| 4 | None | 13 | It is the date of a pa- | | Christian teaching. |
| 5 | God with Us | | gan festival adopted | | |
| 6 | Matthew & Luke | | by the early church. | | |
| 7 | Egypt | 14 | Nowhere as the Bible | | |
| 8 | The Shepherds | | doesn't state that | | |
| 9 | No number is given | | they sang—they | | |
| 10 | 42 (Matthew 1:17) | | speak the words | | |
| 11 | O come all ye faithful | | according to Luke! | | |



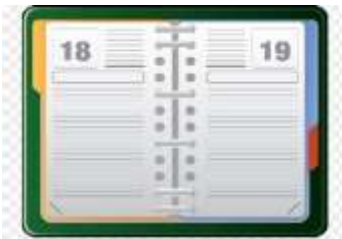
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Parish Diary

December 2022—January 2023

November

27	Sunday	Advent Sunday
	10:30am	Service of readings and music for Advent
30	Wednesday	
	10:30am	Holy Communion

December

2	Friday	
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
4	Sunday	Advent 2
	8:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10:30am	Holy Communion
6	Tuesday	
	7:30pm	PCC Meeting
7	Wednesday	
	10:30am	Holy Communion
9	Friday	
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
11	Sunday	Advent 3
	10:30am	Holy Communion
	4:00pm	Christingle Service
12	Monday	
	10:00am	Toybox
14	Wednesday	
	10:30am	Holy Communion
	12:30pm	ACF: Christmas Carols and Sandwich Lunch
16	Friday	
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
18	Sunday	Advent 4
	8:00am	Holy Communion
	10:30am	Holy Communion
	5:00pm	Service of lessons and carols for Christmas (followed by mince pies tea, coffee and wine)
21	Wednesday	
	10:30am	Holy Communion

24	Saturday	Christmas Eve
	11:00pm	Midnight Holy Communion
25	Sunday	Christmas Day
	10:30am	Holy Communion for Christmas Day

January 2023

1	Sunday	Christmas 2 / New Year's Day
	10:30am	Holy Communion
6	Friday	
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
8	Sunday	Epiphany
	10:30am	Holy Communion
9	Monday	
	10:00am	ToyBox
11	Wednesday	
	10:30am	Holy Communion
	2:15pm	ACF meeting: Tomorrow's Women Wirral (Molly Johnson)
13	Friday	
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
15	Sunday	Epiphany 2
	8:00am	Holy Communion
	10:30am	Holy Communion
18	Wednesday	<i>Week of prayer for Christian Unity</i>
	10:30am	Holy Communion
20	Friday	
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
22	Sunday	Epiphany 3
	10:30am	Morning Prayer including the dedication of the new pew Bibles
	6:30pm	Holy Communion
25	Wednesday	<i>Week of prayer for Christian Unity ends</i>
	10:30am	Coffee Morning
27	Friday	
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
29	Sunday	Candlemas / Epiphany 4
	10:30am	Holy Communion



Sunday Bible Readings

November 2022—January 2023

November

27

Advent Sunday

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

December

4

Advent 2

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

11

Advent 3

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

18

Advent 4

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

24

Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2:1-20

25

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10

John 1:1-14

January 2023

1

Christmas 2 / Naming of Jesus

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:15-21

8

Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

15

Epiphany 2

Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

23

Epiphany 3

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23

29

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Malachi 3:1-5

Luke 2:22-40

Who to contact about our groups

Bible Study and Prayer	Shirley McEvoy	336 3449
A Church Fellowship (ACF)	Helen Tankard	hdt1426@sky.com 648 0181
Church Choir	Iain Stinson	iain@stinson.org.uk 342 4800
The Magazine Team	Patsy Baker	336 3273
	Iain Stinson	342 4800
	Brian Morris	336 1393
	Revd Vicky Barrett	336 2766

Morning Prayer at All Saints'

Why not join Vicky for a Morning Prayer service in church on

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays
at 9.15am.

It is a very peaceful way of starting the day.

The Magazine

Thank you to all those who have contributed articles, photographs and ideas for this edition of *The Magazine*. Contributions for future editions of *The Magazine* are very welcome. Please contact any member of the editorial team with your ideas and articles. Articles may be submitted in any reasonable format and should not be subject to any copyright restrictions.

The deadline for submission of materials for the next edition is

January 17th 2023

Who's who at All Saints

Vicar	Revd Vicky Barrett	336 2766 vicar@allsaintsth.org.uk
Churchwardens	Pam Machin	pam@allsaintsth.org.uk
	Alan Splitt	336 3573 alan@allsaintsth.org.uk
Verger	Margaret Gamble	336 7540
PCC Secretary	Sue Stinson	342 4800 sue@allsaintsth.org.uk
PCC Treasurer	Iain Stinson	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
Planned Giving Secretary	Brian Morris	336 1393 brimorris@sky.com
Prayer Link Coordinator	Rhona Mayhew	334 5637 rhona@allsaintsth.org.uk
Electoral Roll Officer	Elly Macbeath	
Safeguarding Officer	Linda Arch	safeguarding@allsaintsth.org.uk
Health & Safety Officer	Graham Seagrave	health&safety@allsaintsth.org.uk
Parish Hall Caretaker and Bookings	Margaret Gamble	336 7540
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All Saints Church Website		allsaintsth.org.uk
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